

July 2007

Year 2, Issue 2

# IEG newsletter

Oxford Interdepartmental Research Group on the Philosophy of Information  
<http://web.comlab.ox.ac.uk/oucl/research/areas/ieg/>

## In this Issue

From the coordinator 1

## Research

Publications 2

Journal Highlights 2

Forthcoming 2

Editorial Projects 3

## Activities

Conferences and Talks 4

Field Reports 4

Research Projects 6

IEG workshops 7

PIL workshop 8

## Correspondents

News 6

## Members

Appointments 7

Scholarships 7

Graduations 8

## From the Coordinator

Welcome to the new issue of the IEG newsletter. As you may notice, the format of our newsletter has improved.

We have realised that the amount of news we were trying to provide required a better kind of document than a simple ascii. This is our first Newsletter in pdf and we hope you will enjoy this new layout.

This academic year has been extremely fruitful for our research group. You will find plenty of information on publications, forthcoming papers, conference talks, workshops and further details on our members. Our group has expanded, and it now includes fifteen people. We have four new Senior Research Associates, whom I'm very pleased to introduce.

**Jesse F. Hughes** received his PhD in Logic, Computation and Methodology from Carnegie Mellon University in 2001. He is interested in practical philosophy and philosophy of technology and the connection between the two. He is also interest in deontic and epistemic logics.

**Giuseppe Primiero** received his MA in Philosophy from the Universities of Palermo (Italy) and Leiden (the Netherlands) and his PhD in Philosophy from the University of Palermo. He is a Post-Doctoral researcher at the Centre for Logic and Philosophy of Science at Ghent University (Belgium). His research focuses on logical modelling of dynamic reasoning within alternative logics (constructive, adaptive, non-monotonic and interactive), especially with respect to the epistemic description of knowledge, belief contents and the flow of information.

**Mehrnoosh Sadrzadeh** received her Ph.D. in Philosophy in 2006 from the University of Quebec at Montreal and the ComLab, Oxford University. She is currently EPSRC Research Fellow, at the School of Electronics and Computer Science of the University of Southampton, and Academic Visitor at the ComLab of Oxford University. Her research interests include reasoning about information flow in multi-agent systems, algebraic semantics for dynamic epistemic logic, classical and quantum security protocols and computational linguistics.

**Sonja Smets** is Lecturer in Philosophy at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel and Post-doctoral Researcher at the Flanders' Fund for Scientific Research, Belgium. Her research areas are philosophy of quantum information, quantum logic and quantum information theory, non-classical logics, applied logics, belief revision and update.

You can find more information about our other members in the section [People](#) of our [website](#).

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to express the gratitude and best wishes of the whole IEG to our past members, Gian Maria Greco and Gianluca Paronitti for their past collaborations.

All my best regards,

*Luciano Floridi*



## Journals Highlights



*Journal of Philosophical Logic*

- ▶ Springer Netherlands
- ▶ ISSN 0022-3611 (Print)  
ISSN 1573-0433 (Online)



*Logic, Epistemology and the Unity of Science*

“aims to reconsider the question of the unity of science in light of recent developments in logic.”

## Publications

### L. Floridi

- ▶ **Global Information Ethics: The Importance of Being Environmentally Earnest**, *International Journal of Technology and Human Interaction* (2007), 3(3), pp. 1-11.
- ▶ **Information Ethics, its Nature and Scope**, Japanese translation in *The Thought of Information Ethics*, ed. by Toru Nishigaki and Tadashi Takenouchi (Tokyo: NTT, 2007), pp. 47-98.

### M. Jago

- ▶ **Hintikka and Cresswell on Logical Omniscience**, *Logic & Logical Philosophy*. (2007), 15(4), pp. 325-354.
- ▶ **Wittgenstein**, for *Humanities Ebooks*, Philosophy Insights series, isbn 9781847600141
- ▶ **Formal Logic**, for *Humanities Ebooks*, Philosophy Insights series, isbn 9781847600417

### G. Primiero

- ▶ **On building abstract Terms in Typed Systems**, in *The Logica 2006 Yearbook*, FILOSOFIA Publishing House, Institute of Philosophy, Academy of Sciences - Czech Republic, 2007, pp.191-202.

### M. Sadrzadeh

- ▶ With A. Baltag, B. Coecke , **Epistemic Actions as Resources**, in *Journal of Logic and Computation*, vol. 17 (3), pp. 555-585, May 2007.
- ▶ With C. Cirstea, **Coalgebraic Epistemic Update without Change of Model**, in *Lecture Notes in Computer Science*, vol. 4624, pp. 158-172, June 2007.
- ▶ **High Level Quantum Structures in Linguistics and Multi Agent Systems**, in *Proceedings of the AAAI Spring Symposium on Quantum Interaction*, P. Bruza, W. Lawless, J. van Rijsbergen (eds.), Stanford University, March 2007.

### S. Sequoiah-Grayson

- ▶ **The Scandal of Deduction: Hintikka on the Information Yield of Deductive Inferences**, *Journal of Philosophical Logic*, Springerlink Online First.

### S. Smets

- ▶ With A. Baltag, **From Conditional Probability to the Logic of Doxastic Actions**, in the proceedings of *TARKXI*, edited by Dov Samet, Brussels 2007.

## Forthcoming

### H. Demir

- ▶ **Counterfactuals vs. Conditional Probabilities**, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, (June 2008).

**L. Floridi**

- ▶ **Understanding Information Ethics**, invited contribution for a special issue of *APA Newsletter on Philosophy and Computers*.
- ▶ **Semantic Information: Philosophical Issues and Theories**, *Lecture Notes in Computer Science*.

**J. Hughes**

- ▶ **Why Do They Do That? (Practical Reasoning in Engineering)**, *Handbook of Philosophy of Engineering*.

**M. Jago**

- ▶ **Resources in Epistemic Logic**. One of the selected papers from the *World Congress on Universal Logic*.
- ▶ With N. Alechina and B. Logan, **Belief revision for rule-based agents**. Proceedings of the *Workshop on Logic, Rationality and Action*, ed. J. van Benthem, S. Ju and F. Veltman, College Publications.
- ▶ **Review of Jonathan A. Waskan, Models and Cognition (MIT press, 2006)**, *Mind*.
- ▶ **Review of Ross Brady, Universal Logic (CSLI publications, 2006)**, *Studia Logica*.

**G. Primiero**

- ▶ **Information and Knowledge – A constructive Type-Theoretical Approach**, *Logic, Epistemology and the Unity of Science*, Springer (2007).
- ▶ **Belief Merging based on Adaptive Interaction**, in *A Meeting of the Minds*, Proceedings of the Workshop on Logic, Rationality and Interaction (LORI), August 5-9, 2007, Beijing, China, Texts in Computer Science, vol.8, College Publications, London, pp. 289-294.
- ▶ **Type-Theoretical Dynamics**, in *Antirealism: the Realism/Antirealism Debate in the Age of Alternative Logics*, Logic Epistemology and the Unity of Science Series, Springer.
- ▶ **An Epistemic Constructive Definition of Information**, *Logique & Analyse* (December 2007, vol.50, n. 200).

**M. Sadrzadeh**

- ▶ **Pregroup Analysis of Persian Sentences**, in Casadio, C. and Lambek, J., Eds. *Pregroups and Linear Logic*, to appear October 2007.

**S. Sequoiah-Grayson**

- ▶ **The Scandal of Deduction: Hintikka on the Information Yield of Deductive Inferences**, *Journal of Philosophical Logic*.
- ▶ **The Metaphilosophy of Information**, *Minds and Machines*.
- ▶ **Metasemantic Information and the Scandal of Deduction**, in *The Logica Yearbook 2007*, Filosofia, Prague.

**S. Smets**

- ▶ With A. Baltag, **Probabilistic Dynamic Belief Revision**, Proceedings of *LORI* (China august 07) edited by Johan van Benthem, Shier Ju and Frank Veltman. College Publications, London.

**Editorial Projects****Special Issue of Knowledge, Rationality, and Action****Series of Synthese**

*S. Sequoiah-Garison, L. Floridi*

The special issue will be dedicated to the proceedings of the the *First Workshop on the Philosophy of Information and Logic*. More information about this workshop at page 8.

**Handbook of Computer Ethics****Cambridge University Press**

*L. Floridi*

The Handbook will provide an authoritative, philosophical survey of the fundamental themes, problems, arguments and theories, constituting the innovative field of computer ethics. It will comprise sixteen, newly-commissioned chapters, written by leading experts in the field: Alison Adam, Colin Allen, John Arquilla, Phil Brey, Terrell Ward Bynum, Stephen Clarke, Charles Ess, Luciano Floridi, Lawrence M. Hinman, Deborah G. Johnson, James H. Moor, Carsten Bernd Stahl, Herman Tavani, May Thorseth, Jeroen van den Hoven and John Weckert.

**Information****Oxford University Press**

*L. Floridi*

This is a volume for the Very Short Introduction Series.

**Philosophy of Computing and Information: 5 Questions****Automatic Press / VIP**

*L. Floridi*

This is a collection of short interviews about the philosophy of computing and information and its broader, intellectual environment, with some of the most influential and prominent

researchers in the area.

Each contributor will answer the following 5 questions:

1. Why were you initially drawn to computational and/or informational issues?
2. What example(s) from your work (or the work of others) best illustrates the fruitful use of a computational and/or informational approach for foundational researches and/or applications?
3. What is the proper role of computer science and/or information science in relation to other disciplines?
4. What do you consider the most neglected topics and/or contributions in late 20th century studies of computation and/or information?
5. What are the most important open problems concerning computation and/or information and what are the prospects for progress?

The list of people interviewed includes Margaret Boden, Valentino Braitenberg, Rodney Brooks, Brian Cantwell Smith, Gregory Chaitin, Daniel Dennett, Keith Devlin, Fred Dretske, Hubert L. Dreyfus, Edward Feigenbaum, Tony Hoare, Seth Lloyd, John McCarthy, James Moor, Tim O'Reilly, Zenon Pylyshyn, Dana Scott, John Searle, Aaron Sloman, Patrick Suppes, Johan Van Benthem, Terry Winograd and Stephen Wolfram.

## Field Reports

### ECAP 2007

120 participants, 3 days, 3 parallel sessions and 3 invited keynote speakers for a total of 85 presentations. The arguments presented

## Conferences & Talks

### P. Allo

- ▶ **Adaptive conditions for being informed**, poster presented at the *Formal Epistemology Workshop 2007* (Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, 31 May 3 June 2007)
- ▶ **Formalising the 'no information without data-representation' principle**, *Fifth European Computing and Philosophy Conference* (Twente University, 21-23 June 2007)
- ▶ **Noise, Equivocation, and Informational Content**, *North American Computing and Philosophy Conference* (Loyola University, Chicago, 26-28 July 2007)
- ▶ **Invited tutorial** at *ILCLI International Workshop on Logic and Philosophy of Knowledge, Communication and Action 2007* (Donostia, 28-30 November 2007)

### H. Demir

- ▶ **Dretske's Information Theoretic Approach and Epistemology**, *Keith Lehrer's Epistemology Reading Group*, University of Arizona, (Arizona, Fall 2007).
- ▶ **The Animal's Perspective vs. The Observer's Perspective**, Society for *Philosophy and Psychology*, Poster Presentation, York University, (Toronto, June 2007).

### L. Floridi

- ▶ **Invited speaker, Göttingen Academy of Sciences** (Göttingen, November 2007).
- ▶ **Artificial Companions in Society: Perspectives on the Present and Future**, invited position paper, Oxford Internet Institute and e-Horizons Institute, James Martin School of the 21st Century, in association with the EU Integrated Project COMPANIONS (Oxford, October 25-26, 2007).
- ▶ **Keynote speaker, Fifth International Workshop on Philosophy and Informatics** organized by the Department for Philosophy of the University of Kaiserslautern and the Special Interest Group on Philosophy and Informatics of the German Informatics Society (Kaiserslautern, Germany, October 1-2, 2007).
- ▶ **Invited speaker, Engineering and Metaphysics**, Philosophy of Engineering Series, organised by the The Royal Academy of Engineering (London, September 3, 2007)
- ▶ **Invited participant to the second Science Foo Camp**, the informal conference organised by O'Reilly Media, Nature Publishing Group and Google (Googleplex, Mountain View, California, August 3-5, 2007).

### M. Jago

- ▶ **Narrow Content and Rationality**, at *Logica 2007*, Czech Republic, June 2007 and *Joint Session of the Aristotelian Society and Mind association*, Bristol, July 2007.

## G. Primiero

- ▶ **Belief Merging based on Adaptive Interaction**, accepted talk at *Workshop on Logic, Rationality and Interaction (LORI)*, 5th-9th August 2007, Beijing, China.
- ▶ **An Adaptive Approach to Belief Change**, accepted talk at *13th Congress of Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science*, 9th-16th August 2007, Beijing, China.
- ▶ **A unified adaptive approach for merging inconsistent information** (tentative title), invited talk *Faculty of Philosophy*, Technische Universiteit Delft, 5th November 2007 (to be confirmed).

## S. Sequoiah-Grayson

- ▶ **Metasemantic Information and the Scandal of Deduction**, *Logica 2007*, 21st Annual Symposia, The Institute of Philosophy, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, Hejnice Monastery, 18-22 June 2007

## M. Sadrzadeh

- ▶ **Quantum Interactions**, *AAAI spring symposia*, Stanford March 2007
- ▶ **Dynamic Logic Montreal**, University of Quebec at Montreal, June 2007
- ▶ **Algebraic and Topological Methods in Non-Classical Logics III**, University of Oxford, August 2007.
- ▶ **Algebra and Coalgebra in Computer Science**, Norway, August 2007
- ▶ **Quantum Theory: Reconsideration of Foundations**, ?Sweden?, June 2007
- ▶ **Mathematics Methods in Security**, *Mc Gill University*, March 2007
- ▶ **Workshop on Quantum Cryptography and Security**, Lisbon, July 2007.

## S. Smets

- ▶ **Dynamic Conditionals as a Unifying Setting for Information Change: From Quantum Logic to Belief Revision**, abstract accepted for presentation at *LMPS*, Beijing, section A2 "Philosophical and Applied Logics". August 9-15, 2007.

## M. Taddeo

- ▶ **The problems of trust: a review of the main theories of trust**, paper accepted for the *Fifth European Computing and Computing Conference (ECAP 2007)*. June 21-23 2007, University of Twente, NL.
- ▶ **A Praxical Solution to the Symbol Grounding Problem: From the Grounded Symbols to Communication**, paper accepted for the *Nord-American Computing and Philosophy Conference (NA-CAP 2007)*. 26-28 July, 2007, Loyola University, Chicago, USA.

## M. Turilli

- ▶ **Ethics and the Practise of Software Design**, paper accepted for the *Fifth European Computing and Computing Conference (ECAP 2007)*. June 21-23 2007, University of Twente, NL.
- ▶ **Ethical flexibility for artificial agents**, paper accepted for the *Seventh International Computer Ethics Conference (CEPE 2007)*. July 12-14 2007 University of San Diego, USA.

covered a wide range of problems: from computer science to philosophy and sociology. The quality of the presentations was good, keynote speakers clearly being the 'hot serving' of the conference.

The first keynote speaker, Prof. Jeroen van den Hoven, presented "The Ethics of Wideware Engineering" with a novel definition of 'wideware' and 'epistemic enslavement'.

The second keynote speaker, Prof. Mark Bedau, presented his work on artificial life. He offered a critical overview of different techniques for modelling evolutionary dynamics.

The last keynote speaker, Prof. Giovanni Boniolo, presented a new logic for proving theorems about scale-free networks via a kind of modus ponens. His work was rich in hints for the research in philosophy of logic.

## Logica 2007

5 days and over 50 participants, with 4 keynotes, over 30 presentations and a single track. The 21st annual symposia brought together researchers in all areas of philosophical and mathematical logic.

Keynote speaker John MacFarlane spoke on "In Defense of Degrees". He argued that we should understand vagueness-related ambivalence as a distribution of standard (uncertainty-related) degrees of belief over a range of candidate degrees of truth.

Keynote speaker Greg Restall spoke on "Proof Theory and Meaning: On the Context of Deducibility". He illustrated options for inferentialist approaches to meaning by looking at a number of different concepts that we might define inferentially: propositional connectives, quantifiers, arithmetic and other mathematical concepts, and modal operators.

Keynote speaker Peter Schroder

Heister spoke on “Proof-Theoretic versus Model Theoretic Consequence”. He argued for his preferred alternative to the classical model-theoretic view of logical consequence based on a strong inversion principle, which inverts the conceptual order of truth and consequence.

Keynote speaker Stephen Yablo spoke on “Truth and Aboutness”. He proposed a theory of aboutness based upon sentential subject matters, building on the work of David Lewis.

### TARK 11

3 days, 22 contributed papers, 10 posters and three invited speakers. The invited speakers were Prof. Frank Arntzenius (Rutgers University), Prof. Yishay Mansour (Tel Aviv University), and Prof. Bernhard von Stengel (London School of Economics).

The TARK conferences bring together researchers from a wide variety of fields, ranging from Artificial Intelligence, Economics, Game Theory and Philosophy, all researchers working on issues involving reasoning about rationality and knowledge.

The quality of the presentations was good. A significant number of papers were devoted to issues involving “unawareness”. Among other topics, there were a number of interesting presentations devoted to issues in dynamic epistemic logic.

Of particular interest was the “Rump session”, the last session of the conference. The “Rump session” offered a forum for speakers to present a new idea or recent paper. The talks in the Rump session lasted no more than 6 minutes, but included a series of very nice short talks, including for instance Prof. D. Samet’s presentation on his recent joint work concerning “deriving Knowledge from Belief”.

- ▶ **Ethical and Legal Implications of Software Design**, panel with Prof. D. Burk, Prof. K. W. Miller, Dr M. Shaikh. 2007 *North American Computers and Philosophy (NA-CAP) Conference*. July 26-28, 2007, Loyola University, Chicago, USA.

## Research Projects

### **Reasoning about quantum information: a modal logic perspective on the foundations of quantum mechanics and its philosophical implications**

*Supervisors: S. Smets and Prof. J.P. Van Bendegem*

The project will take place in Brussels and has been approved by the Flemish Fund for Scientific Research. The project will run for four years starting from January 2008 and it comes with an open research-position. For more information on this project please write to [sonsmets \(at\) vub.ac.be](mailto:sonsmets@vub.ac.be).

## News from Correspondents

### K. Herold:

- ▶ **A Buddhist Model for the Informational Person**. Forthcoming in *Computing and Philosophy in Asia*, edited by Soraj Hongladarom. Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2007.
- ▶ **A Secular Buddhist Information Ethics?** To be delivered at *North-American Computing and Philosophy Conference*, Loyola University (Chicago, July 26-28, 2007).

### J. Soraker

- ▶ **Real norms, Virtual Cases: A Rationalist, Casuistic Account of Virtual Rape**, Hinman, L., Brey, P., Floridi, L., Grodzinsky, F. and Introna, L. (eds.), *Proceedings of CEPE 2007 – The 7th International Conference of Computer Ethics: Philosophical Enquiry*. Center for Telematics and Information Technology (CTIT): Enschede, pp. 340-347.
- ▶ **The Moral Status of Information and Information Technologies – a relational theory of moral status**, S. Hongladarom and C. Ess (Eds.), *Information Technology Ethics: Cultural Perspectives*, Hershey, PA: Idea Group Publishing, 2007
- ▶ **The Role of Pragmatic Arguments in Computer Ethics**, *Ethics and Information Technology*, 8(3):121-130, 2007
- ▶ **Did the Sage of Königsburg Never Try VR? – Some Reflections on Virtual Reality in Light of Kant’s Refutation of Idealism**. Paper delivered at *Kant and New Technology* workshop, NTNU, Trondheim, Norway, March 19, 2007
- ▶ **Virtual Cases, Real Norms - A Rationalist, Casuistic Account of Virtual Rape**. Accepted for presentation at *CEPE*, San Diego CA, July 12 2007.
- ▶ **User-created Virtual Environments and Global Freedom of Speech**. Presented at *ECAP’07*, Twente, June 23. Alternate version (more focused

on 'quality of life') accepted for presentation at SPT, Charleston SC, July 9 2007

- ▶ Appointed as 4-year PhD Research Fellow in the International Research Project: Evaluating the Cultural Quality of New Media, Department of Philosophy, University of Twente, The Netherlands - funded by the Dutch Research Council (NWO).
- ▶ Member of [3TU.Centre](#) for Ethics and Technology
- ▶ Local organizer, member of programme committee, track-chair for 'IT and Globalization' at ECAP'07, Twente, The Netherlands, June 21-23 2007

## IEG Workshops

The IEG organises regular workshops on topics related to the philosophy of computing and information. The workshops are meant to provide an opportunity for the speakers to discuss at length and in detail their current research projects. Each workshop lasts 2 hours, with a short break after ca. 45 min. presentation, followed by 45 minutes discussion.

The workshops are open to all members of the IEG and to other invited participants. If you are interested in participating, please send an email to [L. Floridi](#).

All meetings are very kindly hosted by the [Oxford University e-Research Centre \(OeRC\)](#). The OeRC works with research units across the University to enable the use and development of innovative computational and information technology in multidisciplinary collaborations. The IEG is very grateful for the support received.

The workshops presented in this issue of the Newsletter are three.

### M. Turilli

#### Ethics and Software Design, Thursday 31 May 2007

The seminar will be divided in three parts. First, I will introduce the concepts underlining an Ethical approach to software design and the problems that such approach aims to solve. In the second part, I will illustrate a translation process from ethical requirements to ethical protocols, outlining how formal tools can be used in integrating ethical protocols into software development. I will close the seminar with some considerations on the nature of the ethical systems for autonomous computational artefacts.

### S. Smets

#### Dynamic Conditionals as a Unifying Setting for Information Change: From Quantum Logic to Belief Revision, Friday 8 June.

In this talk I will focus on the role of logical dynamics, and in particular the role of dynamic-epistemic notions of "conditional", in understanding and modeling apparently very different phenomena:

- (1) knowledge-updates due to inter-agent communication;
- (2) belief-revising mechanisms used by agents to change their theories (or beliefs) when faced with new information;
- (3) the qualitative behaviour of quantum systems when subjected to measurements by an observing agent. A dynamic-modal approach is new in the context of quantum logic (being first introduced in my joint work with A. Baltag on dynamic

## Appointments

### Mark Jago

Will start in September 2007 a one-year lectureship in philosophy at University of Nottingham.

### Sebastian Sequoiah-Grayson

Has been appointed Lecturer in Philosophy at St Anne's College, University of Oxford.

Sebastian has also been awarded a three month Visiting Research Fellowship to the Tilburg Center for Logic and Philosophy of Science (TiLPS), Tilburg University, The Netherlands.

### Sonja Smets

Has been granted the renewal of her postdoctoral position in Brussels, by the Flemish Fund for Scientific Research. This is a three-year position, from October 2007 to October 2010.

Sonja will be 'Visiting Academic' at ILLC, Amsterdam, from September 2007 till March 2008 and at the School of Informatics, Indiana University, from March 2008 till August 2008.

Both these positions are sponsored by the Flemish Fund for Scientific Research.

## Scholarships

### S. Sequoiah-Grayson

Has been awarded the Wingate Scholarship by The Harold Hyam Wingate Foundation and a Herbertson Fund Project Grant by Balliol College, University of Oxford.

### M. Sadrzadeh

Has been awarded the Royal Soci-

ety Conference Grant and the AAAI scholarship award.

## Graduations

### Patrick Allo

Defended his doctoral thesis entitled "On Logics and Being Informative: Pluralism, Locality, and Feasibility". Vrije Universiteit Brussel, 25 April 2007.

### Mark Jago

Defended his doctoral thesis entitled "Logics for Resource-Bounded Agents". University of Nottingham, November 2006.

quantum logic), but in the context of knowledge-update and belief-revision it links closely to the work of the DEL school (J. van Benthem and his collaborators in Amsterdam and Stanford, working on the Dynamic Epistemic Logic and its relations to belief revision; L. Moss, A. Baltag and their so-called BMS approach to information update; etc.).

I will present a comparative discussion of the above mentioned cases (based on my recent joint work with A. Baltag) and will show the fruitfulness of the DEL approach and of dynamic conditionals as a unifying setting for analyzing and classifying various non-classical models of information, in terms of their underlying "logical dynamics".

### S. Bringsjord

**From Bankrupted Strong AI to Weak AI: the case for Psychometric AI, Tuesday 19 June.**

"Strong" AI (SAI) is the field devoted to building computational artifacts having the same mental powers and states possessed by human persons. "Weak" AI (WAI) is the field devoted to building computational artifacts that merely \*appear\* to have the same mentality as human persons. In light of 20 deductive refutations of SAI published by Bringsjord (most of which are informally presented in the forthcoming "The Mirage of Mechanical Mind" (\*MMM\*)), WAI takes center stage. But in order to pursue WAI systematically, the artifacts produced must be tested. (One such test is the Turing test; another test is the Short Story Game; yet another is the Wechsler IQ Test; a fourth is the Lovelace Text; a fifth is Floridi's Knowledge Game.) This presentation briefly reviews the fatal attack on SAI expressed in \*MMM\*, and explains the test-based approach to AI (Psychometric AI), in connection with the tests listed in the previous parenthetical.

## IEG

*The IEG is the result of a collaboration between OUCL (the Oxford University Computing Laboratory) and the Faculty of Philosophy, within Oxford.*

*The mission of the IEG is to investigate foundational and conceptual issues in Philosophy of Information (PI) developing a clear understanding of the nature, scope and life of information.*

[IEG website](#)

[ieg@philosophy.ox.ac.uk](mailto:ieg@philosophy.ox.ac.uk)

### Newsletter Editors

Matteo Turilli

Luciano Floridi

IEG © All right reserved

## PIL Workshop

### The First Workshop on the Philosophy of Information and Logic.

*Philosophy Centre, 10 Merton Street, University of Oxford, November 3-4, 2007.*

The Workshop is an official event of the [IEG](#), and is supported by the Faculty of Philosophy.

The workshop has three main goals. First, to bring together the world's foremost researchers in the field, so that they may be exposed to, and interact with, the latest research issues and results. Second, to encourage further interdisciplinary work in the area, primarily between those working in philosophy and computer science departments. Third, to encourage those attendees not currently involved in research in the field to become involved in this new, exciting and fruitful area of research.

The workshop is strongly interdisciplinary in focus, as the area is situated across logic, computer science, and philosophy. It consists of a program of international and home speakers, presenting their most recent, unpublished research on the area. The panel of speakers consists of invited participants. These include Samson Abramsky, Patrick Allo, Alexandru Baltag, Johan van Benthem, Marcello D'Agostino, Luciano Floridi, Mark Jago, Edwin Mares, Mehrnoosh Sadzadeh, Sebastian Sequoiah-Grayson, Sonja Smets, and Christopher Timpson.

The Faculty of Philosophy has continued to dedicate its resources to the Workshop, both financial and logistical.