## Mara van der Ploeg **4th International Symposium on Bilingual and L2 Processing in Adults and Children** August 4-5 2022 Tromsø, Norway

On August 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> 2022, ISBPAC22 was held at the University of Tromsø in Norway. ISBPAC focuses on bilingual and second language (L2) processing in adults and children. The conference was very relevant to my research as I work on L2 processing in older adults. I had the honour of presenting a poster at the conference, which was a fantastic experience. Being able to discuss my work with colleagues after two years of pandemic was a great feeling. Not only did this conference help me establish a new network, I was also able to share my research with like-minded people and I received helpful feedback on my work. Regarding my own work, I received very helpful feedback during the conference. I recently finished my data collection and this was the first opportunity to present those results. I had some great discussions on how to improve my analyses and the implications of my work and results. In addition to presenting my research, there were also many fantastic talks that inspired me. Dr. Eleonora Rossi from the University of Florida gave a keynote lecture in which she presented her new line of research focusing on social network analysis, which gave me many new ideas on how to integrate this into my own line of research. The talk by Dr. Gigi Luk, who shared her research in different areas of linguistics, was immensely inspirational. Sometimes it feels as if you need to decide on your path as a researcher already during the Master's phase, but the talk by Dr. Luk showed me that it is possible to follow your interests. Being able to talk about both research-related and non-research-related things with colleagues was a fantastic experience and the fact that the conference was hosted in beautiful Tromsø made the experience even better.