Dr Maja Białek (University of Białystok)

"Fallibility and the Myth of the Given"

Abstract:

In my commentary I would like to focus on two issues. Firstly, I would like to explore Burge’s objection against disjunctivists concerning their lack of proper understanding of fallibility. Despite McDowell’s efforts, I will argue that indeed there is a problem with fallibility in disjunctive accounts of perception and that it is difficult to grasp what it might be on McDowell’s and Travis’s preferred personal level of explanation.

Secondly, I wish to share some thoughts about McDowell’s new take on his old thesis that either we adopt a specific kind of representationalism regarding perception or we must fall prey to the Myth of the Given. I (still) believe he is right - however, it may turn out that we need to adopt a much more radical philosophical stance than McDowellian Kantianism to deal with this dilemma.

Dr Piotr Kozak (University of Białystok)

"Perception and Possibility. Comment on ‘Seeing is Judging’"

Abstract:

In my talk I will present main reasons that support the claim that perception is necessarily connected with judgment. I will argue that there are two main strategies to argue for the latter: from empirical structure of perception, and from logical structure of perceptual beliefs. At the same time I will show the proponent of the claim is obliged to answer the question on how such connection is possible. The last question could be formulated in two ways: (1) how to reconcile the logical features of perception with its causal nature (Burge); (2) how to reconcile different logical features of perception and concepts (Travis). At the end I will draw a sketch of a possible answers to the questions (1) and (2).