



## Philosophical Issues in Psychiatry V:

### The Problems of Multiple Levels, Explanatory Pluralism, Reduction and Emergence

International Conference  
May 28-30, 2018

Organized by Professor Josef Parnas (University of Copenhagen), Professor Kenneth S. Kendler (Virginia Commonwealth University), Professor Peter Zachar (Auburn University at Montgomery), the Mental Health Centre Glostrup and the Center for Subjectivity Research, University of Copenhagen

**Venue: University of Copenhagen, South Campus, Njalsgade 134, Auditorium 22.0.11**

#### Conference Outline:

- Session One: Neuroscience, Mechanisms and RDoC
- Session Two: Phenomenology, Biological Psychology, and the Mind-Body Problem
- Session Three: Taxonomy, Integration and Multiple Levels of Explanation
- Session Four: Levels of Explanation and Reductionism in Psychiatry

#### Major Conference Themes:

1. The importance of reduction - under what circumstances are lower levels of explanation to be preferred? Is wholesale reduction possible or is it more realistic to pursue "small" or "patchy" reductive approaches?
2. How is it best to conceive of the multiple "levels" at which psychiatric illness can be understood? Is "levels" even a useful term here?
3. What are the advantages and problems of explanatory pluralism versus explanatory monism - when can we truly integrate results across "levels"?
4. Given that levels of explanation in psychiatry cross the mind-body divide - the subjective and objective worlds - how can we best span these widely divergent perspectives on reality?
5. A recent survey has shown that truly cross-level research in psychiatry is rare. Why is this and what scientific, cultural and financial barriers exist to more integrative approaches?
6. Individual researchers and research groups often bring strong commitments to their perspective on psychiatric illness that derive from extra-scientific personal beliefs. Such approaches have often fueled ideological disputes in the field. How can we better understand and reduce such often wasteful debates?





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Monday May 28, 2018

Outline	Speaker	Title	Time
Opening Comments	Josef Parnas & Kenneth S. Kendler		09:00-09:20
<b>Session One: Neuroscience, Mechanisms and RDoC</b>			
<b>Session Chair: Eric Turkheimer</b>			
Core Talk	William Bechtel	Psychiatric Disorders and Neural Mechanisms: How are they Connected?	09:20-09:50
Invited Discussion	Kenneth S. Kendler		09:50-10:00
General Discussion			10:00-10:20
Core Talk	Robert Bilder	Wrangling the Matrix: Lessons from the Rdoc Working Memory Domain	10:20-10:50
Invited Discussion	Georg Northoff		10:50-11:00
General Discussion			11:00-11:20
<b>BREAK</b>			
Core Talk	Daniel Pine	Tackling Hard Problems: Neuroscience, Treatment, & Anxiety	11:35-12:05
Invited Discussion	Kenneth Schaffner		12:05-12:15
General Discussion			12:15-12:35
<b>LUNCH</b>			
Core Talk	Georg Northoff	What Provides the Glue Between Different Levels of Explanation? A Spatiotemporal Approach	13:45-14:15
Invited Discussion	James Woodward		14:15-14:25
General Discussion			14:25-14:45
<b>Session Two: Phenomenology, Biological Psychology, and the Mind-Body Problem</b>			
<b>Session Chair: Kathryn Tabb</b>			
Core Talk	Shaun Gallagher	Explaining Body Self-Awareness: Multiple Levels or Dynamical Gestalt?	14:45-15:15
Invited Discussion	Jan-Willem Romeijn		15:15-15:25
General Discussion			15:25-15:45
<b>BREAK</b>			
Core Talk	John Campbell	Is Psychology Ineliminable from Psychiatry, in Finding the Causal Structure of Disorders?	16:00-16:30
Invited Discussion	Daniel Pine		16:30-16:40
General Discussion			16:40-17:00

8 hours



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Tuesday May 29, 2018

Outline	Speaker	Title	Time
<b>Session Two: Phenomenology, Biological Psychology, and the Mind-Body Problem (continued)</b>			
<b>Session Chair: Kathryn Tabb</b>			
Core Talk	Josef Parnas	Phenomenology and its Role in Description and Explanation: A Clinical Point of View	09:00-09:30
Invited Discussion	Shaun Gallagher		09:30-09:40
General Discussion			09:40-10:00
Core Talk	Gregory A. Miller	Challenges in the Relationships between Psychological and Biological Phenomena in Psychopathology	10:00-10:30
Invited Discussion	Peter Zachar		10:30-10:40
General Discussion			10:40-11:00
<b>BREAK</b>			
<b>Session Three: Taxonomy, Integration and Multiple Levels of Explanation</b>			
<b>Session Chair: James Woodward</b>			
Core Talk	Peter Zachar	Descriptive Psychopathology: A Manifest Level of Analysis, or Not?	11:15-11:45
Invited Discussion	Josef Parnas		11:45-11:55
General Discussion			11:55-12:15
<b>LUNCH</b>			
Core Talk	Kathryn Tabb	Can Psychiatry Be Precise?	13:25-13:55
Invited Discussion	Robert Bilder		13:55-14:05
General Discussion			14:05-14:25
Core Talk	Jan-Willem Romeijn	Psychiatric Classification: An A-reductionist Perspective	14:25-14:55
Invited Discussion	Eric Turkheimer		14:55-15:05
General Discussion			15:05-15:25
<b>BREAK</b>			
Core Talk	Kenneth Schaffner	Approaches to Multi-Level Models of Fear: The What, Where, Why, How, and How Much?	15:40-16:10
Invited Discussion	William Bechtel		16:10-16:20
General Discussion			16:20-16:40

**7 hours 40 minutes**



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Wednesday May 30, 2018

Outline	Speaker	Title	Time
<b>Session Four: Levels of Explanation and Reductionism in Psychiatry</b>			
<b>Session Chair: Peter Zachar</b>			
Core Talk	James Woodward	Levels: What Are They and What Work Do They Do?	09:00-09:30
Invited Discussion	Stephan Heckers		09:30-09:40
General Discussion			09:40-10:00
Core Talk	Kenneth S. Kendler	Faculty Psychology, Psychological Causation and the Impact of Understanding on Psychiatric Nosology	10:00-10:30
Invited Discussion	Gregory A. Miller		10:30-10:40
General Discussion			10:40-11:00
<b>BREAK</b>			
Core Talk	Stephan Heckers	Psychiatric Discourse: Scientific Reductionism for the Autonomous Person	11:15-11:45
Invited Discussion	John Campbell		11:45-11:55
General Discussion			11:55-12:15
<b>LUNCH</b>			
Core Talk	Eric Turkheimer	Conceptual Focus: A Practical Guide to Understanding Levels of Analysis in Science	13:25-13:55
Invited Discussion	Kathryn Tabb		13:55-14:05
General Discussion			14:05-14:25
Closing Comments	Josef Parnas & Kenneth S. Kendler		14:25-14:45

**5 hours 45 minutes**