

Table of Contents	
Editorial	3
Opening Event	6
Presentation of Core Group	8
Presentation of the Research Coordinators	12
Presentation of other new team members	14
Report on Linguistic Agency Research Activities	18
Report on Moral Agency Research Activities	22
Report on Rational Agency Research Activities	25
Implicature Workshop	30
Visitors	32
CSMN PhD Programmes	35
Poetry Workshop	38
Interview with Olav Gjelsvik	40
CSMN in the Press	42
Publications in 2007	44
Overview of Events 2007	48
Speakers and talks 2007	51
Key Accounts and Budget Figures	54
CSMN Structure Chart	58

Editorial

The Centre for the Study of Mind in Nature (CSMN) officially started on July 1st, 2007. It is the first Centre of Excellence at the Faculty of Humanities hosted by the University of Oslo.

By Christel Fricke, Director of CSMN

All members of the CSMN team are very proud to be among the winners of the competition for establishing a new Centre of Excellence. The challenge is now to build up a research centre that will become visible both nationally and internationally and to meet the local expectations at the same time.

International and Local Networking

On August 29, CSMN celebrated its inauguration together with its institutional hosts, IFIKK, HF, and UiO as well as with the Norwegian Research Council. John Perry, Henry Waldgrave Stuart Professor of Philosophy at Stanford University, gave the opening lecture (see p. 6). After the lecture, colleagues and friends of CSMN were invited to a reception. This event provided an opportunity to make the new Centre widely known both in Oslo and beyond, and to signal to our local, national and international colleagues and friends our interest in cooperation with all who share our ambition to understand the normative constraints of human agency in an overall naturalistic framework.

At the end of 2007, CSMN could already look back at more than six months of activities (see p. 18). We had started our various research activities before CSMN was officially inaugurated. Close cooperation between CSMN and IFIKK had made this administratively

possible. In 2007, CSMN has hosted or co-hosted all in all 18 conferences, workshops and guest-lectures, with 101 speakers from all over the world, 32 of them female scholars, among them world famous experts in their respective fields (complete lists of events and guests may be found on p. 48). The news about the existence of CSMN has already been widely spread and we have received enthusiastic support from our guests.

CSMN will have two consortium partners: the Arché Centre based in St Andrews, Scotland, directed by Professor Crispin Wright and the CAPPE (Centre for Applied Philosophy and Public Ethics) directed by Professor Seumas Miller with three Australian localizations, namely The Australian National University, Charles Stuart University and the University of Melbourne. The contract between the three consortium partners still remains to be signed and the common board established. The way to the agreement has been paved and it will soon be in place. While the research done at the Arché Centre is in philosophy and thematically overlaps with foundational and methodological questions of the research done at CSMN, the CAPPE focuses on applied ethics in a basically interdisciplinary framework and thus shares interests with CSMN's rational and moral agency teams in particular. There are also personal

connections between the three research centres: Core group member Herman Cappelen also holds membership of Arché Centre, core group member Thomas Pogge likewise holds membership of the CAPPE.

CSMN expects to learn from the experience made in the course of building up these two centres which are operating very successfully and are, after only a few years of existence, among the leading research centres in the world. Extensive plans for cooperation have already been established.

Thanks to the initiative of Herman Cappelen, CSMN has joined the Semantics and Philosophy in Europe (SPE) network – together with Arché (St Andrews), the IHPST/Chaire d'Excellence 'Ontological Structure and Semantic Structure' (Paris), and Logos (Barcelona). Members of the network will meet on an annual basis.

The purpose of the annual colloquia is to enhance the dialogue between linguists and philosophers and to provide a new forum for presenting research in the interface between linguistic semantics and the various related areas of philosophy (philosophy of language, epistemology, metaphysics, philosophy of mathematics, and philosophy of mind). The first annual colloquium will take place in Paris, from May 2 to 4, 2008.

On the local UiO basis, the Ethics Program is our main partner of cooperation. Among the members of this program are some of the most talented and promising young scholars in Norway exploring both meta-ethical questions and ethical decisions in various political and professional contexts. Their research is closely connected to the research of CSMN's moral agency team in particular. Members of both groups of researchers meet at the newly founded Moral Philosophy Club to discuss their work in progress.

Research at CSMN

Among the most characteristic features of the human mind is its responsiveness to various kinds of norms. All organisms depend on favourable circumstances for their survival and well being. But at least for humans, who conceive of themselves as rational agents capable of making choices and of being held responsible for their actions, there is the question of whether they should simply act in accordance with their personal preferences. In order to meet norms of rational and moral behaviour, we have to refrain from giving way to our personal preferences, at least sometimes: We go to work rather than set off for a skiing trip with the children and resist eating all the chocolates before the others have had their fair share. What is the nature of the norms which we thereby obey? The rational agency team and the moral agency team of CSMN approach the question from different angles: Whereas the former rely on factual, intrinsic values as reasons for action, which

“All organisms depend on favourable circumstances for their survival and well being.”

exist independently of what humans know or desire, the latter take their starting point in human responses (emotions, interests, and needs). Both approaches have advantages and difficulties. On the one hand, there is the question of how reasons that are independent of actual human knowledge and desires can be motivationally relevant; on the other hand, there is the suspicion of subjectivism and conventionalism. The challenge is to understand norms of human agency as both objective and motivationally efficient. For the time being, it is an open question which of the contrasting strategies will prove to be

more successful. Linguistic agency provides an example of norms to which all members of a linguistic community generally conform. After all, no one wants to deprive themselves of the possibility of sharing linguistic content with other speakers, this possibility being the very foundation of communication. Will linguistic agency, when used as a model of successful cooperation and conformity to shared norms, support the reasons-based approach to the nature of norms or rather the human responses approach?

The forum where we explore questions relating to rational, moral and linguistic normativity and to the way they are related is the CSMN Colloquium. This weekly colloquium is open to all colleagues interested in CSMN's research.

Hirings

Over the past months, the CSMN team has acquired new members. The Centre has already hired four PhD students and three Post-Docs. Among the latter is Eline Busck-Gundersen (with a PhD in philosophy from St Andrews). Busck-Gundersen joined us in December; the two other Post-Docs will join us in July 2008. We are presently in the process of hiring two further Post-Docs and there will be more PhD students joining us in the future. More nations are now represented in our team, including China and the Philippines.

While it was our main concern to get started with our various research projects and to get the colleagues and co-operators of our national and international networks involved, building up our own administration and infrastructure has been a further priority. In this, the Centre has been fortunate in receiving very enthusiastic help and support from both IFIKK and HF. Grethe Netland, administrative leader of IFIKK, and research consultant Karen



Photo: Hæge Håtveit

Haugland helped to build a solid foundation for CSMN's administration and in training Anders Braarud Hanssen as CSMN's first part time administrator. It took some time before CSMN could rely on its own full time administrator. But finally, in October, Jan Halvor Undlien joined the Centre and is now responsible for the whole of CSMN's administration.

Location

Also in October, CSMN moved into new offices at the second floor of P. A. Munchs Hus on the Blindern Campus. The dean of HF, Trine Syvertsen, and her team have made room for us on campus and thereby prevented us from being sent off to a location between the ring road and the national football stadium. Not only are we now all localized at the same place, not only do we enjoy newly refurbished



office space, not only do we finally have a place where to put our coffee machine, we are also co-localized with the Ethics Programme, one of our main local partners of co-operation. CSMN's

"It is our ambition to create an inspiring research environment where scholars from different fields join efforts in understanding the nature of linguistic, rational and moral norms and their impact on human agency."

members, their guests and the members of the ethics program meet informally around the coffee machine and talk to each other. Thanks to the generous provision with office space – one of the rarest goods on the Blindern campus and inside HF in particular – CSMN has already succeeded in creating a space for

interdisciplinary communication and mutual inspiration.

Challenges for 2008

While the CSMN team is growing, the challenge is to integrate the new members and to further increase the international visibility of our research community without neglecting our local network. We shall continue in our efforts to bring both well-known senior and promising junior scholars to Oslo. CSMN will provide a space where they can meet researchers based in Oslo, both inside the CSMN team and beyond. It is our ambition to create an inspiring research environment where scholars from different fields join efforts in understanding the nature of linguistic, rational and moral norms and their impact on human agency.

We hope to be able to finally sign the consortium agreement, establish the board and start cooperation between the consortium partners.

CSMN will start its own research school with Olav Gjelsvik and Carsten Hansen as leaders. The research school will cooperate with various local PhD programs. Thanks to a CSMN initiative, the UiO / HF based PhD program in philosophy and the PhD program in philosophy at the University of St Andrews have agreed to offer a joint PhD degree. Members of CSMN will participate in helping both programs to cooperate and host joint graduate conferences.

Our plans for 2008 include a seminar with Professor Virginia Valian, distinguished Professor of Psychology at Hunter College, CUNY. Professor Valian's fields of research include equal opportunities politics in the academic world. She will provide all members of CSMN with advice on various issues concerning the promotion of female scholars. Both HF and UiO have joined CSMN in inviting Professor Valian and are thus expected to profit from this CSMN initiative in equal opportunity politics.

On the administrative side, we have to further establish routines that will allow us to run the centre as efficiently and as smoothly as possible and in particular to make our international guests feel welcome.

Since our beginnings, the Centre has made a great deal of progress. I would like to take the opportunity to thank all of those who have helped in making the beginnings of CSMN a great success, including in particular all members of the CSMN team. But we have little time to pause. Much of the research still remains to be done and published. The overall challenge is to preserve the initial enthusiasm of the team without placing too heavy a burden on anyone's shoulders.

Opening Event

The Centre for the Study of Mind in Nature has two key intellectual commitments. It focuses on a key aspect of the human mind: its ability to make, understand and abide by norms.

A note from John Perry

Rules and standards are apparent in every uniquely human activity, from the use of language to international law, as well as many activities we share with other animals.

This focus is grounded in a naturalistic perspective, that sees the human mind as a part of nature. The focus on norms integrates and unifies the Centre's activities. The naturalistic perspective provides an important constraint to its research. This twofold perspective makes the Centre unique.

The Centre has assembled a team of researchers and put together a program that make it not only unique in its focus and perspective, but establish it as one of the world's premiere centres for the study of mind, truly worthy of the phrase "Centre of Excellence". Those of us too far from Oslo to drop in, look on with envy at the intellectual riches the Centre is providing. Workshops, seminars and lectures have been offered, ranging from the nature of emotion to the neural basis of pragmatics, from language acquisition to human justice.

But already publications are starting to appear, which will keep the world apprised of its research programmes and their progress. An enormous amount of hard organizational work lies below the surface of any successful research centre. Christel Fricke and the core team she has assembled deserve a great deal of credit for such a successful first year. Congratulations to her and her team on organizing this wonderful addition to the world's research community, and on its auspicious beginning!

John Perry giving the CSMN inaugural lecture
Photo: Hæge Håttveit





Back row, from left: Carsten Hansen, Olav Gjelsvik, Thomas Pogge, Herman Cappelen, Bjørn Ramberg
Front row, from left: Deirdre Wilson, Christel Fricke, Jennifer Hornsby. Photo: Hæge Håtveit

The Core Group

Christel Fricke

Head of CSMN/Research Director

Christel Fricke (Professor of Philosophy, University of Oslo) joined the philosophy section of the Department in 2003, coming from the University of Heidelberg in Germany where she received her PhD in 1988 and her Habilitation in 1998. Fricke taught at different German Universities (Heidelberg, Giessen, Mannheim, Karlsruhe) and has stayed as a visiting scholar and visiting professor at Cambridge University (Cambridge, UK), Columbia University (New York, US), Emory University (Atlanta, US) and UFRGS (Porto Alegre, Brazil). Between 2001 and 2003 she co-directed (with Professor Hans-Peter Schuett, University of Karlsruhe) a research project on the “Validity and Motivational Force of Moral Norms”. The project was funded by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft. In June 2003, she organized an international conference in Heidelberg, devoted to the growing interest in Adam Smith as a moral philosopher. Fricke has edited a volume (in cooperation with Hans-Peter Schuett) of papers by the internationally leading scholars in this field (Adam Smith als Moralphilosoph, Berlin 2005 (deGruyter)) which has been well received. Her publications include two books, Kants Theorie des reinen Geschmacksurteils, Berlin 1990 (deGruyter) and Zeichenprozess und ästhetische Erfahrung, München 2001 (Fink),

as well as a great number of papers. Fricke is interested in the justification of normativity, the psychology of moral motivation, moral realism, problems of equality and justice, and the theory of emotions.

Herman Cappelen

Herman Cappelen is Arché Professor at the University of St Andrews. He has earlier been Professor of Philosophy at the University of Oslo, a CUF Lecturer at the University of Oxford where he was a fellow of Somerville College, and professor at Vassar College, New York. Cappelen received his PhD from UC Berkeley, California. He has been the director of graduate studies at the University of Oslo. He is the leader of the project Shared Content and, with Crispin Wright, the Arché-based Contextualism and Relativism Project (2008 – 2013) and, with Jessica Brown, the Arché-based Intuitions and Philosophical Methodology Project (2008-1001) Cappelen has published numerous papers in the philosophy of language and two books (co-authored with Ernest Lepore), Insensitive Semantics (Blackwell 2004) and Language Turned on Itself (OUP, 2007).

Olav Gjelsvik

Olav Gjelsvik is professor of philosophy at University of Oslo since 1994. He got his D.Phil

at Oxford University in 1986, and he has since published articles and papers in metaphysics, epistemology, philosophy of science, philosophy of mind, philosophy of action and philosophy of language. Gjelsvik has been Head of Department and Head of Section for Philosophy in Oslo for eight out of the 12 years from 1991 to 2003. He has held many other offices at UiO, and is an experienced administrator and director of research. Olav Gjelsvik also has extensive experience in interdisciplinary projects, and from 1994 until 1998 he participated in an international and interdisciplinary project organized by Jon Elster, Columbia University, with participants from sociology, decision theory, economics, psychiatry, and brain science and philosophy. In 2003-04 Gjelsvik (together with Bjørn Ramberg) directed an international philosophy project at the Norwegian Academy of Science, ‘Towards a New Understanding of the Mental’. Since 2002, he has been a member of the Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters, where he is presently head of the group including psychology, philosophy, and history of ideas. He has been a visiting scholar/professor at University of Oxford, University of California at Berkeley, and London School of Economics in addition to his affiliation to the University of Oslo.

Carsten Hansen

Carsten Martin Hansen (Associate Professor of Philosophy, University of Oslo) got his PhD from Oxford University (1991). He taught at New York University, before taking up his position at University of Oslo in 1996. He was a co-founder of the interdisciplinary 'Mental Representation Group' at New York University (1992-1995), which included philosophers, psychologists, linguists and computer scientists. In 1991, he participated in the ESPRIT project: 'MOHAWC: Modeling Human Activities in Work Context' (RUC/RISØ, Denmark). Here philosophers, psychologists and physicians studied disease concepts as employed by doctors in diagnostic contexts. He has lectured to psychiatrists on the bearing of the philosophy of mind on foundational issues in psychiatry, and has a research interest in the breakdown of rationality in the context of major mental illness. Hansen has extensive experience in supervising Masters and PhD students. He has published on issues in the philosophy of language and metaphysics, as well as philosophy of mind. He is currently working on questions about mental and special science causation (in particular with regard to their implications for the mind-body problem), as well about the nature of truth.

Jennifer Hornsby

Jennifer Hornsby (Professor of Philosophy, Birkbeck College, University of London) got her PhD at Cambridge University and was Fellow and Tutor at Corpus Christi College, Oxford from 1979 until 1994 when she moved to Birkbeck College, University of London as Professor of Philosophy. She has extensive administrative experience having been Secretary to the Sub-Faculty of Philosophy in Oxford, Head of her current Department, and a member of the Management Committee of the Philosophy Program of the University of London's School of Advanced Study. She is

a member of the Council of the Aristotelian Society, and of the Advisory Committee of the newly formed Institute of Philosophy in London. She has collaborated with academics in the U.K., Australia, the U.S.A, and Europe, and has particular connections with Norwegian philosophers, having participated in "Towards a New Understanding of the Mental" at the Norwegian Academy in 2003-04. She is co-editor of *Ethics: A Feminist Reader* (Blackwell 1992), and of *A Companion to Feminism in Philosophy*, (Cambridge 2000); and a General Editor of Blackwell's Reading Philosophy series, in which she has co-authored two books. Her scholarly publications include *Actions* (Routledge 1980), *Simple-Mindedness: Essays in Defence of Naïve Naturalism* (Harvard 1997), and about sixty articles in books or journals on feminist topics and topics in philosophy of mind, action, and language. Her current work brings epistemology into the philosophy of action, and takes on questions about self-knowledge, practical knowledge, knowledge of language, and the metaphysics of agency.

Thomas Pogge

Thomas Pogge (Professor of Philosophy and International Affairs at Yale University, affiliated with the Centre for Applied Philosophy and Public Ethics at the Australian National University) was raised in Germany. He received his PhD from Harvard University with a dissertation supervised by John Rawls, and has previously held appointments at Columbia University. Pogge has written extensively on political philosophy, especially on Rawls, Kant, global justice and extreme poverty. His work has been categorized as belonging, along with that of Charles Beitz and Henry Shue, to the "first wave" of work on global justice. His book *World Poverty and Human Rights* (second edition, Polity 2008) is widely regarded as one of the most important books in that area. What

makes this work distinctive is the emphasis on negative duties rather than on the duties to aid and protect stressed by Peter Singer and Shue. According to Pogge, the more affluent worldwide have a stringent duty of justice to help eradicate global poverty primarily because such poverty is foreseeably and avoidably reproduced by a global institutional order to whose design or imposition they contribute.

Bjørn Ramberg

Bjørn Torgrim Ramberg, Professor of Philosophy, UiO got his PhD in 1987 at Queen's University, Canada. Ramberg was the recipient of a Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship at Harvard (1990-91), and in 2000 was awarded the Research Excellence Award from Professor Ingerid Dal and Ulrikke Greve Dal Foundation in support of Humanistic Research. He was granted tenure at Simon Fraser University (Vancouver, Canada) in 1997, and served as Chair of the Philosophy Department (1999-2000). Leaving SFU, he directed the PhD program in philosophy at the University of Oslo (2000-2005). With Olav Gjesvik, he directed the project "Towards a New Conception of the Mental" at the Centre for Advanced Studies, Oslo, 2003-2004. He currently serves as Head of Department at the newly amalgamated Department of Philosophy, Classics, History of Art and Ideas at the University of Oslo. Ramberg has published work in the philosophy of language and the philosophy of mind on hermeneutics, and on various aspects of contemporary pragmatism. His current research in pragmatism focuses on scientific understanding of the mental and of subjectivity, the construction of psychological identity, and methodological questions in cognitive ethology. His publications include the first monograph on the philosophy of Donald Davidson, *Donald Davidson's Philosophy of Language* (Blackwell, 1989), a



Photo: Hæge Håtveit

definitive volume on the anti-individualism of Tyler Burge, *Reflections and Replies: Essays on the Philosophy of Tyler Burge* (co-edited with Martin Hahn, MIT Press, 2003), contributions to major volumes on the work of Davidson, Richard Rorty, and Hans-Georg Gadamer, as well as entries in the authoritative Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy (online) and The Encyclopedia of Philosophy (McMillan). Recent essays will appear in volumes from Blackwell and OUP (forthcoming 2006). Ramberg is engaged in long-standing collaboration with philosophers from across North America and Europe, and translations of his essays have appeared in Portuguese, Czech, Italian and German journals and anthologies.

Deirdre Wilson

Deirdre Wilson (Professor of Linguistics, University College London) is a British linguist and cognitive scientist. She was trained in philosophy at Oxford and linguistics at MIT, where she wrote her PhD under the supervision of Professor Noam Chomsky. Currently Professor of Linguistics at University College London and a Fellow of the British Academy, she has been a Lecturer in Philosophy at Somerville College, Oxford, Harkness Fellow in Linguistics and Philosophy at MIT, Visiting Research Professor at the Ecole Polytechnique in Paris, and Invitation Fellow of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science. Her main research interest is in pragmatics: her book *Presuppositions and Non-Truth-Conditional Semantics* (Academic Press, 1975) advocated a pragmatic approach to presuppositions,

and her long-standing collaboration with Dan Sperber (resulting in, among other things, the book *Relevance: Communication and Cognition*, Blackwell, 1986/95) has led to publications on a wide variety of pragmatic topics, from disambiguation and reference resolution to rhetoric and style. With Robyn Carston, she is currently completing a three-year research project on lexical pragmatics funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council of Great Britain. Her novel *Slave of the Passions* (Picador, 1991) was shortlisted for the Yorkshire Post First Work Award and the Angel Prize for Literature, and she is now working on a second.

Research Coordinators

Robyn Carston

Robyn Carston (Professor of Linguistics, University College London), born and educated in New Zealand, is currently a professor of linguistics and graduate tutor at University College London. Her PhD, supervised by Deirdre Wilson, is on the explicit/implicit distinction in linguistic communication. Her main research interests are semantics, pragmatics, relevance theory and communication, from both a philosophical and a cognitive-scientific perspective. She has published the monograph *Thoughts and Utterances* (Blackwell, 2002), edited several books and special issues of journals (*Lingua*, *Mind and Language*, *Journal of Semantics*), and contributed a number of articles to philosophy and linguistics journals. She has research collaborations with scholars in Britain, Norway, France and Japan.



Jan Terje Faarlund

Jan Terje Faarlund, (Professor of Linguistics, University of Oslo) has since 1998 been a professor of Scandinavian Linguistics at the Department of Linguistics and Scandinavian Studies at the University of Oslo. Previously he has held seats at the University of Trondheim/NTNU. He has also held a professorship at the University of Chicago, and been visiting professor and Guest Lecturer at several universities abroad, including the University College London, Universität Hamburg, Università di Studi di Napoli and Universidad de Salamanca, Spain. Faarlund's main field of research is within syntactic theory, theory of grammatical variation and change, and also Mesoamerican languages. He has also been involved in work related to typology, scientific theory and questions concerning language and evolution. Faarlund has published both in Norway and abroad in the field of grammar and the history of languages, and also general and theoretical linguistics. He is elected member of The Philological Society, The Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters, and the Royal Norwegian Society of Science and Letters.





Ernest Lepore

Ernest Lepore is the Director of the Center for Cognitive Science at Rutgers University (NYC) and Professor II at University of Oslo. He is the author of numerous papers in the philosophy of language, philosophical logic, metaphysics and philosophy of mind. He recently wrote *Insensitive Semantics* (2004, Basil Blackwell) and *Language Turned on Itself* (Oxford University Press, 2007) with Herman Cappelen; *Donald Davidson* (2005, Oxford University Press) with Kirk Ludwig; *Meaning and Argument*; and co-authored with Jerry Fodor, *Holism: A Shopper's Guide* (Blackwell, 1991) and *The Compositionality Papers* (Oxford University Press, 2002); and, with Sarah-Jane Leslie, *What Every Student Should Know* (Rutgers Press, 2002). He has edited several books, including *Truth and Interpretation* (Blackwell, 1989), and is co-editor with Zenon Pylyshyn, of *What is Cognitive Science?* (Blackwell, 1999). He is also general editor of the Blackwell series *Philosophers and Their Critics*.



Andreas Føllesdal

Andreas Føllesdal is a Professor of Political Philosophy at the Norwegian Centre for Human Rights, University of Oslo. Føllesdal obtained his PhD in philosophy from Harvard University in 1991 as a Fulbright Fellow. His dissertation concerned the normative significance of state borders, with advisers John Rawls and T. M. Scanlon, and Amartya K. Sen advising relevant chapters. He was named a Fulbright New Century Scholar 2002-2003. He participates in several European Union research projects, is a regular Visiting Scholar at the Harvard Center for European Studies, and has served on advisory boards in Norway, Sweden and the United States. He is a member of the Norwegian Petroleum Fund's Advisory Council on Ethics, and was a member of the Norwegian Government Biotechnology Advisory Board 1998-2000. During the period 1994-2005 he worked as Research Professor at ARENA, a research program on the Europeanisation of the Nation State. He was Professor at the Department of Philosophy, University of Oslo, 1999-2005. Føllesdal publishes in the field of political philosophy with a focus on issues of international political theory and Human Rights, particularly as they arise in the wake of changes in Europe.



Alison Jaggar

Alison Jaggar is a Professor of Philosophy and Women's Studies, University of Colorado. Professor Jaggar has received numerous grants and fellowships, including a Rockefeller Foundation Fellowship and two fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Jaggar's many books include *The Blackwell Companion to Feminist Philosophy* co-edited with Iris M. Young, (Blackwell 1998); *Just Methods* (Paradigm, 2007). Jaggar is interested in practical reasoning, especially in contexts of inequality and cultural difference, and is co-authoring *Ethics Across Borders* with Theresa Weynand Tobin. Recently, in addition to publishing a few articles on terrorism, she has become especially interested in global gender justice, and plans several research projects on this topic. Jaggar was a founding member of the Society for Women in Philosophy and is past chair of the American Philosophical Association Committee on the Status of Women.

Researchers

Edmund Henden

Edmund Henden (Associate Professor of Philosophy, UiO) received his D.Phil. in philosophy from the University of Oxford in 2002. From 2002 to 2007 he was a lecturer and postdoctoral research fellow at UiO. He currently holds an appointment as Associate Professor in Philosophy at UiO, and is affiliated with the Centre for the Study of Mind in Nature (CSMN). Henden works mainly on topics in the philosophy of mind and action, in particular issues relating to practical rationality. He also has research interests in ethics and metaphysics. Recent publications include *Is Genuine Satisficing Rational?*, *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice* (2007), *Restrictive Consequentialism and Real Friendship*, *Ratio* (2007), *The Role of All things Considered*, *Judgements in Practical Deliberation*, *Philosophical Explorations* (2006), and *Weakness of Will and Divisions of the Mind*, *European Journal of Philosophy* (2004).



Post Docs

Eline Busck Gundersen

Eline Busck Gundersen joined the CSMN as postdoctoral fellow in Dec. 2007. She received her PhD from the University of St. Andrews in June 2007. Her research project at the CSMN is to investigate the problems and potential of response-dependence theories of moral normativity. This project continues the work from her PhD thesis 'Making Sense of Response-dependence'. Eline's research interests include realism/anti-realism disputes including philosophy of mind, philosophy of colours, and meta-ethics. She has worked on side projects on e.g. dispositions, conditional fallacy problems, mental causation, material constitution, and Fitch's paradox. Eline is an associate fellow of the research centre Archè at the University of St Andrews. Since 2003, she has been a research fellow of the project Naturalized Mind – Cognisant Nature at Aarhus University, where she was based before joining the CSMN in December 2007.



PhDs

Heine A. Holmen

Heine A. Holmen joined the CSMN as PhD student in Dec 2007. He got his MA degree in philosophy at the UiO in June 2007. His research project at the CSMN is to explore and employ a knowledge-account on various issues in the philosophies of language, action, mind, and rationality with a particular focus on language, interacting those fields of research with results and insights from knowledge-first epistemology. He has also interests in the problem of scepticism and the lottery paradox, the various realism-antirealism debates in philosophy of language and -science, the bearing of externalism on issues in semantics and the philosophy of mind, as well as problems and challenges connected to the scientific understanding and explanation of the rationality and behaviour of an intentional agent.





Torfinn Huvenes

Torfinn Huvenes is a Shared Content/CSMN and Arché PhD student in philosophy at the University of Oslo and the University of St. Andrews, with a Bachelor's and Master's Degree in philosophy, both from the University of Oslo. His main research topic is on contextualism and relativism in the philosophy of language. In addition to philosophy of language, his academic interests include epistemology, philosophy of mind and metaphysics, and his main research topic also has implications for some of those disciplines.



Georg Kjøl

Georg Kjøl is working on pragmatics and the role of conceptual representation. His PhD project concerns the language of morality, normativity and emotions, and applies the framework of Relevance Theory to investigate ordinary speakers' intuitions and use of abstract terminology. He is supervised by Professors Deirdre Wilson and Jan Terje Faarlund from the Linguistic Agency Programme, but aims to employ insights from the philosophy and psychology of morality and emotions in developing a lexical pragmatic account of normative language.

Georg Kjøl graduated with an MA in Pragmatics from University College London in 2007. His dissertation treated opposing views of linguistic content and communicative context, using the cases of poetry of slang as examples. He holds a BA in Language Studies from the University of Oslo, where his main field of study was rhetorics and communication. Formerly a student of Literature and French, he maintains a strong academic interest in poetics and stylistics, as well as creative language use and linguistic aspects of miscommunication.



Kari Refsdal

Kari Refsdal joined the CSMN as PhD student in Dec 2007. She got her cand. philol. from UiO in 2003. After her graduation Kari has given new students their first introduction to philosophy as a supply teacher at Examen philosophicum, UiO. Kari's research project at the CSMN is an investigation into the relationship between rational agency and moral agency. She will, through a moral realist position, try to defend the thesis that there is a connection between rational agency and moral agency. The relevant moral realist position can, very tentatively, be described by saying that it involves seeing an agent's reasons to act as she is morally obligated to act as dependent on the agent's beliefs about morally relevant states of affairs. Kari's philosophical interests include, most notably, meta-ethics – specifically the disputes between realists and anti-realists and externalists and internalists concerning reasons and motivation. She is also interested in the history of philosophy; of specific interest in this field is Kant.

Our Administrators

Jan Halvor Undlien (Administrative Leader)

Undlien came from a position as administrative leader at Institute of Health Management and Health Economics (HME) at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Oslo. He joined CSMN in September 2007. Undlien has also been working as senior executive officer with main responsibility for economy and research administration at the Faculty of Humanities, both at the former Department of Philosophy where he once studied, and at the Faculty Secretariat.

Undlien joined HME when it was established in 2002, and helped develop the infrastructure in a period of great expansion, including establishing a novel bachelor programme and a novel international MPhil programme. Undlien has extensive experience with administering externally funded activities, mainly from the Research Council of Norway (RCN).



Anders Braarud Hanssen (Administrative Consultant)

Anders Braarud Hanssen holds an MA in Philosophy from UiO, and has been involved in the CSMN administration since its inception in 2006. Anders has been responsible for - among other things - the development of the CSMN homepage, overall events management, establishing administrative routines, assisting in the SFF-application process, as well as regular administrative functions. Anders has been working as an administrator for the Filosofisk Seminar and the Seminar in Science Studies. Anders has also worked as a journalistic researcher for the Norwegian Broadcasting Association (NRK) and TV2.





Photo: Hæge Håtveit

Linguistic Agency

The research of the linguistic agency team is focusing on three main areas:

- Metarepresentations
- Communication and Context
- Universal Grammar in First Language Acquisition

Metarepresentation
(Deirdre Wilson, Herman Cappelen, Robyn Carston)

Goals

Humans have a unique capacity to construct and process metarepresentations - representations of representations (e.g. of utterances and thoughts). This evolved capacity underlies several characteristic aspects of human psychology and sociality. It has been mainly studied for its role in the attribution of mental states to others and

to oneself, but it also plays a crucial role in communication, persuasion, and the emergence of social norms and conventions. These different uses of metarepresentations draw on different types of inputs and involve different forms of inference. This raises the question of whether they are based on a single metarepresentational capacity, or whether there are several mental mechanisms involving different developmental trajectories, breakdown patterns, and varieties of cultural elaboration. We aim to compare the cognitive role of metarepresentations in communication,

persuasion, and the emergence of social norms, and to assess experimental, developmental, pathological, and cross-cultural evidence relevant to the autonomy or unity of the mechanisms involved.

Activities

In accordance with the interdisciplinary nature of the project, we have set up a small network of researchers with expertise in the social sciences, evolutionary and developmental psychology, and theoretical and experimental pragmatics, involving several junior members

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and two additional senior researchers: Professor Dan Sperber (CNRS and Institut Jean Nicod, Paris) and Dr Richard Breheny (Linguistics Department, University College London). Our activities have focused on: (a) the role of metarepresentations in linguistic communication, and (b) the development of metarepresentational abilities.

Metarepresentation in linguistic communication

It is widely assumed in philosophy and linguistics that metaphor, irony and other

figurative uses of language are departures from a norm of literal truthfulness. We are exploring the idea that the principle governing communication is one of relevance rather than literal truthfulness, and that metaphor and irony are not departures from this norm. Our hypothesis is that metaphor is analysable as a type of loose use of language, while irony is a type of free indirect quotation which demands a higher order of metarepresentational ability than literal use, approximation or metaphor. Deirdre Wilson, Robyn Carston and Dan Sperber have several papers in press or in

print developing these views. Focusing on a different type of metarepresentational ability, Herman Cappelen and Ernest Lepore have published a monograph, *Language Turned in on Itself: The Semantics and Pragmatics of Metalinguistic Discourse* (Oxford University Press, 2007) exploring aspects of our metalinguistic practices and proposing a new account of quotation. Deirdre Wilson, Robyn Carston and Richard Breheny gave talks at the CSMN Implicatures Workshop (see separate article, p.30); Deirdre Wilson and Robyn Carston gave talks at the Riga Workshop on

Metaphor (co-organised by Ernest Lepore, December 2007); and Deirdre Wilson and Dan Sperber gave talks at the Aarhus Seminar on Pragmatics and Neurolinguistics (December 2007) which several CSMN/IFIKK PhD students were sponsored to attend.

The development of metarepresentational abilities

Richard Breheny and Robyn Carston are organizing a joint CSMN/UCL workshop on Pragmatics and Social Cognition (to take place in April 2008), which will bring together theorists and experimentalists working on the relation between the development of communicative abilities and the development of the more general ability for mental state attribution known as ‘mindreading’, or ‘Theory of Mind’. Invited speakers include Michael Tomasello (Max Planck Institute, Leipzig), Ulf Liszkowski (Max Planck Institute, Nijmegen), Josef Perner (University of Salzburg) and Deirdre Wilson and Dan Sperber (who will present research on the development of metarepresentational abilities). Richard Breheny gave talks on ‘What infant pointing can tell us about human communication’ at the European Society for Philosophy and Psychology (Geneva, July 2008) and ‘The role of speaker intention in on-line processing’ at the Experimental Pragmatics Conference (Berlin, December 2007).

Communication and Context (Herman Cappelen, Ernest Lepore)

Goals

When we utter sentences, what we succeed in communicating to our audiences depends in complex ways on the context of utterance. The Context and Communication sub-project explores the different varieties of such context dependence. In some cases, the context dependence can be traced to a linguistic

expression in the sentence, and we explore the various ways in which expressions can exhibit context dependence. Sometimes, context dependence of communicated content is not traceable to a particular expression in the uttered sentence and we explore the varieties of such unarticulated context dependence.

“We aim to compare the cognitive role of metarepresentations in communication, persuasion, and the emergence of social norms, and to assess experimental, developmental, pathological, and cross-cultural evidence relevant to the autonomy or unity of the mechanisms involved.”

Some have argued that subtle versions of truth relativism can account for certain kinds of context variability, and it is also a goal of this sub-project to explore that option.

Activities

Three workshops were organized by the context and communication sub-project in 2007. The first concerned the context dependence of adjectives, taking place at Arché, St Andrews, one of CSMN’s future consortium partners. This topic has proved to be an important case-study in the kinds of issues we investigate, and the workshop brought together some of the world’s leading experts, including: Delia Graff Fara (Princeton), John Hawthorne (Oxford), Chris Kennedy (Northwestern), Peter Ludlow (Toronto), Paul Pietroski (Maryland), Daniel Rothschild (Columbia), Jonathan Schaffer (ANU), Gabriel Segal (London), and Jason Stanley (Rutgers, CSMN). The second workshop took place in Oslo and focused on the nature of implicatures (see separate article about this workshop p...). The third workshop, also held in Oslo, concerned the nature of reference.

During 2007 and 2008, Professor John Hawthorne (Oxford, CSMN senior researcher and network member) and Professor Herman Cappelen (Arché Professor at St Andrews and

CSMN research director) have co-authored a monograph entitled *Relativism: An Essay in Foundational Semantics*, scheduled for publication by The Oxford University Press in November 2008. The book addresses all the key research questions of the Context and Communication sub-project and is an

attempt to block various arguments in favour of relativism.

Other publications relevant to this sub-project include four papers by Herman Cappelen: *Semantics and Pragmatics: Some Central Issues (in Context Sensitivity and Semantic Minimalism)*, *Locations and Binding* (with John Hawthorne, in *Analysis*), *The Myth of Unarticulated Constituents* (with Ernest Lepore, in *Situating Semantics*), *Relevance Theory and Shared Content* (with Ernest Lepore, in *Advances in Pragmatics*). Cappelen gave various talks on these topics around the world, including a series of talks in Beijing, Paris, and Rio de Janeiro.

Universal Grammar in First Language Acquisition (Jan Terje Faarlund and Herman Cappelen)

Goals

The main goal of this area, as is one of the main goals of linguistic theory in general, is to understand the mechanisms and processes of first language acquisition in human infants. Roughly by the age of four, a normally developing child acquires an extremely complex computational system of discrete

symbols, known as a grammar. While the acquisition and development of the grammar naturally depends on input from the external world, the fundamental features of the grammar are independent of type of culture and level of technological sophistication. The grammar of natural language is highly constrained by universal features, known as universal grammar (UG). Language acquisition is thus an interaction of the genetically determined UG and the culturally determined linguistic input from the environment. The result is a grammatical norm, a set of conventions, defined by what is learnable within the framework of our biological endowment as humans, and by what is available in our

socio-cultural setting. Our goal is therefore to understand the respective roles of UG and linguistic input during acquisition, and to understand the role of acquisition in linguistic (grammatical) change.

Activities

Professor Faarlund works on an ongoing project called Universal Grammar, language acquisition and grammatical change. With some support from ILN, syntactic acquisition data, and data on syntactic change from various languages, are being collected, with the aim to see how acquisition is reflected as historical change, and how acquisition as well as change is constrained by universal grammar.

The autumn semester of 2007 was also devoted to planning one PhD course and two symposia for 2008. The PhD course Language and Evolution, will be organized in collaboration with professor Erika Hagelberg of the Department of Biology, and take place in February 2008. In connection with this course, we will organize a one day symposium with three invited speakers: Andrew Carstairs-McCarthy (Canterbury, NZ), Tecumseh Fitch (St. Andrews), and Wolfram Hinzen (Durham). A two-day symposium in August 2008 on Universal Grammar, language acquisition and change, with eight invited speakers, is also in preparation.

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Moral Agency

The research of the moral agency team focuses on three main areas:

- Social and Moral Norms in Intentional Action
- Distributive and Political Justice
- Procedures of Moral Justification

Social and Moral Norms in Intentional Action (Christel Fricke, Raino Malnes)

Goals

There is increasing empirical evidence both from the side of the social and the brain sciences that humans are not exclusively driven by selfish interests. Humans have an inborn disposition to relate to others and to care about their wellbeing. But how should we describe the needs, interests and desires arising from this non-selfish disposition, and how do these relate to the needs, interests and desires arising from human selfishness?

Activities

CSMN hosted an international and interdisciplinary workshop on “Social and Moral Norms in Intentional Action” (October 2007). This workshop was co-organized by Christel Fricke, Hans-Peter Schuett (Karlsruhe),

Raino Malnes, Bertil Tungodden and Alexander Cappelen. Bertil and Alexander are both members of the Faculty at the Norwegian School of Economics and Business Administration in Bergen. Their research is based on experiments in which they explore which moral beliefs certain people have, how these beliefs evolve under various social and cultural influences and what impact they have on practical reasoning and decision making. CSMN co-funds these experiments. Apart from philosophers and economists, the workshop brought together political scientists, sociologists and psychologists who discussed their respective research projects in which they try to understand moral agency and its reality in individual motivation and social interaction.

The organizers have already made plans for another workshop in Oslo which will take place in 2008 and focus on “The Nature and



Development of Moral Norms”.

Distributive and Political Justice (Alison Jaggar, Thomas Pogge, Andreas Føllesdal)

Goals

Religion is no longer the firm anchor it used to be in the lives of persons and families, and no longer a solid basis that secures social cohesion for political communities. Thus, it cannot serve any more as a firm foundation for our social and moral norms. Three factors have contributed to a weakening of this



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foundation: the insight into the historical contingency of our social norms, the suspicion of present inadequacy of these norms, and the experience of cultural pluralism. There is an increasing tendency to examine religions and moralities as social facts with the tools of history, anthropology, sociology, economics, psychology, brain physiology, and evolutionary biology. Furthermore, rapid economic and especially technological progress makes vivid the thought that traditional moralities (and religions) had emerged in a different environment and may no longer fit today's

world. And finally, there is increasing cross-cultural awareness, which is often also reflected in increasing intra-societal moral/religious and cultural diversity (pluralism, multiculturalism).

The preferable response to the three problems concerning the content and authority of our social and moral norms is the effort to keep working on our moral commitments in order to render them adequate to what the natural and social sciences discover about the human condition, adequate to the technological possibilities of the contemporary world, and

adequate to the task of providing a widely sharable moral basis for the peaceful resolution of conflicts across cultures.

Activities

CSMN hosted a workshop with Professor Catherine Wilson (City University of New York) on "Evolutionary Ethics - Prospects and Problems". Evolutionary Theory, "Darwinism" for short, presents an image of human nature, understood as a set of physical and psychological characteristics - or a range of such characteristics - and also, in an extended

sense, as associated with a set of typical human institutions and practices. While one might think that the right and the good can only be the right and the good for organisms that it is something to be like, and that it is better to have up-to-date theories and hypotheses about what we are like than those delivered by the tradition, Evolutionary Ethics stands in ill-repute amongst philosophers. Catherine Wilson discussed why this is so, and suggested that Evolutionary Ethics is not incompatible with a commitment to social equality and other allegedly unnatural ideals not rooted in the human genome.

The moral agency team co-funded an interdisciplinary conference on “Neuroethics and Empirical Moral Psychology”. The conference, which was mainly funded by the Ethics Programme, had been initiated by Lene Bomann-Larsen, Jakob Elster and Øistein Schmidt-Galaaen, all three young scholars who recently obtained their PhD’s in philosophy at IFIKK. The main purpose of the conference was to explore what neuroscience can teach us about moral psychology and what, if any, normative conclusions we should draw from this new knowledge.

Plans for 2008 include workshops on “Global Gender Justice” and “The Impact of Ratification of Human Rights Treaties”. These workshops will take place in Oslo and are organized by Thomas Pogge in cooperation with Alison Jaggar and Andreas Føllesdal.

Procedures of Moral Justification (Christel Fricke, Peter Railton)

Goals

We are exploring different procedures of providing justification for the claim that certain moral norms are objectively valid, taking our starting point from evaluative responses to the

world (like perceptions, feelings and emotions), humans’ best interests, human interaction, and the notion of a reason for action.

Activities

Professor Peter Railton visited Oslo and lectured on “Moral realism, irrationalism, or anti-realism: where does the question stand today?” as well as on “From Aesthetics to Ethics ... and Back”. In the first of these lectures, he underlined the

“Religion is no longer the firm anchor it used to be in the lives of persons and families, and no longer a solid basis that secures social cohesion for political communities. Thus, it cannot serve any more as a firm foundation for our social and moral norms”.

current tendency to understand the nature of normativity in general and of moral normativity in particular on the background of human motivation, a tendency to which the CSMN moral agency team is fully committed. In his second lecture he explored analogies and disanalogies between moral judgments and judgments about the aesthetic merit of an object, relying on human responses to certain facts, the reason giving force of evaluative expert judgments and the strive for agreement or evaluative consensus among various people.

In co-operation with Dagfinn Føllesdal, Christel Fricke organized a workshop on “Intersubjectivity and Objectivity in Adam Smith and Edmund Husserl”. Adam Smith, in his moral philosophy, and Edmund Husserl, in his moral philosophy, epistemology, and metaphysics, are concerned with the question of how objective standards of the morally good (and, in Husserl’s case, objective standards of truth and reality) can arise from a process of social interaction that aims at finding a common perspective on matters of morality, truth and reality. The standards are objective

not because they are endorsed by a majority of people – after all, any majority of people can get things wrong; the standards are objective in so far as they emerge from an interactive process that meets certain constraints. The workshop brought together Smith and Husserl scholars in order to discuss to what extent Smith and Husserl explore the same ground, where their theories complement each other and what we can learn from this comparison

about the methodologies of empiricism and phenomenology respectively.

In 2008, Peter Railton will attend the interdisciplinary workshop on “The Nature and Development of Moral Norms”. Further activities in 2008 will include a follow-up workshop on intersubjectivity in Smith and Husserl (organized by Christel Fricke and Dagfinn Føllesdal) as well as a workshop on “Response Dependent Predicates” of which Eline Busck-Gundersen will be in charge.

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Rational Agency

The research of the rational agency team focuses on three main areas:

- Intentional Agency and Weakness of Will
- Evolution, Rational Agency and Motivation
- Metaphysics of the Mind in Nature

Intentional Agency and Weakness of the Will (Olav Gjelsvik and Jennifer Hornsby)

Goals

A key to understanding human agency is providing a clear account of the notion of a reason and its connection with the notion of rationality. A basic question is whether the notion of a subject's reason for action can be explained reductively – standardly, by seeing reasons as belief-desire pairs – or whether the notion of a reason for action has to be thought of as irreducibly normative. The fundamental question at stake is whether subjects acting in the world merely exhibit psychological preferences, or whether they sometimes respond motivationally to objectively valid reasons. The answer to this question is of considerable importance, not just for philosophy, but also for psychology and the social sciences as long as these work with a general conception of human agency. Pursuing the question will therefore exemplify and illuminate several aspects of the interface between philosophy on the one side and social and decision sciences on the other.



Activities

The workshop “Responding to Reasons and Rationality” (21st March) centred around the issue of whether there are reasons for being rational. The participants were John Broome (Oxford University), Wlodek Rabinowicz (ANU and Lund) and Olav Gjelsvik. In a number of papers over the years, John Broome has provided arguments against seeing rationality as a matter of responding correctly to reasons, a conclusion, however, which he is not entirely comfortable with. He gave a very lucid presentation of his view. Rabinowicz and Gjelsvik discussed and criticized aspects of that view.

“The fundamental question at stake is whether subjects acting in the world merely exhibit psychological preferences, or whether they sometimes respond motivationally to objectively valid reasons”.

The conference “Human Agency: Anscombe vs. Davidson” (August 30th and 31st) took place immediately following the public inauguration of CSMN and the first of the lectures in its annual series. Our thought in setting Anscombe and Davidson against one another is that on the face of it, these two philosophers present rival pictures of human agency, and it is of importance to see exactly where they differ. Davidson’s essays, including the seminal *Actions Reasons and Causes* (1963), have been an enormous influence on forty years of philosophy of action, much of which is built on a “standard story” that he is often credited with putting in place. The re-publication of Elizabeth Anscombe’s book *Intention* (1957) sprang from a renewed interest in Anscombe’s distinctive view of human action, and much attention has recently been paid to Anscombe’s conception

of practical knowledge, and to whether it can be used to undermine the standard story. Papers at the conference addressed such questions as “Is there a fundamental opposition between Anscombe’s and Davidson’s views of human agency?”, “Are Anscombe from Davidson principally separated by a difference of opinion about causation?”, “Can the standard story of action accommodate a correct view of agents’ knowledge of what they do?” Olav Gjelsvik and Jennifer Hornsby both spoke at the conference, and so did Edmund Henden from IFIKK/CSMN. Our visiting speakers were Adrian Haddock (University of Stirling), Sarah Chant (University of Missouri) and Candace Vogler (University of Chicago). Vogler was very firmly on Anscombe’s side of the debate, and presented a close interpretation of an argument by Anscombe in which her opposition to the standard story is most manifest. But even those present who did not want to take a side benefited from the various discussions. Hornsby’s conference talk served also as a lecture for SOFIA (the student-led Oslo Society For Women In Philosophy). And we were delighted to attract promising young female Masters and Doctoral students to other parts of the conference also.

Evolution, Rational Agency and Motivation (Carsten Hansen, Bjørn Ramberg)

Goals

One can distinguish between the agency of mere animals, the regulation of whose lives follow biological patterns, and the agency of self-determined, human beings. In the animal case, drives, instincts and desires of certain sorts loom large in the aetiology of behaviour. In the human case, the influence of reason is characteristic. Yet even where animal behaviour is in question, the idea of a reason sometimes has application. Presumably a non-human



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animal’s having a reason for a particular behaviour is to be understood in terms of the behaviour’s being fitness-promoting. Yet, presumably, an idea of fitness-promotingness is inadequate to the idea of reason that we associate with human agency. Nonetheless, the fact that we are products of evolution has to be squared with any account we give of ourselves. A contrast with non-human animal agency, then, can both guide the development of, and place constraints upon, an understanding of full-fledged human agency.



Activities

Jennifer Hornsby has begun the work of building up an international network comprising philosophers from the UK, Germany, Switzerland and Spain. (The network has bid to the Leverhulme Foundation for funding.) A CSMN conference will be arranged in Oslo in April 2008 (“Human and Non-Human Animal Agency”) at which six of the group’s members will give papers, and further plans for work both on the evolution of agency, and on motivation will be developed.

Metaphysics of the Mind in Nature (Carsten Hansen, Jennifer Hornsby)

Goals

Throughout the duration of CSMN, we will address a number of central issues in the philosophy of mind against the background of developing results of our interdisciplinary collaboration. There are metaphysical questions at stake in an overall account of human agency, and in issues about its evolution. And there are further questions that we shall take on: questions about causation, about externalism,

and about representation. Under the heading of causation, we shall pursue questions both about causality in general, and about so-called mental causation in particular. Under the heading of externalism, there are questions about the role of factive states of mind in understanding action. We are persuaded that knowledge has a role to play in understanding action, a role that does not show up in the standard ‘belief-desire’ model. This suggests that we may need a way of thinking about the mental in which involvement with worldly facts gets at its essence. Under the heading of representation, there are issues about how different notions of information and representation serve a useful explanatory role in the empirical exploration of cognitive capacities.

Activities

The workshop “Neural Mechanisms, Explanation and Reduction in the Neurosciences” (24th and 25th September) included lectures by Bill Bechtel, John Bickle, Carl Craver, and Jacqueline Sullivan, and Adele Abrahamsen participated as a respondent. John Bickle also gave an introductory lecture covering basic neuroscientific concepts. Topics discussed included mind-body reductionism, the nature and limitations of scientific experiments, as well as issues in the history of science. There were recurrent debates concerning the significance of different conceptions of reductionism, as well as of causation. Another question that came up several times was that concerning the need for, and precise role of, representational notions in the cognitive neurosciences. Carl Craver’s talk centered on LTP (Long Term Potentiation)—a biological phenomenon thought to underlie inter alia the cognitive function of memory consolidation. (Work done by Tim Bliss and Terje Lømo in Per Andersen’s lab in Oslo played a central role in linking LTP to cognition.) John Bickle defended the

claim that contemporary cellular-molecular neuroscience, including LTP-research, is reductionistic in nature. The other speakers disagreed. In her talk, Jacquelin Sullivan discussed the nature of neuroscientific experiments and the considerable difficulties involved in using lab-results to learn about real world cognitive phenomena, as well as in using them in the attempt to ground claims of the kind propounded by Bickle. In his talk, Bill Bechtel presented the scientific study of circadian rhythms as a counter example to Bickle's reductionism. The workshop attracted an interdisciplinary audience, including philosophers, neuroscientists, linguists and psychologists.

From November 5th–9th, CSMN held an MA/Doctoral class Knowledge in Action: Epistemology Meets Philosophy of Action. This took off from work being done by Jennifer Hornsby on knowledge and action and by Olav Gjelsvik on intention and practical reason. Three of Hornsby's 2007 papers ("Knowledge in Action", "Knowledge, Belief and Action" and "Knowledge and Abilities in Action") introduce connections between philosophy of action and epistemology. Thanks to CSMN, Hornsby has been able further to explore these questions, and to introduce students to the ideas, which form the background of her enquiries. She wants both to understand how our conception of agency may be affected when knowledge is brought into and account of it, and how our conception of knowledge may be affected when its role in agency is appreciated. Her work in this area continues. As does Olav Gjelsvik's work on Practical Reasoning, parts of which he presented during the course.



Photo: Hæge Håtteit



Interconnections between the CSMN Research Areas

Linguistic and moral agency are special cases of rational agency, making rational agency more fundamental.

At the same time, linguistic agency is arguably the rational activity par excellence: it is essential for reflective, critical thought, just as our social, political and moral life could not exist without it.

The sphere of moral agency, on the other hand, provides us with the most salient examples of norms. Furthermore, moral norms are those about which we most explicitly care, while at the same time giving rise to the greatest controversies both at the individual and social levels.

The three research areas are also unified insofar as the relevant empirical research programs the Center addresses all have normative presuppositions built into them: In the study of rationality, for example, economists and decision theorists make basic assumptions about the structure of the mind and the causes of actions. Accounts of linguistic agency and communication involve characterizations of conditions of success and failure, which are normative in nature.

The sciences of human behavior provide us with examples of empirical inquiries utilising assumptions about the specific kinds of values or preferences on the basis of which we act. This suggests that philosophical studies of normativity may be of direct relevance to the pursuit of these kinds of empirical knowledge. At the same time, sciences of human behavior have produced experimental results that bear on widely held assumptions, often shared by philosophers, about the norms and values on the basis of which humans supposedly act.

Not only must philosophical theories take such findings into account; they often provide the most promising starting point for developing a general understanding of normativity in human life.

Implicatures Workshop November

The notion of an implicature was introduced in Grice's classic 1975 paper "Logic and Conversation" (based on a series of lectures at Harvard in 1967). Grice's work has had an enormous impact on philosophy in the second half of the 20th century (especially on the so-called ordinary-language philosophy dominant in analytic philosophy at the time). His proposed theory of communication, in which the notion of an implicature is central, is one of the cornerstones of much work in contemporary philosophy of language and linguistics.

Grice's theory of implicatures is an attempt to explain how, by saying one thing, a speaker can implicitly communicate something more. Grice's famous example involves a professor asked to write a letter of recommendation for a student who has applied for a philosophy job. The letter says, simply, "Dear Sir, Mr X's command of English is excellent, and his attendance at tutorials has been regular. Yours, etc."

By saying one thing, that the student has an excellent command of English and has attended tutorials regularly, the professor succeeds in communicating something more,

that the student is not very good at philosophy. Grice argued that co-operative communicators are expected to meet certain standards, which include giving any information required, and that the reader of the letter is therefore entitled to infer that the professor wishes to convey some information that he is reluctant to write down.

Grice's theory of implicatures was an attempt to set out the standards that communicators are expected to meet, and that audiences can therefore use to work out what speakers are implicating. His underlying picture is of

conversation as a form of rational, cooperative activity, where the principles (or maxims) that govern conversation are instances of more general principles that govern all forms of rational cooperation.

Grice's paper triggered an enormous literature by philosophers and linguists. CSMN was fortunate in getting 16 of the world's leading experts on the topic to Oslo for this workshop. The speakers included some of the world's most influential philosophers and linguists, all of whom take a broadly Gricean view of communication (while occasionally differing

in the particular principles or standards of communication they propose): Professor Robyn Carston (UCL), Professor Timothy Williamson (Oxford), Professor Deirdre Wilson (UCL), Professor Uli Sauerland (ZaS), Professor Laurence Horn (Yale), and Dr. Richard Breheny (UCL). As respondents we had some of the most promising young academics in the field: Professor Daniel Rothschild (Columbia), Benjamin Spector (Harvard), Professor Sam Cumming (UCLA), Dr. Ofra Magidor (Oxford), Dr. Benjamin Russell (Brown), and Dr. Eliza Block (NYU).

The workshop was a collaboration between CSMN and the research project Shared Content (based at St Andrews). Much of the organizational work was done by Shared Content Post-Doctoral Fellow Owen Greenhall who wrote his PhD dissertation on implicatures, under Timothy Williamson, at Oxford. The other members of the organizing committee were Professors Wilson and Cappelen.

Photo: Adele Abrahamsen



Visitors to CSMN

Prof. Dr. Carola von Villiez, Institute for Philosophy, Universität Duisburg - Essen, Germany, has written this message for CSMN.

By allowing me to spend two months (August and September) as a visiting professor, CSMN has provided me with a much-needed opportunity to concentrate on my research. During my stay, I was able to make substantial progress on the manuscript of *Dimensionen der Unparteilichkeit – Adam Smith auf der Suche nach dem moralischen Standpunkt* (*Dimensions of Impartiality – Adam Smith's Quest for the Moral Point of View*). In this monograph on Adam Smith's moral Philosophy, I aim at an analytical reconstruction of Smith's concept of moral judgment from his *The Theory of Moral Sentiments*. The Centre proved to be a very

fruitful environment for discussing my ideas with local Smith-scholars as well as scholars pursuing related or entirely different projects within moral philosophy. The conference "Intersubjectivity and Objectivity in Smith and Husserl" (mid-September), at which I gave a paper on *Adam Smith on social morality and moral progress*, provided an excellent opportunity for discussing the outcome of the summers work. My book is now scheduled for publication in late 2008.

Staying in Oslo for an extended period of time also enabled me to have in-depth discussions



Photo: Christel Fricke

on future projects and activities with members of the CSMN to further strengthen the cooperation between the Centre and the University of Duisburg-Essen. Further plans for conferences and workshops related to subjects within my main areas of research – such as human rights, equality, fairness as well as a project on the philosophy of architecture – have since started to materialize. Apart from research and project-related activities, my stay provided a good forum for discussing strategies for the advancement of women with other female scholars and, as a by-product, becoming more acquainted with Norwegian (academic) culture.

Interview with Xuan Wang (MA student in Linguistics from the University of Peking, China)

By Anders Braarud Hanssen

Wang Xuan is an MA student in Linguistics and Philosophy of language at Beijing Normal University. She was born in the city of Fujing, in the very south of mainland China, due north of Taiwan. She did her undergraduate and graduate training at Beijing Normal University. Xuan is currently an MA student there, and will be starting her thesis in 2008.

What fuelled your initial interest in linguistics and philosophy?

- My advisor is a linguist with strong interest in the philosophy of language, and he got me interested in my current field of study.

How did you get acquainted with CSMN?

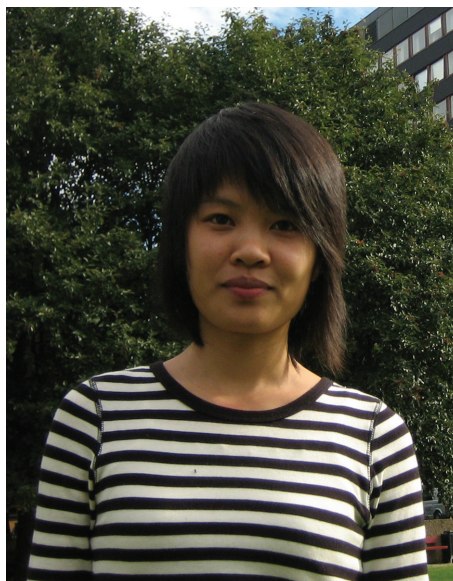
- I attended summer school at my university in July, where I met Ernest Lepore, who was there as a visiting professor. There, I also met Herman Cappelen, and he initially invited me to come to Norway and visit CSMN. He and I share common interests and ideas in linguistics and philosophy of language. Since CSMN had its official opening as a research

centre, Herman saw the opportunity to invite me as a way to spread the word about CSMN's different projects among students and scholars in China, and establish a foundation for further cooperation.

What is your initial impression of the Centre for the Study of Mind in Nature as a project?

- I find the basic objective of the centre interesting, and it conjoins with my recent fields of study. I am surprised to see that CSMN combine so diverse forms of research under one umbrella, and intrigued by the interdisciplinary approach of the project.

Photo: Anders Braarud Hanssen



How can linguistics shed light on the human mind and consciousness in general?

- I find that linguistics and philosophy of language constitute a valid approach to better understanding the nature of the human mind through the use and study of language. Common to all linguistic research is the attempt to understand the underlying nature of mind through the use of language.

From what perspective do you approach CSMN's concern with naturalism and normativity?

- In studying Noam Chomsky's conception of "natural linguistics" and seeing the mind as a part of nature, I got interested in approaching language as a basic human activity grounded in the natural world. This corresponds in many ways to CSMN's approach to human minds as part of nature.

One of Chomsky's arguments that I found especially compelling was the example of a Martian scientist who, if he was to come to earth, would find human language as a natural part of nature alongside phenomena of purely biological nature. My own perspective on linguistics corresponds in general to this perspective.

This is your first visit to the west, and to Norway. What is your impression of western culture, and Norway in particular?

- This is my first time out of China. Interestingly enough, through my studies, I was familiar with western literature and philosophy, and my impression of the west is not much different from my expectations.

My impression of Norway is that there is little to worry about here in terms of financial and social conditions. Everything is taken care of, and as a student you can focus on your work.

What is the most obvious difference between academic life in China and the west?

- In China we all live on campus, and in Oslo students mostly live in the city. The biggest difference is that at my university students share many common activities and free time, as everyone lives in dormitories. This seems to be less common here in Norway.

Academically, students in China seem to be more "on their own" and needs to take more personal responsibility for their academic progress. But on the other hand, the contact

between students and advisors and professors in general seem to be much closer in China than here. Students in Norway seem reluctant to approach professors, and ask questions. I was told before coming here that Norwegians were very shy and reserved; but this not my impression. Norwegian students seem to be very outgoing and sociable. On the other hand, in China we all tend to ask a lot of questions and discuss with our professors, something that seem to be missing in workshops and seminars that I have attended here in Oslo.

Chinese culture, and its ancient philosophies like Confucianism and Taoism has an altogether different conception of nature and consciousness than western philosophy. Do you feel at all influenced by this heritage, and if yes, how does this influence your approach to your current work?

- The concept of Nature in Taoist philosophy reflects the relationship between man and nature, and how this relationship is perceived through and underlying idea of unity. Interestingly, on some levels this reflects some

of the tenets of the different sub projects of CSMN. Humans are viewed as a part of the natural world. However, unity between Man and Nature is not part of the naturalistic framework of the centre, or western philosophy in general.

As for my own studies, I feel that my own cultural heritage and ancient Chinese philosophy in particular does not influence my approach to philosophy or linguistics to any extent. I prefer working with these fields of study on their own terms.

Photo: Hæge Håtteit



CSMN and the PhD Programmes at UiO



According to its interdisciplinary constitution, CSMN is not inventing a new academic discipline. The PhD fellows funded by CSMN are members of various PhD programs at UiO, corresponding to their respective fields of research.

So far, we are cooperating in particular with the PhD programs in Philosophy, Linguistics, and Political Science.



PhD programme in Philosophy: Professor Eyjólfur Emilsson (IFIKK)

Among the PhD lines within the Faculty of Arts is philosophy. The philosophy line collaborates with CSMN in various ways and it is fair to say that these institutions mutually benefit from each other. First, most if not all of the doctoral students at CSMN are admitted to the Faculty's doctoral program and belong to the philosophy line. Thus, we have a common responsibility for their training. As the leader of this line, I have the responsibility of organizing courses for the doctoral students in the various branches of philosophy. Obviously, the advent of CSMN, which organizes a host of doctoral courses and academic events open to all our doctoral students, i.e. not just those belonging to the centre, vastly enlarges and broadens our

Photo: Erlend Bronken

menu of courses and other offers. Thirdly, the establishment of a joint degree in philosophy between Oslo and St Andrews should be mentioned. The two centres, CSMN in Oslo and Arché in St Andrews, are quite essential to the establishment and maintenance of this joint degree that is now in its beginning phase.



Photo: Ram Gupta

PhD programme in Linguistics: Professor Terje Faarlund (ILN)

The Faculty of Arts hosts a large graduate program in languages and linguistics, with close to 50 PhD students. As the programme chairman it is my responsibility to provide courses, seminars and other events that will satisfy the very diverse demands for academic and intellectual training for future linguists. One challenge is to cater for all the various fields and subdisciplines of linguistics represented among our PhD students. The establishment of CSMN, and my own affiliation with it, has proven extremely important and helpful in meeting this challenge. The CSMN and the graduate linguistics program can now join forces and pool their resources in creating

a stronger research environment for our PhD students, for the linguists in our faculty, and for the Linguistic Agency component of CSMN. It will now be possible to coordinate course offerings, seminars, workshops, and other research activities between CSMN and the graduate linguistics program. The Linguistic Agency team consists of linguists and philosophers working in fields that are not all that well covered by the regular faculty of our language departments, such as pragmatics and philosophy of language. Thus, the CSMN means both wider and deeper research and training opportunities for our graduate students. At the same time, the linguistics program, through our advanced students and affiliated faculty, may be able to offer additional expertise and input to the Linguistic Agency of the CSMN.



PhD programme in Political Science: Raino Malnes (STV)

The study of norms – how they grow out of social expectations and enter into individual

deliberation – has always been central to social science. Describing and explaining the role of normative ideas as determinants of behavior is an enduring preoccupation in psychology, sociology and anthropology. More recently, social scientists have paid significant attention to normative questions in their own right. It began long ago with welfare economics and spilled over to political science when distributive justice became a subject of sustained and systematic interest there. Today, it is fair to say that



normative political theory is among the most fertile branches of political research. At the University of Oslo, doctoral students have come in large numbers from social science to

the Ethics Program. With the establishment of CSMN, a new basis is being laid for discussion and scholarly cooperation between social scientists and philosophers. Descriptive

studies of social norms will benefit from insights from philosophy of mind, and moral philosophy will invigorate normative political theory and the study of economic justice.

Photo: Hæge Håtvæit



Poetry, Metaphor, Paraphrase

International Workshop on “Poetry, Metaphor, Paraphrase” and an evening for the interested public where “Poetry meets Philosophy”, November 2007

The CSMN project on linguistic agency is deeply interdisciplinary, with both philosophers and linguists involved at all levels. Ernest Lepore, in cooperation with Christel Fricke, organized a workshop on “Poetry, Metaphor and Paraphrase”. In an effort to make our investigations into linguistic agency accessible to a non-specialist public, we brought together philosophers, literary theorists, and poets to explore issues at the intersection of philosophy and poetry.

One way to put the semantic difficulties involved in understanding metaphors or poetry is in terms of the contrast between what is said and what is implied. Yet, in the case of metaphors, what is implied is not simply an addition to what is said: what is implied has

little or nothing to do with what is being said, or may even be incompatible with it. Many metaphors are, literally understood, false. When Romeo says that Juliet is the sun, what he says is false; but what is he implying? In order to answer this question, we can rely on our linguistic competence on the one hand and on the context of the Shakespearean play on the other. Understanding metaphors is making sense of them in the context in which they are used. The case of poetry is even more difficult. Even though poets use metaphors, the poetic use of language cannot be fully explained in terms of its metaphorical use. Furthermore, there is the question of whether and to what extent we can rely on a particular context in order to understand poetry. Poets do not exclusively address a particular audience

under circumstances they share with this audience. Otherwise, it would not make any sense for us to try and read Shakespeare. The difficulty of understanding poetry is manifest in the difficulty to translate it as well as in the impossibility to paraphrase it. Any attempt at rendering the semantic content of a poetic text, if at all possible, is bound to ignore the very features that make it poetic.

We invited leading scholars and young experts, all either philosophers or literary theorists, to discuss their different ways of making sense of metaphors and poetry. Ernest Lepore raised the question of how to understand metaphors and poetry in an overall Davidsonian semantic framework; he insisted on the semantic innocence of words, whatever they are used

for, and attributed all attempts at interpretation of metaphor or poetry that goes beyond the literal understanding of words to psychology. Peter Lamarque (University of York) raised the question of how abstract thought can be expressed in poetry.

Anna Christina Ribeiro (Texas Tech University), Anders Pettersson (Umeå University), and Angela Leighton (Trinity College, Cambridge University) explored whether and to what extent formal features of a poetic text contributed to making its paraphrase impossible. Christoph Harbsmeier (University of Oslo) relied on the

an example of a natural language and its poetic use that could not be explained in the framework of Davidsonian semantics. Christel Fricke drew an analogy between the process in the course of which ordinary artefacts are transformed into artworks and the process in which words of an ordinary language are transformed into a piece of poetry, relying on a holistic conception of semantics which sets limits to the semantic innocence of a word.

In the framework of this workshop and under the title of "Poetry meets philosophy", CSMN invited three Norwegian poets to read from



Ernest Leopre

example of an old Chinese palindrom and explained how, in the hands of a poet, the same number of signs, arranged in a circle, could be read in a multiplicity of different ways, obtaining not only different meanings, but also different syntactical functions. He provided

their work and discuss it with the attendants of the workshop and a larger audience (November 22, 2007). Hanne Kraugerud, PhD student of philosophy in Oslo, helped organizing this event. Participants included Hege Duckert (Journalist, and editor of the

Norwegian newspaper Dagbladet), Kjartan Fløgstad, (author and poet, who has received several Norwegian literary awards, including the prestigious award of the Nordic Council, Nordisk Råds litteraturpris), Øyvind Rimbereid (poet and author of *Solaris Korrigjer*, a poem for which he received the Norwegian award Kritikerprisen in 2004), Peter Serck (author of numerous novels, including *De andres rom* and *Sarkofag*), Kristina Solum (interpreter), and Dr. Marius Wulfsberg (editor of the Norwegian publishing house Cappelen Damm).

Dr. Marius Wulfsberg introduced Rimbereids poem, and provided a brief overview of the general reception, as well as the questions related to Rimbereid's experimental style.

Rimbereid read from his poem and answered questions concerning the unique, artificial language applied in his work.

Peter Serck introduced his forthcoming novel and its main theme, the experience of war, and then spoke about the difficulty of rendering this experience with all its emotional aspects through literary and artistic imagery. He then read from this novel.

Kjartan Fløgstad briefly introduced his own poems as well as his translations of the poems of Pablo Neruda. He presented the main theme of his work in terms of his attempt to overcome modernism. Fløgstad read his own poems, including three of his translations of poems from Neruda. The interpreter read these poems in Spanish and English.

Hege Duckert chaired the discussion between the poets, the scholars who attended the workshop and the audience.

Significant work had been done with respect to public relations and announcement of the event, and the turn-out was more than satisfactory. In addition to the academics participating in the metaphor workshop, an audience of 100 people filled the auditorium.

- Supreme Court reached the wrong conclusion

Acquitting the tobacco manufacturer Tiedemanns Tobak following the lawsuit brought by cancer victim Robert Lund may have been wrong, says Professor Olav Gjelsvik at the new Centre for the Study of Mind in Nature (CSMN), which opened at the University of Oslo in August 2007.

By Ellen Stokland, journalist

The Court disregarded the argument that nicotine addict Robert Lund had lost the ability to act in accordance with his own wishes.

- When a person becomes addicted to alcohol, nicotine, or narcotics, there is an inherent loss of freedom. This may in turn lead to losing the ability to act in accordance with your own better judgement, Gjelsvik explains.

Heavy smoker and cancer patient Robert Lund took Tiedemanns Tobaksfabrik to court, holding the company responsible for his illness. He had been a smoker for 40 years, and was incapable of quitting.

The Supreme Court, on the other hand, declared that Lund was indeed responsible for his own actions, stating that he had the opportunity to quit smoking. Olav Gjelsvik disagrees, and claims that the court wrongly acquitted Tiedemanns Tobak in 2003.

Freedom to act vs. free will

- The Lund case is not about the freedom to

act, but rather about Mr Lunds loss of free will, and the responsibility for that loss, in relation to his use of tobacco at a time when the health risks were not widely known, says Gjelsvik.

He states that the Court failed to address the difference between freedom to act and free will.

- In order for someone to be held responsible for their actions, that person must have a real choice. Robert Lund did not have that real choice, Gjelsvik continues.

He goes on to point out that while having free will depends on the ability to reflect upon right and wrong, and to motivate reasonable actions, the freedom to act is a constant opportunity which requires no such reflection.

- A child has an underdeveloped freedom of will, although the freedom to act is real. Yet the child is not held responsible for its actions because it lacks the ability to make rational choices, the Professor explains.

- Addiction to nicotine or other intoxicants reduces the ability to make rational choices in relation to such substances.

- Robert Lund knew that he ought to quit smoking, yet he was unable to motivate himself to make the right choice. He died in 2000, before the case was concluded.

Outstanding research on philosophy

Addiction and loss of freedom is one of the topics being researched at Centre for at CSMN, as of last autumn a Norwegian Centre of Excellence.

The centre is hosted by the Institute of Philosophy, Classics, History of Art and Ideas (IF-IKK) at the Faculty of Humanities, University of Oslo.

The project has a philosophical focus, yet the approach to the study of human normative, rational and moral awareness is interdisciplinary.

- On the one hand we have moral philosophy,

language, our normative values and ordinary "common sense", whereas on the other we have the physiological and how changes in the brain affect human behaviour.

- We seek - among other things - to shed some light on which changes in humans lead to loss of freedom, Gjelsvik explains.

Rational, Linguistic and Moral agency constitute the three main axis of research at the centre. The approach is interdisciplinary, with a philosophical core.

The centre focuses on these three main aspects of normativity, and the relation between them.

One recurring question raised by the centres various research projects is: -"How are these key human activities possible in a fundamentally physical world?



CSMN in the Press

CSMN has presented itself in media, in particular through various interviews that have been given by core members. In addition the centre has received media attention of various types, varying from an extremely jubilant and excited embrace from research journalists, to various types of discussion borne out of critical articles in newspapers.

Press – selected articles in print and on web

forskning.no (web)

Høyesterett dømte feil, 27.08.07 <http://www.forskning.no/Artikler/2007/august/1187960930.17>

Et spørsmål om moral, 10.10.07 <http://www.forskning.no/Artikler/2007/oktober/1191238348.48>

Rettferd og filosofi i nytt SFF, 25.01.07 <http://www.forskning.no/Artikler/2007/januar/1168959544.67>

Apollon (web)

Å forstå bevisstheten - vår tids viktigste intellektuelle utfordring http://www.apollon.uio.no/vis/art/2007_4/Artikler/hjerne_bevissthet

Hjerneskaning stimulerer moralfilosofisk debatt, 24.05.07 http://www.apollon.uio.no/vis/art/2007_2/Artikler/moralfilosofi

Filosofisk Supplement (web/print)

Empiricism in the Philosophy of Mind? 06.02.07 <http://foreninger.uio.no/filosofisk-supplement/index.php?intervju=block>

Paraplyen (web)

Rettferd under lupen, 22.01.07 http://paraplyen.nhh.no/paraplyen/akiv/2007/januar/rettferd_u

Uniforum (web)

Rettferd sett med filosofiske briller, 19.01. 07 <http://wo.uio.no/as/WebObjects/avis.woa/wa/visArtikkel?id=35027&del=uniforum>

Klassekampen (print)

En stille revolusjon (kronikk, B. Vassnes), 31.01.07

Arne Næss' åpenhet (kronikk, D. Føllesdal), 03.03.07
Journalistikk og vitenskap (kronikk, B. Vassnes), 12.04.07

Aftenposten (web)

Stempler andre som mindre bra, 04.11.07 <http://www.aftenposten.no/fakta/innsikt/article2082897.ece>

Dagsavisen (web)

Viktig med kvinner, 08.01.07 <http://www.dagsavisen.no/innenriks/article269252.ece>

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- *Could Globalization be Good for World Health?* **Global Justice: Theory Practice Rhetoric** 1 (2007) at www.theglobaljusticenetwork.org/journal/.
- *Interview with Professor Thomas Pogge*, by Sandrine Berges, in **Éthique et économique/Ethics and Economics**, 5/1, 2007, <http://ethique-economique.net/IMG/pdf/INTERVIEW-2.pdf>
- *Poverty and Human Rights* (2007), Expert Comment for the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, www.ohchr.org/english/issues/poverty/expert/docs/Thomas_Pogge_Summary.pdf.
- *Transdisciplinair denken*, interview in Dutch with René Gabriëls and Regina Kreide, in **Krisis: Tijdschrift voor actuele filosofie** 8/1 (2007), 52-66; deutsche Fassung
- *Weltarmut als Problem globaler Gerechtigkeit*, **Deutsche Zeitschrift für Philosophie** 55/6 (2007), 1-13.
- *Extreme Poverty Statistics*, in **HD Insights**, HDR Networks, July 2007, Issue 10, http://hdr.undp.org/nhdr/hdr_support/HD_Insights.cfm.
- *A Prescription for Change* in **RSA Journal** 45 (June 2007) 45-47, www.thersa.org/journal/article.asp?articleID=1061.
- *Entrevista*, interview on global justice, Spanish and English, in **Revista Jurídica de Universidad Torcuato Di Tella** (Buenos Aires), 9 2007, www.utdt.edu/ver_contenido.php?id_contenido=2147&id_item_menu=3552.
- *Nur geringe Mehrkosten: Thomas Pogge hält ein gerechteres globales Patentsystem für möglich - und für bezahlbar*, interview with Tarik Ahmia, **taz** of 8 June 2007, page VII.
- *'How not to count the poor' — Defizite und Schwächen der MDG-Indikatoren*, in **Für eine Handvoll Dollars?, Global Policy Forum Europe and Terre des Hommes**, February 2007.
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"Speakers share content when they make the same assertion (claim, conjecture, proposal, etc). They also share content when they propose (entertain, discuss, etc.) the same hypothesis, theory, and thought. And again when they evaluate whether what each says (thinks, claims, suggests, etc.) is true, false, interesting, obscene, original or offensive. Content sharing, so understood, is the very foundation of communication".

from the book *Relevance Theory and Shared Content* by Herman Cappelen and Ernest Lepore

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Events 2007

A chronological overview of the events (workshops, conferences, guest speakers) hosted by CSMN in 2007.

- 12. March - Oslo: *Graduate Course in Neuroethics and Empirical Moral Psychology*
- 14. March - Oslo: *Neuroethics and Empirical Moral Psychology*
- 21. March - Oslo: *Mini-Symposium on Rationality and Reasons*
- 8. May - Oslo: *Evolutionary Ethics - Prospects and Problems*
- 9. May - Oslo : *Moral realism, irrationalism, or anti-realism: where does the question stand today?*
- 10. May - Oslo: Catherine Wilson - *"What is the Aim of Moral Inquiry?"*
- 19. May - St. Andrews, Scotland: *CSMN/Arché Adjectives Workshop*
- 1. August - Oslo : *Visiting Professor: Carola Freiin von Villiez*
- 27. August - Oslo: *Reference Workshop*
- 29. August - Oslo: *Inaugural Lecture: John Perry*
- 30. August - Oslo: *Human Agency - Anscombe vs Davidson*
- 14. September - Oslo: *Workshop on Intersubjectivity and Objectivity in Adam Smith and Edmund Husserl*
- 24. September - Oslo: *Intro to Neuroscience*
- 24. September - Oslo: *Neural Mechanisms, Explanation and Reduction in the Neurosciences*
- 4. October - Oslo: *Social and Moral Norms in Intentional Action*
- 26. October - Oslo: Valerie Hardcastle *"Liberalism and Obesity: When Should Society Intervene?"*
- 2. November - St. Andrews University, Scotland: *Arché/CSMN Graduate Conference*
- 3. November - Oslo: *CSMN/Shared Content Workshop: Implications*
- 5. November - Oslo: *PhD and Master's Course: Knowledge in Action: Epistemology Meets Philosophy of Action*
- 22. November - Oslo: *Metaphor, Poetry, Paraphrase*
- 22. November - Oslo: *Poetry meets philosophy*
- 4. December - Aarhus, Denmark: *Pragmatics and Neurolinguistics*



Photo: Hæge Hålteit



Speakers 2007

CSMN speakers in 2007, in alphabetical order. Of 101 speakers, 32 were women.

Adele A. Abrahamsen
Ingvild Almås
William Bechtel
Christian Beyer
John Bickle
Sigbjørn Birkeland
Fredrik Björklund
Eliza Block
Hilde Bojer
Lene Bomann-Larsen
Jonna Bornemark
Richard Breheny
Kjell-Arne Brekke
John Broome
Vivienne Brown
Alexander Cappelen
Robyn Carston
Sara Chant
Carl Craver
Sam Cumming
Fiery Cushman
John Drummond
Jakob Elster
Thomas Espeseth
Delia Graff Fara
Marco Faravelli
Kit Fine
Kjartan Fløgstad
Christel Fricke
Angela D. Friederici
Uta Frith
Chris Frith
Dagfinn Føllesdal
Øistein Schmidt Galaaen

Sonya Gzyl
Adrian Haddock
Peter Hagoort
Vidar Halvorsen
Marianne Nordli Hansen
Christoph Harbsmeier
Valerie Hardcastle
Karen Evelyn Hauge
John Hawthorne
Sara Heinämaa
Edmund Henden
Astri D. Hole
Laurence Horn
Jennifer Hornsby
Olof Johansson-Stenman
Chris Kennedy
James Konow
Peter Lamarque
Angela Leighton
Ernest Lepore
Øystein Linnebo
Peter Ludlow
Ofra Magidor
Genoveva Marti
Ronald McIntyre
Stephen Morse
Alistair Munro
Shaun Nichols
John Perry
Anders Pettersson
Henning Peucker
Emmanuel Picavet
Paul Pietroski
Wlodek Rabinowicz

Peter Railton
Bjørn Ramberg
Anna Christina Ribeiro
Øivind Rimbereid
Daniel Rothschild
Benjamin Russell
Douglas Saddy
Uli Sauerland
Jonathan Schaffer
Hans-Peter Schuett
Gabriel Segal
Peter Serck
Neil Smith
Benjamin Spector
Dan Sperber
Jason Stanley
Isidora Stojanovic
Johan Fredrik Storm
Jacqueline A. Sullivan
Erik Ø. Sørensen
Kenneth Taylor
Bertil Tungodden
Jean-Robert Tyran
Gabriel Uzquiano
Candace Vogler
Carola von Villiez
Sabine Wendhack
Robbie Williams
Timothy Williamson
Catherine Wilson
Deirdre Wilson
Marius Wulfsberg
Liane Young

Selected Talks outside CSMN 2007

- 02/07 Robyn Carston. Workshop on 'the roots of pragmasemantics'. Szklarska Poreba, Poland.
Some scalar "implicatures" are pragmatic lexical modulations affecting explicature
- 05/07 Herman Cappelen. Institut Jean-Nicod, Paris. *Against Assertion*
- 06/07 Herman Cappelen. Beijing Normal University, China. Summer School in Linguistic and Philosophy. *Five lectures on Assertion*
- 11/07 Herman Cappelen. Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro. *Lectures on agreement and shared content*
- 05/07 Robyn Carston. University of Essex. *Lexical pragmatics and scalar inference*
- 12/07 Robyn Carston. Workshop on Metaphor, Riga, Latvia. *Doing justice to the metaphor experience*
- 05/07 Christel Fricke. The Nordic Colloquium of Early Modern Philosophy, Oslo. *Adam Smith's Self*
- 09/07 Christel Fricke. Seminaret i Vitenskapsteori, Oslo. *Facts and Conventions in Moral Judgments*
- 10/07 Christel Fricke. Beitrag zur Tagung über Kant und die Zukunft der europäischen Aufklärung, Greifswald.
Wie passt der Mensch in die Welt?
- 11/07 Christel Fricke. Institut für Philosophie der Universität Essen. *Lernen, richtig zu fühlen. Über Adam Smith's Theorie der moralischen Erziehung*
- 11/07 Christel Fricke. University of Helsinki. *Adam Smith's Moral Psychology*
- 03/07 Olav Gjelsvik. Conference: Neuroethics and Empirical Moral Psychology, University of Oslo. *Value in Time*
- 11/07 Olav Gjelsvik. Workshop on Timothy Williamson's *The Philosophy of Philosophy*. Geneva. *Williamson on Reference*
- 05/07 Jennifer Hornsby. Conference on *Knowledge, Language, and Interpretation*.
On the Philosophy of Donald Davidson, Genoa, Italy. *Understanding and Shared Practice*
- 09/07 Jennifer Hornsby. Opening lecture to I.B.U. Conference on Agency and Responsibility, Indiana University. *The Nature of Action: Causing, not Causes*
- 11/07 Jennifer Hornsby. Workshop Knowledge: Themes from McDowell. University of Stirling. *Agents' Capacities and their Knowledge*



Photo: Hæge Håtveit

- 09/07 Raino Malnes. Seminaret i Vitenskapsteori, Oslo. *Er samfunnsvitenskap annerledes enn naturvitenskap?*
(Does Social science differ from Natural science?)
- 11/07 Raino Malnes. Seminaret i Vitenskapsteori, NTNU, Trondheim. *Er samfunnsvitenskap annerledes enn naturvitenskap?*
(Does Social science differ from Natural science?)
- 06/07 Deirdre Wilson. Relevance Round Table Meeting, Warsaw. *A deflationary account of metaphor*
- 06/07 Deirdre Wilson. Conference on 'Maitrise du français', Geneva. *Language, comprehension et communication: Pourquoi les locuteurs sont-ils des lecteurs de l'esprit?*
- 12/07 Deirdre Wilson. *Pragmatics and neurolinguistics workshop*, Aarhus.
Pragmatic processes and metarepresentational abilities: The case of verbal irony
- 12/07 Deirdre Wilson. Riga Workshop on Metaphor, Latvia. *Loose use, hyperbole and metaphor: A continuity account*

Accounts 2007

Revenues 2007 NOK

Revenues accounted for at CSMN

Host institution	1 000 000
Research Council Norway - CoE	4 750 000
Active partners (to be named)	0
International funding	0
Other public sources	0
Other private sources	0

Sum revenues accounted for at CSMN	5 750 000
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Revenues not accounted for at CSMN

Arche-Univ of St.Andrews	1 053 000
UiO staff contrubution (not accounted for)	2 036 000
RCN project: Shared Content	1 670 000
Other	0

Sum revenues not accounted for at CSMN	4 759 000
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Sum annual revenues 2007	10 509 000
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Initial finance plan stipulation	11 123 000
Deviation	-614 000
Transfer (+/-)	0

Sum revenues and transfers 2007	10 509 000
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Expenditures 2007 NOK

Expenditures accounted for at CSMN

Personnel and overhead	1 923 657
(Salaries and social costs)	1 521 523
Overhead	402 134
Consultants and ext. services (FoU)	297 339
Scientific equipment	315 949
Other operational costs	1 484 781

Sum expenditures accounted for at CSMN	4 021 726
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Expenditures not accounted for at CSMN

Personnel and overhead	4 559 000
(Salaries and social costs)	4 559 000
Overhead	
Consultants and ext. services (FoU)	
Scientific equipment	
Other operational costs	200 000

Sum expenditures not accounted for at CSMN	4 759 000
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Sum expenditures	8 780 726
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For transfer 2008 (+/-)	1 728 274
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Budget 2008

Revenues 2008 NOK

Revenues accounted for at CSMN

Host institution	4 207 500
Research Council Norway - CoE	9 500 000
Active partners (to be named)	0
International funding	0
Other public sources	0
Other private sources	0

Sum revenues accounted for at CSMN	13 707 500
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Revenues not accounted for at CSMN

Arche-Univ of St.Andrews	1 404 000
UiO staff contrubution (not accounted for)	5 149 500
RCN project: Shared Content	1 470 000
Other	0

Sum revenues not accounted for at CSMN	8 023 500
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Sum annual revenues 2008	21 731 000
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Initial finance plan stipulation	21 029 500
Deviation	701 500
Transfer (+/-)	1 728 274

Sum revenues and transfers 2007	23 459 274
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Expenditures 2008 NOK

Expenditures accounted for at CSMN

Personnel and overhead	8 399 972
(Salaries and social costs)	7 140 111
Overhead	1 259 861
Consultants and ext. services (FoU)	230 000
Scientific equipment	100 000
Other operational costs	5 322 499

Sum expenditures accounted for at CSMN	14 052 471
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Expenditures not accounted for at CSMN

Personnel and overhead	9 195 500
(Salaries and social costs)	7 979 500
Overhead	1 216 000
Consultants and ext. services (FoU)	0
Scientific equipment	0
Other operational costs	0

Sum expenditures not accounted for at CSMN	9 195 500
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Sum expenditures	23 247 971
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For transfer 2009 (+/-)	211 303
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CSMN structure

