TESOL TALKS is pleased to invite Dr. Teresa Gray

Language Processing in Bilingual Aphasia with Dr. Teresa Gray of the SFSU Graduate School of Education

Aphasia is a language impairment subsequent to a stroke or other acquired brain injury. In monolingual adults with aphasia, deficits in lexical access are explicitly identified by the inability to name items, whereas, in bilingual adults with aphasia (BAA), deficits in lexical access can be confounded by the necessity to control their languages. When bilinguals speak in the target language, the non-target language is simultaneously inhibited. Therefore, when a BAA is unable to name an item, it is unclear if that is a result of deficits in lexical access (i.e., aphasia) or in deficits in the ability to control two languages. In this talk, Dr. Gray will discuss these issues in the context of the current literature on healthy language processing and patients with aphasia, as well as explain current models of language therapy employed to rehabilitate language in persons with aphasia.

Dr. Teresa Gray is an Assistant Professor in the Communicative Disorders Program. Her expertise is in the areas of aphasia, traumatic brain injury, and bilingualism. She supervises on- and off-campus adult neurogenic clinics and teaches the graduate level seminars on adult language disorders. She is the director of the Gray Matter Lab. Her research interests focus on bilingual aphasia and language access, the mechanisms of control in linguistic and non-linguistic contexts in aphasia, and the role of language rehabilitation and its short-term and long-term effects on functional communication.

Wednesday April, 11th Mixer 12:00-12:30 p.m. Talk 12:30 - 2:00 p.m. San Francisco State University Humanities Building 4th Floor, Room 485

For more information on Dr. Gray's research, visit her lab website: Gray Matter Lab at http://graymatterlab.sfsu.edu/