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2011 has been an eventful year. Many crucial decisions concerning CSMN have been taken, all of them with outcomes very much in CSMN’s favour.

By Professor Olav Gjelsvik, Centre Director, CSMN

2011 has been an eventful year. Many crucial decisions concerning CSMN have been taken, all of them with outcomes very much in CSMN’s favour. The main issue has been the final stages of the midway-evaluation and the fate of our re-application. The Norwegian Research Council decided on renewal for the eight centres in our generation of centres in June 2011, and all eight were renewed for another five years. The overall evaluation of CSMN placed us among the top rank of such centres, something that called for a great celebration in August. We shall live up to the confidence placed in us the coming years.

CSMN has experienced other significant changes in 2010. Grethe Netland took over from Ulla Heli as administrative leader, and later in the year Lina Tosterud finished her maternity leave, and Jon Furholt, her replacement, left to pursue philosophy in Paris. Ulla has contributed very positively to the internal life of the centre, and so has Jon. Of course we miss those who left us, and we are very grateful for their contributions and for their commitment to CSMN. The present administration provides wonderful support for CSMN’s activities.

CSMN was prepared for all outcomes in the renewal process, but we are extremely happy about the outcome. We see it as a very solid recognition of all the good work that has gone into CSMN, of the fruitfulness and significance of the ideas we had, and of our ability to make them come real. As an added bonus to being renewed, and recognized as doing excellent work, we also much welcome the major research grant to our previous postdocs Nick Allott, Timothy Chan, Eline Gundersen, and Anders Nes, as well as the research grant to Edmund Henden, Han Olav Melberg and Ayna Johansen. Andreas Stokke will join a European Network as a postdoc in Lisbon, and will be much missed.

Torfinn Huvenes and Georg Kjøll have received their doctorates with flying colours.

There have been many high-quality events at CSMN in 2011. It terms of public outreach and interest Noam Chomsky’s visit to CSMN has no equal. This was also CSMN’s contribution to the bicentennial anniversary of the University of Oslo; no other event in those celebrations received as much interest, and more than 2500 people attended. Chomsky was in great form throughout his visit.

There were also many other events of great interest and significance. CSMN has had many visitors (see p. 46) in addition to the core group members. They have all contributed very much to the happy atmosphere of the intellectual life of CSMN.
Consortium board:
Prof. Camilla Serck-Hanssen, Chairman (IFIKK, University of Oslo)
Prof. Jessica Brown, Consortium partner (Arché, University of St. Andrews)
Christian Barry, Consortium partner (CAPPE, Canberra)
Anne Marie Eide, Faculty Director (Faculty of Humanities, University of Oslo)
Prof. Raino Malnes (Faculty of Social Science, University of Oslo)
Prof. Timothy Williamson (University of Oxford)
Prof. Onora O’Neill (University of Cambridge)
Prof. John Dupré (University of Exeter)
Eline Busck-Gundersen (deputy Timothy Chan), Temporary staff (University of Oslo)
CSMN structure

Director of CSMN:
Olav Gjelsvik

Co-Director:
Carsten Hansen

Core Group:
Herman Cappelen, Christel Fricke, Olav Gjelsvik, Carsten Hansen, Jennifer Hornsby, Thomas Pogge, Bjørn Ramberg, Deirdre Wilson

Administration
Administrative Leader:
Ulla Heli (Jan-June)
Grethe Netland (June-Dec)

Administrative Consultant:
Jon Furholt (Jan-Aug)
Lina Tosterud (Aug-Dec)

Cognition and Communication:
Endre Begby

Addiction, Choice and Responsible Agency:
Olav Gjelsvik
Edmund Henden

Responding to Global poverty:
Gerhard Øverland

Who owns it? Land claims in Latin America:
Gerhard Øverland

Metonymy in Context and Communication:
Ingrid Lossius Falkum

Linguistic Agency
Research Directors:
Herman Cappelen
Deirdre Wilson

Research Coordinators:
Robyn Carston
Jan Terje Faarlund

Researchers:
Richard Breheny
Josh Dever
John Hawthorne
Francois Recanati
Dan Sperber
Jason Stanley

Post Docs:
Andreas Stokke
Nicholas Allott

PhD students:
Rachel Sterken
Georg Kjøll
Torfinn Huvenes

Rational Agency
Research Directors:
Olav Gjelsvik
Carsten Hansen
Bjørn Ramberg
Jennifer Hornsby

Research Coordinators:
Helen Steward

Researchers:
Edmund Henden
Hans Olav Melberg
Ole Røgeberg

Post Docs:
Anders Nes
Timothy Chan
Nicholas Allott

PhD students:
Heine Holmen
Mathias Sagdahl

Moral Agency
Research Directors:
Christel Fricke
Thomas Pogge

Research Coordinators:
Andreas Føllesdal
Cristoph Harbsmeier
Alison Jaggar
Raimo Malnes
Peter Railton
Øyvind Rabbås
Henrik Syse
Crispin Wright

Researchers:
Julia Annas, Emilie Aussant,
Christina Bicchieri,
Alexander Cappelen, Maria Carrasco, Kevin Mulligan,
Larry Temkin, Theresa Tobin,
Bertil Tungodden, Alejandro Vigo, Catherine Wilson,
Gerhard Øverland

Post Docs:
Eline Busck-Gundersen
Anders Nes

PhD students:
Kari Refsdal

Research School
Director: Carsten Hansen
New team members

Grethe Netland

Grethe Netland became CSMN's acting head of administration on 1st of June 2011. Previously, Grethe has been the administrative head of our host department, and later administrator responsible for UiO’s Ethics Programme. In both these capacities, Grethe has cooperated with CSMN: first when she contributed to the administrative parts of the planning and the establishment of the centre, and second when the Ethics Programme and CSMN were good neighbors in our old and new building.

Ingrid Lossius Falkum

In January 2011 Ingrid Lossius Falkum joined CSMN staff as a post-doctoral fellow with the project “Metonomy in Context and Communication”, which is presented at page 14-15 in the present report. Ingrid’s areas of research interests are pragmatics, semantics, cognitive science, linguistics and philosophy of language. Ingrid is not entirely new at CSMN. As a PhD fellow, she was an affiliate member of the team, while she worked on her dissertation The Semantics and Pragmatics of Polysemy: A Relevance-Theoretic Account. Ingrid successfully defended her thesis at University College London in 2011.

Gerhard Øverland

Gerhard Øverland is a part of the CSMN team from 2011 as project leader of the project: “Who owns it? Land claims in Latin America: their moral legitimacy and implications”, funded by the Norwegian Research Council. The project is presented at page 14 in the present report. Øverland has, since 2010, also been connected to CSMN through the project: “Responding to Global Poverty: On what the affluent ought to do and what the poor are permitted to do”, of which he is also the project leader. Øverland cooperates closely with other CSMN staff, such as Thomas Pogge and Alison Jaggar.
The CSMN Affiliate Program

CSMN welcomes researchers on PhD and Post Doc levels to follow the research which is done at the centre. The centre currently has 23 affiliates from 8 different departments.

The CSMN Affiliate Program is open to PhD Fellows and Post-Doctoral Fellows at the University of Oslo whose work falls within CSMN’s broad remit. By drawing researchers from across the University into the activities of CSMN, the Affiliate Program enriches the working environment for individual researchers while at the same time enhancing the research power of CSMN.

There are various ongoing seminar series at CSMN, and affiliates are encouraged to present their work in progress at these and other events hosted by CSMN. They may also apply for funding for their own conference travel. Affiliates actively participate in the co-organization of workshops and conferences, and some have also co-taught seminars with CSMN researchers. One researcher taking an active part in the CSMN community is Monica Roland. Monica is a PhD Fellow in philosophy at the Department of Philosophy, Classics, History of Art and Ideas, University of Oslo (from April 2011). She became a CSMN affiliate soon after she started her PhD. In fall 2011 she was co-convenor of the Language and Rationality seminar together with Post Docs Anders Nes and Andreas Stokke.

“To me being a CSMN affiliate no doubt has been really fruitful. There’s a lot of activity going on at the centre, people visiting from all over the place, and different conferences and workshops being held, giving one an opportunity to meet people interested in and working on the same topics as one self. To have that kind of network I find really important and valuable,” Monica says. She is emphasising both the academic and social atmosphere at CSMN. “I like the interdisciplinary aspect of the centre and of course the friendly and vibrant atmosphere. For me as a PhD student it’s also of course a great resource and inspiration to have that many great philosophers around to learn from.”

CSMN currently has 10 female and 13 male affiliates, from 8 different departments. 12 are PhD fellows while 11 hold post-doctoral and other research appointments. There are two new affiliates in 2011.
New affiliates in 2011:

List of affiliates:
Kim Angell
Trine Antonsen
Frank Barel
Lene Bomann-Larsen
Anderas Brekke Carlsson
Einar Duenger Bohn
Jakob Elster
Paula Rubio Fernandez
Guro Fløgstad
Espen Gamlund
Robert Huseby
Ayna Johansen
Jon A. Lindstrøm
Marit Lobben
Terje Lohndal
Jorid Moen
Astrid Nome
Gry Ofstedal
Jon Anstein Olsen
Tor Otterholt
Monica Roland
Jon Richard Sageng
Anders Strand

Monica Roland
Astrid Nome
It was with great joy and pride that the department received the news of the renewal of CSMN. Not least we see the renewal by the Norwegian research council as a proof of and reward for good cooperation between the centre and the hosting department. Whilst much of the joint work between the department and the centre in the first years focused on planning and facilitation of infrastructure, we now see more and more direct academic “output”. The activities in 2011 clearly show that we have moved beyond the planning stage and that the words in our evaluation and reapplication were more than empty rhetoric.

The centre, building on the work of the entire philosophy section through the years has now put philosophy in Oslo on the map both nationally and internationally, and continues to be an extremely important academic hub in the department.

The high international standing of our centre became extremely clear when we were finally able to announce new PhD and postdoc positions just before Christmas. For the postdoc positions we received about 150 applications from young scholars all over the world, including applicants from some of the most prestigious philosophy departments. Nationally the visit by Noam Chomsky in September made the headlines in all the major Norwegian newspapers and campus felt more like the stage for a rock concert during his lectures than a university.

On a departmental level it is extremely satisfactory to see that the collaboration between the department and the centre does not exclusively include our philosophers. The hosting department, IFIKK (Institutt for filosofi, idé- og kunsthistorie og klassiske språk/Department of Philosophy, Classics, History of Art and Ideas) is a truly interdisciplinary department and this year saw several activities within Moral Agency where classicists both from within the department (both from ancient philosophy and Greek philology) and from the realm of their contacts participated.

One of the most important arenas for integration and crossfertilization between the department and the centre, however, is our PhD programme in philosophy which is run by...
professor Carsten Hansen from the centre. This year the first batch of CSMN PhDs graduated together with the departmental PhDs.

For the department the centre is an important example of an international research community on several levels. Research training has already been mentioned, but we also see the centre at the forefront of consciousness about gender equality and have together applied for special funds which for instance may give our students internationally high-standing female role models.

For the department it is crucial that our students get in touch with the centre and its activities not simply through high-profile events like Chomsky’s visit, but more on a day-to-day basis through regular teaching. We are therefore happy that in addition to the regular staff and research-directors of CSMN, the PhDs and postdocs continue to contribute to the teaching in the philosophy programme and we will do our utmost to warmly welcome the new batch of PhDs and postdocs starting in 2012.

Mathilde Skoie
Head of Department
New Projects

During 2011 two new projects were initiated by CSMN-members: ‘Who owns it? Land claims in Latin America’ and the post doctoral project ‘Metonymy in Context and Communication’. Both projects are funded by the Norwegian Research Council and hosted by CSMN.

Who owns it? Land claims in Latin America: their moral legitimacy and implications.

Conflicts due to unresolved land claims are a pressing political and social issue throughout Latin America. The aim of this project is to investigate the legitimacy of land claims by both indigenous and non-indigenous communities in Latin America, and to explore the means that these communities can adopt to vindicate the justified land claims that they may have.

A better understanding of the normative considerations that underlie land claims and the strategies that have been adopted to pursue them in Latin America can help facilitate dialogue between social actors that currently are in conflict over land claims.

The primary objectives are to investigate and evaluate the moral legitimacy of land claims by indigenous and non-indigenous communities in Latin America, and to explore the means that these groups can adopt to vindicate those of their claims that are legitimate.

Secondary Objectives:
1. Understand the types of historical and non-historical land claims made by different groups of disadvantaged people in Brazil, Chile, and Mexico
2. Provide an account of the three different moral principles that seem to underlie the land claims made by these disadvantaged people: the principle of contribution, the principle of benefiting from injustice, and the principle of assistance
3. Evaluate the soundness of the different claims in light of the three different principles
4. Explore what means disadvantaged people may employ to vindicate legitimate land claims when the current owners and the state fail to honor these claims

The results of this investigation will be communicated in peer reviewed journal articles, edited collections based on the papers from the workshops, radio podcasts and other media contributions. The project will also conduct PhD courses in Latin American countries on central research themes.

Researchers involved: Gerhard Øverland, Christian Barry, Jemina Garcia-Godos and Alejandra Mancilla.

Metonymy in Context and Communication

This project investigates the phenomenon of metonymy: the process whereby an expression is used to refer to something that falls outside of the conventional denotation of that expression, and where the conventional and the metonymic denotations stand in a certain relation to each other (as in an utterance of ‘The ham sandwich is getting impatient’, where ‘The ham sandwich’ refers to the person who ordered it, in the context of a restaurant). Such metonymies have been shown to raise deep issues for semantic compositionality and cognitive theories of the process of utterance comprehension, which seek to explain the nature of the pragmatic process that leads to metonymic interpretations. This project investigates a new and largely unexplored area.
in research on metonymy, namely that it involves a kind of ‘naming’, closely related to nicknaming, where a salient property of an individual is used to create a new name.

Some questions that the project seeks to answer are the following: (a) Can metonymy be analysed as a form of metarepresentational use of language, where the speaker introduces a new name for a referent on the basis of a salient property it possesses? (b) What is the cognitive and communicative motivation for using a metonymic expression, instead of a literal expression with a similar meaning? (c) How does the context constrain which metonymies are possible? (d) What is the relation between metonymy, nicknames and social/racial slurs? (e) Can a relevance-theoretic pragmatic account of metonymy comprehension be reconciled with the cognitive linguistic hypothesis about the existence of metonymic concepts?

The project also seeks to investigate experimentally the development of metonymy interpretation and production skills in children. Topics of investigation are: (a) when children start understanding/producing metonymies in discourse; (b) whether some metonymies are easier to understand than others (e.g., those that instantiate conventional patterns of metonymic extension), and (c) whether there are any differences between the comprehension and production of metonymy in language acquisition.

Ingrid Lossius Falkum
The Language and Rationality seminar (L & R seminar)

The Language and Rationality Seminar is the CSMN’s weekly forum for our Linguistic and Rational Agency projects. In 2011, we have had 31 talks altogether, covering a diverse range of topics, from the philosophy of logic and language, via epistemology and metaphysics, to the philosophy of mind and action. 15 of the presentations were given by Oslo locals, from CSMN or elsewhere within UiO, and 16 by visitors from institutions elsewhere, chiefly in Europe and North America.

As in previous years, there has been much lively discussion at the seminar. In particular we have seen a number of useful exchanges between researchers from different backgrounds.

Across the year, 30% of our speakers have been women (20% for the spring and 38% for the autumn semesters). On average, the number of attendants per session have been about 12.

Convenors of the seminar for spring 2011 were Andreas Stokke and Anders Nes and for the autumn 2011 Monica Roland, Andreas Stokke and Anders Nes.

L & R Schedule for 2011:

Spring:
- 27 January: Jon Litland (Harvard): The Barcan Formula(e) for Determinacy
- 10 February: Einar Duenger Bøhn (Oslo): The Logic of the Trinity
- 17 February: Anders Schoubye (Arché): Attributive and Referential Descriptions: Against the Argument from Regularity
- 24 February: Heine A. Holmen (CSMN): Against Cognitivism about Intention: The Doxastic Venture Problem
- 3 March: Eyja M. Brynjarsdóttir (University of Iceland): Looking at nature when looking at nature: On using psychological data when doing metaphysics
- 10 March: Guðmundur Andri Hjálmarsson (Arché): Proofs of Triviality and Trivial Proofs
- 24 March: Thomas Kroedel (Humboldt University, Berlin): Pleasures, Pains, and William James: Reasssssing Evolutionary Arguments against Epiphenomenalism
- 31 March: Anders Nes (CSMN): Intentionality and Agent-Implicating ‘Ought’
- 7 April: Mark Textor (King’s College London): Negative Judgement
- 14 April: Torfinn Huvenes (CSMN): Contextualism about Knowledge Ascriptions and Indirect Speech Reports
- 28 April: Andreas Stokke (CSMN): Metasemantics and Indirectness
- 12 May: Eline Busck Gundersen (CSMN): Response-dependence distinctions distinguished
- 19 May: Gunnar Björnsson (Linköping University): The pragmatics of insensitive assessments: Explaining the evidence for assessor relativism without fancy semantic footwork
- 26 May: Maria Lasonen-Arnio (University of Michigan, Ann Arbor): Higher-order evidence and the limits of defeat
- 9 June: Pål Antonsen (Trinity College, Dublin): True in a Fiction and True at a Context

Autumn:
- 25 August: James Trafford (East London): Sense and Rationality
- 1 September: Tom Stoneham (University of York): Objectualism about Phenomenal Character
- 8 September: Allison Hall (University College London): Utterance content, pragmatic enrichment and circumstances of evaluation
- 22 September: Herman Cappelen (CSMN/Arché): Indexical Content and Reasons for Action
- 29 September: Marit Lobben (Oslo): The embodied cognitive bases of classifier systems
- 6 October: Patrick Greenough (St Andrews): Pragmatics in Thought
- 13 October: Catherine Felix (Lund Univeristy): Practical Reasoning and Mistakes
- 20 October: Rachel Sterken (CSMN/Arché): Indefinite Singular Generics: Rules and Regulations?
- 27 October: Hedda Hassel Mørch (Oslo):
Causation, Agency and Panpsychism

- 3 November: Einar Duenger Bøhn (Oslo): The Plural Logic of Identity
- 10 November: Andreas Stokke (CSMN): Insincerity
- 17 November: Lucian Zagan (ILLC, Amsterdam): Vagueness, Context Dependence, and the Creative Interpreter
- 24 November: Camilla Serck-Hanssen (Oslo) and Toni Kannisto (Oslo, visiting Humboldt Univ, Berlin): From Thinking to Being – The Real Problem With the Paralogistic Inference
- 1 December: Thomas Hodgson (Arché): Structured Propositions & Unarticulated Constituents
- 8 December: Hrafn Asgeirsson (University of Southern California): Does the law ever assert something other than what it literally says?
- 15 December: Grant Gillett (University of Otago): Evolutionary neurology and moral responsibility (or The neurophilosophy of the psychopathic brain)

CSMN Colloquium

Unless other CSMN events are unfolding, Wednesday mornings are reserved for the CSMN colloquium. This is a forum for presentations and discussions that may bear on work done in all three branches of CSMN. Both regular personnel and visitors are encouraged to use the colloquium as a setting for trying out new ideas and developing work in progress. Discussion is informal in tone, levity is permitted and frequently in evidence, but not to the detriment of academic engagement and excitement. Conveners of the colloquium during 2011 were Ingrid Lossius Falkum (Postdoctoral Fellow, Linguistic Agency Branch) and Bjørn Ramberg (Research Director, Rational Agency Branch).

There were eight meetings each semester, on very diverse topics, starting off with CSMN visitor Tomasz Zuradzki (Jagiellonian University), on February 16th, presenting the paper, ‘How much should we care about future people?’, followed by the formal semanticist Barbara Partee (University of Massachusetts, Amherst), our own Ingrid Lossius Falkum (CSMN), the philosopher Herlinde Pauer-Studer (University of Vienna), linguist Neil Smith (University College London), the philosopher
of social science Ondřej Švec (Univerzita Hradec Králové), philosopher Anne Meylan (Geneva), and linguist Kaja Borthen (NTNU) in the spring semester. Speakers during the fall were Allison Hall (UCL), Anouch Bourmayan (Institut Jean-Nicod), both working in pragmatics, philosopher and CSMN visitor Tom Stoneham, on ‘Hallucinations, dreams and phenomenal character’, philosopher of mind Sebastian Watzl (Harvard), Yggdrasil Fellow Thomas Hodgson (St. Andrews/Arche), PhD student Monica Roland (IFIKK/CSMN), the developmental psychologist Francisco Pons (Psychology, UiO), and, ending the year, Hrafn Asgeirsson (University of Southern California), who spoke on ‘Vagueness, Necessity, and Instrumental Value’.

The current program as well as a link to past talks can be found on our our web page: http://www.hf.uio.no/csmn/english/research/news-and-events/events/csmn-colloquium/

Bjørn Ramberg

CSMN Colloquium Schedule for 2011

- 16 February 2011, Tomasz Zuradzki (Jagiellonian University/CSMN): ‘How much should we care about future people?’
- 16 March 2011, Barbara Partee (University of Massachusetts, Amherst): ‘Context dependence and implicit arguments’
- 13 April 2011, Ingrid Lossius Falkum (CSMN): ‘Metonomy in Context and Communication’
- 27 April 2011, Herlinde Pauer-Studer (University of Vienna): ‘Self-Constitution and Bad Action’.
- May 11, Ondřej Švec (Univerzita Hradec Králové): ‘What exactly does ‘naturalization of consciousness’ mean?’
- 18 May 2011, Anne Meylan (Geneva): ‘Solving the problem of doxastic responsibility. Why restricted reason-responsiveness is of no help’.
- 25 May 2011, Kaja Borthen (NTNU): ‘How do we interpret ‘we’? On the fluidity and vagueness of the 1st person plural’
- 14 September, Allison Hall (UCL), ‘Free enrichment and the nature of pragmatic constraints’
- 21 September 2011, Anouch Bourmayan (Institut Jean-Nicod): ‘From incorporation to pragmatic enrichment: shifting the perspective on implicit indefinite objects’.
- 26 September 2011, Tom Stoneham (University of York): ‘Hallucinations, dreams and phenomenal character’.
- 19 October 2011, Thomas Hodgson (St. Andrews/Arche): ‘Propositions, structure, & representation’
- 23 November 2011, Monica Roland (IFIKK/CSMN): ‘Rationality and the Concept of a Person’.
- 30 November 2011, Francisco Pons (Psychology, UiO): ‘Is Jean Piaget still among us?’
- 9 December 2011, Hrafn Asgeirsson (University of Southern California): ‘Vagueness, Necessity, and Instrumental Value: A Reply to Endicott.’

Moral Philosophy Club

The year 2011 was a good year for the Moral Philosophy Club. We had a variety of speakers, both external and internal, on a variety of topics, ranging from practical ethics to normative ethics to metaethics. The 2011 policy has been, as last year, that a participant send out whatever work in progress s-/he has in advance of the session, briefly presents it at the beginning of the session, before we discuss it in plenum. Usually the discussion continued over lunch afterwards.

Of external speakers this year, we had Alejandra Mancilla (ANU), Knut Olav Skarsaune (NYU), Franco Trivigno (Marquette), Fotini Vaki (Ionian University) and Tomasz Zuradzki. In addition to giving their own presentations, Alejandra, Knut Olav, Tomasz and Franco, who were all visiting CSMN at various points during the year, also participated in many of each other’s sessions. Of internal speakers, Anders Strand, Lene Bomann-Larsen and Jakob Elster gave presentations and participated in several sessions throughout the year. Finally, the core group of participants – the backbone of MPC 2011! – Christel Fricke, Andreas Carlsson and Einar Duenger Bohn, also gave presentations, in addition to organizing and actively participating in each session throughout the year.

All in all, MPC 2011 served its purpose well, with an active group of philosophers who came to benefit from each other’s critical comments, as well as came to know each other both academically and personally.

Einar Duenger Bohn
Moral Philosophy Club Schedule 2011

- 22 March 2011, Jakob Elster (UiO), 'Evaluating rules of regulation'
- 29 March 2011, Franco Trivigno
- 5 April 2011, Einar Duenger Bohn (CSMN), 'Deontic logic and the best of all possible worlds'
- 10 May 2011, Andreas Brekke Carlsson (IFIKK)
- 24 May 2011, Knut Olav Skarsaune (NYU)
- 31 May 2011, Anders Strand (IFIKK)
- 7 June 2011, Lene Bomann-Larsen (UiO)
- 14 September 2011, Christel Fricke (CSMN) 'Intersubjectivity and Objectivity - an attempt at bringing together Edmund Husserl's phenomenological epistemology and Adam Smith's moral theory'
- 21 September 2011, Tomasz Zuradski, 'The argument from normative uncertainty in bioethics'
- 27 September 2011, Alejandra Mancilla (ANU)
- 5 October 2011, Andreas Brekke Carlsson (IFIKK), 'Moral blindness and moral ignorance'
- 12 October 2011, Mathias Sagdahl (CSMN)
- 30 November 2011, Fotini Vaki (Ionian University, Corfu): 'The Universal Legislator, the Impartial Spectator and the Sensus Communis: Kant and Smith on Morality and Judgment’
Linguistic Agency

Linguistic agency is central to human action, and is governed by rules and norms that need to be analysed and articulated. This branch of CSMN has worked with several aspects of these subjects, both empirically and in relation to more structural systems of agency.

Context and Communication Sub-Project

Output


Cappelen gave a series of lecture on egocentric thought at the Universidade Federal do Ro de Janerio. He gave a talk on the role of intuitions in philosophy at Rutgers University, and a series of talk at indexical content at the Institut Nicod in Paris.

Andreas Stokke’s paper Lying and Asserting was accepted for publication in The Journal of Philosophy, 2011. Stokke’s paper “Protagonist Projection” was accepted for publication in Mind and Language.


Rachel Sterken returned from maternity leave mid-August 2011. She gave an invited talk at a conference on Current Work in Philosophy of Language, at Harvard University in November 2011, with Professor Chierchia responding to her paper. She was a visiting scholar first at Harvard University and then at UC Berkeley.

Events

A workshop on the de se, indexicality, and content was co-organised by Arché, CSMN, and Institut Nicod. It took place the Institut Nicod in Paris. The speakers were Herman Cappelen, Josh Dever, François Recanati, Simon Prosser, Dilip Ninan, David Hunter.

A workshop on Lying, Saying and Meaning was organized at the University of Oslo. The workshop brought together researchers at the forefront of the new developments in the philosophy of lying. The speakers were Roy Sorensen (Washing University in St Louis), Don Fallis (University of Arizona), Jennifer Saul (University of Sheffield), Elisabeth Camp (University of Pennsylvania) and CSMN local Andreas Stokke.

Professors Cappelen and Gjelsvik co-taught a PhD Course on Intuitions and Philosophical Methodology, attended by a large group of MA and PhD students.

The Context and Communication Project also organized individual talks by Ophra Magidor,
Brian Weatherson, Jonathan Ichkawa, Ephraim Glick, Patrick Greenough, and Derek Ball.

**Metarepresentation Sub-Project**

Output

Deirdre Wilson (with Coralie Chevallier, Ira Noveck and Francesca Happé) published a paper on communicative development in autism in the leading psychology journal *Neuropsychologia* (see publications list). Her paper on the treatment of metaphor in relevance theory and cognitive linguistics was published in *Intercultural Pragmatics*. She continued to work on theoretical and developmental aspects of irony (a new paper ‘Explaining irony’ appears in her forthcoming book *Meaning and Relevance* with Dan Sperber), and her paper on ‘The conceptual-procedural distinction: Past, present and future’ was published in a collection on Procedural Meaning. With Robyn Carston, she continued to participate in Terence Cave’s Balzan project on Literature and Cognition.

Robyn Carston’s research focused on two main topics: (a) metaphor and related non-literal uses of language; (b) the nature of word meaning. Each is the subject of a three-year collaborative project (2011-2014) that has recently been awarded major UK funding: (a) Metaphor: Ad Hoc Concepts and Imagined Worlds, for which Carston is the principal investigator (co-investigator, Catherine Wearing of Wellesley College), supported by a grant from the Leverhulme Trust; (b) Word Meaning: What it is and What it is not, for which Carston is co-investigator (principal investigator, Mark Textor of King’s College London), supported by a grant from the AHRC. Several papers emerging from the first project have been published in 2011-2012 (see publications list) and many talks have been given on the topic (see talks list). Regarding the second project, Carston has given two talks (IPrA, July 2011; SPR-11, November 2011), completed one paper, ‘Lexical meaning and concept communicated’, for a special issue of *Linguistic Review*, 2012, and a second is in preparation.

Dan Sperber (with Hugo Mercier) published a major target article in *Behavioral & Brain Sciences* on their ‘argumentative theory of reasoning’, followed by an ‘Authors’ Response to Open Peer commentary’. The theory was presented in several talks (see attached list), and has received considerable newspaper coverage. They are now working on a book on reasoning to be published by Harvard University Press and Penguin. His book *Meaning and Relevance* (co-authored with Deirdre Wilson) will be published by CUP in early 2012.

Nicholas Allott has papers on ‘Relevance theory’ and ‘Misunderstandings in verbal communication’ forthcoming in 2012. One main focus of his research has been on lexical semantics and pragmatics, where he has submitted a paper (with Mark Textor) to a leading journal; a second has been on the semantics and pragmatics of conditionals, where he has continued with work with Hiroyuki Uchida.

In November 2011, along with Eline Busck Gundersen, Anders Nes and Timothy Chan, Nicholas was awarded a major three-year research grant for a project on ‘The reflective
mind: An integrated philosophical study of metarepresentation and reasoning’, and we congratulate them warmly on their success.

Georg Kjoll successfully defended his PhD on Word meaning, concepts and the representation of abstract entities from the perspective of radical pragmatics and semantic externalism in August 2011 (examiners Georges Rey and Robyn Carston), and is currently working on a project at the Norwegian Academy. Georg made a very valuable contribution to the development of CSMN, and we would like to express our appreciation.

Ingrid Lossius Falkum continued to work on her research project on Metonymy, funded by the Norway Research Council. Her son Marsdal Falkum was born in September, and she is currently on a research visit to California. Many congratulations!

Richard Breheny has focused mainly on experimental aspects of pragmatics, including the time course of comprehension, processing differences between presuppositions and implicatures, and the role of mindreading and metacognition in comprehension.

Events
In September 2011, Robyn Carston and Deirdre Wilson (with the help of Nicholas Allott, Georg Kjoll and Ingrid Lossius Falkum) organised a two-day workshop on Children’s Pragmatic and Metarepresentational Development at CSMN. The last 10-15 years have seen a rapid proliferation of research on the development of the communicative capacity in children and its interaction with the development of other metarepresentational capacities, and the aim of the workshop was to take stock of this research and consider some of its implications for theories of pragmatics and metarepresentation. The invited speakers, who are working on development from a variety of theoretical perspectives, were Martin Doherty (Psychology, University of Stirling), Eva Filippova (Charles University, Prague), Ulf Liskowski (Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen), Hanna Marno (CEU, Budapest), Olivier Mascaro (CEU, Budapest), Tomoko Matsui (Tokyo Gakugei University), Erika Nurmsoo (University of Kent), and Paula Rubio Fernandez (UCL London). Members of the Metarepresentation sub-project also put on a semester-long MA course on ‘Pragmatics and Relevance Theory’, organised by Nicholas Allott, with contributions from Georg Kjoll, Ingrid Lossius Falkum and Deirdre Wilson. Nicholas Allott also taught two further MA courses, on ‘Reference, context and speech acts’, and on ‘Thought, interpretation and communication’.

Universal Grammar in First-Language Acquisition

The Universal Grammar subproject of the Linguistics Agency continues the work in two closely related areas, syntactic change, and the mental representation of grammar. Of special interest over the last couple of years has been the issue of complexity as a possible culture induced variable across languages.

Publications by Jan Terje Faarlund

Articles in print:
• Degrees of clause cohesion: complementation and subordination in Chiapas Zoque.
• Native American Languages and Linguistics, 1. 2011.
• The pro cycle. In M. Cennamo, J. Barddal, E. van Gelderen (eds.), Variation and Change in Argument Realization. Amsterdam: Benjamins.

Conference papers:

Other activities:
Ph.D. and MA level course by affiliate Terje Lohndal: Language as Cognitive Science, September 2011.
In 2011, two peer-reviewed volumes with collections of papers have finally been published: The Ethics of Forgiveness (New York: Routledge, ed. by Christel Fricke) and Adam Smith and the Conditions of a Moral Society (The Adam Smith Review 6, co-edited by Christel Fricke, Raino Malnes, Karl Ove Moene and Ragnvald Kalleberg, all Oslo). Fricke contributed chapters to both volumes.

The Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews published a very positive review of The Ethics of Forgiveness (by Linda Radzik, Texas); it is the first collection of essays exploring ‘the complexities of human interaction in the aftermath of wrongdoing’ from a mainly normative point of view. Contributors include Christoph Harbsmeier, Ilaria Ramelli, Garry L. Hagberg, Peter Goldie, Eve Garrard, David McNaughton, Espen Gamlund, Jerome Neu, Arne Johan Vetlesen, Geoffrey Scarre, and Jakob Lothe. Contributors to the edition in The Adam Smith Review include Maria A. Carrasco, Carola Freiin von Villiez, Samuel Fleischacker, Duncan Kelly, Lisa Hill, John O’Neill, Jon Elster, Vivienne Brown and Karl Ove Moene.

Christel Fricke has also submitted a chapter for the forthcoming Oxford Handbook on Adam Smith. Furthermore, she presented ongoing research on moral knowledge at various conferences and is now preparing another volume with collected essays on the epistemologies of Adam Smith and Edmund Husserl (in cooperation with Dagfinn Føllesdal).

Thomas Pogge has continued his research and political activities fighting global poverty (both in the framework of his Health Impact Fund and beyond). He published Weltarmut und Menschenrechte (Berlin: de Gruyter), as well as 6 journal articles and 15 book chapters (in various languages) on related topics. Furthermore, he lectured all over the world to spread the word of the continuously increasing world poverty and to engage his audiences in fighting it. He was the key promoter of a new initiative Academics Stand Against Poverty (ASAP). This is a new international organization of scholars and teachers that aims to increase the impact of academics on global poverty through promoting and supporting collaboration, public outreach and policy intervention. ASAP members include moral and political theorists, economists, environmental scientists, public health experts, and scholars from a range of other disciplines. CSMN is one of the cooperators.

The Moral Agency team explores a set of interrelated questions regarding the moral constraints on human agency.

Events

The MA team continued cooperation with local and international colleagues from various academic disciplines, exploring the transition from a psychological and sociological account of human behavior to a normative, moral account of human obligations. Related questions concerning the complex relations between actual social practices in particular and moral demands in general were explored in a series of conferences. Among the most important events were the following:

1) Raino Malnes and Hilde W. Nagell, in cooperation with Jakob Elster and Kasper Lippert-Rasmussen (Aarhus), organized a workshop with Philip Pettit (Princeton) and Christian List (LSE) on Social ontology and collective agency. In their forthcoming book on Group Agency, Pettit and List argue that human beings’ thought and language are contingent on interaction with others, confirming a long tradition of claims about the role of recognition in the shaping of an individual person. They defend a ‘holistic individualism.’ The workshop brought together international researchers who explored the implications of this view for social and political theory.

2) Alison Jaggar (Colorado/CSMN) and Theresa Tobin (Marquette) organized a conference, Naturalizing Moral Epistemology. Participants explored the prospects of research on moral
reasoning and agency that is naturalized in orientation and methodology. The challenge is to develop good models of moral reasoning by critically assessing which reasoning practices have worked well in real-world circumstances. Invited papers presented both research that exemplifies this philosophical approach to moral epistemology and research that reflects critically on it.

3) In cooperation with Bertil Tungodden and Alexander Cappelen (NHH) CSMN hosted the third workshop on Social and Moral Norms in Intentional Action, this time focusing on The Foundations of Moral Preferences. The aim of the workshop was to bring together social scientists working on the foundations of moral preferences and discuss how they are shaped by nature, institutions, and cultural factors. Peter Railton (Michigan/CSMN) joined us for this particular workshop.

4) Thomas Pogge hosted a workshop, Consensus on Global Poverty. He invited global poverty scholars from all disciplines, including doctoral and master’s students, to participate in discussions about how to further promote our efforts to fight against global poverty. The goal of this workshop
was twofold: launching the Academics Stand Against Poverty (ASAP) network in Norway and launching a new ASAP initiative called the Global Poverty Consensus Report.

The latter is a project aimed at building an inclusive academic consensus on what ought and can be done to alleviate global poverty – a consensus that will feed into ongoing international discussions about the replacement of the Millennium Development Goals. This workshop was followed by a “twin” workshop in New-Delhi. This second workshop was dedicated to building and shaping the ASAP network in India as well as continuing the discussion started in Oslo on the Global Poverty Consensus Report. Both conferences were co-sponsored by CSMN and CROP (Comparative Research Programme on Poverty, UiBergen). The workshop in Oslo was followed by an open public event on the same topics in Literaturhuset/Oslo.

**International Exchange**

In the spring of 2011, Christel Fricke stayed as a visiting scholar at the Catholic University of Santiago de Chile, following an invitation from Maria Alejandra Carrasco who had visited CSMN the year before. This visit has brought about a cooperation agreement signed between IFIKK, CSMN’s host, and the Department of Philosophy of the partner University in Chile. Carrasco has visited the CSMN in the autumn of 2011; it was a third visit in Oslo.

In order to continue our cooperation with CAPPE, CSMN invited Alejandra Mancilla, PhD student at the ANU and member of CAPPE, to come and visit CSMN.

**Cooperation with the Ethics Programme**

Ever since CSMN opened its doors, we have cooperated closely with various members of the Ethics Programme and with Jakob Elster and Lene Bormann-Larson in particular. This fall, they left the University of Oslo to start careers outside this academic institution. By the end of 2011, the Ethics Programme will close down. The MA team would like to thank all its members for a very inspiring and fruitful cooperation.
Rational Agency

The question of rational agency touches upon a vast number of different philosophical problems. This branch of CSMN’s research has in 2011 manifested its work in eight different events which all cover important parts of the research.

The most important academic outcome this year is probably “Essays on Anscombe’s Intention”, published at Harvard University Press. Jennifer Hornsby is one of the editors, and also has a very significant article in it. This is a very substantial contribution to the present literature in the philosophy of action and intention. There are many other fine publications, and also many and varied meetings/events. There is cooperation with linguistic agency, and also cooperation with moral agency in organizing events. At the end of the year there was be a major meeting about addiction (see page 50), with concrete plans to produce a volume or journal issue from it.

The contributions are spread out over the various research topics, and the philosophy of action and issues in rationality and impaired agency are well represented both in the meetings and in the published output.

The events and activities, talks, workshops and conferences organized by us or by us together with others have mainly taken place in Oslo; some in other places. During this year we have also started our planning towards CSMN II, which will start late in 2012. The year has also been marked by some exhaustion from the very hard work leading up to the renewal application end of 2010, with follow up things through the spring term of 2011.

Principal events in 2011

1.PhD course: Intuitions and Philosophical Methodology
Co-organized by Linguistic Agency (CSMN)
Oslo, Jan 17 – Feb 11

2.Talk: David Owen. Hume 300 years
Co-hosted by the Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters, Oslo, April 7

• David Owen, ‘Reason, Belief and the Science of Human Nature: Hume and the Limits of Explanation’
• Comments by Camilla Serck-Hanssen and Raino Malnes.

3.CSMN Symposium: Social ontology and collective agency, with Philip Pettit
Co-hosted by Moral Agency (CSMN), Oslo, May 2-3

• Philip Pettit (Princeton University) ‘Three Doctrines in Social Ontology’
• Raino Malnes (University of Oslo) ‘The Ontology of Minds: Is Individualism Undeniable?’
• Hallvard Fossheim (University of Oslo) ‘A Sketch of Aristotelian Group Agency’
• Jörgen Hermansson (University of Uppsala) ‘Political culture and the formation of collective agency’
• Christian List (London School of Economics) ‘Three kinds of collective belief’
• Robert Huseby (University of Oslo) ‘Can Group Agents be Held Morally Responsible?’
• Anders Strand (University of Oslo) ‘Corporate Responsibility and Control’
• Hilde Nagell (University of Oslo) ‘The Self-Correcting Capacity of Corporate Agents’
• Kasper Lippert-Rasmussen (University of Århus) ‘Distributive Justice, Responsibility, and Group Agency’

4.Conference with Huw Price: Naturalism Without Mirrors
Co-hosted by Centre for Time and Anton Leist, held in Zurich May 9-10

• Huw Price, ‘Naturalism without Mirrors’
• Peter Kail, ‘Price’s Predecessors: Hume, Nietzsche and Subject Naturalism’
• Jim O’Shea, ‘Pragmatism and Scientific Naturalism: Some Forks in the Road’
• Jinho Kang, ‘Pluralism, Representationalism and Foundationalism’
• Jonathan Knowles, ‘Representationalism and Semantic Minimalism’
• Cheryl Misak, ‘The Function of Truth: Huw Price’s Position in the Pragmatist Tradition’
• Robert Kraut, ‘Saving Metaphysics from the Pragmatist Onslaught’
• Paul Horwich, ‘Naturalism, Deflationism,'
and the Relative Priority of Language and Metaphysics
- Henrik Rydenfelt, ‘Pragmatism, Expressivism and Deflationism’
- Michael Ridge, ‘Expressivism: Flexible and Local’
- Michael Lynch, ‘Truth’s Values’
- Lionel Shapiro, ‘Adding Content to Price’s Pragmatism’
- David Macarthur, ‘What's the “Use”?’
- Anton Leist, ‘Pragmatist Expectations and the Noncognitivists-Minimalist-Alternative’
- Bjørn Ramberg, ‘Tensions in Pragmatism: Science and Politics of Subjectivity’

5. The Philosophy of Jennifer Hornsby
Co-hosted by Birkbeck College, held in London on May 27th.
- Olav Gjelsvik (CSMN), Welcome
- John McDowell (Pittsburgh), ‘Some Disjunctivisms in the Practical Sphere’
- Helen Steward (Leeds), ‘Actions as Processes’
- Adrian Haddock (Stirling), ‘Hornsby’s New Account of Action’
- Rae Langton (MIT), ‘Hate Speech and Communicative Speech Acts’
- Jennifer Hornsby, responses to the speakers, closing remarks
6. Moral Reasons and their Ontology
Oslo, Aug 18-19

• Maria Alvarez, “Do moral reasons have a distinctive ontology?”
• Graham Oddie, “The reducibility of moral reasons, and the irreducibility of value.”
• Jonas Olson, “Skorupski’s middle way in metaethics.”
• Einar Duenger Bohn/Olav Gjelsvik, “Normative Supervenience.”
• Terence Cuneo, “Properties for nothing, facts for free. Expressivism’s deflationary gambit.”
• Julia Markovits, “Kantian Internalism”

7. Workshop: Actions and Processes
Oslo, Nov 8

• Jennifer Hornsby, “Intention in progress”
• Antony Galton, “Perhaps processes are neither continuants or occurrents - or both”
• Helen Steward, “Are Processes Continuants?”
• Tom Crowther, “Enduring Process”

8. Agency and Addiction Conference
Oslo, Nov 10-11

• Gene M. Heyman (Boston College and Harvard Medical School): “Addiction: An emergent pathology”.
• Richard Holton (MIT): “Making space for an addict’s self-control”.
• Stephen Morse (University of Pennsylvania): “A good enough reason: Self-regulation in disorders of desire.”
• George Ainslie (Coatsville VA Medical Centre): “Grasping the impalpable: The role of endogenous reward in process addictions”.
• Jeannett Kennett (Macquarie University)
• Ayna Johansen (Norwegian Centre for Addiction Research): “Addiction as culture or disorder: multicultural identity theory applied to experiences of self and addiction”.
• Robert Sugden (University of East Anglia): “To whom should welfare economics be addressed? Mutual advantage and the problem of addiction”.

Visitors 2011

Tom Stoneham (professor of philosophy at the University of York and the Head of the philosophy department.) He visited CSMN from July to October 2011.

Michael Morreau, (Department of Philosophy, University of Maryland)

Eyja M. Brynjarsdóttir (University of Iceland) visited CSMN from Feb-May.

Herlinde Pauer-Stuber visited CSMN in Apr-May.
Disputations

In August 2011 two PhD fellows from CSMN defended their thesis for the degree of Philosophiae doctor at the Faculty of Humanities.

Torfinn Thomesen Huvenes started his doctoral fellowship in September 2007 on the RCN funded project Shared content under the supervision of Herman Cappelen, Jonathan Schaffer and Olav Gjelsvik. During his studies Huvenes has been a member of Arché at the University of St Andrews and CSMN in Oslo, dividing his time between the two centers while writing his thesis On the Contrary: Disagreement, Context, and Relative Truth. Huvenes is the first doctorate awarded a double-badge doctoral degree from University of St Andrews and University of Oslo.

Ofra Magidor from University of Oxford served as first opponent, Brian Weatherston from Rutgers University as second ordinary opponent and Carsten Hansen served as coordinator and third member of the evaluation committee.

On August 26 2011 Georg Kjøll defended his thesis Word, meaning, concepts and the representation of abstract entities from the perspective of radical pragmatics and semantic externalism.

Georg has been a research fellow in linguistics at CSMN since November 2007, developing his thesis under the supervision of Deirdre Wilson and Jan Terje Faarlund. Professor Robyn Carston from University College London served as first opponent, professor Georges Rey from University of Maryland as second opponent and professor Carsten Hansen served as coordinator and third member of the evaluation committee.

Both Kjøll and Huvenes received a completion grant from the faculty of humanities after submitting their thesis.

Marinne Berger Marjanovic
Research coordinator, IFIKK
Annual Lecture: Noam Chomsky

The CSMN Annual Lecture 2011 was held by professor Noam Chomsky, Institute Professor and professor emeritus of linguistics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, September 5.

The title of Chomsky’s lecture was ‘The machine, the ghost, and the limits of understanding: Newton’s contribution to the study of mind.’

To the general public, Chomsky is known as a political activist and a strong critic of American foreign policy. In academia he is best known for his theory of generative linguistics, which has revolutionized the disciplines of linguistics and cognitive science. With Chomsky, a new science of language developed, turning from the study of texts and linguistic products, to the mental capacities and processes which make the acquisition and use of language in humans possible. His theory of language as an innate property specific to the human species is at the base of cognitive science, and has transformed the field of cognitive psychology, rehabilitating the doctrines of mentalism and nativism. To philosophers, Chomsky’s work opened up new possibilities for understanding language and mind, and new challenges to accepted philosophical opinions. Central to Chomsky’s work in linguistics is a view of the nature of the human mind, the nature of cognition and, ultimately, the nature of rationality. His view has had far-reaching implications for philosophy in the 20th century. A substantial part of the work that is done today in philosophy of language, philosophy of mind, philosophy of psychology, or philosophy of cognitive science is done in the shadow of Chomsky’s work.

In the spirit of CSMN, his lecture was a true interdisciplinary event, spanning the fields of philosophy of science, history of science, theory of evolution, cognitive science and related disciplines. He took as his point of departure the early scientific revolution, from Newton to Darwin. A familiar view is that the new scientific discoveries provided humans with limitless abilities to understand and explain the world, and that the theory of evolution grounds this conclusion even more firmly. He demonstrated how the great figures who carried out the early scientific revolution reached very different conclusions, and for good reasons. Again, these different conclusions are strongly supported by Darwin’s theory of evolution. The issues were understood at the time to bear directly on the study of mind and its place in nature.

The lecture was attended by more 600 people, and followed by a lively discussion.

Jan Terje Faarlund
ASAP: Academics Stand Against Poverty

Norway Launch Meeting
‘Building Consensus on Global Poverty’

Welcome
- From the Colloquium Picture
- Educate: University and(n) General Formulation of questions, concepts, suggestions
- Meeting Chair: Professor Thomas Pogge, Yale University
- Meeting Sponsors: Center for the Study of Mind in Nature (Colin), Comparative Research Programme on Poverty (Cambridge)

In your welcome packet...
- Welcome Message
- ASAP Mission Statement
- Agenda
- List of participants
- Thomas Pogge, Presentation on the Health Impact Fund (Sundays)
- Broadens Group Agenda, Global Poverty Consensus Report (Tuesdays)
- Ralph Kramer, Academics Stand Against Poverty: The Story So Far!
- Peter Hul, Academics, Media and Impact

Meeting Background
- ASAP:
  - Core aim: to help poverty-focused academics enhance their impact on poverty alleviation
  - Initiated by political philosophers in Australia and North America (Kahan essay in progress)
  - Member of US board, with representation from Europe, the UK, US, Australia, and Canada
  - Convening committees being formed in other countries
- Current efforts are focused on growing membership and adding global input on data and activities

ASAP Web Site
- Now live, with content expanding continuously

www.academicstand.org
Public outreach

The Millennium Development Goals represent the largest coordinated effort the world has ever seen to address global poverty. Under the UN-backed programme, 189 countries have pledged to work together to combat poverty-related ills that affect billions of people: hunger, illiteracy, child mortality and lack of health care. The panelists were Thomas Pogge, Mads Gilbert, Godelieve van Heteren, Alberto Cimadamore, Ashok Acharya and Luis Cabrera.

The Millennium Development Goals effort expires in 2015. Panelists gave insight on both the achievements and flaws of the Millennium Development Goals. They offered challenging questions about whether poverty alleviation efforts should continue to apply a uniform set of goals to the entire world, and whether those in the affluent global north should be prepared to do much more to aid the global poor.

The event caped a two-day workshop launching Academics Stand Against Poverty (ASAP) in Norway. Academics Stand Against Poverty (ASAP) is a new international organization of scholars and teachers that aims to increase the impact of academics on global poverty through promoting and supporting collaboration, public outreach and policy intervention. ASAP members include moral and political theorists, economists, environmental scientists, public health experts, and scholars from a range of other disciplines. The Norway meeting followed successful launches in the US and UK, and was followed in October 2011 by the launch of ASAP India in Delhi.

Tackling Global Poverty After 2015 was co-organized with the Comparative Research Programme on Poverty (CROP), University of Bergen.
Five new years

During the next period, the Research Council of Norway will continue to fund CSM N as it has up until now, namely with NOK 9,5 million per year.

The University of Oslo and the Faculty of Humanities will also continue their generous funding of CSMN - in fact, the Humanities Faculty will increase its support.

A principle aim of the first period was to establish CSMN as a leading international centre for philosophical, and philosophically driven multi-disciplinary work on the key issues in our area of remit – namely, the most distinctive features of human agency and its attendant normativity. In the upcoming period, we shall build on and expand research done during the first five years with a view to having a lasting impact on future research activities, beyond the period of CSMN’s existence – in Oslo and elsewhere.

In one area, that of organizing conferences and workshops, the level of activity – which has been extraordinarily high by any standards – will be reduced somewhat. This is in order to focus on research related activities that we think are most likely to help us achieve our long-term goals.

One of the hallmarks of the Centre’s work has been active collaboration across research groups. In the second half, our research projects – both entirely new ones, and those that are continuations of previous lines of research – are designed so as to increase cross-branch interaction. In this way, we aim to consolidate one of the key features of the methodology we have sought to develop. Furthermore, the multi-disciplinary aspect of our approach will, if anything, be strengthened as we engage in collaboration with partners from other scientific disciplines than those
we are already working with – vision scientists and animal and developmental psychologists to name a couple of examples.

We seek to establish long-term presence within our host institution partly through the establishment of two permanent positions within our area of remit. Initially, they will be jointly funded by CSMN and IFIKK, to be taken over by IFIKK from 2017. Looking outwards, as it were, we foresee a very high level of activity with respect to securing externally financed research projects – both in the short and long term.

In the first period, a number of our projects have, in addition to their theoretical value, had a constructive societal impact. And we expect this trend to become stronger still in the upcoming period.

Carsten Hansen
PhD and master courses 2011

This past year, CSMN arranged two courses: a term-long advanced MA course ‘Pragmatics and Relevance Theory’, as well as an intensive PhD and MA course ‘Language as Cognitive Science.’

‘Pragmatics and Relevance Theory’ was held in the Spring term. The course was taught by Nicholas Allott and Georg Kjøll, together with Deirdre Wilson, Astrid Nome and Ingrid Lossius Falkum. The course, which was held for the second time, acts as an introduction to work on communication within relevance theory and the Gricean tradition. An overarching theme of the course is the extent to which meaning in linguistic communication is pragmatically determined, and in what way pragmatic theories can account for the sharing of ideas, thoughts and information.

Students get an introduction to lexical pragmatics, which studies the processes by which the meaning that is communicated, or intended, by use of a word on a given occasion may be substantially different from the meaning assigned to it by the grammar. An example of such a process is metaphorical extension. Time is also spent looking at the connection between humans’ capacity for linguistic communication and the so-called theory of mind ability, that is, the ability to infer the thoughts and intentions of others on the basis of their behaviour.

These uniquely human capacities are considered in an evolutionary perspective. Some pragmatists hold the view that the emergence and development of language was dependent on an already existing theory of mind ability in humans, and this view is also discussed.

‘Language as Cognitive Science’ was held in the Autumn and taught by Terje Lohndal, University of Maryland, with ten sessions taught over three weeks. The course was an introduction to the study of language from an internalistic point of view, as advocated by Noam Chomsky. It was divided into three parts: i) the philosophy of generative grammar, ii) the history of generative grammar, and iii) the Minimalist Program.

The first part considered what it means to study language. Various approaches were considered, as well as why the internalistic view is argued by Chomsky and others to be the most fruitful one. Here, as in the rest of the course, the principle aim was to make the methodology and approach clear, and to provide the students with a basic toolbox enabling them to read advanced textbooks and original literature on their own. The aim was to do so by looking at how generative grammar developed, both its philosophy and some of the technical aspects. After a whirlwind tour through the history of modern generative grammar up until the late 1980s, the rest of the course was an introduction to the Minimalist Program. The focus was on understanding how minimalism differs from other theories and trying to develop a list of what a ‘minimalist’ theory could look like. In addition, some of the central analyses and approaches in the literature were covered. The course was very well attended by students and Faculty members alike, and the discussion was extremely lively.

Carsten Hansen
Long term guests researchers

CSMN is highly internationally oriented and we receive about 200 researchers every year from all over the world. The Centre has enjoyed visits from some of these researchers for longer periods of time and our long time visitors have not only participated in academic endeavours, but have put their significant mark on the Centre’s daily life. There were fourteen long term guest researchers at CSMN in 2011 who all stayed for one month or more.

Maria Alejandra
Maria Alejandra is a PhD candidate at the Centre for Applied Philosophy and Public Ethics (CAPPE), Australia National University in Canberra. She visited CSMN in September and October.

Eyja M. Brynjarsdóttir
Eyja M. Brynjarsdóttir holds a Post Doc position at the University of Iceland. She visited CSMN between February and May.

Maria Carrasco
Maria Carrasco is a Professor of Philosophy at Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. She visited CSMN in November and December.

Gudmundur Andri Hjálmarsson
Gudmundur Andri Hjálmarsson visited CSMN between February and April.

Thomas Hodgson
Thomas Hodgson is a PhD student in philosophy at the University of St Andrews and a member of the Arché research centre. He is staying at CSMN for the 2011-2012 academic year;

Alison Jaggar,
Alison Jaggar is a College Professor of Distinction at the University of Colorado at Boulder and Professor II at CSMN. She stayed at CSMN in May and June.

Tomasz Kwarcinski
Tomasz Kwarcinski is an Assistant Professor at the University of Krakow. He stayed at CSMN
from the end of February till the end of June.

**Michael Morreau**
Michael Morreau is a Professor of Philosophy at the University of Maryland.

**Anders Schoubye**
Anders Schoubye holds a Mellon Post Doc position at the Carnegie Mellon University. He visited CSMN between February and June.

**Tom Stoneham**
Tom Stoneham is a professor of philosophy at the University of York and the Head of the philosophy department. He visited CSMN from July to October.

**Herlinde Pauer-Studer**
Herlinde Pauer-Studer is a Professor at the University of Vienna. She stayed at CSMN from the beginning of April till the beginning of May.

**Mark Textor**
Mark Textor is a Professor of Philosophy at the King’s College London. He visited CSMN in March and April.

**Teresa Tobin**
Theresa Tobin is an Assistant Professor at Marquette University. She visited CSMN in May and June together with Alison Jaggar.

**Lucian Zagan**
Lucian Zagan is a PhD student within the Logic and Language programme at the Institute for Logic, Language and Computation (ILLC), University of Amsterdam. Lucian is visiting CSMN for the 2011-2012 academic year.
What is your research about?

My PhD is on the nature of propositions, and some issues that arise for the kind of view I defend have to do with the semantics of propositional attitude ascriptions. This is an important topic for philosophers of language because so many of our theories are given in terms of propositions. That is despite there being very little consensus about what they are. There is also a question about how such things could fit into a naturalistic world-view. This is also a foundational question for linguists because their theories often appeal to propositions too.

While at CSMN I have followed a course on generative syntax offered to philosophy and linguistics graduate students titled ‘Linguistics as Cognitive Science’. In April 2012 I will be one of the organisers of a workshop at CSMN on propositions. I have also been attending the Language & Rationality seminar and the CSMN Colloquium, in both of which I have given talks.

What first drew you to the CSMN?

There are strong links between Arché and CSMN so I was aware of the quality of the researchers here. Some of them are working on topics closely connected to my research.

You have external funding for your research stay. Can you tell what kind of arrangement you have and how this works?

I have a Yggdrasil grant from the Norwegian Research Council. That’s an award given to researchers from outside Scandinavia for a short term research project based at a Norwegian institution. My grant is for a project called ‘Naturalising Content’, which intersects with the central topic of my PhD research.

What are the differences between the lives of researchers here in Norway and the ones in the UK? Do you think they are significantly different?

Arché and CSMN aren’t really very different from one another. At the moment CSMN is preparing for the
next phase of its various projects, which means that the level of activity is lower. That has been a pleasant change while I write up.

It is increasingly difficult for scholars to get jobs and funding for their research. What do you think about CSMN as a spring board for young researchers as yourself?

I doubt if I would have been given funding during this stage of my PhD without the reputation of CSMN to support my application.

What are your plans for the future?

I'm applying for postdocs and other early career academic jobs.
Agency and Addiction Conference

Addiction is a major challenge conceptually and socially. Conceptually it raises the paradox of why some people act destructively and contrary to their own expressed will. Socially it is challenging because addiction to smoking, alcohol, gambling and illegal drugs causes much suffering.

The Agency and Addiction conference took place 2011 Nov 10–11 at the University of Oslo. It was organized by Edmund Henden, Hans-Olav Melberg and Ole Røgeberg as part of their ongoing project Addiction, Choice and Responsible Agency. The unifying research theme of this project concerns what it is about addiction to drugs, if anything, that produces impaired autonomy and diminished responsibility and what policy implications, if any, this should have for issues related to e.g. addicts’ capability to give informed consent, the use of force in treatment of addiction, and more generally, the relevance of considerations of harm and paternalistic intervention in society’s reactions to addictive behaviour. The topic for the conference was the conceptual challenges raised by addiction. Why do addicts seemingly act self-destructively and contrary to their own expressed will? How does their motivational structure differ from that of the non-addicted? What difference does this make to addicts’ responsibility for behavior stemming from addiction and how should we as society respond to addictive behaviours?

The speakers addressed these questions from different perspectives, ranging from psychology, philosophy, economics to law.

Speakers included: George Ainslie (Coatsville VA Medical Centre), Gene M. Heyman (Harvard University), Richard Holton (MIT), Jeannette Kennett (Macquarie University), Stephen Morse (University of Pennsylvania), Robert Sugden (University of East Anglia), Hans-Olav Melberg & Edmund Henden (CSMN/Oslo).

The conference was the major event organized by the Rational Agency project in 2011.

Edmund Henden

For full programme see page 30.
Lying, Saying and Meaning

From the workshop Lying, Saying and Meaning, April 8-9 2011 at the University of Oslo.

Lying is an important topic for several branches of philosophy, most prominently ethics and the epistemology of testimony. Recently there has been an increase in work trying to understand the phenomenon of lying itself. This development is partly due to the recent recognition that lying does not always involve deception, as has traditionally been thought. It also makes it crucial to reach a thorough understanding of the difference between lying and merely misleading, as well as the precise relationship between lying and deceiving.

These topics also have large impacts on vast areas of our ordinary lives. We take great pains to avoid lying, and a great deal can be at stake in public life – e.g., in politics, media, and courts of law – depending on whether someone is guilty of having lied as opposed to having merely mislead. Thinking about lying, and how it is related to deception, is an area where many branches of philosophy can interact and can fertilize debates ongoing in other fields, as well as in societies in general.

The workshop brought together researchers at the forefront of the new developments in the philosophy of lying. Roy Sorensen (Washington University in St Louis) presented new work on lying with conditional statements. Don Fallis (University of Arizona) gave a talk discussing how to understand lying from a Gricean perspective. Jennifer Saul (University of Sheffield) presented material from her forthcoming book on the relation between lying and misleading. Elisabeth Camp (University of Pennsylvania) gave a talk via videolink in which she examined how lying is situated in relation to other non-standard forms of discourse like irony. Finally, CSMN local Andreas Stokke presented a new theory of lying based on an influential theory of communication, and discussed how this might help understand the relation between lying and misleading.

Andreas Stokke
Programme of the workshop

- Don Fallis (University of Arizona): Lying and Grice's Maxims of Quality

- Andreas Stokke (CSMN): ‘Lying and Asserting’

- Videolinked talk: Elisabeth Camp (University of Pennsylvania): Figurative Language in Antagonistic Contexts: Deniability, Pedantry, and Lying

- Jennifer Saul (University of Sheffield): Lying, Misleading and What is Said

- Roy Sorensen (Washington University, St Louis): Lying with Conditionals
CSMN Symposium: Social Ontology and Collective Agency

On May 2-3, 2011 the CSMN Symposium: Social Ontology and Collective Agency, with Philip Pettit took place. The event was a cooperation between Moral Agency and Rational Agency.

The papers that were presented fell in three categories. The first addressed themselves to the ontology of collective agency.

Philip Pettit (Three doctrines in social ontology) argued that social groups can enjoy the status of agents, as that is understood within folk psychology, without their agency being straightforwardly reducible to that of individuals. Raino Malnes ventured one step further in the direction of anti-individualism (The ontology of minds), suggesting that there may be some truth in the idea that several minds can take part in the same mental operation. Hallvard Fossheim (A sketch of Aristotelian group agency) found support for the notion of group agency in Aristotle's conception of shared deliberation as practiced by close friends. Fossheim's contribution was also intended to fill a gap in the literature on Aristotelian agency.

Another category of papers dealt with the institutional and cultural prerequisites of collective agency. Hilde W. Nagell (The self-correcting capacity of corporate agents) pointed to the importance of the fact that organizations and firms can correct themselves when they malfunction and to the central role of individual initiatives and responsiveness to such initiatives in sustaining a capacity for self-correction. Jörgen Hermansson (Political culture and the formation of collective agency) argued that group culture may enable an organization to act coherently. His thesis was buttressed by empirical findings from party activity in the Swedish parliament.

The third category of papers brought up normative matters. One subject was responsibility. Anders Strand (Corporate responsibility and control) first called attention to the tension between individual and collective responsibility in organizations and then maintained that an adequate conception of control goes a long way towards dispelling this tension. Robert Huseby (Can group agents be held morally responsible?) struck a skeptical note by arguing that moral responsibility presupposes autonomy as well as rationality, and concluding that groups are unlikely to possess both at the same time. Another normative issue was distributive justice. Kasper Lippert-Rasmussen (Distributive justice, responsibility, and group agency) started from the observation that theories of justice usually incorporate a concern for individual responsibility, and went on to explore how such theories may also take collective responsibility into account.

Raino Malnes

For full programme see page 28.
Events 2011

An overview of workshops, conferences and guest lectures hosted by CSMN

11 February 2011, Talk: Derek Ball (University of St Andrews): ‘Thought Experiments as Questions’

11 February 2011, Talk: Ephraim Glick (University of St Andrews): ‘Know-How and Linguistic Methodology’


12 April 2011, Talk: Nicholas Allott (CSMN) and Mark Textor (KCL) ‘Lexical Adjustment, Ad Hoc Concepts and Extensional Semantics’

April 2011 Workshop: Attitudes de Se, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

April 2011, Workshop: Indexical Content, Institute Nicod, Paris

April 2011 Workshop: Lying, Saying, and Meaning, CSMN

2-3 May 2011, CSMN Symposium: Social ontology and collective agency, with Philip Pettit, Oslo


9-10 May 2011, Conference with Huw Price: Naturalism Without Mirrors. Co-hosted by Centre for Time and Anton Leist, held in Zurich

13 May 2011, Talk: Martin Palecek ‘Incommensurability and Cultural Relativism within Social Sciences’

16 May 2011, Talk: Ben Caplan, ‘Brutal Identity’

27 May 2011, Talk: Ralf Meerbote ‘Kant’s Conceptions of Art: Rational and Natural Agency’


May 2011 Workshop/Mini-Course on Propositions and the Aim of Semantics, Ardtornish, Scotland Organized in Collaboration with Arché, University of St Andrews.

3 June 2011, Talk: Alan Hájek, ‘Most Counterfactuals Are False’
9-11 June, 2011 Conference: Naturalizing Moral Epistemology

14 June 2011, Talk: Jonathan Ichikawa (Arché): ‘I’ve Got That A Priori Feeling’

June 2011 Symposium: Meaning, Context and Implicit Content, Chateau de Cerisy la Salle

18-19 August 2011, Conference: Moral Reasons and their Ontology


23 August 2011, Talk: Brian Weatherson (Rutgers University): ‘The Role of Naturalness in Lewis’s Theory of Meaning’

2-3 September 2011, Workshop: Children’s Pragmatic and Metarepresentational Development at CSMN.

3-4 September 2011, Workshop: Building Consensus on Global Poverty Oslo

4 September 2011, Tackling Global Poverty After 2015: What Should Lie Beyond the Millennium Development Goals Litteraturhuset, Oslo

Public Panel Discussion: Thomas Pogge, Mads Gilbert, Godelieve van Heteren, Alberto Cimadamore, Ashok Acharya, Luis Cabrera

5 September 2011, Annual Lecture: Noam Chomsky ‘The machine, the ghost and the limits of understanding: Newton’s contribution to the study of mind’


6 September 2011, Linguistic seminar with Noam Chomsky: Problems of Projection

6 September 2011, Seminar on John Rawls’ Theory

September 2011 First PLM Conference, University of Stockholm, Sweden

8 November 2011, Workshop: Actions and Processes

10-11 November, Agency and Addiction Conference

17-18 November 2011, The Foundations of Moral Preferences. Third workshop on Social and Moral Norms in Intentional Action

19-20 November 2011, Symposium: Feeling an Obligation – Exploring Evaluative and Normative Constraints of Human Agency in a Historical and Ethnographical perspective
Speakers 2011

There were 177 speakers at CSMN events in 2011. 58 (32%) of these were women.
John McDowell
Jon Litland
Jonas Olson
Jonathan Ichikawa
Jonathan Knowles
Jostein Rise
Julia Annas
Julia Markovits
Jörgen Hermansson
Kai Ingolf Johannesen
Kaja Borthen
Karl Ove Moene
Kasper Lippert-Rasmussen
Kirk Ludwig
Lene Bomann-Larsen
Lionel Shapiro
Lucian Zagan
Luis Cabrera
Mads Gilbert
Margaret Urban Walker
Maria Alvarez
Maria Lasonen-Arnio
Marit Lobben
Mark Schroeder
Mark Textor
Mark Webb
Martin Doherty
Martin Palecek
Matthew McGrath
Michael Lynch
Michael Puett

Michael Ridge
Mike Titelbaum
Monica Roland
Naomi Scheman
Neil Smith
Nicholas Allott
Noam Chomsky
Ofra Magidor
Olav Gjelsvik
Olivier Mascaro
Ondřej Švec
Pamela Jakiela
Patrick Greenough
Paul Horwich
Paula Rubio Fernandez
Peggy DesAutels
Peter Kail
Peter Naess
Peter Raitoon
Philip Pettit
Pranav Anand
Pål Antonsen
Rachel Sterken
Rae Langton
Raino Malnes
Ralf Meerbote
Richard Holton
Robert Huseby
Robert Kraut
Robert Sugden
Rowland Stout

Roy Sorensen
Scott Soames
Sebastian Watzl
Seth Yalcin
Simon Prosser
Stephen Morse
Tamina Stephenson
Terence Cuneo
Theresa Tobin
Thomas Hodgson
Thomas Kroedel
Thomas Pogge
Tom Crowther
Tom Stoneham
Tomasz Zuradski
Tomoko Matsui
Toni Kannisto
Tor Otterholt
Torfinn Huvenes
Ulf Liskowski
Urs Fischbacher
Vittorio Buffachi
Talks abroad 2011

Allott, Nicholas

(with M. Textor). ‘Lexical pragmatic adjustment and ad hoc concepts.’ Invited talk, Departmental philosophy colloquium, King’s College London, May 2011.

‘Behind pragmatic magic: Principles, heuristics and inference.’ Invited plenary talk, Relevance Round Table meeting, University of Warsaw, May 2011. (Unfortunately, he was unable to attend due to a last minute problem.)


Breheny, Richard,


(with J. Degen), ‘Lexical alternatives in different forms of pragmatic processing’, Invited presentation, Euro ExPrag workshop, SN Pisa, September 2011.


‘Ask not what experimental psychology can do for you; ask what you can do for experimental psychology’, Plenary talk, Amsterdam Colloquium 2011, December 2011.

Cappelen, Herman

March 2011 Three lectures (with Josh Dever), at Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro: The Inessential Indexical I, II and III.

April, 2011 Three Lectures (with Josh Dever) at Institute Nicod, Paris: The Inessential Indexical I, II, and III.

April, 2011 ‘Philosophy without Intuitions’, Rutgers University

November 2011 ‘Indexical thought and agency’, Jowett Society, Oxford University
Carston, Robyn


Master-class on ‘Lexical pragmatics and metaphor,’ University of Salford, April 2011.


‘Loose uses and ad hoc concepts.’ Invited talk, Euro-XPrag Workshop, Pisa, October 2011.

‘Lexical meaning and concept communicated’. Invited talk, SPR-11, San Sebastian, November 2011.

Chan, Timothy,

Commentary on Pascal Engel, ‘Truth as One and Many’, presented at conference on Truth Be Told, University of Amsterdam, March 2011.

Faarlund, Jan Terje


‘Variation and Selection in Syntactic Change’. Yamagata University, Japan. August 5, 2011.

‘The pro cycle’. Cambridge University, November 21, 2011.

Falkum, Ingrid Lossius


Fricke, Christel

‘Ästhetische Hypothesen’ Conference of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Ästhetik, Düsseldorf, Germany, October 2011.
‘Adam Smith Scholarship in Germany’, For the Conference of the Eighteenth Century Scottish Studies Society in Aberdeen, July 2011
‘Intersubjektitität und Objektivität - Ein Versuch über Adam Smith und Edmund Husserl’, Department of Philosophy, Heidelberg, July 2011
‘Aesthetic Ways of Worldmaking - The Challenge of the Negative Aesthetic Judgment’ Conference of the European Society for Aesthetics, Grenoble, France, April 2011
‘Practical Deliberation and the Freedom of Choice - Reflections on Kant’s Moral Theory’, Department of Philosophy Santiago de Chile, March 2011

Gjelsvik, Olav
January 31th, Dept. of Philosophy, University of Umeå, Sweden. ‘Long-term and Value. The Ethics of Climate Change’.
February 2nd: Dept. of Philosophy, University of Umeå, Sweden.’Epistemic Reasons and Epistemic Duties’.
October 7th, EPSA 11, Athens, ‘Philosophy as Interdisciplinary Research’
December 4th, University of Vienna, ‘Quine On Observation’.

Hansen, Carsten
3-8 July Australian Association of Philosophy Conference, University of Otago, New Zealand, ‘Correctness and Naturalness: on David Lewis’ approach to Radical Interpretation’.
22-23 September, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universitat Munchen, Munich Center for Mathematical Philosophy, Germany, ‘Social Choice Theory and David Lewis’ approach to Radical Interpretation’ (together with Michael Morreau).
14 December, University of Sydney, Australia, ‘Correctness and Naturalness: Social Choice Theory and Lewisian approaches to Meta-semantics’.

Hornsby, Jennifer
‘Replies to speakers’: She responded to the four papers presented at a conference occasioned by my 60th Birthday, London, May 2011.
Nes, Anders

‘Can there be Entirely Unconscious Agents? The Case of Decorticated Rats and Cats’. Werner Reichard Centre for Integrative Neuroscience. University of Tuebingen.

Pogge, Thomas

‘The Health Impact Fund at One Health 2011’, Melbourne, 16 February 2011
‘Weltgerechtigkeit und Weltgesundheit’ at Konferenzwoche Wissenschaft trägt Verantwortung, Leuphana/Lüneburg, Germany, 2 March 2011
‘Allowing the Poor to Share the Earth’, ANU CAPPE, Canberra, 9 March 2011
‘Problems with Current Approaches to Measuring Poverty and Gender Disparities’, at FemPov Public Event w/ CAPPE, Centre for Development and Gender Institute, Canberra, 21 March 2011
‘The Health Impact Fund’ at FES/Innova event on the HIF, Brussel, 11 April 2011
‘Justice and Equality’ at FES/Arbetarrörelsens Tankesmedja, Stockholm, 14 April 2011
‘The Health Impact Fund’ at Conference Responsible Innovation, Den Haag, 18 April 2011
‘Ein gerechteres globales Gesundheitssystem’ at Abendvortrag, Munster, 20 April 2011
‘ASAP’ at ASAP Launch Conference, Yale, New Haven, 23 April 2011
‘Fragen der Begründung im Zusammenhang mit dem Health Impact Fund’ at Fellows Seminar in Munster, 26 April 2011
‘Transnational Duties and Value Pluralism’ at Conference in honor of Vaclav Havel, Metropolitan University, Prague, 29 April 2011
‘The Health Impact Fund’, at Health Impact Assessment Workshop, Bellagio, Italy, 4 May 2011
‘Poverty and Global Justice’, Centre de Cultura Contemporània, Barcelona, Spain, 10 May 2011
‘Global Health: Problems and Progress’, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB), Spain, 12 May 2011
‘The Health Impact Fund Initiative’, Universitat de Girona, Spain, 12 May 2011
‘Weltarmut: Kollektive und individuelle Verantwortung’, Karl-Franzens Universitaet, Graz, Austria, 18 May 2011
‘Der Health Impact Fund’, Morgenland Festival, Liechtenstein, 20 May 2011
‘ASAP and the HIF’, ASAP Launch Conference, University of Birmingham, 23 May 2011
‘Tracking Poverty and Gender Equity’, OPHI, Oxford University, 24 May 2011
‘Globalization, Inequality, and the State’, Lecture Series The State of the State, Oxford University, 24 May 2011
‘Der Health Impact Fund’, Meeting of NGO Reps Convened by Karin Roth, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, Berlin, 25 May 2011
‘Responsibilities for Global Poverty’, University of Wellington, 2 June, 2011
‘How the Global Order Harms the Poor’, University of Auckland, 3 June 2011
‘Designing Global Institutions for a Fair Distribution: Integrating Justice and Social Science’, First Philosophical Analysis Lecture,
Shanghai Academy of Social Science, 21 June 2011
‘Cosmopolitanism and New Social Inquiry, Social Sciences and Humanities Meet the Changing World: Challenges, Opportunities and New Horizons’, Fudan IAS, Shanghai, 26 June 2011
‘Kant, Rawls, and Global Justice’, Fudan IAS, Shanghai, 28 June 2011
‘Stemming Climate Change and Eradicating Poverty: Competing Imperatives?’, Conference: Designing Just Institutions for Global Climate Governance, ANU Canberra, 1 July 2011
‘Global Justice,’ U of Wollongong, Australia, 10 August 2011
‘The Health Impact Fund: Making New Medicines Accessible to All’, U of Wollongong, Australia, 11 August 2011
‘Human rights as constraints on global institutional arrangements,’ Centre for Agency, Values and Ethics, Macquarie U, Sydney, 11 August 2011
‘Justice’, Europäisches Forum Alpbach, Austria, 18 August 2011
‘The Health Impact Fund: a New Way of Stimulating and Utilizing Pharmaceutical Innovation’, ANU Canberra, 26 September 2011
ASAP: What is to Succeed the Millennium Development Goals, Advancing Public Philosophy Conference (Public Philosophy Network), Washington, 8 October 2011
‘The Health Impact Fund, Future Perspectives on Development Cooperation – Putting SRHR on the Right Track’, Warsawa, 13 October 2011
‘What is the Point of a Theory of Justice’, Symposium on Priority, Equality and Utility, Univ Turku, Finland, 14 October 2011
‘Weltarmut und Menschenrechte’, Literaturherbst, Göttingen, 16 October 2011
Launching ASAP in London, University of Notre Dame, London, 17 October 2011
‘World Poverty: a Problem of Global Justice’, University of Delhi, 19 October 2011
‘Globalization, Justice and Rights’, Rajiv Gandhi Institute for Contemporary Studies, twentieth anniversary lecture, New Delhi, 19 October 2011
Launching ASAP in New Delhi, University of Delhi, 20 October 2011
‘The Health Impact Fund, Protecting the Health of the Poor: Social Movements in the Global South: CROP, IGH, ASAP, CSMN, RIS, ISSC; UDelhi Developing Countries Research Centre, New Delhi, 21 October 2011
‘The Human Right to be Free from Poverty’, First Professor Dr. Arjun Sengupta Memorial Lecture, Jindal Global University, New Delhi, 25 October 2011
‘An Innovation for Change: The Health Impact Fund as a concrete Contribution to Global Justice and an Innovation in Global Health,’
Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, Gerechtigkeitswoche, Berlin, 9 November 2011
‘Der Health Impact Fund,’ Unterausschuss für Gesundheit in Entwicklungsländern, Berlin, 11 November 2011
‘Der Health Impact Fund: kann Pharmaforschung wirklich allen zugute kommen?’, Frankfurter Rundschau / Justitia Amplificata, Frankfurt, 14 November 2011
‘Nachhaltige Anreize für Pro-Poor Innovation: Der Health Impact Fund, Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau’, Frankfurt, 15 November 2011
‘What is the Point of Moral Theory?’, All-CAPPE Meeting, Melbourne University, 22 November 2011
‘The Responsibility of the Affluent to Address Global Poverty’, The Stegley Lecture, Swinburne University, Melbourne, 24 November 2011
‘Are We Violating the Human Rights of the Global Poor?’, Conference —Human Rights: Old Dichotomies Revisited, University of Sydney, 25 November 2011
‘The Health Impact Fund,’ Workshop with Australian government people and Sam Prince, ANU Canberra, 7 December 2011

Ramberg, Bjørn
‘Expressing Subjectivity: Constraints on a pragmatist view of the explanatory relations between mind and language’. Presented at The Fourth Nordic Pragmatism Conference, Copenhagen, August 22-24, and at The Wittgenstein Workshop, University of Chicago, October 27.

Refsdal, Kari:
‘Kant on Rational Agency as Free Agency’ in AAP Conference, Otago University in Dunedin New Zealand from July 3rd to 8th
‘Kant and Allison (and Kant) on Rational Agency as Free Agency,’ in Pisa

Sperber, Dan,

‘Culture and minds’. Invited lecture, Aboagora, Turku, Finland, August 2011.


Sterken, Rachel,

November 2011, Pro-Gen, Harvard University

Steward, Helen,

Philosophy Cafe – Chapel Allerton, Leeds (Dec 2010)
Barcelona Logos Colloquium (Jan 2011)
University of York (Feb 2011)
Waterstones bookshop, Leeds (Feb 2011)
University of Lancaster (March 2011)
Birkbeck College, London (May 2011)
University of Regensburg (October 2011)

Stokke, Andreas,

January 2011 ‘Does Metasemantics constrain Semantics?’, University of Copenhagen
September 2011, ‘Metasemantics and Indirectness’, First PLM Conference, Stockholm University

Wilson, Deirdre,


‘Understanding and believing’. Invited talk, UCL Pragmatics Reading Group, May 2011.


‘Understanding and believing.’ Invited opening address, 3rd Relevance Round Table, Warsaw, May 2011.


‘Concepts, procedures and inferential comprehension.’ Invited presentation, Balzan workshop on Concepts in Literature, St John’s College, Oxford, September 2011
CSMN in the press

The members of CSM N contribute to the public debate in Norway and internationally. Below is a selection of press articles both on and by CSM N members.
Dissident på besøk

Vi må gjøre mye

Thomas Pogge
tyrk tolk, direktør i Global Justice Program

Noam Chomsky
amerikansk filosof, lingvist og filosof

KRONIKK

Til tross for det internasjonale organenes, politikerne, økonomer og medier hovedvært, har kampen for global rettferdighet ikke gått bra i det senere tid. Siden den kalde krigens sluttfase har verdens handelsorganisasjons kraft overfor globalisering fått den økonomiske vekten verden over uti å akseptere. Men utbyttet er blitt meget ujevnt fordelt.

Ifølge Branko Milanovic, økonom i Verdensbankens forskningsavdeling, har fem prosent av verdens rikeste mennesker haft en utfordringsrettferdighet. Deres inntektsandel pr. husholdnings globale økte fra 42,9 prosent til 66,4 prosent mellom 1988 og 2000. Fattigere deler av verdens befolkning sakkant aksepterte, og de allere fattigste tapte mest. I løpet av disse 12 årene tapte de fattigste fjerdelen av verdens befolkning en tredjedel av sin inntektsandel pr. husholdning, som ble redusert fra 33,9 prosent til 17,6 prosent. Forskningsstiftelsen i jernkontaktstaktett det de fem prosentene toppen og den fattigaste fjerdelen er på 3500.000. Bare en prosent av inntekten til de fem prosenten rikeste er ujevnt fordelt.

Slutter å dyrke mat. Når de fattigste inntektsandel reduseres dramatisk, er det ikke overraskende at konsekvensen slutter å dyrke egen mat og i stedet aksje på avlinger som murer og omsorgsmenn etter biobomset. Ifølge FNAs matvareorganisasjon har tallet på kronisk underernærede mennesker økt fra 37 til 500 millioner innen 2025. I 2002 formulierte FNAs matvareorganisasjon det som var nødvendig i det første tusenåret, som gjør en reduksjon til 85 millioner tilstrekkelig. Tallet har nå fikk eksistens og som må ha verdier av slik størrelse. En gikk overhodet var ut av oppdraget å være myndighetens politikk, innførte tallet å i begge seg i helt nyttet rettferdighet.


Meningsløse metoder. Siden vi ikke vil være i nærheten av å nå selv dette sterkt reduserte målet, spiller internasjonale organes statistikk over underernæring ut over tidslinjen og retter oss oppmerksomheten mot mennesker som lever i ekstrem fattigdom, der tallet har sunket jevnt. Hvordan kan dette tallet gi oss, men stadig flere mennesker lider av kronisk underernæring? Jo, takket være en forfatting måte å måle fattigdom på, der de fattigste anslag av forbrukstilfelle er representert av innkastene – sett i sammenheng med alle konsumavtalen. Dette er en moralsk, fattige mennesker må koncentrere sitt forbruk om mat og ikke få andre bistandsgaver. De kommer ikke akkurat bedre ut av det når prisen på eldrenutikk, eller slik vare, eller andre av det globale forbruket stiger. De ekstreme lavt lønningene der de bo, når heller ikke fordelaktig ut bare for br.
Løgn om Bellona

Olje- og klima-ambisjoner

Vi har store problemer med å se at Regjeringens politikk for fornybar energi er det Ola Borten Moe (Sp) kaller "ambisjoner".

Olemekister Ola Borten Moe har gått til kamp mot miljøbevegelsen, og miljøbevegelsen har slutt tilbake. Aftenposten mener at Bellona har reagert sterkt, og at vi bør beklagge. Det må vi svare på.

Bellona reagerer først og fremst på at staten, dekker på at vi har kjempet mot fornybararbeidningen til Regjeringen, og det er ikke på Bellona. Bellona er ikke vær blant nytten, og i snart 10 år har vi kjempet for at det skal komme mer fornybar energi.

Bellona mener at ved bare å sette til baksiden, vil det være vanskelig å kome mer fornybar energi. Vi mener at det er viktig at vi fortsetter å sette til baksiden.

Bellona kommer til å fortsette å sette til baksiden, og vi mener at det er viktig at vi fortsetter å sette til baksiden.

Janetovsk jubileumshilsen


Bellona mener at universitetsens viktdighet og overgrep har fått dominerer. Men det har vært tilfelle, at de disse klima- og energipolitikk sett helt ansedde at det. Det har fikk etters vekst av forskare sier at det vil bli viktig å grunn- der og det innebærer at våre klima- og energipolitikk, og kjerne for en utviklingstrafikk, der det mer fornybar energi og mindre fossile energi er nødvendig.

FREDERIC HAUGE

bld.

Bellona

De utdanningen har hatt en flott regjering siden 2005, og har hatt all mulighet til å legge til rette for mer fornybar energi.

REALISTISKE I VÅRE AMBITJONER.

Selv om det er viktig at vi fortsetter å sette til baksiden, er det viktig at vi fortsetter å sette til baksiden. Det er viktig at vi fortsetter å sette til baksiden.

Ole Petter Ottersen, Universitet i Oslo

Følg oss på Facebook

Her kan du diskutere utvalgte innlegg og kronikker, og komme med innspill til Aftenpostens debattredaksjon.

facebook.com/apmeninger

Følg oss på Twitter

Alle debattinnlegg postes daglig på vår Twitterfeed. Få med deg innleggene på Norges bane debattside på twitter.com/ap_meninger

Les på nett

Den beste utgaven finnes på våre nettsider. Les cronikker, innlegg, send inn spørsmål til netthverd og delta i debattene på aftenposten.no/meninger.
Revolusjonær tenkning

Noam Chomsky skapte en ny språkvitenskap, forandret psykologien fullstendig, og ga filosofien nye oppgaver.

Jons Kåre Tuma
Ellen Landle Gesser (Foto)

Kanske er det den skarpe USA-kriti- keren og den selvhektete "anarko-syndi- kalisten" Noam Chomsky som er mest kjent i den nordøstavisaferdisembligheten, men når Rundre-kampusen denne uken syntes å åuite av forventning og når studerende og professorer i høyskolefaget seg rundt for å-kjørte, skylades det også at han er blant verdens ubestridt viktigste forskere. Ingen levende vitenskapsfolk blir oftere nippet. Han er til og med inne på alle tider topp til sammen med Darwin, Platon og Marx.

Hvorfor? - Han skapte en helt ny språkvitens- skap, sier lingvistikkprofessor Terje Faardal.

"Psylogen ble totalforandret i løpet av noen få år, sier psykologiprosessor Geir Kikåseten. - Språkprosessor blir aldri den samme igjen, sier filosofiprosessor Bjørn Ram- berg.


Historien om Noam Chomsky reprodu- seres innenfor mange fagområder, og den begynner gjerne i mars 1959, med en bok omtalt "Universal Transformations of Languages".

På dette tidspunktet var vitenskapelig psykologi domineret av tankereitningene be- haviorisme, som også kalles læringspsykologi. Læringstetene var amerikansk Burrhus F. Skinner, og han var kristall- klar: Det var vitskapelig å diskutere tårnlinjen og eventuelle prosesser.
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Noam Chomsky - født 7. desember 1928, Amerikansk språkforsker og samfunnskritiker. - Professor i lingvistikk ved Massachusetts Institute of Technology. - Han er siden 1955 professor i språkvitenskap ved University of California, Berkeley. - Han er av mange av de som har skapt den moderne vitenskapelle lingvistikk. - Han har skrevet mange bøker om språk. - Han er av mange av de som har skapt den moderne vitenskapelle lingvistikk. - Han har skrevet mange bøker om språk.

Men så, slik går historien, kom Chom- sky på banen. Han var som mange andre og fikk fullstendig en ny perspektiv på språk. Han ble en av de første som tok hus om språk som en egen fagområde.

- Han skapte en helt ny språkvitens- skap, sier lingvistikkprofessor Terje Faardal.

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Sirkus Chomsky

Hvorfor får den politiske aktivisten Noam Chomsky stadig applaus fra et spekelfylt Studenter-
samfund?

Tisdag denne ugen stramt det så mange studenter til Chateau Neuf i Oslo at formanden i Studenter-
samfundet Karl Kristian Rådahl Kirchhoff trok parallelle til 1970-tallet. Afgø-
ring var et toldes fordrag fra den amerikanske lingvisten og politiske aktivisten Noam Chomsky, under titlen Changing Contours of World Order. Budskabet hans var, i korte trekket, at steder som året før det, i tilfælde af USA, at vi skulle trænge tættere og tættere til vesten i et ønske om mere uavhængighed for anerkendelse af herskere i mere afrikanske lande.

Kommentar
Steen Inge Jørgensen

Revolusjonens og revoluzzerne

Det er ofte sagt, at Revolutionsen i 1848 var en revolusjon af revoluzzerne. De, der har været på volden, har været de, der har skabt nye systemer, og de, der har været på volden, har været de, der har været på volden. Og så er det en revolusjon af revoluzzerne, der har skabt nye systemer.

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Filosofer i grenseland

I løpet av sine tre første år som Senter for fremragende forskning (SFF) har filosofimiljøet ved OSN drevet en møysomme oppbygging av et stort nettverk over fag- og landegrens.

Signatur av Tore Espedal

- For oss var SFF-utviklingen et sted vi kunne benytte oss for å forbedre mange ting. Kom godt, en del nye ville benyttes, del leder ved OSN filosofiprofessor Claus Ojaal.
- Vi tre og et ikke.
- Vi strin av dem, skal betegnes.
- Vi strin av dem, skal betegnes at dem, skal betegnes.
- Vi strin av dem, skal betegnes.

Ny interaksjonskultur

Vilja og evne til å få på plass arbeidserformasjoner som vil forbedre lærtid i fagområder. Men beviser demme med andre fagområder som utviklings- og forskningsområder, vil fremtiden bestå i at vi i fremtiden vil få mer interaksjon som vil forbedre lærtid. Vi vil se at dette vil felle lærtid og utvikling.

Bringer etikk inn i farmasien

En av OSN sine forskningsledere, filosof Thomas Hegge, som også er erstatte pro-vice rektor ved Universitet, har arbeidet med et prosjekt som består av to deler. Det første er et prosjekt som har som målet å ta til forskning og utvikling. Det andre er et prosjekt som har som målet å ta til forskning og utvikling.

- Vi ønsket å få på plass arbeidserformasjoner som vil forbedre lærtid i fagområder.
- Vi strin av dem, skal betegnes.

Stort internasjonal netværk

- OSN vil i fremtiden også skape et stort internasjonale netværk.
- Vi strin av dem, skal betegnes.
- Vi strin av dem, skal betegnes.

Erfaringer viser at vi er i ferd med å bygge opp noe veldig bra som blir lagt merke til utenfor landegrensene.
CSMN har også satt i gang et felles doktorgradsprogram med University of St. Andrews, som gjør at man tas opp begge steder og mottar grad fra begge universiteter. Dette vil sjeferje konkurranse ytterligere, tror Gjøvik.

Spennende vår

— Vårens evaluering blir spennende for oss, men vi er uansett godt fornøyd med det vi har fått til innenfor de rammenene vi fikk. Mange erfaringer tiker at vi er i ferd med å bygge opp noe veldig bra som blir lagt merke til utenfor landegrenserne.

— Samtlige av dem som har hatt på soliden, fort kommer til å tro at de er unike og bedre enn andre. Her ligger det nok en felle.

— Det er bra at de som får støtte, får det til. Men hvorvidt det er optimalt, og om ting kunne vært gjort bedre, er noe som kan diskuteres. I Norge er det en stor oppgave å sørge for gode forskningsmiljøer for mange snart gode forskere og miljøer som ikke er kommet av under denne senterordningen.

Gjøvik avslører at de har mange formninger om hvordan de gradvis kan få på plass mye av senterets aktivitet på permanent basis. Mer konkret forteller han om planer for å videreutvikle prosjektet gjennom en forskningsmessig nyutvikling.

Juridiske miljøer

— Dette blir langt fram, men en å si er at vi det vil være med både problemstillinger i samarbeid med juridiske miljøer, en dimensjon som går gjennom mange av våre prosjekter, gjelder hvilket ansvar man kan tilknytte et enkeltmenneske ut fra et filosofisk og interdisiplinært perspektiv. En annen gjeber det arbeidet vi har gjort på språklighet, og som kan bidra til språkøkonomi omkring hvordan man kan forstå kontekster. En tredje springer ut av arbeidet vårt med etisk-normativ tenkning, som vil kunne ha stor betydning for det normative bidet av bygning.

— Alle disse tre dimensjonene er viktige videreutvikling av arbeid vi har gjort på senteret. Jeg tror at dette kan bli et spennende bidrag til det norske akademiske miljøet og få stor samfunnsmessig betydning.

CSMN

• Norsk navn: Senter for studier av rasjonell, språklig og moralsk handling
• Engelsk navn: Centre of the study of mind in nature (CSMN)
• Opprettet i 2007
• Lokaliseret ved Institutt for filosofi, idé- og kunsthistorie og klassiske språk ved Universitetet i Oslo

Senterets forskning er filosofisk innrettet, men har en tverrfaglig tilhørighet som viser hvordan filosoffaget har relevans for andre disipliner.

http://www.csmn.uio.no

Emneord

SFF filosofi etikk jus

legemidler
Tøft for mor og far
AV: MARTE ERICSSON RYSTE (13.12.2011)

Møltertige stillinger, mobilitet og publiseringspress. - En akademisk karriere er ikke familievennlig, mener Christel Fricke, professor ved Center for the Study of Mind in Nature (CSMN).

Fakta
Christel Fricke, professor i filosofi ved Center for the Study of Mind in Nature (CSMN) ved Universitetet i Oslo.

EKSTERNE LENKER
Kontaktinformasjon
(folk.uio.no)

Utfordringen med å kombinerer forskerliv og familie liv angår både kvinner og menn. (Illustrasjonsfoto: iStockphoto)

Sammenlignet med andre land har norske forskningsinstitusjoner gode ordninger som skal gjøre det mulig å kombinere et akademisk liv med et familie liv. Stipendiatar kan ta ut fødselspermision, fedre oppfordres til pappapermisjon og lokalt ved institusjonene gjøres det ofte mye for å tilrettelegge for småbarnsfremtredere.

Dette er svært bra, mener Christel Fricke, professor i filosofi ved Universitetet i Oslo, og tidligere leder ved Center for the Study of Mind in Nature (CSMN). Hun er likevel bekymret for at presset er for stor på unge forskere i begynnelsen av karrieren, og at universitetene mister store talenter til andre jobbsektorer.

- Politikene anerkjenner ikke hva det egentlig vil si å satse på akademia. Å bygge seg opp som forsker er en spesiell form for yrkesliv. Du må skape din egen karriere, det er det ingen andre som kan gjøre for deg. Og det er svært tidkrevende, sier Fricke.
Hun mener mange unge forskere forsvinner fra akademiet fordi jobbutfordkninger ikke ser lovende ut i denne sektoren, og at mange ser at de kan ha bedre kamerader andre steder.

Jobbsikkerhet
- Karieren din avhenger av det du publiserer, og i et fag som filosofi finnes det ingen annen måte å publisere på enn å forse, lese og tenke, skrive og omskrive, svare på kritikk og til slutt publisere under eget navn. Det tar mye tid.

Det som gjør dette verre i forhold til å kombinere denne aktiviteten med et familieværk, er at unge akademikere starter sin karriere i midlertidige stillinger, som stipendiat og i postdoktorstillinger. Det er stor konkurranse om midler og stillinger – ikke minst etter finanskrisen – og mange må være villige til å leve med midlertidighet til langt opp i tretthårene.

Fricke trekker også fram internasjonaliseringen av forskning som et viktig element i dette.

- Det akademiske arbeidsmarkedet er blitt internasjonalisert, og en ung forsker som vil sette på karriere må være mobil. Man kan ikke regne med å få jobb på samme sted som der man var stipendiat eller postdoktor.

Samtidig er den norske forskningssektoren blitt åpen for flere utenlandske søkere, i en tid da jobber innen akademiet er blitt markant færre.

- Jeg er tilhenger av at vi skal utnytte stillinger internasjonalt, men det er klart at dette kan gjøre konkurranse hærdere. Hvilk forskere kan skal konkurriere med flere søkere som ikke har sittet med omsorgsansvar, eller brukt tid på barn og familie.

Angår både menn og kvinner
Et viktig poeng hos Fricke er at utfordringen med å kombinere forsknings og familieværk er blitt et spørsmål som angår både kvinner og menn. Tidligere i historie finner hun innlegg på et seminar i regi av Senter for tverrfaglig kjønnsforskning om hvordan kjønnsforståelsen i akademiet har forandret seg. Her refererte hun blant annet fra en samtale med to yngre mannlig kolleger ved hennes senter som bekymrer seg for hvordan familie og barn vil passe med karrieren deres; «Barn tørt vekk bort fra forskningen, og partnere står i veien for mobililtiten din. Jeg har begge deler, så hva er mine kameramu linger?», sa den ene.

- Tidligere var dette et kvinneproblem, og ofte ble det satset på at bare en av partnere – som oftest mannen – skulle gjøre karriere. I dag er det flere menn og kvinner som deler på omsorgen for barna,
Thomas Pogge on the Past, Present and Future of Global Poverty

By Kenne Bhatt

Photo: Pogge (Photo: Pogge University of California de Chile)

Kenne Bhatt: Could you begin by outlining the key issues of global poverty and why you consider its existence the gravest violation of human rights?

Thomas Pogge: We live in a world where economic positions - income and wealth - are very unevenly distributed, and this leads to the widespread persistence of poverty. The bottom half of humanity is living in severe poverty, not all of them are malarionrked or severely deprived now, but they are extremely vulnerable to even small upssets in their income or in the prices they face of basic necessities, and when something like this happens, they can be thrown off kilter in terms of a decent of a family member or a change in food prices, anything like that can throw them into destitution.

The collective income of all these people - the bottom half - is less than three percent of global household income, and so there is a grotesque redistribution of income and wealth. The bottom quarter of the human population has only three-quarters of one percent of global household income, about one-twenty-second of the average income in the world. Whereas the people in the top quarter have nine times the average income. So the ratio between the averages in the top five percent and the bottom quarter is somewhere around 300 to 1, a huge inequality that also gives you a sense of how easily poverty could be avoided.

Given the total income and wealth available in the world today, we could easily overcome poverty, which would require raising the share of the bottom half from three to roughly five percent. Unfortunately, the trend is going in the opposite direction. Over the period from 1988 to 2005, the income share of the top five percent has grown by about 3.5 percent of global household income, and the share of all the other groups have diminished. The greatest relative reductions were in the bottom quarter, which lost about one third of its share of global household income, declining from 1.15 to 0.775 percent, and now is even more marginalized.

The increase in the global average income cannot make up for this one-third loss in its income share that the poorest quarter experienced over a mere 17 years. So poverty persists, essentially, because the people at the bottom - the bottom quarter and also the bottom half - see the gains from the rising global average income wiped out by severe declines in their relative share.

KBP: I've read similarly grim figures on income by Branko Milosevic of the World Bank. Isn't the disparity in wealth even more severe? A United Nations report found that the top two percent owns over 50 percent of the world's wealth.

TP: I refer to Milosevic for my figures, he is doing the best, most independent work on this. And, yes, wealth disparities are indeed even larger, though income inequality matters more on a day-to-day basis. Wealth matters more for political influence.

You asked about the violation of human rights, I see a violation not in the mere fact that people don't have enough to eat and they are very vulnerable, but I see it in the fact that the economic institutional order of the world is associated with this very persistent poverty and that different institutional arrangements at the supranational level could stop and even reverse the slide towards ever-greater income disparities.

KBP: You've written that at a cost of two-thirds of the US military's expenditures, we could largely eradicate poverty. This includes all cases of extreme poverty, which according to the World Bank's unsatisfactorily narrow definition, are those who live on $1.25 a day or less. But those who subsist on a double that level would also be lifted out of poverty. This $1.25-a-day poverty line is not even typically talked about.

TP: The collective shortfall of the 3.08 billion people (47 percent of world population) who, in 2001, lived below $1.25 per day was $507 billion per annum, which indeed comes to about two-thirds of the present US military budget. This gives us a rough sense of how much the eradication of poverty would cost. But I would stress that we should not think of poverty eradication as a matter of collecting money and giving it to the poor so much as of reforming the global rules that are了自己的 poor and making it impossible for them to find for themselves. Such reforms would bring opportunity costs for the affluent, which might be larger or smaller than the whole $507 billion gain in the incomes of the poor.

KBP: Let's talk more in detail about that, because your framework for understanding poverty is distinct from that of other philosophers. Some focus on a moral obligation to devote a great deal of our personal incomes to non-governmental organizations as a duty to help, because not donating money to curing the lives of the poor is able to wait past a child drowning in a pond and not wishing to rule over's shoes. You say, however, our duty is not to stop actively harming them, which strikes most people as blame or cut-off-the-line. You say that as citizens of rich countries, you and I are responsible for this suffering and we should be working to minimize our role in their impoverishment. Can you explain this controversial position?

TP: Yes, it's certainly controversial and I've been attacked by people on the right end of the spectrum and from the left for this supposedly mad-exaggerated claim. Let me respond by saying, first, that I don't disagree with the duty-to-help argument, it's just an argument that has been made, and made effectively, by Peter Singer, Peter Singer and others. So, rather than add my own voice to the chorus, I have developed a different argument, and this argument - communicative as it may be - really consists of very simple and pretty intuitive steps.

One point is that our global institutional arrangements - the basic ground rules that govern our world economy - are human-made. They don't exist naturally, not as they God-given. It's made these rules, those of the WTO [World Trade Organization] Treaty for instance, which fill tens of thousands of pages. These words have been written together by human beings and are also interpreted and enforced by human beings.

The second point is that such global institutional design decisions have effects on how much inequality there will be, on how much poverty there will be, and on much else. This is a relatively straightforward point. People are fighting quite hard over these rules - different countries and empires are trying to influence this rule-making process. And they wouldn't be fighting so hard over them if they didn't know that the design of these rules makes a difference to their own economic position.

Once you recognize those two pretty undeniable facts - that these rules are made by human beings and that they have distributional effects - you actually get to the responsibility question.

KBP: One thing that's striking is that these points are intuitive, whereas your work mentions the "demanding" task of conceiving "institutional morality." We're all familiar with assigning blame to an individual for driving someone's car, but not with assessing the morality of the speed limit or lack of a stoplight. Are you saying that the rules themselves can be moral or immoral?

TP: Yes, social rules are susceptible to moral analysis. This, in fact, is absolutely familiar in the domestic case, where we now condemn slavery as unjust. And when we affirm this judgment, we're not merely saying that all those people who owned slaves were unethical people, they...
shouldn’t have done that. We do believe this, but that’s only part of the point. We also believe that the fugitive slave laws were unjust. The state should never have instituted and enforced legal property rights in persons, and should not have been in the business of returning runaway slaves to their “rightful owners.” The whole institution of property in human beings was an unjust social institution and should not have been maintained in existence. It is this sort of thinking that I’m appealing to at the supranational level.

Federalism is another example. It’s an economic system where a few people own all the land and the others have no option but to be serfs on such a feudal estate. We now condemn federalism. We condemn not merely the feudal lords but we condemn the whole structure of rules that sustained federalism. I am asking people to think similarly about the world economy. We should condemn as unjust a global economic order that leads to ever-increasing economic disparities - provided this effect is foreseeable and provided it is also avoidable through some alternative institutional design that would foreseeably lead to much less poverty and inequality. If I am right to claim that these two provisos are satisfied (something that, of course, can be empirically disputed), then those involved in designing or imposing the existing rules are collectively responsible for the resulting excesses by states and other human rights deficits.

KB: So how is it that you and I are culpable? We didn’t design the rules or actively advance this system.

TP: Governments and their hired negotiators are designing these supranational rules and pressing for their adoption and for compliance - and the US government first and foremost. These governments are elected by us, funded by us, acting on our behalf, sensitive to our will, and so, we are not mere bystanders observing the injustice. To be sure, one citizen, or a few, may be powerless if all the rest are determined to benefit from the imposition of unjust supranational rules. But this excuse cannot work for large numbers. Just imagine 10 million US citizens saying in unison: “I am just one powerless citizen. There is nothing I can do to change my government’s policies!”

KB: One novel insight of your theory of global justice is that prior to this, at least within mainstream academia, international relations were understood in narrow terms between two featureless agents. The justice of dealings between, say, a country and a corporation would be evaluated in terms of the sanctity of legal contracts. But you say that we must scrutinize this and the international legal framework that gives such negotiations blanket approval. So in analyzing supranational arrangements, you’re actually demanding that we also look at domestic power structures, too, right?

TP: Yes, indeed, these two are closely connected in both directions. Thus, domestic power structures are shaped in good part by global arrangements. As I analyze in one chapter of my “World Poverty” book, dictatorial regimes often manage to keep themselves in power because they are recognized by foreigners as representing the state and its people, and therefore as entitled to sell the country’s natural resources and to borrow money in its people’s name. These privileges confer on foreigners cheap antipar in power despite the fact that they were not elected and do not rule in the interest of the population. Conversely, the domestic power structure - how power is exercised in the United States, for instance - also greatly influences the structure of international institutions. So, for example, the Clinton administration was very influential in shaping the WTO treaty, and, because of the way the US domestic political system works, this meant that corporations could use the US government to wield a huge influence.

KB: It’s interesting to apply this to mainstream discussions. Many prominent voices on global poverty, like New York University economist William Easterly or the British newsmagazine The Economist, blame kleptocratic regimes, endemic corruption and “bad government” for poverty’s persistence in the third world. But if the ascendance of dictators like Marcos, Suharto, Sese Seko, Sani Abacha or the Dwarlers is incentivized by what you’ve just described, then the policy-shapers who defend the current global arrangement are implicated in the very licks that they denounce.

TP: Right. If we offer a prize, so to speak, to anyone who managed to bring a country under his physical control - namely, that they can then sell the country’s resources and borrow in its name - then it’s not surprising that kleptocratic or genocidal movements will want to compete for this prize. But that the prize is there is really not the fault of the places. It is the fault of the dominant states and of the system of international law they maintain. They create this distorting fact that, if only you manage to bring a national territory under your physical control, then you will be recognized worldwide as its legitimate government entitled to sell its people’s natural resources, to borrow and sign treaties in its name, and entitled also to import the weapons you need to keep yourself in power.

KB: Could you talk more about their right to borrow money? So many poor countries’ citizens end up paying off odious debt over decades despite having had no say in acquiring it.

TP: The fact that oppressive and corrupt regimes can borrow money in the name of the whole country means that the country’s future generations will be weighed down by interest and repayment burden, even if the money has been frittered away in some hideously, enriching a few, or used for war to suppress the country’s population. A dramatic example is Rwanda, which borrowed a lot of money. Some of this was used by the Hutu government to fund the genocide which killed some 800,000 Tutsis. In the end, the Tutsi resistance managed to overthrow the government - and then the successor government was asked to repay Rwandan debt: The government complied, but Rwanda was excluded from future borrowing. This was highlighted in the Organization of African Unity report on the behavior of the various countries and who did what in the Rwanda episode, “Rwanda: The Preventable Genocide,” especially sections 17.30 and 17.33.

KB: Are there any other examples of perverse incentives that derive from this legal and economic framework?

TP: As for supranational incentives that corrupt and undermine domestic processes, the resource and borrowing privileges are the main ones. But I should also mention our international banking system. It allows banks to accept funds gained from tax evasion and other crimes and thereby facilitates and encourages embezzlement by public officials, especially in developing countries, as well as tax evasion and tax avoidance by multinational corporations. Countries compete in offering easy working conditions to their banks. In many jurisdictions, you can deposit money anonymously with no questions asked, even if the accepting bank knows that it derives from criminal activities. In the United States, for example, there are only two exceptions: banks have to report deposits they suspect to be related to either terrorism or drug trafficking. But if your funds derive from trafficking women and children for sexual exploitation, for example, or from illegal arms trafficking or any other illegal activity, then banks in the US are legally free to accept your money and are not required to report your deposit to the authorities.

KB: But again, globally influential groups provide cover for this. For example, Transparency International puts out a list of the most corrupt states, and it always features easy targets like Chad, Somalia and Sudan. You never see Switzerland in the top ten.

TP: That’s right, the massive corruption common in so many developing countries would be quite impossible if Western countries did not provide convenient opportunities to ship ill-gotten funds out of the country. It wouldn’t make much sense for a ruler to store his billion in large quarters of stolen cash in his own country’s treasury. A corrupt ruler wants to be able to keep this money safe and to be able to spend it. And for this, he needs to convert it into a Western currency and store it in a bank abroad, where it can also earn investment returns and be bequeathed to his heirs. Global Financial Integrity estimates that less-developed countries have lost at least $242 billion per annum in this way during the 2000 to 2005 period.

KB: Up until the economic crisis that took place a couple of years back, many people did not look to institutional moral analysis to explain a wide range of phenomena, like why someone might not have a job, for example. Individual responsibility was constantly invoked. In the wake of irresistibly structural events like sudden surges in unemployment and food insecurity that haveignon the lives of even the "virtuous" individuals, do you see this as an opportunity to cultivate or reanimate people’s institutional awareness?
### Accounts 2011*

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* CSMN and affiliated project funded by the Norwegian Research Council

### Budget 2012*

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