

Thursday 14 March 2024 **AM**

In praise of uncertainty: beyond determinism

Brain: (n.). An apparatus with which we think what we think (Ambrose Bierce, The Devil's Dictionary).

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| 09:00 | Opening Speech
Willem Jacobus Cardinal Eijk
Metropolitan Archbishop of
Utrecht | 11:20 | Can we reconcile Aristotle's
metaphysics of life with
contemporary neuroscience
models?
Christopher Caruana op
University of Malta |
| 09:40 | Body and spirit: two separate
substances or two attributes
of the same substance?
Archbishop Antonio Staglianò
Pontifical Academy of
Theology | 12:00 | The body and its metamorphoses
in the light of narrative medicine
Guenda Bernegger
Supsi, Lugano |
| 10:20 | The anthropology of the
body in the time of
neuroscience
David le Breton
University of Strasbourg | 12:40 | "Man is a mystery. It needs to be
unraveled" (Dostoevsky). Can
studying the brain unravel the
mystery?
Sofia Carozza
Harvard Medical School |
| 11:00 | Coffee break | 13:20 | Lunch Break |

Thursday 14 March 2024 **PM**

The soul between biology and mystery: At the roots of the self ...

I am a brain. The rest of me is a mere appendix. (Arthur Conan Doyle)

The chief function of the body is to carry the brain around. (Thomas Edison)

16:00 Constructing the self: how the brain creates self-consciousness

Jane Aspell
Anglia Ruskin University

18:20 The self and its corporeality in the face of the transhuman challenge

Markus Krienke
Facoltà di Teologia di Lugano,
Università della Svizzera Italiana

16:40 Clinical pedagogy for the evolution of human potential through the stimulation of brain synchronism

Concetta Bruno
Università Suor Orsola
Benincasa

19:00 Robotics and neuroscience: ethical profiles and debate on the concept of consciousness

Aquilina Sergio
Pontificia Facoltà Teologica
dell'Italia Meridionale - Sez. San
Tommaso

17:20 The impact of AI technology on human identity and self-understanding

Simone Saccomani
Università della Svizzera
Italiana

19:40 Art, neuroscience and creativity

Laura Apollonio
Universidad de Granada

18:00 Coffee break

20:20 Lunch Break

Friday 15 March 2024 **AM**

The Genealogy of Morality: The Moral Brain

It is not the brain that matters most, but what drives it: character, heart, generosity, progressive ideas. (Fyodor Dostoevsky)

The heart has its reasons that reason does not know... We know the truth not only from reason, but from the heart (Blaise Pascal).

**09:00 Neuroscience and free will:
are we really free?**
Aaron Shurger
Chapman University

**09:40 Virtues and vices: a
neuroscientific
understanding of habits**
Javier Bernácer María
Universidad de Navarra

**10:20 Go and sin no more: the
neuroscience of temptation
and conversion**
Raymond Zammit
University of Malta

11:00 Coffee break

**11:20 Love-desire-hope:
neurobiological programming?**
Emanuele Caroppo
Catholic University of the Sacred
Heart

**12:00 Sexuality seen from the prism of
neuroscience**
Raphael Alvarez Garcia
Universidad Autónoma de Santo
Domingo

12:40 What space for madness?
Pietro Grassi
ISSR Apollinare – Pontificia
Università della Santa Croce

13:20 Lunch Break

Friday 15 March 2024 **PM**

Healing the mind to heal the body

"Yes," he said, "yes, she too works for the salvation of man." Rieux tried to smile. "The salvation of man is too big an expression for me. I don't go that far. I'm interested in his health, first of all his health." (Albert Camus, The Plague).

16:00 **Carmelite meditators. A case study in relation to the concept of the placing of self**
Charlo Camilleri o.carm.
University of Malta
James Formosa
University of Malta

16:40 **Exploring Neurophysiological Modified States of Consciousness: Hypnotherapy and Meditative Therapies**
Daniela Poggiolini
IKOS Ageform

17:20 **Emotions, feelings and their relationship with nutrition**
Philippe Cornet
Sorbonne University

18:00 Coffee break

18:20 **Understanding the interactions between the brain and the immune system to propose new therapies**
Clara Blondel

19:00 **The mind-body-environment relationship after the pandemic: the role of epigenetics and social learning in neurological disorders**
Daniela Chieffo
Catholic University of the Sacred Heart

19:40 **Post-Covid neuroscience and the non-mental unconscious**
Stefan Pallanti
Istituto di Neuroscienze (Florence)

20:20 Lunch Break

Saturday 16 March 2024 **AM**

The Mind Behind Bars: Exploring the Nexus of Crime and Neuroscience

You paint with your brain, not with your hands. (Michelangelo Buonarroti).

09:00 **Development of the neurocognitive apparatus and *fictio iuris*: the concept of imputability in the times of neuroscience**
Pasquale Peluso
Guglielmo Marconi University

09:40 **On psychopathy and Maltese offenders**
Kevin Sammut Henwood
University of Malta
Rianne Psaila
Forensic Psychology
Practitioner

10:20 **Body in mutation, law in reaction: "science without conscience is only the ruin of the soul"**
Stephanie Mauclair
Université d'Orléans

11:00 Coffee break

11:20 **Legal profiles of some forms of political/public manipulation of the human mind and conscience**
Pasquale Lillo
Università della Tuscia, Viterbo

12:00 **Neurocriminology and neuroethics: new frontiers of neuroscience**
Andreas Aceranti

12:40 **Brain interventions and Neuroethics: Between Treatment, Enhancement and Punishment**
Georgia-Martha Gkotsi
National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens

13:20 Lunch Break

Saturday 16 March 2024 **PM**

Neurosciences and the world of tomorrow

If you can't control your mind, you won't be able to control anything else. (Napoleon Hill)

Once a certain threshold has been exceeded, the instrument, from a servant, becomes a despot. (Ivan Ilyich, in Conviviality.)

The mind is not a vessel to be filled, but a fire to be lit. (Plutarch)

16:00 **The artificial character of human corporeity: ethical aspects of neuroprosthetics**
José María Galván
Pontifical University of the Holy Cross

16:40 **Brain computer interfaces: will we all become cyborgs?**
Kenneth Camilleri
University of Malta

17:20 **From the symbiont to the cyborg: the metamorphosis of the biological self**
Gianvito Martino
Universita Vita-Salute San Raffale

18:00 Coffee break

18:20 **Neuroeconomics and neuromarketing: a theological ethics approach**
Domenico Santangelo
Lateran University

19:00 **Neuroscience, artificial intelligence and the world of tomorrow**
Carlo Simeone
Manager and Director of *Rivista Italia Etica*

19:40 **The effects of digital culture on the psyche from a Gestalt perspective**
Nadia Delicata
University of Malta

20:20 Lunch Break