

## Keynote

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Relating L2 prosody production and perception to fluency: Can gesture help?

Prosody is known to remain a persistent challenge for adult foreign language (L2) learners. Cross-linguistic differences in phrasal intonation, rhythm, and lexical stress complicate prosody production for L2 speakers and even if they have a high general L2 proficiency level, they still tend to transfer prosodic patterns from their native language (L1) to their L2. In my presentation, I aim to connect the concept of fluency to my work on the acquisition of different prosodic features and the factors that influence L2 development (e.g., proficiency level, phonemic complexity, and learning direction) on the one hand, and the relative contribution of L2 intonation, rhythm, and speech rate to L1 perceptions of accentedness and comprehensibility on the other hand. I will also present new data on how gesture (hand, head, and/or facial movements) influence the production of prosody in the L2. This may help us gain a better understanding of the interplay between speech and body movements in communication, as well as explore the potential benefits of embodiment for L2 prosody learning and teaching.