The transition from the concept of language as a "tabula rasa" to one influenced by "biological determinism" represents a significant shift in our understanding of language acquisition and development. These two perspectives offer different explanations for how humans acquire and use language, and they have been central to debates in linguistics, psychology, and biology. The "tabula rasa" perspective, often associated with philosophers like John Locke, suggests that the human mind is a blank slate at birth, and language acquisition is primarily a result of environmental factors and learning experiences. On the other side, the "biological determinism" perspective posits that humans have innate, biologically predetermined mechanisms for language acquisition.

In contemporary discussions, many researchers and theorists seek to reconcile these perspectives. Where are we in the debate? Has the incursion of computer sciences and physics changed the arena?

Invited speakers:

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