

The Origins and Nature of Contentful Minds: Continuity, Transformation, Integration?



MONDAY 28 NOVEMBER

Research Hub, Building 19 – Room 2072

We are pleased to announce a workshop on issues of continuity, transformation and integration that will take place at the University of Wollongong on Monday November 28th. It is widely assumed that at least some cognitive beings are capable of thinking contentful thoughts – thoughts that refer to things beyond themselves and which can be true or false. Do contentful thoughts exist? If so, how can we account for their natural origins? Does explaining how they arose require special explanatory resources? Or are the seemingly distinctive properties of contentful best explained as more elaborate or complex versions of signaling systems of non-human animals? Does distinguishing between basic and non-basic forms of cognition entail any kind of problematic discontinuity thesis? Assuming such a distinction exists, to what extent does the emergence of contentful thought presuppose a radical transformation of more basic cognitive abilities? How might we understand such a transformation and how might it be explained? To what extent can basic and non-basic cognitive abilities be integrated, and how might we understand and explain such integration.



Program:

10-11AM Karola Stotz, Macquarie University

11-11.15AM Coffee Break

1.15AM-12.15PM ‘Continuity Scepticism in Doubt’, Daniel D. Hutto, UOW

12.30-1.30PM ‘Shared Agency and the Cooperative Evolutionary Hypothesis’, Glenda Satne, University of Wollongong, UAH

1.30-3PM Lunch

3-4PM ‘Does the evolved apprentice model remain in the zone of latent solutions?’, Tom Froese, National Autonomous University, Mexico.

4-4.15PM Coffee Break

4.15-5.15PM ‘The Origin of Content: Continuity and Transformation’, Richard Menary, Macquarie University.

5.15-5.30PM Coffee Break

5.30-6.30PM ‘From Implicit to explicit processing in phylogeny and ontogeny’, Philip Gerrans, University of Adelaide.

7.30PM Conference Dinner



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All are welcome to attend. There is no registration fee, but places may be limited due to restrictions on space. Please RSVP to gsatne@uow.edu.au to secure a place by using the subject line ‘Registration for CTI Workshop, 28 Nov 2016’.



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