Genomics & Philosophy of Race
2013-2014

Stanford University
November 15, 2013

UC Davis
March 10, 2014

UC Santa Cruz
April 12-13, 2014

Rasmus Grønfeldt Winther, PI
Associate Professor of Philosophy

Philosophy in a Multicultural Context Research Cluster
Institute for Humanities Research, IHR
University of California, Santa Cruz
ABOUT THE CLUSTER

The Philosophy in a Multicultural Context research cluster investigates how diverse cultural traditions and academic contexts relate to core philosophical methods of analysis including conceptual analysis, reflective equilibrium, and logical inference. In other words, this research cluster explores both the impact of multiculturalism on philosophical methodology and the use of philosophical tools for understanding the promises and challenges of multiculturalism.

The main product of the research cluster in its first year (2012-2013) was a successful public conference, “Free to Universalize or Bound by Culture? Philosophy in a Multicultural Context.” Videos of the conference can be found at http://vimeo.com/channels/multiculturalphilosophy. The conference website can be found http://philosophy.ucsc.edu/news-events/colloquia-conferences/postscripts.html.

As one case study within this research cluster, the focus of the 2013-14 academic year will be “Genomics and Philosophy of Race.” Two workshops (Stanford in the Fall, UC Davis in the Winter) and one public conference (UCSC in the Spring) will be held. The project’s participants (listed below) are drawn from four UC campuses (Berkeley, Davis, San Diego, and Santa Cruz) as well as Stanford University, the University of San Francisco, and Google.

Questions to be addressed by our interdisciplinary team this year include: Does contemporary genomics inform and shift our conceptualizations or consciousness of race? Do technologies, mathematical models, and data from genomics refine and potentially entrench—or pre-assume—certain understandings of the concept(s) of “race” through concepts such as “ancestry,” “clade,” “cluster,” “ethnicity,” “group,” “population,” and “subspecies”? Why, how, and for whom does it matter? Who has power? How do values, ethics, language, and politics inflect theories of race stemming from biological work and disseminating throughout the social landscape? How do the diverse global and multicultural contexts of Asia, Latin America, North America, and Europe (and the complexities of their respective indigenous and immigrant populations) alter and respond to biological research on race?

Feel free to contact the PI, Associate Professor Rasmus Grønfeldt Winther (rgw@ucsc.edu) with any questions or suggestions.
Rasmus Grønlundt Winther, Associate Professor of Philosophy, UC Santa Cruz

Carlos Andrés Barragán, Anthropology & STS, PhD Student, UC Davis
Nathaniel Deutsch, Professor of History, UC Santa Cruz
Brian Matthew Donovan, Graduate School of Education, PhD Student, Stanford University
Doc Edge, Biology, PhD Student, Stanford University
Marcus Feldman, Professor of Biology, Stanford University
Ryan Giordano, Search Ads, Google
James R. Griesemer, Professor of Philosophy & STS, UC Davis
Michael O. Hardimon, Associate Professor of Philosophy, UC San Diego
John Huelsenbeck, Professor of Integrative Biology, UC Berkeley
Michael Hunter, Philosophy, PhD Student, UC Davis
Linda Kealey, Philosophy, PhD Student, UC Santa Cruz
Michael Landis, Integrative Biology, PhD Student, UC Berkeley
Scott Lokey, Associate Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry, UC Santa Cruz
Roberta L. Millstein, Professor of Philosophy & STS, UC Davis
Alexis Mourenza, Philosophy PhD Student, UC Santa Cruz
Amir Najmi, Search Ads, Google
Rasmus Nielsen, Professor of Integrative Biology, UC Berkeley
Noah Rosenberg, Associate Professor of Biology, Stanford University
Quayshawn Spencer, Assistant Professor of Philosophy, University of San Francisco
Ronald Sundstrom, Associate Professor of Philosophy, University of San Francisco
Melinda A. Yang, Integrative Biology PhD Student, UC Berkeley

IHR, University of California, Santa Cruz
Program

Opening Remarks
Rasmus Grønfeldt Winther, Philosophy, UC Santa Cruz

Introductions

Human genetic clustering: results, responses to some critiques, and interpretive challenges
Noah Rosenberg, Associate Professor of Biology, Stanford University

Levels of Complexity in the Genomics: “Race” Issue
Marcus Feldman, Professor of Biology, Stanford University

Presentations

Semantics of population genetics: demes, populations, races and other categories
Rasmus Nielsen, Professor of Integrative Biology, UC Berkeley

12:00-1:15 Lunch break

The Concepts of 'Population' and 'Metapopulation' in the Genomics of Race: Introduction and Questions
Roberta L. Millstein, Professor of Philosophy & STS, UC Davis

Model Taxa as Research Platforms
James R. Griesemer, Professor of Philosophy & STS, UC Davis

2:15-2:30 Coffee break

The Lewontin-Edwards Debate? Methodological, Epistemological, and Ethical Dimensions
Rasmus Grønfeldt Winther, Philosophy, UC Santa Cruz

Race, Meaning, and Reality (Closing Remarks)
Quayshawn Spencer, Assistant Professor of Philosophy, University of San Francisco

Local hosts
Noah Rosenberg & Doc Edge
Black Community Services Center
Stanford University
Local support provided by the Stanford Center for Computational, Evolutionary, and Human Genomics
Program

Opening Remarks
    Roberta L. Millstein, Professor of Philosophy & STS, UC Davis

Presentations

A genomic view of recent genealogical Relatedness
    Graham Coop, Professor Evolution and Ecology, UC Davis

Multilocus Classification Accuracy and Multilocus Trait Differences
    Doc Edge, Biology, PhD Student, Stanford University

11:30-12:45 Lunch break

Using a projection analysis to explore human demographic history
    Melinda A. Yang, Integrative Biology PhD Student, UC Berkeley

Populations, Individuals and Biological Race
    Michael Hunter, Philosophy, PhD Student, UC Davis

2:15-2:30 Coffee break

On becoming mestizo: cultural and phenotypic conscriptions
    Carlos Andrés Barragán, Anthropology & STS, PhD Student, UC Davis

Playing With Fire? The Impact of the Hidden Curriculum in School Genetics on Essentialist Conceptions of Race
    Brian Matthew Donovan, Graduate School of Education, PhD Student, Stanford University

Closing Remarks
    Rasmus Gronfeldt Winther, Associate Professor of Philosophy, UC Santa Cruz

Local hosts
    Roberta L. Millstein, Carlos Andrés Barragán & James R. Griesemer

Andrews Conference Room (2203 Social Sciences & Humanities, SSH)

University of California Davis

Local support provided by UCD’s Office of the Dean of Social Sciences, Department of Philosophy, Science & Technology Studies (STS) Program, and funds from Jim Griesemer's Herbert A. Young Society Fellowship.
Program [Saturday, April 12, 10:00 am-6:00 pm]

Opening Remarks [10:00 am]
William A. Ladusaw, Humanities Dean, UCSC
Nathaniel Deutsch, Institute for Humanities Research Director, UCSC
Rasmus Grønfeldt Winther, UCSC, PI “Philosophy in a Multicultural Context”

Opening Keynote

Race in the Postgenomic Moment
Sarah Richardson, Harvard University

Biology Panel [11:00 am]

Forensic Casework and the Clustering of Human Craniofacial Variation
Bridget Algee-Hewitt, Stanford University

Multilocus Classification Accuracy and Polygenic Trait Differences
Doc Edge, Biology, PhD Student, Stanford University

Pharmacology in the genomic age: targeting drugs to (and keeping them away from) specific subpopulations
Scott Lokey, UCSC

On the genomic basis of the biological concept of race
Rasmus Nielsen, Professor of Integrative Biology, UC Berkeley

Properties of human population-genetic clustering
Noah Rosenberg, Associate Professor of Biology, Stanford University

Lunch break [1:00-1:50 pm]

History Panel [2:00 pm]

The ‘Jewish Question’ Revisited: Genomics and Jewish Difference
Nathaniel Deutsch, UC Santa Cruz

The relevance (or not) of Dobzhansky and the evolutionary synthesis for contemporary population genomics
Lisa Gannett, St. Mary’s University

The Eclipse of Darwinism and Its Chinese Accommodation
Minghui Hu, UC Santa Cruz
**Mestizo Genomics. National, regional and ethnic figurations**
Carlos López Beltrán, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, UNAM

**Racial Realisms, or When Do We Describe, and When Do We ‘Do Race’?**
Noah Rosenberg, Biology, Stanford University

**Levels of Complexity in the Genomics: “Race” Issue**
Paula Moya, Stanford University

Sociology Panel [4:00 pm]

**Genealogies of the Spirit: Spiraling Strands of Ethical Kinship Across Racialized Spaces**
John Brown Childs, UC Santa Cruz

**Genomics and Isolation: the Case of Indigenous Peoples in Latin America**
Guillermo Delgado-P., UC Santa Cruz

**Genomics and Race: Social, Political, Legal, & “Performatve” Construction of Race**
Hiroshi Fukurai, UC Santa Cruz

**On the “HeLa Bomb”: Race and Gender Passing Narratives in Biotechnology**
Sandra Harvey, UC Santa Cruz

**Nüfàn: Gender, Criminality and the Prison in 1930s Qingdao**
Stephanie Montgomery, UC Santa Cruz

**Program [Sunday, April 13, 9:00 am-12:00 pm]**

Philosophy Panel [9:00 am]

**Biological-trait race without biological race**
Josh Glasgow, Sonoma State University

**Some Thoughts on Population Studies and the Ethics of Attention**
James R. Griesemer, Professor of Philosophy & STS, UC Davis

**Some Relationships Between Biological and Folk Races**
Jonathan Kaplan, Oregon State University
Thinking about populations and races in time  
Roberta L. Millstein, Professor of Philosophy & STS, UC Davis

Are Races like Constellations?  
Rasmus Grønfeldt Winther, Associate Professor of Philosophy, UC Santa Cruz

Closing Keynote [11:00 am]

Philosophy of Race Meets Population Genetics  
Quayshawn Spencer, Assistant Professor of Philosophy, University of San Francisco

Lunch break [12:00-1:00 pm]

Student Workshop [1:00-2:30 pm]

The Student Workshop will be led by PhD students involved in the Philosophy in a Multicultural Context research cluster. Workshops will be held in Kresge Seminar Room 159.

Sponsors

At UC Santa Cruz:

UC Presidential Chair in Feminist Critical Race and Ethnic Studies  
UC Center for New Racial Studies  
Office for Diversity  
Equity and Inclusion  
Kresge College  
Cowell College  
College Eight  
College Nine  
Merrill College  
Departments of Philosophy, Anthropology, and Sociology

At UC Davis:

Science and Technology Studies (STS) Program

At Stanford University:

Center for Computational, Evolutionary, and Human Genomics
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