



April 2016 Newsletter

Greetings from Canada and India!

Last autumn we were pleased to announce the appointment of our new Post-Doc/Project Coordinator, Dr. Jobin Kanjirakkat, who has taken up the project's main administrative reins. Jobin joins us from Hyderabad and Manipal where he completed his PhD last year. While adjusting himself to Canada's capricious weather, Jobin is working away on his book-manuscript on linguistics and science.

At the same time, I've headed the other way, from Halifax to India, where I've spent the Autumn term lodged as a visiting scholar at the Jawaharlal Nehru Institute for Advanced Studies (Director: Prof GJV Prasad) at Jawaharlal Nehru University. JNU, one of India's premier universities and certainly the leading institution for Humanities and Social Sciences, is a hive of activity (both scholarly and political). With the superb and inexhaustible hospitality of our fellow Cosmo partner, Dhruv Raina (JNU), I've been introduced to some remarkable scholars and students, and have participated in workshops and conferences on such diverse topics as "Scientification and Scientism in the Humanities" (JNU, with Sundar Sarukkai), "Econophysics and Sociophysics" (coordinated by Dr. Anirban Chakrobarati, JNU), the 2nd Biannual Meeting of the Philosophy of Science in India (TISS, Mumbai), and even a conference on "Quantum Physics and Madhyamaka Philosophical View" with the Dalai Lama (JNU). I am especially impressed by the engagement, activism and enthusiasm of Indian graduate students – budding philosophers/historians, STSers (too many to mention here) – and I have enjoyed taking part in their weekly discussion groups on "Humanities Now" and national "Skype" sessions on "Contemporary Philosophy of Science". There is a real eagerness for collaboration here, and, in

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addition to our planned cooperations, I imagine that the model of a regular national “skype” discussion group could be expanded internationally.

As we continue into our second year, our partners and collaborators are busy organising a series of upcoming project events, including the August workshop on “Cosmopolitanism and the History of Science” to be held at the Indian Institute for Advanced Studies at Shimla, and our workshop/symposium on “Cosmopolitan Biotechnology in the Global: Translational Economies of Knowledge” to be held at York University next Fall.

Stay tuned. More news to come.

Gordon McOuat
Project Director
February, 2016

FACILITATING RESEARCH

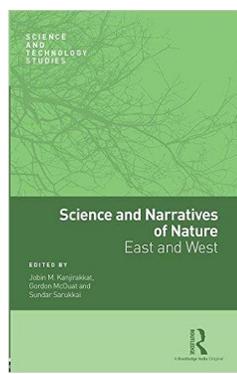
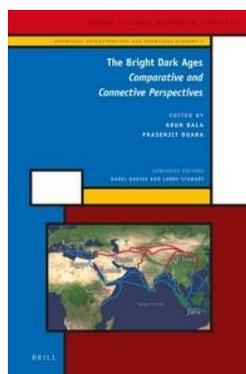
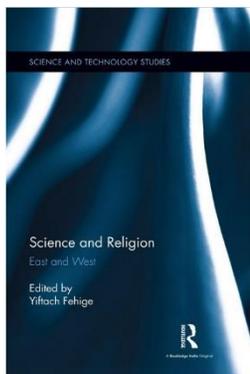
Recent and Forthcoming Publications

Fehige, Y., ed. [*Science and Religion: East and West*](#). Routledge India, 2016.

Bala, A., and Duara, P. [*The Bright Dark Ages: Comparative and Connective Perspectives*](#). Brill, forthcoming.

Kanjirakkat, J., McOuat, G., and Sarukkai, S., eds. [*Science and Narratives of Nature: East and West*](#). Routledge India, 2015.

Bala, A. *The Bohr Parallels: Complementarity beyond Physics and Eastern Thought*. Palgrave Macmillan, forthcoming.



Upcoming Events

August 2016

[Shimla Workshop](#)

Indian Institute of
Advanced Study

Shimla, India

Photo: Wikimedia
Commons

Welcome!

Cosmo-Local
has a new
post-doctoral
coordinator!

We are pleased
to welcome
Dr. Jobin
Kanjirakkat
to our team.

Workshops

The Manipal Summer School on *Scientific Objects and Digital Cosmopolitanism* turned out to be a success!

Set during monsoon in the southwest of India, the event included interesting lectures and discussions led by scholars from Canada and India! A group of energetic graduate students from India and Canada studying science from humanist and sociological perspectives set the platform for a fruitful network of academic and intellectual collaboration.

A great thanks to Sundar, Gordon, Varun, Greta, Emily and others who made the event an effective one!

Click [here](#) for reflections on the workshop from Khyati Nagar, Ph.D candidate at York University, Toronto.



Participants in the Manipal Summer School
"Scientific Objects and Cosmopolitanism"
August 2015.

Scholar Exchanges

Gordon McOuat, University of King's College, Halifax, took up the position of Visiting Scholar at the [Jawaharlal Nehru Institute of Advanced Study](#), New Delhi, from September – December 2015.

He delivered three lectures in October:

- ❖ "History and Philosophy of Science: From Theory to Practice and Back Again." Jawaharlal Nehru University
- ❖ "Cosmopolitanism and the Local in Science and Nature." Jawaharlal Nehru Institute for Advanced Studies;
- ❖ "JBS Haldane in India: The Importance of the Local." Jawaharlal Nehru University

Dhruv Raina, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, took up the position of Visiting Scholar at University of King's College, Halifax, in October 2014. He delivered a lecture entitled:

- ❖ "Rewriting the History of Science and Philosophy in Late Colonial India."

PROVIDING RESOURCES

New Video Resources Available

Looking for something to watch? Our [Youtube](#) channel has a number of lectures, presentations, and interviews. More are regularly added!

Recent videos include presentations from the Manipal Summer School on *Scientific Objects and Digital Cosmopolitanism*, held August 2015.

Funding Opportunities and Events

Our [Links](#) page is frequently updated with new funding opportunities, events, conferences, and journal information.

This page also contains useful funding links to scholarships and essay competitions for graduate students and postdoctoral researchers.

About Us

Officially launched in late summer 2014 and generously funded by the [Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada](#) Partnership Development Grant, "Cosmopolitanism and the Local in Science and Nature" is a three year project that aims to establish a research network on "Cosmopolitanism" in science. It closely examines the actual types of negotiations that go into the making of science and its culture within an increasingly globalized landscape. This Partnership is both about "cosmopolitanism and the local" and is, at the same time, cosmopolitan and local.



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Have some upcoming events related to the history or philosophy of science and technology? E-mail us!