



Types of Explanation in the Special Sciences – The Case of Biology and History

Workshop organized by the Research Group
"Causality, Laws, Dispositions, and Explanation at the Intersection of
Science and Metaphysics"

Cologne, 30/09 – 03/10/2010

Schedule

Thursday, 30/09

- 14:00-14:15 Welcome
- 14:15-14:55 **Stuart Glennan** (Butler University Indianapolis): *Ephemeral Mechanisms in Natural and Human History*
- 14:55-15:05 Comment by **Andreas Hüttemann** (University of Cologne)
- 15:05-15:45 Discussion (Chair: Markus Stepanians)
- 15:45-16:15 Coffee Break
- 16:15- 16:55 **Carol Cleland** (University of Colorado): *Epistemic and Methodological Differences between Historical Science and Experimental Science*
- 16:55-16:05 Comment by **Markus Schrenk** (University of Cologne)
- 16:05-17:45 Discussion (Chair: Markus Stepanians)

Friday, 01/10

- 10:00-10:40 **Ulrich Krohs** (University of Bielefeld): *Semantic Explanation in the Biological Sciences*
- 10:40-10:50 Comment by **Marie I. Kaiser** (University of Cologne)
- 10:50-11:30 Discussion (Chair: Markus Schrenk)
- 11:30-11:45 Coffee Break
- 11:45- 11:25 **Alan Love** (University of Minnesota): *Models of Time for Reductive Explanations in Experimental Biology*
- 11:25-12:35 Comment by **Siegfried Roth** (University of Cologne)
- 12:35-13:15 Discussion (Chair: Markus Schrenk)

- 13:15-14:45 Lunch Break
- 14:45-15:25 **Peter McLaughlin** (University of Heidelberg): ***What Does Natural Selection Explain?***
- 15:25-15:35 Comment by **Gerhard Müller-Strahl** (Westfälische Wilhelms-University Münster)
- 15:35-16:15 Discussion (Chair: Andreas Hüttemann)
- 16:15-16:45 Coffee Break
- 16:45- 17:25 **Patrick Forber** (Tufts University): ***The Importance of Explaining How Possible***
- 17:25-17:35 Comment by **Thomas Reydon** (University of Hannover)
- 17:35-18:15 Discussion (Chair: Andreas Hüttemann)

19:30 Dinner

Saturday, 02/10

- 10:00-10:40 **Aviezer Tucker** (Charles University Prague): ***It's of the Evidence, Not the Events: Explanation in the Historical Sciences***
- 10:40-10:50 Comment by **Oliver Scholz** (Westfälische Wilhelms-University Münster)
- 10:50-11:30 Discussion (Chair: David Hommen)
- 11:30-11:45 Coffee Break
- 11:45- 11:25 **Stephan Berry** (Freelance Science Writer): ***Late Roman Decadence and beyond: Explaining Roman History***
- 11:25-12:35 Comment by **Daniel Plenge** (Westfälische Wilhelms-University Münster)
- 12:35-13:15 Discussion (Chair: David Hommen)
- 13:15-14:45 Lunch Break
- 14:45-15:25 **Michael Schmid** (formerly University of the Federal Armed Forces [Munich]): ***The Logic of Mechanismic Explanations in the Social Sciences***
- 15:25-15:35 Comment by **Daniel Plenge** (Westfälische Wilhelms-University Münster)
- 15:35-16:15 Discussion (Chair: Alexander Reutlinger)

18:00 Guided tour

Sunday, 03/10

- 10:00-10:40 **Doris Gerber** (University of Tübingen): ***Causal Explanation and Historical Meaning: How to Solve the Problem of the Specific Historical Relation between Events***
- 10:40-10:50 Comment by **Dieter Birnbacher** (Heinrich-Heine-University Düsseldorf)
- 10:50-11:30 Discussion (Chair: Marie I. Kaiser)
- 11:30-11:45 Coffee Break

11:45- 11:25 **Michael Strevens** (New York University): ***Explanatory Autonomy and Explanatory Irreducibility***
11:25-12:35 Comment by **Alexander Reutlinger** (University of Cologne)
12:35-13:15 Discussion (Chair: Marie I. Kaiser)