Speakers:

**Ingar Brinck**
Department of Philosophy and Cognitive Science, Lund University

**Malinda Carpenter**
Department of Developmental and Comparative Psychology, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig

**Naomi Eilan**
Department of Philosophy, University of Warwick

**Stefanie Höhl**
Max Planck Institute for Human Cognitive and Brain Sciences, Leipzig

**Albert Newen**
Institut für Philosophie, Ruhr-Universität Bochum

**Vasudevi Reddy**
Department of Psychology, University of Portsmouth

**Leonhard Schilbach**
Klinik und Poliklinik für Psychiatrie und Psychotherapie, Universität zu Köln

**Tobias Schlicht**
Institut für Philosophie, Ruhr-Universität Bochum

**Claudia Thoermer**
Department Psychologie, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München

**Patrizia Thoma**
Institut für kognitive Neurowissenschaft, Ruhr-Universität Bochum

**Kai Vogeley**
Klinik und Poliklinik für Psychiatrie und Psychotherapie, Universität zu Köln

**Ipke Wachsmuth**
Zentrum für interdisziplinäre Forschung, Universität Bielefeld

Activities of Prof. Newen’s Research Group in 2008: Philosophy of Mind and Cognition

**Ringvorlesung “Wer bin ich?”**
Antworten aus den Geisteswissenschaften, den Neurowissenschaften und der Medizin
Sommersemester, mittwochs 18-20 Uhr
Hörsaal City, Clemensstraße 17-19
44789 Bochum
[www.rub.de/hoersaal-city/](http://www.rub.de/hoersaal-city/)

**Defining Thoughts**
Interdisciplinary Workshop on the notion of thought
June 5-7, 2008
IBZ Ruhr-Universität Bochum
Organized by
G.Vosgerau, M. Synofzik, A. Newen
[www.rub.de/philosophy/thoughts/](http://www.rub.de/philosophy/thoughts/)

**Workshop on Joint Attention**
Perspectives from Philosophy, Psychology, and Social Neuroscience
August 15-16, 2008
IBZ Ruhr-Universität Bochum
Organized by
T. Schlicht, A. Newen
[www.rub.de/philosophy/jointattention](http://www.rub.de/philosophy/jointattention)
Workshop on Joint Attention
Perspectives from Philosophy, Psychology, and Social Neuroscience

Joint attention is the cognitive capacity to engage in triadic intentional relations, manifested, say by two people intentionally directing their attention toward an object, being mutually aware of this object being “shared” by attending to it.

From the perspective of developmental psychology, joint attention plays a crucial role in the cognitive and social development of infants. Intentional behaviours such as gaze following, pointing and trying to direct the attention of others are important precursors of social understanding and gateways for language development.

From a philosophical point of view, joint attention is one significant form of intentionality, understood as the directedness towards an object. It raises epistemological questions concerning the kind of knowledge a child possesses and brings to bear in these situations, the kind of mutual awareness in play, and the emergence of mental capacities in the context of social interaction in general.

From the perspective of the social cognitive neurosciences, joint attention is of particular interest with respect to the investigation of the underlying neural mechanisms, enabling us to engage in skilful social interactions with other human beings.

The goal of the workshop is to bring together scientists from philosophy, psychology, and social neuroscience in order to advance our understanding of the status, structure, cognitive demands, and underlying neuronal mechanisms of joint attention and its function for social interaction.

Tobias Schlicht
Albert Newen