



# INI/SFB 874 Colloquium

**Prof. Martin Conway**

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City University London

**Date: Monday, July 11<sup>th</sup> 2016**

**Time: 17:00 (s.t.)**

**Room: GA 04/187**

Host: Prof. Sen Cheng

## *Narrative Thinking, Memory, Amnesia and Fictional Memories*

Abstract:

In this paper I develop the concept of 'narrative thinking'. Narrative thinking occurs when the brain is in default mode and not task-focused. It features autobiographical remembering, future thinking, and what I will term 'fictionalization' of the self. Four attributes of narrative thinking are coherence, meaningfulness, perspective and emotion. It is thinking we default to when cognition is not driven by a specific task and I suggest that it is critical in maintaining a dynamic and healthy self. I consider how this conceptualization of narrative thinking can be used to give new insights into memory impairment following brain damage and the generation of fictional or false memories.

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