It’s electric! Connections between language processing and second language acquisition

This talk will provide an overview of research from electrophysiological studies that examine the neurocognition of second language. After a brief introduction to event-related potentials (ERPs), the talk will consider findings from recent second language ERP research. First, longitudinal ERP research on lexical and grammatical second language development will be considered in light of age-of-acquisition and proficiency issues. Second, research that addresses how second language processing may be affected by different laboratory-training or naturalistic-learning contexts will be presented. Third, emerging ERP research examining individual differences in second language processing will be discussed. Finally, the potential of a strong connection between research on the neurocognition of language processing and research on second language acquisition will be highlighted as mutual consideration and collaboration between both fields of research could prove to be ‘electric.’