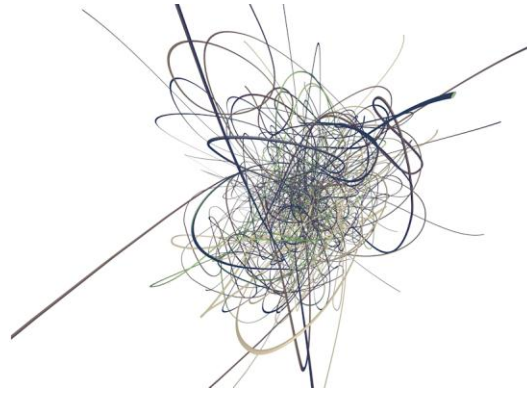


Center for Cognition and Neuroethics



Call for Proposals

Center for Cognition and Neuroethics
1st Annual Conference
Flint, MI
October 11 - 12, 2013

Theme: Reason, Reasons and Reasoning

“ I can stand brute force, but brute reason is quite unbearable.
There is something unfair about its use. It is hitting below the intellect.
—Oscar Wilde ”

Homo sapiens are, by definition, alleged to be reasoning animals (“wise men”) yet providing a satisfactory analysis of what exactly reasoning is has proven to be complicated and problematic undertaking. This conference will be devoted to considering problems in understanding human reasoning, as well as the implications for presuming ourselves to be reasoning animals.

The theme should be interpreted broadly. Proposal topics may include, but are not limited to:

- What is it to reason? Is reasoning a single kind of activity or are there multiple modes of reasoning?
- How should we attempt to measure, evaluate and/or assess a person’s reasoning capacities? Or, should such attempts be abandoned?
- What, if anything, can the neurosciences tell us about reasoning processes or capacities? What are the social and cultural implications of basing our understanding of reasoning within a neurological framework?
- Are notions of reasoning culturally and historically specific?
- Are notions of reasoning normative or value-laden and, if so, how are those values realized?
- What legal, social, cultural policies and practices are affected by or driven by accepted notions of reasoning?
- What are the implications of being regarded as a person who reasons ineptly, defectively and/or pathologically?
- How does the capacity to reason connect with or substantiate a person’s sense of self or self-identity? What are the implications for one’s self-identity if one loses the capacity to reason?
- Can children reason? Do they have reason?
- What are the implications (social, legal, cultural) of presuming ourselves to be reasoning beings?

Submissions: Submissions of abstracts (not exceeding 800 words) are invited for presentation of papers (not exceeding 3000 words). Please email your abstract as a Word.doc prepared for anonymous review. Please include your full contact information in the email only, including institutional affiliation, recent publications and positions, especially those relevant to the conference. We welcome proposals for panels; if you wish to submit a panel proposal, send all the abstracts of the panel participants and biographical information in one email and clearly indicate your preference for participating in a panel.

We welcome submissions from a wide range of disciplines, including philosophy, the social sciences, critical studies (including gender and sexuality studies, disability studies, race studies, and critical legal theory...), law, education, linguistics, the neurosciences, and the pharmaceutical and medical sciences as well as other disciplines and fields.

All submissions should be sent to the review coordinator, Dr. Jami L. Anderson, Department of Philosophy, University of Michigan-Flint, Flint, MI 48502-1950; anderson@cognethic.org

The deadline for proposal submission is January 1, 2013.

Vol. 1, no. 2 of the *Journal of Cognition and Neuroethics (JCN)* will be based on the proceedings of the 2013 CCN conference. All papers presented at the Reason, Reasons and Reasoning conference will be eligible for inclusion in this issue of *JCN*. To be included in this conference issue of *JCN*, completed papers must be submitted to *JCN* by December 21, 2013. For additional journal and contact information, see <http://www.cognethic.org/journal.htm>

The *Journal of Cognition and Neuroethics* is a new twice-yearly, peer-reviewed, open access journal published online, aimed at the cross-fertilization of research in neuroscience and related medical fields with scholarship in more strictly normative disciplines that focus on legal, social and ethical issues. *JCN* is committed to presenting wide ranging discussions. We are looking to publish works that explore ideas, concepts, theories and their implications across multiple disciplines and professions.

The Center for Cognition and Neuroethics promotes both the exploration of the conceptual foundations of the neurosciences and the study of the implications of their advances for society in the legal, political, and ethical realms. The CCN will disseminate this knowledge to as wide an audience as possible through publications, seminars, and other media. We engage in activities across multiple disciplines and professions that allow opportunities for intellectual synergy and increased impact by creating, fostering and supporting research and educational collaborations and communication. For more information about CCN see <http://www.cognethic.org/>