



Seminar

ANDREAS STOKKE

Pro Futura Scientia Fellow, SCAS
(nominated by the Department of Philosophy, Uppsala University)

Are Indexicals Dispensable?

Tuesday, 28 February, 11:15 a.m.

In the Thunberg Lecture Hall
SCAS, Linneanum, Thunbergsvägen 2, Uppsala
www.swedishcollegium.se

S W E D I S H
C O L L E G I U M
for ADVANCED STUDY

ABOUT ANDREAS STOKKE

Andreas Stokke did his undergraduate work at the University of Copenhagen. After graduating, he pursued his postgraduate studies at the University of St Andrews, where he received an MLitt degree in 2006 and a Ph.D. in 2010. During his Ph.D. studies, he held an Analysis Trust Studentship, and he was a visiting scholar at New York University and at the University of Oslo. After completing his doctoral studies, he was a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the University of Oslo and at the University of Lisbon. In 2013, he took up a position as University Lecturer at Umeå University. His research is mainly in the fields of philosophy of language and epistemology, but he has also worked on ethics and philosophy of action. He is particularly interested in lying, deception, and insincere speech more generally.

Stokke has published several articles in high-ranking international journals and is the coeditor of a forthcoming collection of essays, *Lying: Language, Knowledge, Ethics, and Politics*.

Stokke is an Associate Fellow of the research center Arché at the University of St Andrews, a senior member of the research group LanCog at the University of Lisbon, and an affiliate of the Center for the Study of Mind in Nature at the University of Oslo. In 2015, he received the Royal Skyttean Society's Young Researcher Award (Kungl. Skytteanska Samfundet).

At SCAS, Stokke will work on a research project about sincerity in communication.

ABSTRACT

Indexical expressions (I, here, now, etc.), and their counterparts in thought, have long been thought to play a special role in agency and attitudes such as belief, desires, and intentions. According to one strand of these Essentialist views, indexical thoughts are necessary for intentional action. Against this, recent Anti-Essentialists have argued that intentional action does not in general require such thoughts or representations. This paper identifies a central kind of intentional action for which indexical thoughts are necessary. This is the kind of action that someone performs when using a map, or something equivalent, to move from one place to another. It is argued that using a map in this way requires thinking of some location both as "that place on the map" and "where I am." Various consequences for Essentialism and Anti-Essentialism about indexicality are discussed.