

New Styles of Thought and Practices in Early 20th Century Biology: Epistemologies and Politics

5th RUB-Workshop for History and Philosophy of the Life Sciences

5th – 6th Dec. 2016, Ruhr University Bochum

Monday, 5th Dec.

- 9:00-9:15 Arrival and registration
- 9:15-9:30 Opening Comments (Christina Brandt and Jan Baedke, RUB)
- 9:30-11:00 Session 1 (Chair: Jan Baedke, RUB)
- Daniel Nicholson (University of Exeter)
The Organicist Roots of Philosophy of Biology and Theoretical Biology
- Christian Reiß (University of Regensburg)
History, Philosophy and the Life Sciences: Julius Schaxel's Theoretische Biologie as a Social Process, 1918-1942
- 11:00-11:30 Coffee/Tea
- 11:30-12:15 Session 2 (Chair: Martin Winterhalder, RUB)
- Daniel Liu (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)
Revisiting the "Dark Age of Biocolloidology": Positivism and Reductionism in Interwar Biophysics
- 12:15-14:00 Lunch
- 14:15-15:00 Session 2 continued
- Caterina Schürch (Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich)
Life Explained: Physico-chemical Approaches and How Biological Expertise mattered
- 15:00-15:30 Coffee/Tea
- 15:30-17:00 Session 3 (Chair: Christina Brandt, RUB)
- Heiner Fangerau (Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf)
Difficult family affairs? Medicine and Experimental Biology at the Beginning of the 20th century
- Nick Hopwood (University of Cambridge)
Disciplinary Identities and Work Practices in Embryology
- 19:00 Dinner

Tuesday 06th Dec.

- 9:30-11:00 Session 4 (Chair: Abigail Nieves, RUB)
Ohad Parnes (Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin)
How Biology Became Modern (1910-1940)
Robert Meunier (University of Kassel)
Pathways of Development, Pathways of Inference: Lineage Tracing, Fate Maps, Phenogenetics
- 11:00-11:30 *Coffee/tea*
- 11:30-12:15 Session 5 (Chair: Christina Brandt, RUB)
Jan Baedke (Ruhr University Bochum)
O Organism, Where Art Thou? Old and New Challenges for an Organism-centered Biology
- 12:15-14:00 *Lunch*
- 14:15-15:45 Session 5 continued
Maurizio Meloni (University of Sheffield)
Kammerer: Plasticity as Eugenics
Erik Peterson (University of Alabama)
Was Biology 'stuck' in the early 20th Century? Is it still 'stuck'?
- 15:45-16:00 *Coffee/Tea*
- 16:00-16:30 Edna Suárez (National Autonomous University of Mexico, UNAM) and Bettina Bock von Wülfingen (Humboldt University of Berlin):
comments and final discussion

Organization

Christina Brandt & Jan Baedke
(Mercator Research Group II & Institute of Philosophy I, Ruhr University Bochum)

