Frances Egan

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Rutgers University
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Present Position

Professor of Philosophy, Rutgers University
Member, Rutgers University Center for Cognitive Science

Areas of Specialization

Philosophy of Mind
Philosophy of Psychology
Foundations of Cognitive Science

Areas of Competence

Philosophy of Science
Philosophy of Language

Employment History

Professor, Rutgers University (2008-present)
Associate Professor, Rutgers University (1996-2008)
Assistant Professor, Rutgers University (1990-1996)

Education

B.A. University of Manitoba, 1976
M.A. (Philosophy), University of Manitoba, 1979
Ph.D. (Program in Philosophy of Science), University of Western On-
    tario, 1988.

Awards and Fellowships

Caroline Herschel Visiting Professorship, Ruhr-University Bochum
    (Fall 2016)
Rutgers Center for Cultural Analysis Faculty Fellowship, 2012-2013.
Research Fellow, Institute for Advanced Studies, Hebrew University,

Jerusalem (Spring 2011)
Research Fellow, Center for Interdisciplinary Research, University of Bielefeld, Germany (Spring 1990)
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Post-Doctoral Fellowship (1989-1991)
Ontario Government Scholarship (1983-1984)
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Doctoral Fellowship (1981-1983)

Publications

(i) Journal articles and contributed papers:

"A Deflationary Account of Mental Representation" forthcoming in *What are Mental Representations?* J. Smortchkova, K. Dolega, and T. Schlicht, (eds.), Oxford University Press.

"Content and Computation," forthcoming in *The Handbook of the Computational Mind*, Matteo Colombo and Mark Sprevak (eds.), Routledge.

"Function-Theoretic Explanation and the Search for Neural Mechanisms," in *Explanation and Integration in Mind and Brain Science*, David M. Kaplan (ed.), Oxford University Press, 2017, 145-163.

"How to Think about Mental Content," *Philosophical Studies* 170 (2014), 115-135. (German translation to appear in *Mentale Repräsentationen*, Tobias Schlicht and Joulia Smortchkova (eds.), Suhrkamp Verlag Berlin, August 2018.)

"Explaining Representation: A Reply to Matthen," *Philosophical Studies* 170 (2014), 137-142.

"Metaphysics and Computational Cognitive Science: Let's Not Let the Tail Wag the Dog," *The Journal of Cognitive Science* 13 (2012), 39-49.

"Representationalism," in *The Oxford Handbook of Philosophy of Cognitive Science*, E. Margolis, R. Samuels, and S. Stich, eds., Oxford University Press, 2012, 250-72.

"Computational Models: A Modest Role for Content," *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science* (special issue on Computation and Cognitive Science), 2010, 41: 253-259.

"Is There a Role for Representational Content in Scientific Psychology?" in *Stich and His Critics*, D. Murphy and M. Bishop, eds.,Wiley-Blackwell, 2009, 14-29.

"Wide Content", in *The Oxford Handbook of Philosophy of Mind*, A. Beckerman, B. McLaughlin, and S. Walter, eds., Oxford University Press, 2009, 674-704.

"The Content of Color Experience," *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 76 (2008), 407-414.

"Doing Cognitive Neuroscience: A Third Way," *Synthese* 153 (2006), 377-91 (co-authored with Robert Matthews).

"Naturalistic Inquiry: Where Does Mental Representation Fit In?," in *Chomsky and His Critics*, L. Antony and N. Hornstein, eds., Blackwells, 2003, 89-104.

"Pragmatic Aspects of Content Determination," in *Consciousness and Intentionality: Models and Modalities of Attribution*, D. Fisette, ed., Kluwer, 1999, 217-228.

"In Defense of Narrow Mindedness," *Mind and Language*, 14, 1999, 177-194.

"The Moon Illusion," *Philosophy of Science*, 65, 1998, 604-623.

"Intentionality and the Theory of Vision," in *Perception*, K. Akins, ed., Oxford University Press, 1996, 232-247.

"Folk Psychology and Cognitive Architecture," *Philosophy of Science*, 62, 1995, 179-196.

"Computation and Content," *The Philosophical Review*, 104, 1995, 181-203.

"A WORLD without MIND: Comments on Terence Horgan's 'Naturalism and Intentionality'," *Philosophical Studies*, 76, 1994, 327-338.

"Individualism and Vision Theory," *Analysis*, 54, 1994, 258-264.

"Individualism, Computation, and Perceptual Content," *Mind*, 101, 1992, 443-459. (Reprinted in *Language and Meaning in Cognitive Science*, A. Clark and J. Toribio, eds., Routledge, 1998, 127-144).

"Propositional Attitudes and the Language of Thought," *The Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, 21, 1991, 379-388.

"Must Psychology be Individualistic?," *The Philosophical Review*, 100, 1991, 179-203.

"What's Wrong with the Syntactic Theory of Mind," *Philosophy of Science*, 56, 1989, 664-674.

"Comments on Horgan & Tienson, 'Settling into a New Paradigm'," *Southern Journal of Philosophy*, Spindel Conference Supplement, 26, 1988, 115-117.

(ii) Encyclopedia entries and reviews:

Review of Marcin Milkowski's *Explaining the Computational Mind*, in *The Review of Metaphysics*, 67 (2013), 436-438.

"Vision," *Routledge Encyclopedia of Philosophy Online* (2008).

Review of Christopher Hill's *Thought and World*, *Mind*, 115, 2006, 152-156.

"Computationalism," in *The Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (2nd edition), D. Bochert, ed., Macmillan, 2006.

"Mentalese," in *The Encyclopedia of Language and Linguistics* (2nd ed.), K. Brown, ed., Elsevier, 2005.

"Representation in Language and Mind," in *The Encyclopedia of Language and Linguistics* (2nd ed.), K. Brown, ed., Elsevier, 2005.

Review of Robert Cummins' *Representations, Targets, and Attitudes*, *The Philosophical Review*, 107, 1998, 118-120.

"Vision", in *Routledge Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, E. Craig, ed., Routledge, 1998.

"The Computational Model of Mind," in *The Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Supplement), D. Borchert, ed., Macmillan, 1996, 87-89.

"Vindicating Intentional Realism: A Review of Jerry Fodor's *Psychosemantics: The Problem of Meaning in the Philosophy of Mind*," *Behavior and Philoso-*

phy, 18, 1990, 59-61.

Review of Christopher Peacocke's *Thoughts: An Essay on Content*, *Philosophy of Science*, 56, 1989, 359-260.

(iii) Other media:

"How to Think about Mental Content," video talk in Neuphi series
https://vimeo.com/groups/neuphi/videos/60800468

"Meaning as Gloss," interview by Richard Marshall for 3:AM Magazine
http://www.3ammagazine.com/3am/meaning-as-gloss/

Scholarly Presentations

Rudolf Carnap Lectures (with Robert Matthews), Ruhr University-Bochum, March 2019.

Invited talk at conference on Concepts and Explanation, Heinrich-Heine University, Dusseldorf, February 2019.

Comments on APA Author Meets Critics Session on Nick Shea's *Representation in Cognitive Science*, Eastern Division Annual Meeting, New York, January 2019.

Keynote address at the Biannual Conference of the German Cognitive Science Society, Technical University Darmstadt, September 2018.

"Naturalizing Intentionality without Naturalizing Content," invited talk at the Birkbeck Workshop on Content in Mind, Language, and Metaphysics, London, May 2018.

"Predictive Processing and the Naturalization Project," invited talk at the Predictive Processing Workshop, Tufts University, Boston, April 2018.

"Naturalizing Intentionality: Putting Ourselves in the Picture," Invited address to the Human Mind Conference, University of Cambridge, Cambridge UK, June 2017.

"Deflationary Representation Defended," invited address at the Bochum-Rutgers Workshop in Philosophy, Ruhr University-Bochum, May 2017.

"The Contents of Perceptual Experience: A Deflationary Account," invited address to the annual Winter Philosophy of Perception Workshop, University of California/San Diego, February 2017.

"The Contents of Perceptual Experience: A Deflationary Account' invited address to the CEU-Rutgers MIND Workshop, Budapest, Hungary, January 2017.

"A Deflationary Account of Mental Representation," invited address to the Research Group on the Structure of Representation in Language, Cognition and Science, Heinrich Heine University, Dusseldorf, Germany, November 2016.

"A New Look at Adverbialism about Perceptual Experience," the Caroline Herschel Lecture, Ruhr University-Bochum, October 2016.

"Function-Theoretic Explanation and the Search for Neural Mechanisms," keynote address at the Bochum-Rutgers Workshop in Philosophy, New York, October 2016.

Invited lectures on Representation in Language and Mind at the Norwegian Summer Institute on Language and Mind, Center for the Study of Mind and Nature (CSMN) in Oslo, Norway, June 2016.

"A Deflationary Account of Mental Representation in Linguistics" invited address at the conference on Philosophy of Generative Linguistics, Leeds University, UK, May 2016.

"Understanding Computational Models of Mind," invited address to the department of philosophy, Indiana University, May 2016.

"Understanding Computational Models of Mind," invited talk in the "What is Cognitive Science?" series, Rutgers University Center for Cognitive Science, October 2015.

"A Deflationary Account of Mental Representation," invited talk at the workshop on Mental Representations: The Foundation of Cognitive Science?, Ruhr University-Bochum, Germany, September 2015.

"A Deflationary Account of Mental Representation," keynote address delivered to the annual meeting of the Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Duke University, Durham NC, June 2015.

"The Role of Concept Talk in Cognitive Neuroscience," invited talk at the annual meeting of the Canadian Philosophical Association, Ottawa, Canada, May 2015.

"Understanding Computational Models of Mind," invited talk at the *Computers and Minds* symposium, the third public event of *The Human Mind Project* (part of the UK-wide *Being Human Festival of the Humanities*), University of Edinburgh, November 2014.

"A Deflationary Account of Mental Representation," invited talk at the Institute for Philosophy, School of Advanced Study, University of London, November 2014.

"Function-Theoretic Explanation and the Search for Neural Mechanisms," keynote address presented to Graduate Student Spring Colloquium on *Exploring the Subpersonal: Agency, Cognition, and Rationality* at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, March 2014.

"How to Think about Mental Content," invited address to the Society for Semantics and Philosophy in Europe annual meeting, St. Petersburg, June 2013.

"Function-Theoretic Explanation and Neural Mechanisms," presented to the workshop on Philosophy and the Brain, Institute for Advanced Studies, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, May 2013.

"How to Think about Mental Content," presented to the Department of Philosophy, University of California at Los Angeles, November 2012

"How to Think about Mental Content," plenary talk presented to the Oberlin Philosophy Conference, Oberlin College, Ohio, May 2012

"Two Kinds of Representational Content for Cognitive Theorizing," presented to the conference on *Philosophy and the Brain*, Institute for Advanced Studies, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, May 2011

"What Notion of *Representation* Does Cognitive Science Need?" presented to the Cognitive Group, Department of Psychology, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, April 2011

"Linguistic Contextualism Re-considered," presented to the Philosophy of Linguistics Conference, Inter-University Center, Dubrovnik, Croatia, Sep-

tember 2010

"On the Prospects for Naturalizing Intentionality," presented to the Rutgers Graduate Student Philosophy Colloquium, April 2010.

"How is Mental Representation Possible?", keynote address presented to the School of Thought Annual Undergraduate Philosophy Conference, University of Western Ontario, March 2010

"Can There be Representation without Represent*eds*?," presented to the Philosophy of Linguistics conference, Inter-University Center, Dubrovnik, Croatia, September 2009

Comments on Andy Egan's "Projectivism without Error", SPAWN Conference on Perception, Syracuse University, August 2008

"Computational Models: A Modest Role for Content", presented to the Conference on Computation and Cognitive Science, Kings College, Cambridge, UK, July 2008

"Does Linguistics Need a Referential Semantics? Lessons from the Theory of Vision," presented to the Philosophy of Linguistics workshop, Inter-University Center, Dubrovnik, Croatia, September 2007

"Content and Computational Neuroscience", presented to the 33rd Annual Conference in the Philosophy of Science, Inter-University Center, Dubrovnik, Croatia, April 2006

Comments on Mohan Matthen's *Seeing, Doing, and Knowing*, presented to the APA Pacific Division Annual Meeting, Portland, OR, March 2006

"Is There a Role for Representational Content in Scientific Psychology?", presented to the department of philosophy, University of Pennsylvania, February 2006

"Is There a Role for Representational Content in Scientific Psychology?", presented at an invited session on Representation in the Sciences, Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology Annual Meeting, Durham, NC, April 2005

"Two Models of Computational Explanation," presented at the Workshop on Computational Modeling and Explanation in Neuroscience, Washington University in St. Louis, November 2004

"Putting Mind in its Place," presented to the Department of Philosophy, Washington University in St. Louis, November 2004

"Psychological Explanation and the Extended Mind Thesis," presented to the Cognitive Science Group, CUNY Graduate Center, November 2003

"Putting Mind in its Place," presented to the Department of Philosophy, University of Western Ontario, November 2003

"Putting Mind in its Place," presented to the Department of Philosophy, University of Delaware, May 2003

"A Measurement-Theoretic Account of Propositional Attitudes," presented to the Senior Seminar, Department of Philosophy, University of Delaware, May 2003

"Computational Cognitive Science: Where Do Propositional Attitudes Fit In?" (co-authored with Robert Matthews), presented to the Macquarie Center for Cognitive Science, Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia, March 2002

"Naturalistic Inquiry and Mental Representation," presented to the Department of Philosophy, Australia National University, Canberra, Australia, March 2002

"Naturalistic Inquiry and Mental Representation," presented to the Department of Philosophy, Canterbury University, Christchurch, New Zealand, February 2002

Comments on M.A.Khalidi's "Innateness and Domain Specificity," presented at the APA Central Division Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, May 2001

"Naturalistic Inquiry: Where Does Intentionality Fit In?," keynote address presented to the 2nd annual Rutgers/Princeton Graduate Student Conference, April 2001

"Computation and Vision Theory," presented to the Cognitive Science Proseminar, University of Maryland, April 1999

"Narrow Psychology and Wide Content," presented to the department of linguistics and philosophy, MIT, and the department of philosophy, University of Rochester, November 1997

"A Pragmatic Account of Mental Content," presented to the sub-faculty of philosophy, Oxford University, October 1997

"Narrow Psychology and Wide Content," presented at a symposium on content and computation, School of Advanced Study Philosophy Programme, University of London, October 1997

"Comments on Thomas Bontly's 'Non-individualistic Syntactic Engines'," presented at the APA Central Division Annual Meeting, Pittsburgh, April 1997

"The Moon Illusion," presented to the department of philosophy at CUNY Graduate Center, New York, November 1996

"The Moon Illusion," presented to the department of philosophy at McGill University, Montreal, November 1996

"A Pragmatic Theory of Mental Content," presented to the department of philosophy at McGill University, Montreal, November 1996

"Why do we need Representational Content?," presented to the Rutgers University Center for Cognitive Science faculty colloquium, November 1996

"A Pragmatic Theory of Mental Content," presented to the department of philosophy at New York University, October 1996

"A Pragmatic Theory of Mental Content," invited address presented at the APA Central Division annual meeting, Chicago, April 1996

"A Pragmatic Theory of Mental Content," Conference on Intentionality and Consciousness, University of Quebec at Montreal, Montreal, Canada, June 1995

"Computation and Content," presented to the philosophy department, University of Toronto, March 1994

"Intentionality and the Theory of Vision," presented at annual meeting of the Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Vancouver, Canada, June 1993

"Folk Psychology and Cognitive Architecture," presented to the philosophy department, Texas A & M University, May 1993

"Comments on Terry Horgan's `Naturalism and Intentionality'," presented at the Oberlin Philosophy Colloquium, Oberlin College, April 1993

"Folk Psychology and Cognitive Architecture," presented at annual meeting of the Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, New Orleans, April 1993

"Folk Psychology and Cognitive Architecture," presented to the philosophy department, McGill University, Montreal, Canada, January 1993

"Folk Psychology and Cognitive Architecture," presented at a joint meeting of the Canadian Philosophical Association and the Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science, Charlottetown, PEI, May 1992

"Individualism, Computation, and Perceptual Content," presented to the philosophy department, CUNY Graduate Center, New York, December 1991

"Individuation in Psychological Theory," presented to the research group on Mind and Brain, ZiF, University of Bielefeld, Bielefeld, Germany, May 1990

Commentary on Tyler Burge, "Individuation and Causation in Psychology," Conference on Mental Causation, ZiF, University of Bielefeld, Bielefeld, Germany, March 1990

"Propositional Attitudes and the Language of Thought," presented at annual meeting of the Canadian Philosophical Association, Quebec City, May 1989

"Must Psychology be Individualistic?", presented to the philosophy departments at Wayne State University, Rice University, The University of Notre Dame, The University of Calgary, and Rutgers University, January and February 1989

Commentary on Bredo Johnson, "Mental States as Mental," APA Eastern Division annual meeting, Washington, D.C., December 1988

Commentary on T. Horgan & J. Tienson, "Settling into a New Paradigm," presented at the Spindel Conference on Connectionism and the Philosophy of Mind, Memphis State University, October 1987

"What's Wrong with the Syntactic Theory of Mind," presented at the New Jersey Regional Philosophy Association annual meeting, Rutgers, November 1986

Commentary on Christopher Peacocke, "Explanation in Cognitive Psychology: Language, Perception, and Level 1.5," presented at Society for Philosophy

and Psychology annual meeting, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, June 1986

Commentary on P. Morton, "Methodological Solipsism and the Syntactic Theory of Mind," presented at annual meeting of the Canadian Philosophical Association, Winnipeg, May 1986

Commentary on M. Gerwin, "Paul Churchland on Action Explanation," presented at annual meeting of the Canadian Philosophical Association, Montreal, May 1985

Commentary on M. Matthen & E. Levy, "On Goals in Inert Matter," presented at annual meeting of the Canadian Philosophical Association, Guelph, June 1984

"Natural Kinds and the Pragmatics of Reference," presented at Conference on Scientific Realism, Dalhousie University, Halifax, August 1983. (Subsequently published in *The Dalhousie Review*).

Other Professional Activities

Associate Editor, *Nous*
Associate, *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*

Board of Directors, Annual International Conference in the Philosophy of
    Linguistics, IUC, Dubrovnik, Croatia (2008-present)

Referee: MIT Press, Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press,
    Routledge Press, Wiley-Blackwell, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, The National Science Foundation, The German-Israel Foundation for Scientific Research and Development, The Israel Science Foundation, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy, The Philosophical Review, Philosophy of Science, Mind and Language, Synthese, Phenomenology and Cognitive Science, Philosophy and Phenomenological Research, Philosophical Psychology, Erkenntnis, British Journal for the Philosophy of Science, Mind, Philosophical Studies, Philosophical Quarterly, Canadian Journal of Philosophy*.

5/18