



**UNIVERSITÉ  
DE GENÈVE**

FACULTÉ DE PSYCHOLOGIE  
ET DES SCIENCES DE L'ÉDUCATION  
Section des sciences de l'éducation



Laboratoire RIFT



## Conférence publique

**Mercredi 23 mai 2012, de 17h à 19h**

**Uni-Mail, salle MR040**

### **Understanding intercultural interaction at work : some benefits from workplace discourse research**

**Prof. Janet Holmes**

Victoria University of Wellington

This talk will outline the goals and methodology of the Wellington Language in the Workplace Project, and then describe some specific examples of the results of sociolinguistic and discourse analysis of material gathered by the project team. The discussion will focus around material gathered from skilled migrants who, after participating in a Communication Skills course, are placed as interns into New Zealand workplaces. Focussing on intercultural communication in these workplaces, examples of areas where different socio-cultural norms obtain will be analysed, including small talk, requests and advice. Finally the talk will provide some examples of the teaching and learning strategies which have been developed to assist learners to improve and expand their socio-pragmatic skills during the course and in their workplace internships.