



Cognitive Futures in the Humanities
Helsinki 2016

Newsletter
April 2016

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Editorial

In this issue...

Dear participants,

Welcome to the second installment of our Cognitive Futures in the Humanities newsletter! This time, we continue our keynote interviews, present an overview of the preliminary programme, a brief note on practicalities, some suggestions for a pleasant time in Helsinki and a reminder that early-bird registration ends on 30 April and the registration fees will then increase.

In our Meet the Keynote Speakers section, Peter Garratt answers questions on the situatedness of literature and the development of cognitive humanities since his groundbreaking AHRC project in 2011, among other things.

We also include the preliminary programme for the conference. We have attempted to accommodate all scheduling request that have come in so far. The programme is still subject to change. Please have a look and let us know if anything seems to be amiss!

In our Helsinki sights column we have included things to see and experience that give a feel of Helsinki even to a conference-goer on a tight schedule.

As always, if you have any inquiries, contact your ever-faithful coordinator without hesitation (esko.suoranta@helsinki.fi). See you soon in summery Helsinki!

Best wishes,
Karin, Merja and Esko

Meet the Keynote Speakers:**Peter Garratt**

What do the disciplinary connections inherent in the field of cognitive humanities mean to you? How do you engage with these different methods of research and different forms of knowledge in your work?

There is so much one could say here so I'll restrict myself to the thought that working with different forms of knowledge – different disciplines – can also mean working directly with other people. Networks and collaborations involve specific interpersonal dynamics and dynamism. And I say this to recognise a relationship between 'disciplinary connections' and the embodied interactions that service them.

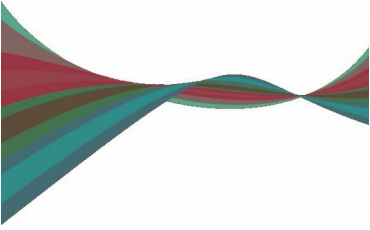
My most intellectually stimulating research has arisen recently from working with others in a group, from the arts, sciences and philosophy, and over a relatively long period. Two of my Durham colleagues, Marco Bernini and Angela Woods, have written recently about the need for a model of interdisciplinarity that recognises the situated and embodied and social features of research collaborations. The extended mind hypothesis, they propose, provides a relevant theoretical framework here. And this seems right, in the sense that the practice of interdisciplinarity has a strongly embodied character. Collaborations are concrete affairs. They occupy certain spaces, depend on norms of interacting, involve various genres of presentation (the 20-min paper, a roundtable, breakout groups, etc.),

and such conditions structure the expectations and effects of collaborative projects.

A two-day workshop, say, may enjoy productive animations (leading to 'next steps' or some agreed picture of progress) but it will feature other effects that fall outside this functional characterisation (such as feelings of frustration, trust or pleasure, or unspoken limits on the sayable, or unexpected offshoot discussions) but which nonetheless make up the full, dense reality of the endeavour. One could go further and say that these embodied dynamics give rise to, or demand, an ethics of interdisciplinarity.

The historical and cultural situatedness of literature has become a hot topic in the cognitive humanities. How have you dealt with this issue in your work? Can one strike a balance between cognitive universality and sociohistorical particulars?

I happen not to be especially interested in, and probably instinctively wary of, universality – as an assumed feature of what we're interested in knowing, or as a goal of enquiry. In saying this, I don't mean to be either obtuse or unwisely critical of the excellent work of someone like Patrick Colm Hogan on universals, which has illustrated one way of conversing with concerns like ideology and identity. But what do you mean by 'cognitive universality'? I wonder if posing the universal/historical as a 'balance' or trade-off or tension or negotiated story, and so on, will help to advance the field so much as lock it into a limiting discussion. It's a conventional opposition which seems to



fall into a familiar trend of dichotomisation – i.e. it's like culture/biology again – which hopefully the cognitive humanities has disrupted and/or moved beyond.

It's not hard to identify where this started. Cognitive approaches to literature were motivated to some extent by dissatisfaction with the linguistic idealism of high theory, while resistance to universality became a given for an increasingly historicist literary and cultural studies. But more recent thinking in the philosophy of biology and in related areas of 4E cognitive science (e.g. on niche construction, reciprocal causation, autopoiesis and so on) may elicit interesting alternative avenues for us to explore, if the old logic is to be overcome.

Cognitive Futures in the Humanities started with your AHRC project in 2011. What do you think about the development of the field since? Where do you see it going in the future?

As my last point gives away, I do find the 4E picture especially interesting. This is the area engaged with by many of the essays in a new volume I've edited, *The Cognitive Humanities: Embodied Mind in Literature and Culture* (out later this year). But a point to underline is that an important feature of the cognitive humanities (for me, at least) involves looking beyond the horizons of debates already configured and regulated from within the cognitive sciences, creating new terms of reference for different types of conversations that have begun to happen and can continue liberally unfolding, as opposed to adding to

what goes on already. The aim for a cultural theorist or literary critic who comments on Clark's and Chalmers's thought experiment of Otto and Inga should not be to inch closer to resolving the mark of the cognitive, for example. Without licensing weak or woolly appropriations of concepts from outside the arts and humanities, it is probably true that the extended mind view, say, will begin to take on an altered appearance or even become something different once granted an existence outside the constraints of the philosophical and scientific systems that articulate it.

Concepts change as they migrate, as they become integrated with other systems of understanding and regimes of knowledge, and a liberal position on interdisciplinary dynamics would do well not to be purist here and hence abandon the pursuit of concepts in a fixed or pristine form. In general, I wouldn't like to think that the future meant refining formalised principles or method at the expense of improvisation and exploration. That's my attitude to whatever's next in one sense.

In another more practical sense, there is an incredible appetite for future events and a widening network (several future conferences are planned) and some level of network organisation would no doubt be helpful. Helsinki is the latest example of this appetite, and like everyone else I'm very grateful for all the work you're putting into hosting the conference in June!

Preliminary Programme OverviewSunday 12th June

10.00 – 17.00	Pre-conference workshop (Helsinki Collegium for Advanced Studies) with Anne Mangen and Caroline Bassett (for selected participants only)
17.00 – 19.00	Pre-conference reception (Helsinki Collegium for Advanced Studies) – with registration desk

Monday 13th June

9.00 - 10.00	Coffee and registration				
10.00 -10.15	Welcome				
10.15 – 11.15	Keynote Lecture: Deirdre Wilson				
11.30 – 13.00	Parallel panel sessions				
	Emotion, Cognition, Text 1 Anne Päivärinta Minna Jaakola (+ Tiina Onikki-Rantajääskö) Saija Isomaa Riikka Rossi	Cognitive Mediation Yanna Popova Stephan Besser Jeremy Scott	Empirical Aesthetics 1 Christine A. Knoop Ilona Roth Alaina Schempp	Learning Processes Brad Bolman + Rennie Pasquinelli Maya Murphy Gábor Simon	Cognitive Repertoires Ancuta-Maria Mortu Erika Fülöp Alberto Godioli
13.00 -14.15	Lunch				
14.15 – 15.45	Parallel panel sessions				
	Emotion, Cognition, Text 2 Elise Nykänen Laura Visapää Ilona Tragel + Jane Klavan Maria Mäkelä	Object Relations Isabelle Wentworth Teemu Paavolainen Erwin Feyersinger Caroline Shields	Empirical Aesthetics 2 Cody Mejeur Félix Schoeller Pascal Nicklas	Theatre, Dance, and Cognition Amy Cook Edward C. Warburton Rhonda Blair	Temporality and Consciousness John Lutterbie John Rickard Richard Ruppel
15.45 – 16.15	Coffee				
16.15 – 17.45	Parallel panel sessions				
	Emotional Entanglement with Fiction Laura Quinney William Flesch Karin Kukkonen Blakey Vermeule	Text, Body and Technology Matt Hayler Diogo Marques Ana Marques da Silva	The Cognitive and Emotional Processes of Real Readers 1 Roel Willems Howard Sklar Stefan Blohm	Words, Sounds, Music Panu Heimonen David R. Gruber Ivan Delazari	Self and Language: New Perspectives Simon Kemp Kay Young Sowon S. Park
18.00 – 19.00	Keynote Lecture: Peter Garratt				
19.15	Helsinki University Rector's Reception				

Tuesday 14th June

8.00 - 9.00	Registration				
9.00 – 10.00	Keynote Lecture: Pirjo Lyytikäinen				
10.00- 10.30	Coffee				
10.30 – 12.00	Parallel panel sessions				
	Disgust Scott Harshbarger Sabina Omerhodzic Nathalie Schwering	Kinesis in Literature and Art 1 Laura Seymour Daniel Irving Ellen Spolsky	The Cognitive and Emotional Processes of Real Readers 2 Eugen Wassiliwizky Marion Behrens Willie van Peer	Mind Wandering in Theory and Practice 1 Felicity Callard + Hazel Morrison Des Fitzgerald Mary Robson	Problems and Politics of Cognitivist Approaches to Text Analysis Teemu Ikonen Samuli Björninen Tytti Rantanen
12.00 -13.15	Lunch				
13.15 – 14.15	Keynote Lecture: Jean-Marie Schaeffer				
14.30 – 15.30	Reflective Roundtable				
15.30 – 16.00	Coffee				
16.00 – 17.30	Parallel panel sessions				
	Affect, Empathy, Entrainment Julien Simon Nicola Shaughnessy Robert Shaughnessy	Kinesis in Literature and Art 2 Kathryn Banks Raphael Lyne Guillemette Bolens	Social Metacognition Iida Pöllänen Kate Costello Tommi Kakko	Mind Wandering in Theory and Practice 2 Marco Bernini Hilary Powell James Wilkes	Disciplinary Trajectories 1 Selena Erkizan Monika Jaeckel Katarzyna Kaczmarczyk
19.00 – 22.00	Dinner Restaurant Meripaviljonki				

Wednesday 15th June

9.00 – 10.00	Keynote Lecture: Anne Mangen				
10.00 – 10.30	Coffee				
10.30 – 12.00	Parallel panel sessions				
	Historicising Affect Brook Miller Mark Pizzato Isabel Jaén Michael Baker	Gesture and Intersubjectivity Renate Brosch Naomi Rokotnitz BA Harrington	Construction and Representation of Self Miranda Anderson (+Shaun Gallagher) Bo Pettersson Csenge Eszter Aradi	Fictional Spaces Alexa Weik von Mossner David Rodriguez Marco Caracciolo	Disciplinary Trajectories 2 Ben Morgan Liesbeth Korthals Altes Denis Akhapiin
12.00 - 13.15	Lunch				
13.15-14.45	Parallel panel sessions				
	Problems and Niche Solutions Michael Wheeler John Sutton Lorenzo Bartalesi Kristina Penna	Second-Generation Readings of Fictional Humans, Objects and Environments Essi Varis Anna Ovaska Laura Oulanne Kaisa Kortekallio	Minds and Media Ella Lillqvist + Anu Harju Lyubov Bugaeva Henry Bacon	E4 for 4E Dorys Calvert + José Otávio Pompeu e Silva	Multimodal Nature of Creativity: Janet Blatter Nadra Assaf Irina Ubozhenko BA Harrington(discussant)
15.00-16.00	Conference postmortem and future planning				

Practical Details

Length of Presentations

The conference sessions have either three or four speakers. If you are scheduled in a session with three papers, your presentation should take 20 minutes and leave 10 minutes for discussion. In four-person sessions the presentations should take 15 minutes. Each session will have a chairperson responsible for keeping time and guiding the discussion.

AV Equipment

All conference rooms are equipped with a computer and projector for a standard Powerpoint-style presenting. If you plan to present with more aids than that (e.g. sound, video), do get in touch and we can make sure that all necessary equipment is present and functional.

When in Helsinki

Helsinki is definitely one of the coziest capitals of the Baltic and especially inviting during the short (but sweet!) Finnish summer. You can reach the sights listed below on a stroll around town or within easy distance from the conference venue. If you have more time in your hands, the www.visithelsinki.fi site is a great resource for activities, sights, and events.

Suomenlinna Sea Fortress

One of the busiest tourist attractions, the Suomenlinna Sea Fortress rest on a series of small islands just outside the Helsinki harbor. In addition to the historical fortifications that have protected Helsinki from naval invasion since the 18th century, it also houses museums, restaurants, a brewery, an historical submarine open for visitors, a lighthouse-cum-church, as well as some 800 residents. Admission is free and a quick ferry leaves from Kauppatori at public transportation prices (around EUR 5 for a round trip). More information at <http://www.suomenlinna.fi/en/>.

Sightseeing Cruises

Several companies offer guided sightseeing cruises around the shores of the city that give an insight into Helsinki's maritime character. Most trips depart from centrally located Kauppatori. More information can be found here <http://www.visithelsinki.fi/en/whats-on/sightseeing-trips-and-guidances/excursions-at-sea-near-helsinki>.

The National Library

A newly renovated gem of Helsinki's neoclassical empire centre, the National Library stands next to the University Main Building at Unioninkatu 36. Built in 1840, it is guaranteed to impress bibliophiles and architecture buffs alike. Admission is free of charge but bags, coats, and water bottles must be left in the garderobe downstairs. More information at <http://kansalliskirjasto.fi/en>.

Hours: Mon-Fri 9-20, Sat 9-16

Hakaniemi Market Hall

A quaint landmark on the Hakaniemi square, a stone's throw from both the conference venue and most accommodation, this red brick building is home to dozens of booths offering everything from seafood, cheese, and pastries to Finnish arts and crafts. The atmosphere is genuine old Helsinki and any savoury souvenirs one could wish for can be found within. For lunch, we recommend the Soppakeittiö bouillabaisse, served daily due to high demand.

Hours: Mon-Fri 8-18, Sat 8-16

Reminder: Deadline for Payments at Reduced Fee

Please note that registration payments at the 'early-bird' full fee (EUR 150) must be initiated on or before April 30th. Please register as soon as possible and take steps to organise your payment. After April 30th, the full registration fee will increase to EUR 200. The postgraduate fee will remain unchanged.

The registration form can be found at
<http://blogs.helsinki.fi/coghum-2016/registration/>.

After you have registered, coordinator Esko Suoranta will be in touch with the relevant payment information.

Fees:

Full fee (until April 30th): 150 €

Late fee (after April 30th until June 6th): 200 €

Reduced postgraduate fee: 100 €

Conference dinner at Restaurant Meripaviljonki (June 14th): 55 €