

Transcript

-CFS-20-Years: Video Greetings-

In order of appearance:

Montes Sanchez, Alba & Høffding, Simon [00:13].....	2
Jardine, James [01:50].....	2
Gangopadhyay, Nivedita [03:02].....	3
Luo, Zhida [03:34].....	3
Toro, Juan [04:34].....	3
Michael, John [05:20].....	3
Jorba, Marta [06:34].....	4
Kueger, Joel [07:44].....	4
Blomberg, Olle [08:15].....	4
Fuchs, Thomas [09:12].....	4
Bernet, Rudolf [10:20].....	5
Loidolt, Sophie [11:36].....	5
Satne, Glenda [12:09].....	5
Gallagher, Shaun [13:36].....	6
Cai, Wenjing [16:22].....	6
Käll, Lisa [17:18].....	7
Schwarz, Eva [18:15].....	7
Ishihara, Yuko [18:56].....	7
Dalferth, Ingolf [19:34].....	7
Heinämaa, Sara [20:56].....	8
Taipale, Joonas [21:32].....	8
Sass, Louis [22:49].....	8
Skodlar, Borut [24:31].....	9
Salice, Alessandro [25:40].....	9
Nakamura, Takuya [26:07].....	9
Bader, Oren [26:49].....	9
Richter, Cornelia [27:26].....	10
Pahuus Ann-Marie & Welz, Claudia [30:00].....	10

Montes Sanchez, Alba & Høffding, Simon [00:13]

Both: Congratulations. *Høffding:* Congratulations Dan and congratulations to the Center for Subjectivity Research with your 20 years anniversary. Congratulations everyone.

Montes-Sanchez: Happy birthday. My name is Alba Montes-Sanchez and I'm a postdoc at the philosophy department at University College Corg, and...

Høffding: I'm Simon Høffding I'm an associate professor at the University of Southern Denmark now.

Montes-Sanchez: And, we are married...

Høffding: YE!

Montes-Sanchez: We both are former postdocs and PhD students at CFS. And everyone knows how amazing the research environment of CFS is. It has been really instrumental and important for both of our careers. We have met incredible people that have been really important for our professional development and the development of our thinking about issues of emotion and of the phenomenology of experience.

Høffding: Yes, and in addition to all these amazing professional accomplishments and importances of the center, it has also had, amazing, as you can see, personal implications for many of us. Not least, we might be the winners in the great lottery, because not only did we meet at the center together, but now we also got married. And we got a CFS house and we even got a CFS daughter Clara! Bye bye!

Montes-Sanchez: Congratulations!

Jardine, James [01:50]

I first joined the Center for Subjectivity Research back in 2012, when I began the several years that I eventually spent there working on my PhD dissertation. And I've since then been welcomed back to the CFS for a couple of wonderful post-doctoral research stays. Now, what I imagine this video will demonstrate is that there's just as many and just as diverse opinions regarding the specific merits of the CFS as there are people who have spent time there. And this itself is testament to its remarkable pluralism as a research institution. What I personally find so impressive about the Center for Subjectivity Research, and what I know has profoundly influenced the way that I, as well as many others think and work, is its remarkable widening of the thematic scope of phenomenological research. That is, the research undertaken at the CFS has so fruitfully put into practice a proposition that is at first glance perhaps wildly implausible. Namely, that phenomenological philosophy can transformatively contribute to a whole range of discussions

within the boarder philosophical and interdisciplinary landscape. While also continuing to reflect upon and clarify in so indistinctive tradition of methods and insights.

Gangopadhyay, Nivedita [03:02]

Dear CFS, congratulations on the 20-year milestone, and just a quick thank you for the many many happy memories that I have of working there. It has been an honor working with the wonderful colleges at CFS. And CFS has been one of the happiest workplaces for me. I wish this wonderful center all the very best for the future.

Luo, Zhida [03:34]

Dear Dan and dear CFS friends, happy 20th birthday of CFS. My name is Zhida Luo, a former PhD at the center. I still remember that I was there celebrating the 10th anniversary of CFS, and the center has been even more successful over the last 10 years. I am always grateful for the help I received for friends at the center, and it was with their constant support that I managed to finish my PhD project. I wish the center the greatest success in the future, for dear CFS friends at the center and all around the world. All the best!

Toro, Juan [04:34]

So hi Dan, hi everyone at the CFS. So maybe the episode that best summarizes my experience as a PhD student at the Center for Subjectivity Research was for one of the summer outings, we did some years ago. We went to this climbing park. We were climbing trees and going from one treetop to the next through cables. And then by the end of it we are at the ending point and there was this visiting researcher who came back pale and shaking and turns out he turned upside down in the middle of a route between two trees, and then someone commented: “But weren’t you doing the easy route?”. So anyway. Congratulations to Dan and to everyone at the CFS, and I wish the best for it for the years to come. Thanks.

Michael, John [05:20]

I was a postdoc at the center back in 2013-2014 and I can tell that I remember that it is one of the best phases of my academic career. It’s a real model in terms of just being a place where... It’s a stimulating environment from the talks and workshops going on all the time. And just being very supportive, constructive, nice environment of people working together and helping each other. And that’s exhibited in a range of activities and routines from the lunches every day together to the wine and cheese events and of course the infamous Christmas party, which we probably don’t speak in an official context. Any case. I am very confident that Dan will continue to sustain that environment and that model there and it’s an inspiration to us working at departments elsewhere. And also a

beacon as a place that I think we all look forward to going back to. I for one look forward to having an occasion to go back again.

Jorba, Marta [06:34]

Hello I'm Marta Jorba. I'm currently an associate professor at Pompeu Fabra University. And I visited the center back in 2010 when I was doing my PhD. I was really interested to work in the intersection of analytic philosophy of mind and phenomenology. So that's why I visited the center to work with Dan Zahavi and other colleagues. I have very good memories from that period. It was a very rewarding experience and it was really stimulating to be able to participate in the activities that the center was organizing at the moment, and to meet new colleagues. So I am very happy that the center celebrates its 20th anniversary now, so I congratulate the center, its team, its director Dan and all the other people that have contributed to its creation and development. And I just look forward to possible future collaborations, and I wish the center and all its people a lot of luck and success.

Kueger, Joel [07:44]

Hello everyone at the center. This is Joel Krueger, checking in from – not Exeter – but from a pub in York. I just wanted to say: “Cheers. Cheers to 20 years of research excellence.” I am honored to be a part of the center's rich legacy I am delighted I could be there in person to celebrate with you recently. And I can't wait to see what comes next. So again: “Cheers!”

Blomberg, Olle [08:15]

I want to congratulate Dan and everyone who worked at the center for the first fantastic 20 years and convey my best wishes for the next 20 years which I believe will be equally amazing. What really stuck me when I worked as a postdoc at the center was the unique sense of community among the researchers there. This was especially impressive given the great diversity of approaches, backgrounds, nationalities and the constant influx of the guest researchers at the center. So keep up the good work and also it's important that you keep beating the other teams from the department at the DHL Relay Race. I think that's an important task for the future and for keeping the great reputation of the center.

Fuchs, Thomas [09:12]

I'm Thomas Fuchs. I'm Karl Jaspers professor of philosophy and psychiatry at Heidelberg University, and I've had the pleasure of working with the Center for Subjectivity Research for a long time now. Well, at a time when science is more than ever dominated by reductionist approaches, the center has given new recognition to the original self-experience of human beings. And this is invaluable, especially for psychiatry, because here where we are dealing with a suffering

subjectivity, with a self that no longer understands itself and which therefore depends on psychiatric understanding. And this in turn, would not be possible without phenomenology. As psychiatrists we are therefore especially indebted to the center. So keep up your excellent work, and I'm convinced the next twenty years will be no less helpful to us. Wish you all the best!

Bernet, Rudolf [10:20]

In the last 20 years, the center has in many ways set new standards in international research. First, and most prominently, as a place, where a community of researchers feel at home and could have informal exchanges in an exceptionally friendly atmosphere. The center also greatly contributed to rehabilitate subjectivity as a central philosophical issue. And promoted it in circles that either ignored or believed it to be conceptually weak or even confused. Finally, the center was and still is one of the few places where interdisciplinary exchanges really work. Many people have contributed to make the dream of such a center of excellence becoming true. None as much as Dan Zahavi. He always pretended to be just one of us, while doing all the nasty work for us. In the last twenty years the center has grown with him, and he has grown with the center.

Loidolt, Sophie [11:36]

Hello Dan. Hello people from the center. Happy birthday, and a toast to you. This is a place where the lights of intellectual excellence, but also of intellectual comradery and friendship and great exchange has always been bright. So keep up the good work, and keep going. All the best!

Satne, Glenda [12:09]

I am very pleased to be here for the celebration of the 20 years of the Center for subjectivity research. Let me say something about why for me the center is so significant. I was a postdoc at the center from 2012 to 2015 and those years had a transformative effect both on me as a philosopher and on my research. This is not just because there I started to develop the fundamentals of my research that I still pursue or because there I met some of the collaborators I still work with in developing those lines of research - but it is because of the exceptional intellectual environment that the center provides for a researcher. This is because the center is fundamentally an open minded space where any tools both within philosophy and beyond philosophy are welcome to explore and shed light on the issues that are at focus. So this is a combination of a narrow focus on some phenomena – subjectivity, the second person, collective intentionality – and a very broad rich background and framework to explore those issues. So let me take the opportunity to thank Dan for having built such a wonderful space for researchers to develop their work both creatively and collaboratively. Happy birthday and I wish for many more years to come for the center!

Gallagher, Shaun [13:36]

Hi, this is Shaun Gallagher and like others I would like to express my appreciation for the entire project of the Center for Subjectivity Research and to the principals who put it all together – Dan, Joseph, Arne Grøn and of course all the funding agencies that they have worked with. I have had a very productive engagement with all of these people. My first contact was with Joseph in 1998 at Cornell institute and almost simultaneously Dan contacted me to invite me to come to Copenhagen to do a talk, which I did in 1999.

So this was just at the time that the center - the idea of the center was getting off the ground. And since that time I have been to Copenhagen numerous times to attend advisory board meeting and thesis defenses and as a visiting professor and an honorary professor. I recently was there to get an honorary degree. It was very nicely organized by Dan. So I think on rough count I have been there about 35 times or so and most of those times were at the center or in conferences organized by the center. That of course means an even larger number of beers and fine meals. So that has been great. I think there was on period that I when visiting Copenhagen so often that I thought I might apply for Danish citizenship. I seemed to be there all the time. And then I also remember that often times when I went to Copenhagen or other places in Europe too I would bump into Philippe Rochat. And I remember asking him one time: “Don’t you ever teach back at Emery ‘cause you seem to be here all the time?”, and then he just sort of turned it around and said “So every time I come, I see you.”. So that means really I was there quite a bit, I guess.

In any case, let me say that I have been enjoying my association with the center for the last 20 years. And of course I hope that there is another 20, or 30 or more years at least. So good luck to everyone!

Cai, Wenjing [16:22]

Hello, my name is Wenjing Cai. I stayed at the Center from 2008 until 2011 as a PhD student. I was very lucky to be accepted and was the first Chinese student at the Center. As CFS has become a worldwide leading research institute in philosophy it is now the dream place for many young Chinese students. Personally, I owe much to CFS, to Dan and to many other colleagues. It is not just about doing research but also about seeing how academia could benefit so much from a kind of openness towards different disciplines and traditions. As our world has become more and more specialized with borders everywhere I also come to realize that the center is such a unique place and certainly it will continue to be a guiding light to many. Happy Birthday CFS!

Käll, Lisa [17:18]

I was part of the few of the very early years of the Center for Subjectivity Research, when it was still located in the center of Copenhagen at Købmagergade. The years I spent there as a PhD student are some of the most memorable years of my life. I remember it as a vibrant and exciting place in many ways. And a part of the amazing intellectual environment, which really is outstanding, when I think back, I also recall film evenings in the lunch room, Christmas parties and ice skating with colleagues from the center. Also quite outstanding. I feel privileged to have been part of the creative environment of the Center for Subjectivity Research, and I'm looking forward to hearing news of its flourishing and impact for many more years to come.

Schwarz, Eva [18:15]

Center for Subjectivity Research in Copenhagen 20 years, congratulations. I was a quest researcher and PhD student in 2005, that was quite a long time ago. And I had a really great time, we had very interesting seminars and workshops and I got to know a lot of interesting people and researchers. Also my husband, and we have two kids together now. I'm really grateful for this time, so congratulations again.

Ishihara, Yuko [18:56]

Hi everyone, congratulations on the 20th year. I'm Yuko and I did my PhD at the center from 2013 to 2016. A few years ago I had a chance to introduce the center to the people at the conference for the Phenomenological Association of Japan, and I was telling them how much I enjoyed the open and welcoming atmosphere at the center. Both, on the personal level but also academically speaking. A lot of Japanese had visited the center before me, but I'm quite proud that I was the first to do a PhD there. I send big hugs to everyone, and best wishes to the next 20 years ahead.

Dalferth, Ingolf [19:34]

After many years at the university and working in academic projects and institutions, I can say without any instant buts: the collaboration with the Center for Subjectivity Research has been by far the most fruitful and consequential. Many of the questions and problems that have preoccupied me over the past 15 to 20 years are related to the work that has been and is being done at this important center. I wish what was and is possible there, were the standard of academic research every in the world. A clear precision in the often confusing discussion of the basic philosophical problems. And an open exchange about the variety of different perspectives and approaches to what we call self, ego, subject, self-interpreting animal or whatever. No one has seen everything, but together we can

definitely see more. And the CFS has shown that in many ways. One can only hope, that it will continue in this spirit for a long time to come. Good luck for this.

Heinämaa, Sara [20:56]

Dear Dan, this is Sara. I congratulate you for your great achievement at the center, which operates as a concentration of excellence and intellectual power, but also as a platform for us all. And once again brings us together from all over the world, to debate and to argue and to exchange ideas and results of our investigations. So, I congratulate you of course but I also want to express my deep gratitude.

Taipale, Joonas [21:32]

Hi everyone. I'm Joonas Taipale from Finland. Having visited and worked at the center for three times, so I've had the chance to witness its growth over the two last decades, I remember back in 2006 during my first visit, the center was located at the city center. I'm kind of still learning to pronounce the name of the street "Købmagergade", and the facilities were fairly small, but the intellectual and collegial atmosphere was amazing already back then. And over the years the facilities have of course grown bigger and the amount of excellence the center has attracted has only been increasing. For me and for many others the center has always been a place for top notch philosophical research, interdisciplinary collaboration and fruitful exchange of thought, not to mention that the academic and the non-academic discussions were often continued over lunch or a pint, or two at Cafe Langebro or elsewhere. Simply put, as I see the center is thriving and I hope and trust that it will flourish also in the future, may these first twenty years be just the first twenty years. I am delighted and honored to be a part of this fabulous legacy. Happy birthday CFS!

Sass, Louis [22:49]

It is a real privilege to pay tribute to the center for subjectivity research and to the three who founded it – Dan Zahavi, Joseph Parnas and Arne Grøn. I am grateful to have been associated with the center and to have collaborated over the years with its founders. In paying tribute today we might recognize as well some earlier figure who have inspired the lines of thought championed by the center – the philosopher Husserl, the psychiatrist Karl Jaspers and that unclassifiable Dane Søren Kierkegaard.

It is appropriate that the center is called a "center" and not say "an institute" or "a forum". Just as each of us the center of our own experiential world, so this institution is the center of an academic universe. And perhaps, some of us might like to think of *the* academic universe, given that its

subject matter is that through which everything else comes to be known. The study of subjectivity is in any case a privilege and a responsibility.

Bearing this in mind, I would like to quote a line from another tutelary spirit – the Polish and French psychiatrist Eugène Minkowski. The statement he offers might serve as a model for the center’s aspirations as well as for its accomplishments: “I offer here a subjective work”, wrote Minkowski, “but one that struggles with all its powers to an objectivity”. I would like to wish “Happy Birthday” to the center and congratulations to all those associated with it!

Skodlar, Borut [24:31]

The Center for Subjectivity Research was for me, and I could see that for many of my fellow researchers, a turning point and a cradle for my professional path. I spent many months and before a year as a postdoc in 2009 and I could experience the center’s atmosphere extremely rich in ideas, dialogues, insights and almost revelations gravitating all around and way beyond the self and subjectivity. With the help of the center’s founding professors Dan Zahavi, Arne Grøn and Josef Parnas and many guest professors and researchers, one could fully enter the world of highest knowledge on one side, paired by a very down to earth gentle and humane relations. I can only whole heartedly thank the center and its director Dan Zahavi for this wonderful and exceptionally important knot on the world’s map of knowledge, and join many of colleagues in wishing the center many more fruitful years.

Salice, Alessandro [25:40]

Hi Dan. Hi CFS people. This is Ale, tuning in from Cork in Ireland to congratulate on the 20 years of the center. Great stuff, and an excellent opportunity to celebrate with a nice glass of Irish whiskey. So keep up the good work. I look forward to meeting you soon again. May the force of realist phenomenology be with you. Good bye guys.

Nakamura, Takuya [26:07]

Congratulations on the 20th anniversary of Center for Subjectivity Research. I miss the lively and the friendly atmosphere of CFS. The period of my stay at CFS was the most productive and impressive period of my life as a researcher. I think CFS is the best place to concentrate on research and making up relationships with other scholars. I hope for the further development of Center for Subjectivity Research, and I’d like to stay at CFS in near future again. Thank you.

Bader, Oren [26:49]

Happy anniversary to everyone at the CFS and greetings from Tel Aviv this is Oren. I wish you all happy celebration and at least 20 more successful years. I was fortunate enough to be a part of your

life, and I was fortunate to gain Dan's support and guidance, and thanks to the amazing work and to the inspiration of the CFS. I certainly became a better philosopher and a better thinker. So, I send you big hugs and greet you, and hopefully I see all of you after the pandemic.

Richter, Cornelia [27:26]

Dear colleagues, happy birthday to the Center for Subjectivity Research, happy birthday Dan, to what you have shaped and created within the last years. My name is Cornelia Richter and I've been assistant research professor at the center from 2003 to 2005. Today I am a professor for systematic theology at the University of Bonn, which you can see in my back. The center has shaped my own research in many respects. Back then... It was only an idea of what interdisciplinary research could be, when I was in Copenhagen. But in the long run, it really shaped me in a very sustainable way, to say that even. For today I am the chairperson of a research group, which is quite similar. It's called Resilience in Religion and Spirituality, Endurance and the Formation of Powerlessness, Fear and Anxiety. That research project here in Bonn is a collaboration among theology, philosophy, theological ethics, moral psychology, psychosomatic medicine and psychotherapy, palliative medicine and spiritual care. And it investigates resilience in relationship to what is described in discussions concerning health and healthcare as the religious and spiritual dimension of human life. The idea to that project did not come from the center, but what did come from the center was the feeling that interdisciplinary research can really be done, and it can be done in all the discussions coming along concerning methodological respects. So, the center has really contributed to research and it has, in that way, an impact on all the young researchers including our research group today. That is more than 20 young people, and I hope very much that within in the years 2022, 2023 and 2024 that we will be able to connect to the center in person again and meet in Copenhagen. So happy birthday and thank you very much for all you have done.

Pahuus Ann-Marie & Welz, Claudia [30:00]

Claudia: Happy birthday CFS. Marie: This is Claudia and Marie from Aarhus University. Claudia: Both of were fellows in the first decade of the CFS. And we remember the atmosphere of concentrated foundational research, innovative energy and high ambitions and international encounters in a vibrant research environment. Our research focus was subjectivity and transcendence. Marie: We were both members of the collective project on trust, conflict and recognition, working on the phenomenology of intersubjectivity displayed by self-other-conscious emotions. Claudia: And the impact of memory and narrativity on personal and collective identity, the ambiguities of self-understanding and self-deception and the normativity implied in becoming oneself and ethical questions arising from one's relating and misrelating to the Other. We want to

Transcript – CFS-20-Years: Video Greetings

say thank you to the three founders of the CFS for creating this unique constellation of research fields, combining the humanities and the natural sciences. Marie: And for showing us how a truly interdisciplinary collaboration is possible, including the inner-philosophical discourse between different approaches and for inspiring us and embodying different ways of being a researcher.

Claudia: There are some CFS-related themes that are and will be explored further in the future. For instance. Marie: Relating phenomenology to the philosophy of dialogue. Claudia: Discussing questions of orientation and mental health in times of global crises and spelling out the subjectivity involved in religious views of the human being vis-à-vis the divine. Finally, we have good wishes for the next 20 years. May you continue to find new paths and fresh vistas. Marie: May you be filled with the joy of discovery. Claudia: And remember that there is also something greater than ‘the self’. Marie: Happy birthday to CFS.