

PHILOSOPHY MEETS COGNITIVE SCIENCE

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Bochum · Osnabrück
Situating Cognition RTG

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Venue: Thursday, November 9, 2017, 16-18, room GA 04/187.
All interested students and scholars are cordially invited to
the following talk of the research colloquium:

Prof. Dr. Esa Diaz León

(Barcelona)

On the Conceptual Mismatch Argument: Descriptions, Disagreement, and Amelioration

According to “conceptual mismatch” arguments, if there is a conceptual mismatch between the descriptions associated with an ordinary concept and some features of the alleged referent, then that entity cannot be the referent. In this chapter I would like to examine the structure and prospects of conceptual mismatch arguments of this sort. I will argue that these arguments point to some crucial methodological questions, such as how much divergence between our descriptions and the nature of the referent can be allowed, and I will put forward a new answer to this question, in terms of an appeal to normative considerations, which can be very helpful and even indispensable in order to settle matters of reference.