University of Waterloo Cognitive Science presents

RAYMOND W. GIBBS, JR.

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ

Author of *The Poetics of Mind: Figurative Thought, Language, and Understanding* (Cambridge UP, 1994), *Intentions in the Experience of Meaning* (Cambridge UP, 1999), and *Embodiment and Cognitive Science* (Cambridge UP, 2006); editor of *The Cambridge Handbook of Metaphor and Thought* (Cambridge UP, 2008); co-editor with Gerard Steen of *Metaphor in Cognitive Linguistics* (Benjamins, 1999); co-editor with Herbert Colston of *Irony in Language and Thought: A Cognitive Science Reader* (Erlbaum, 2007); and editor of the journal *Metaphor and Symbol*.

THURSDAY 25 JUNE, 1:00-3:00, PAS 1229 EMBODIMENT IN METAPHORICAL IMAGINATION

Metaphor scholars in cognitive science now argue that metaphor is not just a linguistic device, but also a fundamental part of human cognition. Conceptual metaphors such as LIFE IS A JOURNEY or UNDERSTANDING IS GRASPING are pervasive in ordinary speech and writing, appear to be essential for

how people conceive abstract concepts, and may be quickly recruited during many aspects of language production and understanding. Recent research even suggests that many conceptual metaphors appear to be grounded in recurring patterns of bodily experience, and thus provide of "embodied cognition." Raymond W. Gibbs, Jr. will offer an analyadditional evidence in favor sis of conceptual metaphors from a multidisciplinary perspective, and describe recent empirical evidence in support of the idea that many aspects of abstract thought are structured in terms of embodied metaphor. He will argue that people ordinarily engage in embodied simulation processes when using metaphorical language, and, more generally, thinking in imaginative ways about their lives and the world around them.