This paper presents a framework for the description of the semiotic world of a male adolescent (17 years) with a severe intellectual disability who does not use speech as his primary form of communication. The framework is based on selected aspects of systemic functional linguistic theory, including exchange structure analysis and affiliation theory. The framework is based on a proficiency model, showing what a person can do, rather than what they can’t do. It presents a new way of describing nonverbal multimodal communication. The research was conducted by a linguist, who happens to be the young man's mother.

PRESENTED BY:
Dr Shoshana J. Dreyfus
University of Sydney

Shoshana Dreyfus is a freelance researcher and teacher in the area of applied linguistics, systemic functional linguistics, literacy and language education. Specifically her research interests involve language disorder, English for academic purposes and discourse analysis.

WHEN:
Wednesday 5 June
12:30pm

WHERE:
Building: 67
Room: 302