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## **Annual report: January 1 – December 31, 2011**

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## 1a. Højdepunkter

Centeret er et tværvideenskabeligt "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 1.3.2007-31.12.2012 bærer titlen "The Self: an integrative approach".

I løbet af 2011 har centeret organiseret, medorganiseret og/eller medfinansieret 10 konferencer og workshops (med mere end 99 talere), arrangeret 12 individuelle gæsteforelæsninger med inviterede foredragsholdere og haft besøg af 15 gæsteforskere. Centerets medarbejdere har publiceret 78 bøger og artikler samt holdt 59 foredrag og gæsteforelæsninger i Danmark, Finland, Frankrig, Indien, Island, Italien, Japan, Kina, Norge, Sverige, Schweiz, Storbritannien Tyskland og USA. Centerets interdisciplinære møder har haft deltagelse af udenlandske Ph.d. studerende fra Belgien, Canada, Estland, Finland, Frankrig, Holland, Island, Italien, Japan, Kina, Norge, Portugal, Rumænien, Rusland, Spanien, Schweiz, Sverige, Storbritannien, Tyskland, Ungarn, USA og Østrig.

Blandt de konferencer og workshops som Centeret har organiseret i 2011, kan følgende tre fremhæves som havende tiltrukket særlig stor international opmærksomhed.

- 7-8. April. *Figuring the self*.
- 8.-12. August: *Copenhagen Summer School in Phenomenology and Philosophy of Mind*
- 30. November – 2. December: *The Complex Self: Reflections on Interdisciplinarity*

Blandt centerets mange 2011 publikationer kan følgende særligt fremhæves:

- Siderits, M., Thompson, E., Zahavi, D. (eds.): *Self, No Self? Perspectives from Analytical, Phenomenological, & Indian Traditions*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011. (337 p.)
- Luft, S., Overgaard, S.: *The Routledge Companion to Phenomenology*. Routledge: London, 2011. (xxiii + 720 p.)
- Raballo, A., Sæbye, D., Parnas, J.: "Looking at the schizophrenia spectrum through the prism of self-disorders: An empirical study." *Schizophrenia Bulletin* 37/2, 2011, 344-351.
- Sass, L., Parnas, J., Zahavi, D.: "Phenomenological Psychopathology and Schizophrenia: Contemporary Approaches and Misunderstandings." *Philosophy, Psychiatry, & Psychology* 18/1, 2011, 1-23.
- Krueger, J.: "Extended Cognition and the Space of Social Interaction." *Consciousness and Cognition* 20, 2011, 643-657.
- Welz, C.: "Das Gewissen als Instanz der Selbsterschließung: Luther, Kierkegaard und Heidegger." *Neue Zeitschrift für Systematische Theologie* 53/3, 2011, 265-284.
- 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.

I løbet af 2011 forsvarede tre af centerets Ph.d. studerende succesfuldt deres Ph.d. afhandling:

- 1) Wenjing Cai: "*Reflection as a Form of Human Life: Methodological Issues in Phenomenology*".
- 2) Andrea Raballo: "*Self-disorders as Schizophrenia Spectrum Vulnerability Phenotypes*".
- 3) Johan Gersel: "*Realism and Rationality*".

Adrian Alsmith, en af centerets nuværende Post Docs, vandt først *Barbara Wengeler Prize* for sin Ph.d.-afhandling og derefter *Sapere Aude - DFF Young Elite Researcher award*.

Dan Zahavi modtog *Carlsbergfondets Forskningspris*.

## 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 – December 31, 2012, is entitled "The Self: An Integrative Approach".

During 2011 the Center organized, co-organized, and/or co-sponsored 10 conferences and workshops (with more than 99 speakers), hosted 12 individual guest lectures by invited speakers, and had 15 visiting researchers. The staff of the Center published 78 books and articles, and presented 59 papers and invited lectures in China, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, India, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, UK and USA. The Center's interdisciplinary meetings attracted foreign PhD students from Austria, Belgium, Canada, China, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Japan, The Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Rumania, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, UK and USA

Among the conferences and workshops organized by the Center in 2011, the following three might be singled out as having attracted particular attention in terms of international attendance:

- 7.-8. April: *Figuring the Self*
- 8.-12. August: *Copenhagen Summer School in Phenomenology and Philosophy of Mind*
- 30. November – 2. December: *The Complex Self: Reflections on Interdisciplinarity*

Among the Center's many 2011 publications one might highlight the following:

- Siderits, M., Thompson, E., Zahavi, D. (eds.): *Self, No Self? Perspectives from Analytical, Phenomenological, & Indian Traditions*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011. (337 p.)
- Luft, S., Overgaard, S.: *The Routledge Companion to Phenomenology*. Routledge: London, 2011. (xxiii + 720 p.)
- Raballo, A., Sæbye, D., Parnas, J.: "Looking at the schizophrenia spectrum through the prism of self-disorders: An empirical study." *Schizophrenia Bulletin* 37/2, 2011, 344-351.
- Sass, L., Parnas, J., Zahavi, D.: "Phenomenological Psychopathology and Schizophrenia: Contemporary Approaches and Misunderstandings." *Philosophy, Psychiatry, & Psychology* 18/1, 2011, 1-23.
- Krueger, J.: "Extended Cognition and the Space of Social Interaction." *Consciousness and Cognition* 20, 2011, 643-657.
- Welz, C.: "Das Gewissen als Instanz der Selbsterschließung: Luther, Kierkegaard und Heidegger." *Neue Zeitschrift für Systematische Theologie* 53/3, 2011, 265-284.
- 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.

During 2011, three of the Center's PhD students successfully defended their theses:

- 1) Wenjing Cai: "*Reflection as a Form of Human Life: Methodological Issues in Phenomenology*".
- 2) Andrea Raballo: "*Self-disorders as Schizophrenia Spectrum Vulnerability Phenotypes*".
- 3) Johan Gersel: "*Realism and Rationality*".

Adrian Alsmith, one of the Center's current Post Docs, first won the *Barbara Wengeler Prize* for his Ph.d.-dissertation and then the *Sapere Aude - DFF Young Elite Researcher award*.

Dan Zahavi received the *Carlsberg Foundation's Research Prize*.

## 2. Staff

### Director

- Professor, dr.phil., PhD, Dan Zahavi

### Scientific personnel

- Professor, dr.theol., Arne Grøn
- Professor, dr.med., Josef Parnas
- Post.doc., PhD, Nivedita Gangopadhyay
- Assistant Professor, PhD, Thor Grünbaum
- Post.doc., PhD, Joel Krueger (since 01.07.2011)
- Post.doc., PhD, Adrian Alsmith (since 01.09.2011)
- Post.doc., PhD, Rasmus Thybo Jensen (since 01.07.2011)
- Post.doc., PhD, Søren Overgaard
- Post.doc., PhD, Kasper Lysemose (until 20.01.2011)
- Professor, MSO, Claudia Welz

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

- MA, Wenjing Cai (until 31.08.2011)
- Cand.scient.soc., Gry Ardal Printzlau
- M.Phil., Johan Peter Gersel (until 14.06.2011)
- Mag.art., Mads Gram Henriksen
- MD, Andrea Raballo (until 31.12.2010 - defence 04.05.2011)
- MA, Zhida Luo (from 01.09.2011)

### Administrative personnel

- Merete Lynnerup, administrator
- Simon Høffding, student assistant

### Others

- Research Assistant, Cand.mag., Claes Holmberg (27.06-24.07.2011)
- M.Phil., Johan Peter Gersel (15.06-14.12.2011)

### Visiting professor

- Galen Strawson, University of Reading, UK (23.01-15.04.2011)
- Michelle Montague, University of Bristol, UK (23.01-15.04.2011)

### Visiting researchers

- Adrian Alsmith, Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz, Germany (07.02-30.08.2011)
- Beril Sözmen, Istanbul Technical University, Turkey (since 07.08.2011)
- Hanne Jacobs, Loyola University Chicago, USA (06.06-30.06.2011)
- Joel Krueger, visiting researcher (01.01-30.06.2011)
- Joona Taipale, Dept. of Philosophy, University of Helsinki, Finland (1.9-31.12.2011)
- Kristian Moltke Martiny, visiting researcher (01.01-31.12.2011)
- Olli Lagerspetz, Åbo Akademi, Åbo, Finland (01.02-31.03.2011)
- Paul Sopcak, University of Alberta, Canada (05.04-28.04.2011)
- Somogy Varga, Institute of Cognitive Science, University of Osnabrück (01.02-01.10.2011)

### Visiting PhD students

- Ilaria Resto, University of Pavia, Italy (03.10-30.11.2011)
- Katsunori Miyahara, University of Tokyo, Japan (since 04.08.2011)
- Meng Zhao, Peking University, P.R. China (since 26.09.2011)
- Søren Engelsen, University of Southern Denmark (01.02-01.07.2011)
- Yuchen Sun, Peking University, Beijing, P.R. China (02.09-27.11.2011)

### 3. Research

*Adrian Alsmith* has worked primarily on the following issues: 1) What reasons might be given to motivate the claim that a description that posits a “pre-reflective” form of bodily self-consciousness is correct? In an article in press, he argues that the best motivation is provided by abductive inference. 2) Are cognitive scientific explanations that posit body representations consonant with the aims of embodied cognitive science? Lines of tension and complement are explored in an edited collection of papers (edited w/ Frédérique de Vignemont) and an editorial. 3) Should perspectival experience be conceived on the model of an egocentric frame of reference? He will explore possible resolutions and experimental manipulations in a forthcoming *Sapere Aude* project.

*Wenjing Cai* has primarily worked on her PhD project *Reflection as a Form of Human Life: Methodological Issues in Phenomenology*. Her research particularly focused on the following topics: a) the conceptions of reflection in the works of traditional phenomenologists such as Husserl, Heidegger, Merleau-Ponty, Sartre, etc; b) the parallelism between reflection and language; c) the role of reflection and language in human life; d) the ethical dimension of reflection and its authenticity.

*Søren Engelsen* was a visiting PhD student from 1 February – 1 July from University of Southern Denmark, Odense. He was researching fundamental issues in ethics with pre-linguistic experience of value as a central focus of attention.

*Nivedita Gangopadhyay* has worked on the following topics: 1) Developed an account of perceptual knowledge of other minds with special focus on the notion of perception-action coupling in social perception. 2) Discussed the extended mind hypothesis within the context of language as an embodied intersubjective engagement. 3) Discussed a model of sensorimotor intentionality with special focus on the notion of prospectivity in sensorimotor control to understand how core properties of embodiment constrain the processes of information organisation and the structure of mental states. All the topics have been discussed and developed with colleagues from other disciplines, including neuroscience, psychology, and linguistics.

*Johan Gersel* has worked primarily on 1) finishing, submitting and defending his PhD-thesis, which focused on the topics of a) realism, b) theories of meaning, c) the justification of our logical system, d) disjunctive account of experience, e) demonstrative thought. 2) In the final half of the year he has worked primarily on preparing the chapters of the dissertation for individual publication. The particular focus has been on a) the justification of our logical system, b) modest theories of meaning.

*Thor Grünbaum* has primarily worked on the following topics: 1) The role of demonstrative content in knowledge of one’s own intentions and intentional actions. 2) The relationship between common-sense psychological explanation and scientific psychological explanation. 3) The contemporary debate between cognitive and non-cognitive accounts of consciousness in contemporary science of consciousness.

*Arne Grøn* has worked primarily on the following projects: 1. Studies on ambiguities of subjectivity focusing on a) phenomenology and dialectics of passivity, b) situated subjectivity, c) the notion of selfhood implied in transforming oneself, d) singularity and individuality, e) time, history and subjectivity, f) time and transcendence. 2. Studies on the nature of normativity focusing on a) normativity and subjectivity esp. in terms of demand, duty and appeal, b) ethics of vision esp. in terms of seeing the other as neighbour (Kierkegaard and Levinas), and c) normativity and the limits of trust.

*Mads Gram Henriksen* has primarily worked on the following projects: 1) analyzing empirical data collected from patients suffering from schizophrenia spectrum disorders with the purpose of defining and describing prototypical anomalies of self-experience (i.e. self-disorders) linked to the underlying Gestalt of the disorder, 2) establishing a clinically grounded phenomenological account of the pathogenesis of auditory verbal hallucinations in schizophrenia, 3) defining and discussing different forms of understanding of mental disorders in the various disciplines studying them, 4) identifying implicit conceptualizations of death in suicidal schizophrenia.

*Hanne Jacobs* was a visiting researcher from 6 June – 30 June, 2011. She is an assistant professor of philosophy at Loyola University Chicago. During her stay, she has been working on a book on Husserl's phenomenology of self-constitution.

*Rasmus Thybo Jensen* has worked primarily on the following projects: 1) The relation between conceptual and perceptual capacities, with a particular focus on the debate on conceptual content versus non-conceptual content. Outcome: The paper "McDowell and Merleau-Ponty on perceptual intentionality" has been submitted for a special issue of *International Journal of Philosophical Studies*. 2) Relational and disjunctive accounts of perceptual experience, in particular the possibility of exploiting ideas from Husserl and Merleau-Ponty in the contemporary debate on the directness of perceptual experience. Outcome: The paper "McDowell and Merleau-Ponty on the Cartesian Picture of the Mind" will be published in 2012 in a Japanese translation in the Proceedings of the 2011 Annual Meeting of the *Phenomenological Association of Japan*.

*Joel Krueger* worked primarily on the following projects: 1) Studying how Moebius Syndrome, a congenital form of bilateral facial paralysis, might be a source of insight for understanding the relation between high-level cognition and low-level gestural coupling within face-to-face social interaction. 2) Drawing upon different strands of empirical research to defend the thesis that some forms of expressive behavior (facial expressions, gestures, whole-body movements) constitute proper parts of some mental phenomena, and showing why this thesis is relevant for current disputes about empathy and social cognition. 3) Drawing upon studies of exogenous attention and mutual affect regulation in early infancy to argue that the phenomenological structure of some early-infant caregiver dyadic engagements is best described as involving joint subjects, and showing why this is philosophically interesting.

*Olli Lagerspetz* was a visiting researcher at the Centre from 1 February – 31 March. He worked on the theme of shared experience, drafting a paper on describing taste. He translated and edited a number of articles on Edward Westermarck (1862-1939), to appear in special issues of two journals. Lagerspetz's research leave was made possible by a research grant from the project "Westermarck and Beyond: Evolutionary Approaches to Morality and Its Critics", headed by him and funded by Kone Foundation. His sojourn at the Centre was funded by Gustaf Packaléns Mindefond.

*Zhida Luo* has worked primarily on: 1. Refining his PhD plan with his supervisor Prof. Dan Zahavi; 2. Attending PhD courses held by the PhD school, concerning intuition in epistemology, practical philosophy and publishing, respectively; 3. Studies on empathy in terms of a) passivity, b) affection, c) empathy in the context of affection, and d) other higher orders of empathy.

*Kristian Moltke Martiny* has worked primarily on the following project: A PhD-application on how Cognitive Science and Phenomenology can be relevant for rehabilitation of Cerebral Palsy. That includes the following topics: 1) phenomenological and neuroscientific explanations of tool-use, 2) Brain-plasticity, 3) Application of the Embodied Cognition thesis for brain damage, 4) notions of embodiment.

*Katsunori Miyahara* is a visiting PhD student from 4 August 2011 – 15 March 2012 from the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, University of Tokyo, Japan. He has been working on his dissertation, which defends an embodied conception of the mind from phenomenological, conceptual and empirical perspectives. He has also worked on a manuscript about the relation between the two-visual systems hypothesis and enactive perception, which he presented at the International Association for Phenomenology and the Cognitive Sciences in Philadelphia in October 2011.

*Michelle Montague* was a visiting researcher at the Center for Subjectivity Research in February and March 2011. During that time, her research was focused on the relationship between intentionality and phenomenology for perception, cognition and emotion. She completed two papers, 'Conscious Thought' and 'The Access Problem', both of which will be published in volumes with Oxford University Press. She also completed drafts of two chapters of the monograph she is working on, entitled *The Given*. She gave several paper presentations, including two at the Center and one at the University of Stockholm.

*Søren Overgaard* has primarily worked on the following projects: 1. Clarifying and evaluating disjunctive theories of perceptual experience. 2. Clarifying the role of social interaction in social cognition. 3. Investigating the extent to which direct perception can be a source of knowledge about other people's mental states. 4. General studies in metaphilosophy, in particular research on the relation between analytic and continental philosophy, and the status of philosophy vis-à-vis the natural sciences.

*Josef Parnas* has continued his theoretical and empirical 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 the importance of a stable first-person perspective for cognition in schizophrenia.

*Gry Ardal Printzlau* was on maternity leave until 11 March 2011. Since then she focused on completing her PhD dissertation, which was handed in on 13 December 2011. The central themes of her research in the past year was: 1) the ethical significance of intersubjective relationships of trust and distrust; 2) the experiential nature of trusting and distrusting another; 3) and the self-estrangement and alienation described by torture survivors.

*Ilaria Resto* was a visiting PhD student from 03.10.2011-30.11.2011. While at the center, she worked on her PhD project about themes in Wittgenstein and phenomenology, such as the problem of solipsism and other minds, the asymmetry between the first and the third person perspective, and the role of expression and of language in the constitution of subjective and intersubjective experience.

*Paul Sopcak* was a visiting researcher from 5 April – 28 April 2011. He focused on the phenomenology of literary reading and virtual reality.

*Beril Sözmen* is a visiting researcher at the Centre from 7 August 2011 – Juli 2012. She works on phenomenological approaches to morality as well as on possible links between a sense of self and the moral attitude.

*Galen Strawson*, during his time at the CFS in March and April 2011, completed final corrections to three books, and read and returned proofs: 1) the revised paperback version of *Selves: An Essay in Revisionary Metaphysics* (Oxford University Press 2011), 2) *The Evident Connexion: Mind, Self and David Hume* (Oxford University Press 2011), 3) *Locke on personal identity* (Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2011). He completed a paper called 'We live beyond any tale that we happen to enact', presented it in Paris in March 2011, and submitted it for publication (*Harvard Review of Philosophy*, 2012). Together with Michelle Montague, he read and corrected and returned the proofs of a posthumous collection of his father's papers (P. F. Strawson *Philosophical Papers* Oxford University Press 2011). He completed a final draft of a paper called 'Real direct realism' and presented it at the Danish Society for Philosophy and Psychology.

*Joonas Taipale* was a visiting researcher from 1 September – 31 december 2011. He is a post-doctoral researcher at the Helsinki Collegium for Advanced Studies (University of Helsinki). He worked on topics relating to subjectivity and intersubjectivity in early infancy.

*Somogy Varga* has, in 2011, mainly worked on personal autonomy and social cognition and their alterations in psychiatric disorders. Topics included: 1) investigating the 'sociality' of autonomy, 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 participation and recognition.

*Claudia Welz* has worked primarily on the following projects: 1) Studies on the meaning of the imago Dei-motif in Jewish, Christian and philosophical contexts, and its re-interpretation in terms of a) semiotics, b) Bildwissenschaft, c) ethics, d) the relation between embodiment and being more than one's body, e) the relation between visibility and transcendence, f) the problem of understanding and defining human dignity. 2) Studies on the significance of remembering and forgetting in relation to personal identity, identification and self-alienation, (bad) conscience and experiences of guilt and shame. 3) Studies on trauma as related to psychopathology and post-Holocaust theology.

*Sun Yuchen* was a visiting PhD student from 2 September – 27 November from the Department of Philosophy at Peking University. She was working on her PhD dissertation on self-consciousness, mainly based on Paul Ricoeur's thinking on willing and feeling in his early writings.

*Dan Zahavi* has worked primarily on the following projects: 1) An investigation of the "experiential self". 2) An analysis of the relation between self and self-conscious emotions (in particular shame). 3) Ongoing work on the nature of empathy (drawing on both classical phenomenology and the contemporary ToM debate). 4) Editorial work on the *Oxford Handbook of Contemporary Phenomenology*.

*Meng Zhao* is a visiting PhD student from 26 September 2011 – December 2012 from Peking University. He has focused on examining the idea of a naturalized phenomenology. The research is primarily guided by two theoretical considerations: Should, and in what sense could, Husserlian phenomenology be naturalized and what kind of the concept of nature should we employ in a cogent naturalizing project?