



Curriculum Vitae Professor Dr. Michael Esfeld



Name: Michael Esfeld
Born: 23 December 1966

Main areas of research: philosophy of physics, philosophy of mind, holism

Michael Esfeld is distinguished for many contributions to both philosophy of physics and philosophy of mind. In his Habilitation thesis, he set out the conception of a holism that applies to both domains.

Academic and Professional Career

- 2004 - 2014 Head of the Department of Philosophy of Lausanne University
- since 2002 Full professor of philosophy of science, University of Lausanne (Switzerland)
- 2001 - 2002 Associate professor (C3) of epistemology, philosophy of science and logic, University of Cologne, Germany
- 2000 - 2001 Lecturer in philosophy, University of Hertfordshire, UK
- 2000 Habilitation, University of Konstanz, Germany
- 1994 Ph.D. Westfälische-Wilhelms-Universität Münster, Germany
- 1986 - 1994 Study of philosophy and history at the Universities of Freiburg (Breisgau), Germany, Lausanne, Switzerland and Münster, Germany

Project coordination, Membership in collaborative research projects

- 2008 - 2010 DAAD European Graduate School in Philosophy
- 2007 - 2013 Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) ProDoc PhD programme in philosophy in Suisse romande

Functions in Scientific Societies and Committees

- 2010 - 2012 European Science Foundation (ESF), member of the Steering Committee of the programme "The Philosophy of Science in a European Perspective"
- since 2006 President of the College of the professors of philosophy at Swiss Universities
- 2006 - 2009 Vice-President Société de philosophie analytique (SOPHA)
- 2005 - 2008 Member of the board of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Philosophie (DGPhil)
- 2004 - 2007 Member of the board of the Swiss Society for Logic and Philosophy of Science (SSLPS)

Honours and Awarded Memberships

- 2013 Research Award of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation
- since 2009 Member of the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina
- 2008 Award of the cogito foundation for dialogue between the human and natural sciences
- 2000 Heisenberg Fellowship of the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft
- 1987 - 1994 Scholarship by the Studienstiftung des deutschen Volkes

Major Scientific Interests

Michael Esfeld is distinguished for many contributions to both philosophy of physics and philosophy of mind. In his Habilitation thesis, he set out the conception of a holism that applies to both domains. Since 2002, he has developed that conception into a theory of causal structures that starts from the interpretation of quantum physics and leads from there to a comprehensive philosophy of nature in the sense of a metaphysics of science. This position integrates biological and mental properties in the framework of a conservative reductionism.