

Over the last two decades, cognitive sciences, as well as human sciences in general, have witnessed a considerable paradigm shift with regard to their outlook on the nature of mind, cognition, perception and action. The traditional computation-based cognitivist outlook on the nature of cognition and functioning of the central nervous system has been gradually surpassed by 'pragmatically-oriented' approaches to the study of cognition and action.

In their search for philosophical justification of such a paradigm shift, cognitive scientists of the new wave as well as certain philosophers of mind have turned their attention to existential phenomenology and also to classical American pragmatism (Peirce, James, Dewey, Mead). Although there are considerable differences in how Peirce, James, Dewey, and Mead understood the mind, their common ground seems to lie in the belief that mind and consciousness are to be explained in terms of action. For the pragmatists, mind and cognition are 'servants' of action, not the other way around.

The conference titled 'Pragmatism and Embodied Cognitive Science' aims to scrutinize the outcomes of the interaction between different facets of the mind-research and the philosophy of pragmatism. More precisely, we will discuss the contributions made by the pragmatists to new understanding of phenomena like emotions, perception, action, cognition, etc. We will also address the prospects, challenges and limitations which pragmatically-oriented research in cognitive sciences might face in the future.

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## Tuesday, 26 May 2015

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09.30 h Conference Registration

### 10.00 h Welcome and Introductory Remarks

Prof. Dr. Felix Hampe (Vice-President of the University Koblenz-Landau)

Prof. Dr. Matthias Jung (Chair for Moral Philosophy, Executive Director of the Philosophy Department, University Koblenz-Landau)

Session one (10.15 - 12.00 h)

*Why it has to be Pragmatism*  
(Chair: Roman Madzia)

### Keynote address: Pragmatist Cognitive Science

Mark Johnson (University of Oregon, USA)

### Why it has to be Pragmatism? Marrying the Study of Cognition and Philosophical Reflection

Erkki Kilpinen (University of Helsinki, Finland)

12.00 h Lunch

Session two (13.30 - 15.00 h)

*Pragmatism and Systems Theory*  
(Chair: Matthias Jung)

### Conceptions of Cognition: From William James to Predictive Coding

Lena Kästner (Humboldt University Berlin, Germany)

### The Embodied 'We': The Extended Mind as Cognitive Sociology

Teed Rockwell (Sonoma State University, USA)

15.00 h Coffee break

Session three (15.30 - 17.00 h)

*George Herbert Mead as a Philosopher of Embodied Mind*  
(Chair: Jörg Fingerhut)

### Mind, Symbol, and Action-Prediction: George H. Mead and the Embodied Roots of Language

Roman Madzia (University Koblenz-Landau, Germany)

### Sympathy and Empathy. Mead and the Pragmatist Basis of Neuroeconomics

Guido Baggio (Pontifical Salesian University, Italy)

Cultural Program (19.00 - onwards)

*Welcome Dinner at Gerhards Genussgesellschaft*

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## Wednesday, 27 May 2015

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Session one (9.30 - 11.00 h)

*Pragmatism, Cognitives Science and (Material) Culture*  
(Chair: Erkki Kilpinen)

### What Our Interactions with Artefacts Can Tell us about Our Mind

Jörg Fingerhut (University of Stuttgart, Germany)

### Recovering Philosophy from Cognitive Science: Some Consequences of Embodiment

Tibor Solymosi (Mercyhurst University, USA)

11.00 h Coffee break

Session two (11.30 - 13.00 h)

*Where to Find the Mind? Pragmatism and Cognitive Extension*  
(Chair: Rebekka Hufendiek)

### Pragmatism, Phenomenology, and the Extended Cognition

Anthony Chemero (University of Cincinnati, USA)

### Pragmatism, Embodiment, and Extension

Joshua A. Skorburg (University of Oregon, USA)

13.00 h Lunch

Session three (14.30 - 16.45 h)

*Cognition and Action in Individual and Social Contexts*  
(Chair: Joshua August Skorburg)

### How Visuomotor Neurons Make our World Ready to Hand

Gabrielle Ferretti (University of Urbino, Italy)

### How Do You Do? An Embodied, Action-Oriented Approach to Emotions

Rebekka Hufendiek (University of Basel, Switzerland)

### The Pragmatic and Embodied Origins of Apprenticeship

Bill Bywater (Allegheny College, USA)

Cultural Program (18.00 h - onwards)

*Visiting the city of Koblenz, dining together possible*

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## Thursday, 28 May 2015

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Session one (9.30 - 11.00 h)

*Peirce and Embodiment*  
(Chair: Tibor Solymosi)

### Peirce on Abduction and Embodiment

Tullio Viola (Humboldt University Berlin, Germany)

### Peirce's Mediation: A Rich Philosophical Contribution to Embodied Cognition Studies

Isabel Victoria Galleguillos Jungk / Patricia Fonseca Fanaya  
(Pontifical Catholic University of Sao Paulo, Brazil)

11.00 h Coffee break

Session two (11.30 - 13.00 h)

*Dewey, James, and the Embodied Mind*  
(Chair: Anthony Chemero)

### Dewey, Enactivism, and Greek Thought

Matthew Crippen (American University in Cairo, Egypt)

### Feeling As the Force Dynamics of Thought: The Role of Feeling in the Jamesian Stream of Thought

Ling Zhu (Berlin University of the Arts, Germany)

13.00 h Lunch

Session three (14.30 - 16.00 h)

*Pragmatism and Cognitive Science: Prospects and Perspectives*  
concluding discussion panel  
(Chair: Roman Madzia)

Panelists: Mark Johnson, Anthony Chemero, Matthias Jung, Teed Rockwell, Tibor Solymosi, Jörg Fingerhut

Official end of the conference

Cultural Program (18.00 - onwards)

*Wine tasting on bank of the Moselle river*

## Conference Organisation

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## Conference Location

University Koblenz-Landau  
Universitätsstr. 1  
D 238-239  
56070 Koblenz

## Conference homepage

<http://userpages.uni-koblenz.de/~pragmacogsci/>

## 26 May 2015: Welcome Dinner

Gerhards Genussgesellschaft  
Danziger Freiheit 3 (im Blumenhof)  
56068 Koblenz

## 28 May 2015: Wine tasting

Weingut Schwaab  
In der Laach 93  
56072 Koblenz



## Pragmatism and Embodied Cognitive Science



26 – 28 May 2015

University Koblenz-Landau  
D 238-239

Front Page Illustration:  
BrandiDixon,  
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Design/ Layout: Marion Steinicke