

The Philosophy and Global Politics of Concept Travel

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Questions surrounding the nature of concepts and concept travel have received a lot of scholarly attention in the humanities and social sciences. Concepts – their nature, how they work and how they can be engineered – are important objects of study in philosophy. At the same time, the notion of concept travel between and across different geographical and disciplinary domains has growing popularity in discussions about fostering interdisciplinarity and broader debates about addressing inequality in global knowledge production. For example: the integration and adoption of concepts from marginalized epistemic communities is touted by some as a crucial part of decolonizing global knowledge production and challenging Eurocentrism in global knowledge production.

This workshop aims to reflect on two broad questions. The first question investigates the link between concept travel and concept engineering. Do concepts change in traveling to different domains? What is the nature of this change, and can it be understood as a form of conceptual engineering? The second question explores the ways in which concepts and conceptual travel are understood in recent scholarship theorizing and challenging inequality in global knowledge production.

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Programme

10:00	Arrival and Tea
10:15	Welcome and Introduction
10:30	Prof. Peter Ronald deSouza 'Decolonising the University in Post-Colonial India: Notes from an Epistemology of the South'
11:30	Prof. Katrin Meyer 'Reflexive Intersectionality: Questioning the Power of a Traveling Concept'
12:30 – 14:30	Lunch Break
14:30	Prof. Veli Mitova 'Wilful Ignorance and Concept Travel'
15:30	Dr. Manuel Gustavo Isaac 'Conceptual Engineering: A Road Map to Practice'
16:30	Summary and Commentary
17:00	Closing Remarks