

Editor's Introduction

Marta Jorba and Sergi Oms University of Barcelona

Disputatio Vol. 4, No. 30 May 2011

DOI: 10.2478/disp-2011-0001

ISSN: 0873-626X

Editor's Introduction

Marta Jorba and Sergi Oms University of Barcelona

This special issue of *Disputatio* has its origins in the thirteenth *Taller d'Investigació en Filosofia* (TIF) which took place from January 12th to 14th at the University of Barcelona. This annual conference was first held at the University of Barcelona in 1999, and each year it has been hosted by a different university: the Autonomous University of Barcelona, University of Barcelona, University of Girona, University Rovira i Virgili and University of València. The main distinguishing features of the TIF are its organization by a committee of graduate and postgraduate philosophers from the universities mentioned and the will to create a philosophy conference for students who are either doing their PhD or have read their thesis in the last three years. The initial objective of the TIF was to bring together graduate students from Catalan or Spanish universities in order to discuss their work; since then it has grown considerably, receiving participants from all Europe and, in the last few years, from all over the world.

The XIII TIF was held over three days and covered a wide range of topics: epistemology, philosophy of language, history of philosophy, aesthetics, philosophical logic and philosophy of mind. A remarkably large number of high quality submissions were received from many different universities, an indication of the recognition that the TIF currently enjoys.

This volume contains four of the ten papers presented in the conference. In 'Do honeybees have concepts?' Bernardo Aguilera, from the University of Sheffield, presents Peter Carruthers' version of the view that animals can think and argues that this view fails to provide convincing grounds for accepting concept possession in animals. He suggests that conceptual thought involves two constraints, namely, concept individuation and the generality constraint, which are not satisfied in Carruthers' account.

Marilia Espirito Santo, from the University Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, is the author of the paper 'On the transcendental deduction in Kant's *Groundwork* III'. She deals with the third section of Kant's *Groundwork*, which aims to prove the possibility of the categorical imperative. She presents the argument as a transcendental deduction and discusses Henry Allison's reconstruction of it, arguing that this reconstruction could not have been accepted by Kant himself.

In 'Might-counterfactuals and the principle of conditional excluded middle', Ivar Hannikainen, from the University of Sheffield, shows the compatibility of ontic might-counterfactuals and the principle of conditional excluded middle. He does so by arguing for the semantic underdetermination of the antecedent of a might-counterfactual with respect to the counterfactual worlds it selects for evaluation.

Thomas Raleigh, from the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), provides the paper 'Visual Experience and Demonstrative Thought', where he presents a problem for common-factor theories of experience concerning the account they give of demonstrative thought. Building an argument based on a claim by Snowdon 1992, he concludes that such theories are committed to attributing quite widespread referential errors or failures amongst the non-philosophical population. After addressing some possible objections, he argues that the argument applies to any common-factor theory.

This is the second time the contributions of speakers at TIF workshops have found their way to publication. Some of the papers from the twelfth edition were edited by Mireia López and published in *Theoria. An international Journal for Theory, History and Foundations of Science* in 2010, vol. 25, 2. We wish to thank her for her bold decision to publish the proceedings of this conference in a philosophy journal. Her success in doing so and our desire to continue the tradition, led us to take on the present project.

We are indebted to many people. We would like to thank Miguel Ángel Sebastián, who co-organized the conference with us, for all his efforts to ensure that the conference was a success. We also acknowledge the contributions of all the people who have been in the TIF since its foundation in 1999 — the organizing and scientific committees and the participants in the workshop in previous years — who helped to create a highly supportive atmosphere. Our special thanks go to this year's scientific committee, for agreeing to assess the high volume of submissions we received, and, in some cases, for their kindness in reviewing extra papers. Thank you to all the members of LOGOS for giving support and continuity to this graduate conference and for their readiness to help. We also appreciate the commitment

of all the speakers and commentators at the conference, who contributed to the lively philosophical atmosphere over the three days. Special thanks go to the contributors of this issue for agreeing to cooperate in the project and for their patience. We also acknowledge the valuable comments of the reviewers which helped to improve the papers presented in this volume.

This conference received financial support from the following organisms, which we are also pleased to acknowledge: the LOGOS group (Logic, Language and Cognition Research Group), the Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Barcelona, the University of Barcelona and the Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation.

We would like to conclude thanking the editorial committee of *Disputatio*, and Teresa Marques in particular, for their willingness to publish this issue.