

# Points of Contact between the Philosophy of Physics and the Philosophy of Biology

European Science Foundation Research Networking Program "The Philosophy of Science in a European Perspective"

Workshop, LSE, London, 13-15 December 2010

*Monday, 13 December*

13:45 Opening of the Workshop

## **Session 1: Laws and Causation**

14:00-15:00

Mauro Dorato (Rome 3): *Ceteris paribus* Laws in Physics and Biology

Commentary: Christian Sachse (Lausanne)

15:00-16:00

Michael Esfeld (Lausanne): Causal Realism

Commentary: Michael Baumgartner (Konstanz)

16:00-16:30 Coffee

16:30-17:30

Federica Russo (Kent): On Empirical Generalisations

Commentary: Sebastian Mateiescu (Bucharest/Utrecht)

*Tuesday, 14 December*

## **Session 2: Natural Kinds**

9:00-10:00

Alexander Bird (Bristol): Natural Kinds from Physics to Biology

Commentary: Sara Green (Århus)

10:00-11:00

Holger Lyre (Magdeburg): What Are Natural Kinds?

Commentary: Paul Hoyningen (LU Hannover)

11:00-11:30 Coffee

11:30-12:30

Michela Massimi (UCL): Natural Kinds and Conceptual Change: LaPorte on Incommensurability and Scientific Progress

Commentary: Hanne Andersen (Århus)

12:30-14:00 Lunch

### **Session 3: Essentialism, Reduction, and Realism**

14:00-15:00

Thomas Reydon (LU Hannover): Essentialism About Kinds: An Undead Issue in the Philosophies of Physics and Biology?

Commentary: Dennis Dieks (Utrecht)

15:00-16:00

Roman Frigg (LSE): Who's Afraid of Nagelian Reduction?

Commentary: Marie Isabel Kaiser (Münster)

16:00-16:30 Coffee

16:30-17:30

John Dupré (Exeter): Retrieving Processes from their Reduction to Things. Or, is Realism Possible in Biology or Physics?

Commentary: Charlotte Werndl (LSE)

### **Evening Lecture**

20:00-21:30

Steven French (Leeds): Shifting to Structures in Physics and Biology: A Prophylactic for Promiscuous Realism

*Wednesday, 15 December*

### **Session 4: Probability, Inference, and Experimentation**

9:00-10:00

Bengt Autzen (LSE): Prior Probabilities in Bayesian Phylogenetics

Commentary: Eric Raidl (IHPST Paris)

10:00-11:00

Marcel Weber (Konstanz): Theory Choice, Social Choice and Experimentation

Commentary: Meinard Kuhlmann (Bremen)

11:00-11:30 Coffee

11:30-12:30

Sabina Leonelli (Exeter): Understanding Data in the Digital Age, Or: the Experimental Context in Silico

Commentary: Miklos Redei (LSE)