FORTH
Institute of Computer Science

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UNIVERSITY OF CRETE
Department of Philosophy and Social Studies
Laboratory of Philosophical Research and Translation

Function and Meaning

Their Role in Constituting and Representing Knowledge

Following on the success of the 3rd Workshop 'Epistemological Questions in Knowledge Representation Systems Workshop' under the «DARIAH-KPHTH Development of the Greek research infrastructure for Humanities DYAS», Action EE4: «*Human Resources*», which took place on September 25th, 2015, ICS-FORTH. The Centre for Cultural Informatics of ISL of ICS-FORTH together with the Laboratory of Philosophical Research and Translation of the Department of Philosophy and Social Studies of the University of Crete organize a follow up workshop focusing on the topics of function and meaning.

Despite the many possible contending approaches to the notion of function, the concept is, nevertheless, considered a key-concept connecting different spheres and elements across a variety of fundamental interactions and relations: episteme and techne, knowledge and activity, goals and means, whole and parts. Moreover, the correlation between the concept of function and the process of the constitution of meaning indirectly associates the discussion about "function" with the broader corresponding debates of the 20th century about meaning. This correlation highlights the dynamic and content-oriented relationship between function and the constitution of meaning and poses, in this way, the problem of meaning within the context in which it emerges and functions.

A workshop to address, then, the complex character of the notion of function and its role in the constitution of meaning offers a chance to further open and deepen the collaboration between philosophers and professionals in the fields of ICT and sciences. An interdisciplinary dialogue between members of these different communities of knowledge and expertise offers the chance to detect and discover new perspectives on epistemological and methodological issues concerning the concept of function in relation to the constitution of meaning.

The discussion raised will be taken up within the general scope of this workshop series, which aims to better found and understand epistemologically the theory and practice of Knowledge Representation. Particularly, the workshop aims to bring together researchers from a variety of backgrounds in an interdisciplinary approach to investigate the issues of conceptual modelling for the production of knowledge representation systems that would provide commensurable expressions for data produced across a wide spectrum of scientific disciplines.

For these reasons, we are holding a workshop on June 6th, 2016, at the campus of the University of Crete, in Rethymno, to address the question of function, while also leaving open the workshop's scope to allow participants to raise issues within the theory of meaning more generally.