

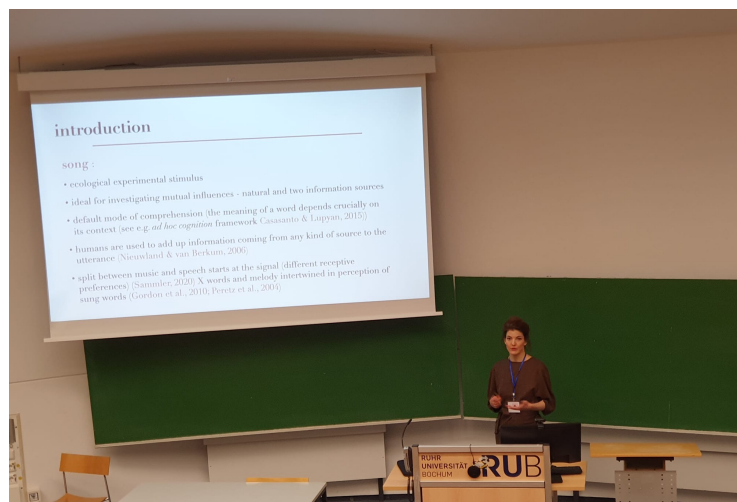
# Conference Report: Talk at the 46th Annual Conference of the German Linguistic Society (DGfS)

## CIPL Travel Grant Recipient:

Alice Karbanová

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## Presentation Title: Enhancing Lyric Meaning: The Interplay of Language and Music in Song



**Venue:** Ruhr-Universität Bochum (RUB), Germany

**Date:** February 28 to March 1, 2024, with satellite events on February 27

### Conference Overview:

The 46th Annual Conference of the German Linguistic Society (DGfS) brought together scholars for a diverse examination of language through 14 working groups and 4 plenary lectures, centred around the theme of "Language and Attitude." Discussions ranged from individual desires and preferences to broader societal beliefs, highlighting the role of language in shaping and reflecting attitudes. The event explored both direct and subtle means of expressing attitudes, offering insights into the intricate ways language influences and mirrors societal dynamics.

### Satellite Event Participation:

On February 27, I participated in the PhD Forum led by Dr. Verena Molitor, project manager at city2science. This workshop focused on enhancing communicative skills and provided tools for effectively presenting research to various audiences and stakeholders. It covered the latest trends in science communication and public engagement, emphasising the importance of strategic planning for outreach activities. The skills acquired in this workshop are invaluable for disseminating research findings broadly and securing national and international funding, underscoring the importance of versatile communication abilities in today's research and innovation landscape.

### My Contribution:

My presentation was part of Working Group 2, "Attitudinal Meaning in Prosody," which explored the cross-linguistic aspects of prosody and its connections to pragmatics and semantics. The session delved into how prosody conveys a speaker's attitude toward

their message or listener, particularly through emotional states and their prosodic manifestations. In my talk i argued, that music acquires meaning by imitating the prosodic contour of people in a specific emotional states. By attending to those isomorphic imitations, listeners decode the conveyed meaning of musical elements. These psychoacoustic cues manifest consistent patterns across cultures, substantiating the universality of their recognition. I have also presented the ongoing experimental phase of my research which seeks to unveil how concepts adjust based on inferences drawn from communicative intentions embedded within musical cues. The feedback from the audience was highly positive, providing valuable insights and suggestions for my dissertation.

**Overall Evaluation:**

The conference was an enriching experience, featuring a wide array of presentations that broadened my understanding of various linguistic topics. The plenary talks and working group discussions were particularly informative. Additionally, the conference facilitated networking opportunities, enabling me to connect with peers and experts in my field. These interactions were intellectually stimulating and are likely to contribute significantly to my academic and research endeavours.