Danish National Research Foundation: Center for Subjectivity Research

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Annual report: January 1 - December 31, 2010

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1a. Højdepunkter

Centeret er et tværvidenskabeligt "Center of excellence" finansieret af Danmarks Grundforskningsfond med supplerende støtte fra Københavns Universitet (Det Humanistiske Fakultet, Det Teologiske Fakultet, Det Sundhedsvidenskabelige Fakultet). Centerets aktuelle forskningsprogram som løber i perioden 1.3.2007-28.2.2012 bærer titlen "The Self: an integrative approach".

I løbet af 2010 har centeret organiseret, medorganiseret og/eller medfinansieret 16 konferencer og workshops (med mere end 107 talere), arrangeret 8 individuelle gæsteforelæsninger med inviterede foredragsholdere, haft besøg af 12 gæsteforskere. Centerets medarbejdere har publiceret 87 bøger og artikler, og holdt 78 foredrag og gæsteforelæsninger i Canada, Kroatien, Denmark, Finland, Frankrig, Tyskland, Ungarn, Indien, Irland, Italien, Holland, Portugal, Slovenien, Spanien, Schweiz, Storbritannien og USA. Centerets interdisciplinære møder har haft deltagelse af udenlandske PhD studerende fra Østrig, Belgien, Kina, Estland, Frankrig, Tyskland, Ungarn, Italien, Holland, Norge, Portugal, Spanien, Sverige, Storbritannien og USA.

Blandt de konferencer og workshops som Centeret har organiseret i 2010, kan de følgende fire fremhæves som havende tiltrukket særlig stor international opmærksomhed.

18.-19. Marts: Phenomenology and religious life

23.-27. August: Copenhagen Summer School in Phenomenology and Philosophy of Mind

14.-16. November: *Brain and Self* 2.-3. December: *Shame and Self*

Blandt centerets mange 2010 publikationer kan følgende særligt fremhæves:

- Grammont, F., Legrand, D., Livet, P. (eds.): *Naturalizing Intention in Action*. Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press, 2010. (pp. 352).
- Gangopadhyay, N., Madary, M, Spicer, F. (eds.): *Perception, action, and consciousness: Sensorimotor dynamics and two visual systems.* Oxford: Oxford University Press. 2010. (pp. 322).
- Welz, C.: Vertrauen und Versuchung (Religion in Philosophy and Theology 51). Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck. 2010. (pp. 290).
- Grøn, A., Welz, C. (eds.): *Trust, Sociality, Selfhood (Religion in Philosophy and Theology 52).* Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2010. (pp.232).
- Overgaard, S.: "On the Looks of Things." Pacific Philosophical Quarterly 91, 2010, 260-284.
- Zahavi, D.: "Empathy, Embodiment and Interpersonal Understanding: From Lipps to Schutz." *Inquiry* 53/3, 2010, 285-306.
- Cermolacce, M., Sass, L., Parnas, J.: "What is bizarre in bizarre delusions? A critical review." Schizophrenia Bulletin 36/4, 2010, 667-679.

I løbet af 2010, forsvarede en af centerets PhD studerende succesfuldt sin PhD afhandling: Line Ryberg Ingerslev: *Expressivity and Social Experience*

Andrea Raballo, en anden af centerets PhD studerende, vandt the *European Psychatric Association's Research Prize 2010* i kategorien "Clinical Psychopathology and refinement of psychiatric diagnostic categories."

Claudia Welz, en af centerets postdocs, søgte med succes et MSO professorat i Systematisk Teologi ved *Det Teologiske Fakultet*, Københavns Universitet.

1b. Highlights

The Center is an interdisciplinary "Center of Excellence" funded by the Danish National Research Foundation, with supplementary funding from the University of Copenhagen (Faculty of Humanities, Faculty of Theology and Faculty of Health Sciences). The current research program of the Center, which runs from March 1, 2007 – February 28, 2012, is entitled "The Self: An Integrative Approach".

During 2010 the Center organized, co-organized, and/or co-sponsored 16 conferences and workshops (with more than 107 speakers), gave 78 invited lectures, hosted 8 individual guest lectures by invited speakers, and had 12 visiting researchers. The staff of the Center published 87 books and articles, and presented papers in Canada, Croatia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, UK, and USA. The Center's interdisciplinary meetings have attracted foreign PhD students from Austria, Belgium, China, Estonia, France, Germany Hungary, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, UK, and USA.

Among the conferences and workshops organized by the Center in 2010, the following four might be singled out as having attracted particular attention in terms of international attendance:

March 18-19: Phenomenology and religious life

August 23-27: Copenhagen Summer School in Phenomenology and Philosophy of Mind

November 14-16: Brain and Self December 2-3: Shame and Self

Among the Center's many 2010 publications one might highlight the following:

- Grammont, F., Legrand, D., Livet, P. (eds.): Naturalizing Intention in Action. Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press, 2010. (pp. 352).
- Gangopadhyay, N., Madary, M, Spicer, F. (eds.): *Perception, action, and consciousness: Sensorimotor dynamics and two visual systems.* Oxford: Oxford University Press. 2010. (pp. 322).
- Welz, C.: Vertrauen und Versuchung (Religion in Philosophy and Theology 51). Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck. 2010. (pp. 290).
- Grøn, A., Welz, C. (eds.): Trust, Sociality, Selfhood (Religion in Philosophy and Theology 52). Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2010. (pp.232).
- Overgaard, S.: "On the Looks of Things." Pacific Philosophical Quarterly 91, 2010, 260-284.
- Zahavi, D.: "Empathy, Embodiment and Interpersonal Understanding: From Lipps to Schutz." *Inquiry* 53/3, 2010. 285-306.
- Cermolacce, M., Sass, L., Parnas, J.: "What is bizarre in bizarre delusions? A critical review." *Schizophrenia Bulletin* 36/4, 2010, 667-679.

During 2010, one of the Center's PhD students successfully defended her thesis: Line Rybergs Ingerslev: *Expressivity and Social Experience*.

Andrea Raballo, another of the Center's PhD students won the European Psychatric Association's Research Prize 2010 in the category "Clinical Psychopathology and refinement of psychiatric diagnostic categories."

Claudia Welz, one of the Center's post.docs, successfully applied for a MSO professorship in Systematic Theology at the Faculty of Theology, University of Copenhagen.

2. Staff

Director

· Professor, dr.phil., PhD, Dan Zahavi, Director

Scientific personnel

- Professor, dr.theol., Arne Grøn
- Professor, dr.med., Josef Parnas
- Post.doc., PHD, Nivedita Gangopadhyay (since 15.02.2010)
- Assistant Professor, PhD, Thor Grünbaum
- Post.doc., PhD, Joel Krueger
- Post.doc., PhD, Kasper Lysemose
- Post.doc., PhD, Carsten Fogh Nielsen
- Post.doc., PhD, Søren Overgaard
- Post.doc., PhD, Claudia Welz (until 31.05.2010)

PhD students (all are enrolled at the University of Copenhagen)

- Cand.mag., Christian Beenfeldt (until 31.01.2010)
- MA, Wenjing Cai
- Cand.scient.soc., Gry Ardal Christensen
- M.Phil., Johan Peter Gersel
- Mag.art., Johan Eckart Hansen (until 28.02.2010)
- Mag.art., Mads Gram Henriksen
- Cand.mag., Line Ryberg Ingerslev (until 28.02.2010)
- MD, Andrea Raballo

Administrative personnel

- Merete Lynnerup, administrator
- Rasmus Riis, student assistant (until 28.02.2010)
- Simon Høffding, student assistant (since 01.05.2010)
- Tinna Kryger, student assistant (to 30.04.2010)

Others

- Research assistant, PhD, Line Ryberg Ingerslev (since 15.09.2010)
- Research assistant, Cand.mag., Kristian Moltke Martiny (01.05-30.11.2010)
- Academic staff, Cand.mag., Rasmus Riis (02.03-30.04.2010)

Visiting professor

Anthony Steinbock, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, USA (02.03.2010-31.03.2010)

Visiting researchers

- Dorothée Legrand, CNRS Researcher, CREA (Centre de Recherche en Epistémologie Appliquée), Paris (15.04.2010 15.05.2010)
- Frank Esken, Hanse-Wissenschaftskolleg, Institute for Advanced Study, Germany (20.01.2010-28.02.2010)
- Gregory De Vleeschouwer, H.I.W., K.U.Leuven, Belgium (01.02.2010-28.02.2010)
- Guillaume Fréchette, University of Quebec, Montreal, Canada (15.11.2010 15.12.2010)
- Hengwei Li, Center for the Study of Language and Cognition, Zhejiang University. China (09.11.2009-07.07.2010)
- Hillel Braude, McGill University, Montreal, Canada (23.8.2010 30.11.2010)
- Somogy Varga, Institut für Sozialforschung, Frankfurt am Main, Germany (2010)
- Wolfgang Fasching, Institut f
 ür Philosophie, Universit
 ät Wien, Austria (02.03.2010-31.03.2010)

Visiting PhD students

- Alisa Mandrigin, The University of Edinburgh, Scotland (03.05.2010 22.06.2010)
- Marta Jorba Grau, University of Barcelona, Spain (14.01.2010-30.06.2010)
- Sanneke de Haan, University of Heidelberg, Germany (09.03.2010 31.05.2010)

3. Research

Hillel Braude, MBBcH PhD. During his visit to CFS, Hillel has primarily conducted research in phenomenology and neuropsychology of emotion and affect in relation to research ethics. Following his exchange visit Hillel returned to McGill University to continue a postdoctoral fellowship in Religion and Bioethics.

Wenjing Cai has mainly been working on her doctoral thesis on the problem of reflection in the phenomenological tradition.

Sanneke de Haan has been visiting the Center from March till the end of May 2010. During her stay, she has been writing on her PhD, which investigates the mutual benefits of combining an enactive and existential approach to psychiatry – as demonstrated on the paradigm case of schizophrenia.

Gregory De Vleeschouwer was a visiting researcher at the Centre from February 1 till February 28. During his visit, he elaborated on the results of his PhD, which was on personal identity and self-consciousness.

Frank Esken was a visiting post-doctoral researcher at the Center in the period January 20-February 28, 2010. During his visit, he worked on his CNCC-paper "On possible relations between the development of executive functions and metacognitive abilities in young children" and he discussed different views on metcognition, mind-reading and developmental aspects of self-consciousness with members and researchers of the Center.

Wolfgang Fasching was a visiting researcher at the Center from March 2nd to March 31st, 2010. He worked on his research project "Experiential Presence". In particular he finished his article "Intentionality and Presence" and drafted a paper on "The Presence of Experience and the Experience of Presence" for the "Toward a Science of Consciousness" 2010 conference in Tucson, Arizona.

Guillaume Fréchette was a visiting researcher at the Center in the period November 15-December 15, 2010. During his visit, he conducted research primarily on the theme of self-awareness in Franz Brentano's philosophy of mind and in early phenomenology.

Nivedita Gangopadhyay has worked on the following projects: 1) The relation between perception, action and consciousness as discussed in current philosophy of mind and the cognitive sciences focussing on the debates between the new paradigm of embodied cognition and traditional information-processing approaches to cognition. 2) Studies in social cognition applying the notion of the extended mind in cases of action-understanding and discussing how intersubjective interactions support the extended mind hypothesis. 3) Studies in social cognition focussing on the newly emerging Interaction theory of social cognition as an alternative to theory-theory and simulation theory of mindreading and discussing the notion of direct intersubjective perception

Johan Gersel has been working on the final parts of his doctoral thesis which is entitled Realism and Rationality.

Thor Grünbaum has been working on the following projects in the domains of philosophy of mind and philosophy of psychology: 1. Self-consciousness and consciousness, 2. Perceptual attention, action-control, and knowledge of one's own action, 3. Perceptual control and action-individuation, and 4. Imagination, narrative perspective and the self.

Arne Grøn has worked primarily on the following projects:

1. Studies on ambiguities of subjectivity in terms of a) the concept of despair, b) subjectivity, passion, and passivity, c) shame and shamelessness, d) the notion of human dignity, e) reflection ("Nachdenken") and emotion, f) time, courage, concern, g) decision (making up one's mind), h) self-transformation, i) selfhood and embodiment, j) selfhood: being and becoming, g) normativity and limits of trust. 2. Studies on phenomenology of religious life in terms of a) method: reflection, formal indication, b) religion and subjectivity.

Johan Eckart Hansen has worked primarily on the writing of his PhD project. The project is an examination of the notions of a minimal or core self and an extended or narrative self.

Mads Gram Henriksen has been working on this PhD thesis which explores the supposedly incomprehensibility of bizarre delusions in schizophrenia. In addition he has also worked on topics connected to psychotherapy for schizophrenia.

Line Ryberg Ingerslev has finished and defended her dissertation on human expressivity and social experience. In her work Ingerslev has been focusing on a conceptual clarification of premises in the embodied cognition debate and further she has been working on questions related to social visibility, the experience of objectification and the grasp of perspective.

Marta Jorba has been a visiting PhD student from January 14 till the beginning of July 2010. During her stay she has mainly been developing a part of her PhD which is about the phenomenology of thinking.

Joel Krueger primarily worked on the following projects: 1) Arguing for the sensorimotor basis of music cognition in both solitary and social listening contexts; 2) Investigating the interactive and expressive dynamics of face-to-face social interaction and empathic perception; 3) Comparing and contrasting Buddhist and phenomenological conceptions of consciousness and self; 4) Elucidating the phenomenological structure of interpersonal space and its role in motivating basic forms of social understanding.

Dorothée Legrand has worked on the problems of self and self-consciousness from phenomenological, neuroscientific and clinical perspectives. She has mainly focused on the bodily form of such basic self-consciousness. On this basis, she has sought to identify the neurophysiologic processes underlying such a form of self-consciousness. She has also investigated how and to what extent the latter is integrated in other forms of bodily self-consciousness (more explicit and objectifying forms).

Hengwei Li was a visiting researcher at the Center in the period November 9, 2009-July 7, 2010. During his visit, he worked on three projects. First, he conducted a comparative research on the nature of awareness between phenomenology and the Yogacara school of Buddhism. Second, he analysed the unique role played by the aggregate of awareness in the whole structure of mind. Third, he contrasted the method of reduction and suspension in phenomenology and the method of mindfulness in Buddhism, especially, the method of Koan in Zen-Buddhism.

Kasper Lysemose has studied the relation between subjectivity and self-preservation – primarily within two fields: philosophical anthropology and phenomenology. The concept of self-preservation has given rise to new perspectives on a number of topics with anthropological as well as phenomenological importance. The concept of self-preservation has been spelled out in a relation between economy, technology, aesthetics, and luxury. Lysemose has also worked on a phenomenology of the hand. Describing the hand in all its functions – as touching, gripping, working, demonstrating and throwing – has proved to be a fruitful entrance to philosophical anthropology. Major works by Aristotle, Foucault, Derrida, and Stiegler have been studied.

Michael Madary was a visiting researcher at the Center from 12 May to 26 May 2010. The purpose of his visit was twofold. First, he completed final editorial work with Center post-doc Nivedita Gangopadhyay on their forthcoming volume, Perception, Action, Consciousness (OUP 2010). Second, Michael presented two talks on philosophy and science of perception during his visit.

Alisa Mandrigin visited the Center from May 3 until June 22, 2010. While she was visiting she worked on her PhD thesis, and on a paper she is finalising concerning bodily illusions. The paper she worked on offers a phenomenological interpretation of recent experimental work inducing illusions of ownership over non-bodily objects.

Kristian Moltke Martiny's research refers primarily to the following: 1) a phenomenological description of embodiment, focusing on a) Merleau-Ponty's description of motor intentionality and lived embodiment in Phenomenology of Perception, and on b) the extent to which our everyday use of tools changes lived embodiment. 2) A clarification of the notion of embodiment in the recent debates on the embodied, embedded, enacted and extended mind, which leads to a further clarification of what the theory of the enacted mind amounts to.

Carsten Fogh Nielsen has primarily been involved in research relating to questions concerning the notion of moral identity, in particular the following topics: 1) psychological and philosophical approaches to the study of moral identity; how they differ and how they can be combined and reconciled: 2) Hegel's account of moral identity and ethical formation and the relevance of this account for contemporary philosophical and

psychological theories of moral selfhood. He has also been involved in research on how socially mediated forms of entertainment (popular culture, popular forms of literature, comic books) both shape and is shaped by particular practical forms of human self-understanding.

Søren Overgaard has worked primarily on the following projects: (1) Issues in social cognition, in particular (a) the viability of so-called "second-person" or "interaction" paradigms in social cognition research, and (b) the proper way to define empathy. (2) Epistemological questions concerning our knowledge of other minds. (3) The disjunctive theory of perception. (4) Questions concerning the "analytic-continental" divide in philosophy.

Josef Parnas has continued his theoretical research on self-disorders in schizophrenia, preparing a larger family study of first admitted patients, a study that will include first degree relatives and include biological variables such as DNA, neurophysiological data and neuroimaging. An important study is a 4 years follow-up of disturbed adolescents examined with EASE. Two other empirical projects have been started, one on the issue of methods of diagnostic interviewing in psychiatry, and another on the issue of interpersonal understanding, practical vs. theoretical rationality, and importance of stable first person perspective for cognition in schizophrenia.

In 2010 *Gry Ardal Printzlau* has continued her research for the PhD project "Trust and Ethical Selfhood". Primarily her work has focused on the part of her thesis which concerns the nature of ethical selfhood. From May 24, 2010 and the rest of the year, Gry Ardal Printzlau was on maternity leave.

Andrea Raballo has worked primarily on the following projects: 1) empirical exploration of anomalous subjective experiences in schizophrenia spectrum subjects, focusing on a) conceptual analysis of core psychopathological constructs, b) definition of latent and subclinical phenotypes in genetically high risk samples; 2) Epistemological grounding of psychiatric diagnosis; 3) Morfogenic relation between self-disorders, major diagnostic symptoms and re-organization of psychotic consciousness.

Anthony Steinbock was a visiting professor at the Center for the period of March 1-March 25, 2010. During his visit, he worked on two book projects. First, he conducted research into the problem of self-givenness for his next book *Vocations and Exemplars: The Verticality of Moral Experience*. Second, he continued his research into another book project, *Phenomenology of Personal Emotions*, which deals with emotional experiences that arise on the level of "person" (like hope, despair, trust, betrayal, pride, humility, etc.).

In 2010, Somogy Varga has mainly worked on belief-formation and social cognition and their alterations in psychiatric disorders. Topics included: 1) investigating (social) cognitive aspects in depression, 2) exploring the affective embeddedness of cognition and the structural alterations of beliefs and background feelings, 3) developing the idea of multiple levels of beliefs that allows specifying pathological alterations. Additionally, he has also worked on topics in social philosophy, including recognition and autonomy.

Claudia Welz has worked primarily on the following topics: 1) Trust and selfhood, focusing on a) trust and self-transformation, b) trust and despair, c) trust and (un)certainty, c) methodological questions, d) the edition of the book *Trust, Sociality, Selfhood* and the revision of the manuscript *Vertrauen und Versuchung.* 2) Shame, self-disclosure and self-concealment. 3) Kierkegaard studies in relation to Heidegger, Simone Weil, and debates in the philosophy of psychology. 4) Self-deception, self-delusions, and suicide. 5) Luther, Kant, and Levinas on human nature. 6) Phenomenology of religious life as hermeneutics of human existence. 7) Human in-visibility and the imago Dei motif. 8) Love, hatred, and ipseity.

Dan Zahavi has worked primarily on the following projects: 1) Ongoing work on the nature of empathy (drawing on both classical phenomenology and the contemporary ToM debate). 2) Work on mirror self-recognition. 3) A critical discussion of no-self doctrines. 4) An analysis of the relation between self and self-conscious emotions (in particular shame). 5) Various investigations of Husserl's analyses of time-consciousness and the self-other relation.

Our various research activities have resulted in a large number of manuscripts that are either in press or have recently been submitted. These forthcoming publications demonstrate that we have basically met our milestones for 2010. Our annual report for 2011 will contain more extensive information about these publications, but here are some of the highlights:

- Gangopadhyay, N.: "The extended mind: born to be wild? A lesson from action-understanding", Phenomenology and the Cognitive Sciences, in press.
- Krueger, J.: "Extended Cognition and the Space of Social Interaction", Consciousness and Cognition, in press.
- Welz, C.: "The Self as Site of Conflicts: Guilt, Recognition, and Reconciliation." In I. U. Dalferth & H. Schulz (eds.): *Religion und Konfikt: Grundlagen und Fallanalysen*, Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht 2011, 137-164.
- Grøn, A.: "Homo subiectus. Zur zweideutigen Subjektivität des Menschen." In I. U. Dalferth & A. Hunziker (eds.), Seinkönnen. Der Mensch zwischen Möglichkeit und Wirklichkeit, Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck 2011, 19-33
- Sass, L., Parnas, J., Zahavi, D.: "Phenomenological psychopathology and schizophrenia: Contemporary approaches and misunderstandings." *Philosophy, psychiatry, & psychology,* in press.
- Rochat, P., Zahavi, D.: "The uncanny mirror: A re-framing of mirror self-experience." *Consciousness and Cognition*, in press.
- Siderits, M, Thompson, E., Zahavi, D. (eds.): Self, No Self? Perspectives from Analytical, Phenomenological, & Indian Traditions. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011. (pp. 337)