

PARTICIPANT FORM for the SUMMER SCHOOL

Constructivism and Enaction

A new paradigm for Cognitive Science

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I. – SITUATION

Status : University teacher Research scientist Thesis student Post-doc

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Special information(s) (article, scientific responsibility, participation to research projects, other...) :

I am currently waiting to complete the final examination of my doctoral research. I am also seeking to begin a series of empirical studies on how basic cognitive processes vary according to the motivations of the individual.

III. – RESEARCH THEME

Please indicate briefly (10 lines max) your themes of research, and 4 or 5 key words

My research to date has been entirely theoretical and has focused on the concepts of goals and goal-directedness in use (or not!) in cognitive science. Embodiment and enactive approaches to cognitive science have placed a new emphasis on the action-based character of the mind, but there have been surprisingly few discussions of what actions are, or of what the goals that drive and guide them might be. I seek to develop a conception of goals which will fit an enactive approach, and which will be capable of encompassing different forms of goal-directedness from low-level biological concerns to much higher-level culturally structured projects and activities. At all times, the emphasis is on the motivated and *driven* nature of the mind. I also argue for an enactive account of “meaning”, one that sees meaning arising from the implications for the goals of an agent in context.

Keywords: Meaning, motivation, goals, emotions.

III. – VIDEOS AND EXPERIMENTAL MATERIAL

Moments of relaxation might be the occasion to share and show original scientific video documents (not too long) or experimental material (which could be used by all the participants). A video party and an experimental demonstration session have been planned. Could you indicate video or experimental material you would like to present.

I have no such materials to offer to the group at present.

Videos :

Experimental demonstration :