

Department of Biomedical Engineering Division of Biokinesiology and Physical Therapy

Engineering Neuroscience & Health	Monday	Locations: Seminar is simultaneously presented
Seminar Series Presents:	October 6, 2008 4:00 p.m.	UPC: HNB 100 – LIVE Hedco Neurosciences Building UPC Campus Map/Directions: http://www.usc.edu/about/visit/upc/
Dr. Louis Goldstein Louisgol@usc.edu	Refreshments will be served 3– 4 p.m.	HSC: 147 - Video Conference Center for the Health Professional HSC Campus Map/Directions: http://www.usc.edu/about/visit/hsc/

Combinatorial Phonology: Vocal gestures and their coupling

Human speech can be analyzed as a dance of the vocal organs formed from a small number of discrete steps, or gestures, that are largely shared across the world's languages. Words in languages are formed by (re-)combining these gestures into large numbers of distinct dances, whose temporal patterning can be modeled by a planning system of coupled oscillators. This approach to speech (called "articulatory phonology") will be introduced in this talk, along with supporting data and simulations. Issued to be addressed include the biological basis for discrete gestures, how coupled oscillators can be used to model the formation of the dance, and implications for other speech-related systems and problems (e.g., reading).