

The University of Hong Kong
Department of Psychology

Departmental Seminar

***Visuomotor Control of Hand Movement:
Beyond Planning and Perception***

Date: December 3, 2015 (Thursday)

Time: 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Venue: Room 813, 8/F, The Jockey Club Tower, Centennial Campus, HKU

Speaker: Mr. Chen Zhongting
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There is evidence for dual streams of visual processing that are thought to underlie conscious perception and visuomotor control respectively. These studies investigated control of hand movements and its relationship with volition and consciousness. In all the experiments, subjects reached to grasp a virtual object that was sometimes changed during movement. We found that subjects were able to make fast online adjustments to their grasp in response to changes in the shape of the target. These perturbation responses occurred automatically beyond the supervision of volition. Responses were observed even in conditions where subjects had no conscious awareness of the perturbations. These findings demonstrate online visual processing for control of grasping that does not require volition or even conscious awareness, generally consistent with the Perception vs Action model by Goodale and Milner (1992).