10TH ANNIVERSARY OF RESEARCH ON EARLY CHILDHOOD IN CONTEXT
WHAT CONNECTS CHARLOTTE BÜHLER TO THE UNIVERSITY OF VIENNA?

Charlotte Bühler (born as Malachowski in 1893) was raised in an upper-class Jewish family in Berlin. She studied philosophy, psychology and pedagogy in Freiburg, Berlin and Kiel, and attained her Ph.D. in Dresden where she also met Karl Bühler, whom she later married. After her husband became a full professorship at the Philosophical Faculty at the University of Vienna in 1922, Charlotte joined him with their two children in 1923, in order to help him to build up the Department of Psychology. Charlotte Bühler was the second female around that time who was accepted as associate professor at the Philosophical Faculty. Her research was concerned with development in early childhood, which she later integrated into developmental theories throughout the life span.

HOW DID VIENNA DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY INCLUDE EARLY CHILDHOOD INTO ITS RESEARCH PROGRAM?

From 2008 – 2018 Vienna developmental psychology has been exclusively concerned with child development throughout the preschool years. It grounded its research on the principle of attachment theory that – while being cared for – a child needs to develop attachments with sensitively caring adults for a successful social and emotional development.

We thus have been dealing with developmental consequences of care practice in families exploring parenting activities in mothers and fathers, the children’s attachment qualities with their parents, and how these attachments affect a variety of developmental domains. We have been concerned even with children born preterm, and in particular the question how the care influences social interactions and stress regulation in these vulnerable children. We have also been investigating out-of home care arrangements, and were interested whether care providers and child minders would be able to build up attachment relationships of high quality with the children in order to affect children’s development over and above developmental impacts from home.

HOW COULD THIS RESEARCH BE INTENSIFIED OVER THE LAST TWO YEARS?

It could be intensified over the last two years by setting up the Research Unit ECC at the Faculty of Psychology of University of Vienna supervised by Lieselotte Ahnert, the former head of the Department of Developmental Psychology. Seven young scholars continued the research with her while finalising current Ph.D. projects. During the present symposium and accompanied by keynotes from international top researchers, the seven scholars will present highlights from their projects.

As the ECC team has been considered actively involved in science as well as dramatic art (when the University of Vienna celebrated its 650th anniversary, in 2015, they performed pieces of a CABARET, which originated in 1929, when the Bühler team hosted the Inaugural Congress of the German Society of Psychology in Vienna) each of the scholars’ presentation will be started with a short sketch representing the core of the issue.
ALONG THE TRACES OF CHARLOTTE BUEHLER

29th

MORNING

10:00 WELCOME GREETINGS
AM
JEAN-ROBERT TYRAN (Vice-Rector for Research and Internal Affairs at the University)
BARBARA SCHÖBER (Dean of the Faculty of Psychology at University Vienna)
URS NATER (Head of the Institute of Health, Development and Intervention)

10:30 OPENING: Vienna Developmental Psychology between 2008 and 2018
LIESELOTTE AHNERT (Head of the Research Unit Early Childhood in Context of the Faculty of Psychology at University Vienna)

11:00 KEYNOTE
BRENDA L. VOLLING (University of Michigan, USA)
Changes in family of the 21st century and what fathering means for children
BERNHARD PISKERNIK (University of Vienna, Austria)
What does it mean when fathers are involved in parenting?

12:30 LUNCH
Café Francais

AFTERNOON

2:30 LUKAS TEUFL (University of Vienna, Austria)
Fathering in different partnership constellations
ANDREA WITTING (Neonatology, Medical University of Vienna, Austria)
The impact of maternal gatekeeping on father-child-attachment

03:30 COFFEE BREAK

04:00 KEYNOTE
MICHAEL E. LAMB (University of Cambridge, United Kingdom)
Early care in gay, lesbian, and hetero families and its implications

05:00 END

EVENING

08:00 Get together to exchange knowledge, experiences and a tasty meal

30th

MORNING

10:00 KEYNOTE
AM
RUTH E. GRUNAU (University of British Columbia, Canada)
Child stress reactivity, vulnerability and parenting

11:00 NINA RUIZ (Federal Institute for the Blind, Vienna/Austria)
Consequences of prematurity on parent-child attachment
FEIX DEICHMANN (University of Vienna, Austria)
Diurnal cortisol profiles as related to selected parenting conditions in young children

12:00 LUNCH
Café Francais

AFTERNOON

02:00 KEYNOTE
PM
PAUL LESEMANN (University of Utrecht, The Netherlands)
The advantages of group-based care in individualistic societies
NICOLE ZAVISKA (University of Vienna, Austria)
Care providers’ orientation towards children in group care
TINA ECKSTEIN-MADRY (Hilfswerk for Childcare and the Family in Vienna, Austria)
Child care entry and the role of care providers

04:00 COFFEE BREAK

04:30 CLOSING: Research outlooks in Vienna Developmental Psychology
STEFANIE HÖEHL (Head of the Department of Developmental Psychology at University of Vienna, Austria)

FINAL REMARKS
HERBERT SCHEITHAUER (Head of the Department of Developmental Science and Applied Developmental Psychology at Free University of Berlin, Germany)

05:30 END
We will present findings from a number of studies showing the relevance of a topic, both in research and in the training of early years professionals, attributable positive relationships, collaboration, and sense of belongingness is a neglected how to work with groups a modulating these effects.

**THE ADVANTAGES OF GROUP-BASED CARE IN INDIVIDUALISTIC SOCIETY**

**PAUL LESEMANN**

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**CHILD STRESS, VULNERABILITY AND PARENTING**

**(University of British Columbia, Canada)**

**RUTH E. GRUNAU**

Stress in early life can have long-term adverse effects on neurobehavioral development. Infants born very prematurely are exposed to daily repetitive stressful procedures, during a vulnerable window of fetal life outside the protective intrauterine environment. Evidence that early stress/pain is associated with altered programming of the hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal (HPA) axis, brain development and biobehavioral regulation will be described. Parenting stress and parent-infant interaction play central roles in preventing and/or modulating these effects.

**EARLY CARE IN GAY, LESBIAN, AND HETERO FAMILIES AND ITS IMPLICATIONS**

**MICHAEL E. LAMB**

Most theories of early social and emotional development underline the importance of early relationships with both male and female parents, as well as the need of the live in households containing parents of both genders. To date, however, most studies have focused on babies in traditional families, with primary caretaking mothers and primary bread-winning fathers. Our study of young infants raised by two mothers, two fathers, or both mothers and fathers provided a unique opportunity to assess the importance of parental gender and sexual orientation in shaping the behaviors those adults caring for infants.

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**WHAT DOES IT MEAN WHEN FATHERS ARE INVOLVED IN PARENTING?**

**BERNHARD PISKERNIK**

(University of Vienna, Austria)

Using experience-based sampling methods, father-child activities were sampled over one week, and three home visits were conducted to gather interview, questionnaires, and observational data. The talk uncovers different profiles of father-child activities, and explores associations between these profiles and the quality of father-child relationships and family functioning demonstrating that paternal involvement is most vulnerable to relationship dynamics in the family.

**FATHERING IN DIFFERENT PARTNERSHIP CONSTELLATIONS**

**LUKAŠ TEUFIL**

(University of Vienna, Austria)

Focusing on work and partnership related influences on fathering, this talk investigates how fathers experience their parenting role in three different partnership constellations: Single-earner (SE), Double-earner (DE) and Double-Career (DC) couples. Whereas all fathers appeared similar in terms of marital satisfaction, DC fathers were more seldom faced with maternal gatekeeping strategies than other fathers. Consequences of the different family constellations on the father-child relationship are discussed.

**THE IMPACT OF MATERNAL GATEKEEPING ON FATHER-CHILD ATTACHMENT**

**NINA RUIZ**

(Federal Institute for the Blind, Vienna, Austria)

Based on a sample of nearly 200 children aged between 12-20 months, the talk explores (a) whether the father-child attachment differs between children born preterm and at term, and diverges from the mother-child attachment, (b) whether fathers’ mentalization is associated with their attachment to preterm vs. term children, and whether these associations are distinct from mothers’ mentalization, and finally (c) whether topics on fathers’ minds differs in terms of parenting a premature or full-term child as well as whether they diverged from maternal topics.

**DIURNAL CORISOL PROFILES AS RELATED TO SELECTED PARENTING CONDITIONS IN YOUNG CHILDREN**

**FELIX DEICHMANN**

(University of Vienna, Austria)

When studying stress reactivity in young children based on diurnal cortisol profiles, common statistical practices from research on adults (e.g. intercept and slope simplification) are often linear simplifications resulting in large deviations from the natural profiles and are thus not appropriate. The talk presents latent class models and discuss whether the profiles can alternatively be described focusing on underlying latent trajectories and potential indices of risks.

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SYMPOSIUM
BILLROTHHAUS, FRANKGASSE 6-8

LUNCH, CAFÉ FRANÇAIS,
WÄHRINGER STRASSE 6-8

HOTEL RATHAUSPARK
RATHAUSSTRASSE 17

HOTEL REGINA
ROOSEVELTPLATZ 15

BENEDIKTUSHAUS
FREYUNG 6A
10th Anniversary of Research on Early Childhood in Context

Nov 29th
Welcome Greetings

10:30 AM
Lieselotte Ahnert
Brenda L. Volling
Bernhard Piskernik

12:30 PM
Lunch

02:00 PM
Coffee Break

04:00 PM
Michael E. Lamb

Nov 30th

10:00 AM
Ruth E. Grunau
Nina Ruiz
Felix Deichmann

12:00 PM
Lunch

02:00 PM
Paul Leemann
Nicole Zaviska
Tina Eckstein-Madry

04:00 PM
Coffee Break

04:30 PM
Stefanie Hoehl
Herbert Scheithauer

Location: Festival Hall Billroth-Haus