

PREFACE

Journal "Logeion - Filosofia da Informação" reaches its fourth issue looking to demarcate territory within Information Science. The Philosophy and Politics Research Group of IBICT - Brazilian Institute of Science and Technology Information focuses primarily on strengthening the studies, research and publications of information philosophy, which are able to transcend epistemology.

Our publications have been of major contribution through the introduction of a pioneering approach in Information Science: the Humanistic Information Studies. These studies are the outcome of a cooperation between IBICT and the University of Humanistic Studies in Utrecht, the Netherlands. These studies have increased relevance in practical philosophy, as they place human dignity as a non-negotiable value in a society crossed by the most diverse forms of intolerance.

This issue of Logeion confirms the commitment of the Research Group and editors in fostering a debate around Information Science subjects with philosophical perspectives, or philosophical subjects that can broaden the horizons of Information Science. Philosophy instigates. Never has it been so necessary to get people out of their comfort zone of established thoughts. Many questions have changed and the answers that we had have not been enough for long.

An article written by Vinicios Souza de Menezes opens this issue. Vinicios Menezes is a doctoral candidate in the IBICT/UFRJ Graduate Program in Information Science. His article addresses the relationship between the pragmatic-linguistic turn in Philosophy, whose main exponent is Jurgen Habermas, and information and critical theory of society. The critical theory of society after the linguistic turn offers new and good prospects for the social studies of information, in particular the method of rational reconstruction.

Menezes is also concerned about the humanitarian and emancipatory aspects of informational studies. In this sense, he appropriates the rational reconstruction method in order to work with two existing concepts in the practical-cognitive actions of information: meaning and validity. His use of the method aims to approach rational pretensions of the public use of language and its reflection in informational studies.

Alexandre Pedro de Oliveira and Elizete Vieira Vitorino are students of the Program of Graduate Studies in Information Science at the Federal University of Santa Catarina. Their article investigates information competence from a Philosophy and Information Science perspective. It stems from the following question: how is it possible to address information competence within the technical dimension through an integrated dialogue between Philosophy and Information Science?

Oliveira and Vitorino work with the notion of technical dimension, theoretically constituted by concepts on "technique" and on information competence. This conceptual construction of the authors aims to show that the technical dimension of information competence covers



skills supported by judgments and decisions in the steps of searching, evaluating and using information.

Claudia Bucceroni Guerra is a professor at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro and presents her article on the colors of Wittgenstein, a subject she developed in her doctoral thesis in Information Science at IBICT/UFRJ. Claudia Guerra is passionate about photography as a form of expression and about Wittgenstein as an author. Thus, such art brought them both to Information Science.

The author notes that Ludwig Wittgenstein used colors to illustrate the power of propositions and their limits, and to create language games. That within this author's thinking is relevant to the extent it entails the possibility that colors form a grammar of life. Guerra is interested in addressing the subjectivity of reproduction in a digital media of colors.

Frederik Zuiderveen Borgesius is a researcher at the Institute for Information Law at the University of Amsterdam. Borgesius is part of a generation of young Europeans who live and work in light of digital technologies and the Internet. This context brings along issues such as intellectual property, neutrality and regulation of the Internet, network privacy and surveillance, etc. These issues have given rise to a well-demarcated field of knowledge: information law. The Institute of the University of Amsterdam is one of the pioneers.

Borgesius's article proposes rethinking the approach concerning the protection of privacy on the Internet, suggesting the idea of informed consent as a means to protect. He notes that in several countries, companies are required by law to obtain the consent of an individual before making use of their data; in order to empower people to make privacy choices in view of their best interests. However, behavioral studies cast doubt on the effectiveness of the empowerment approach as a means to protect privacy.

The author advocates an approach that combines protection and empowerment of individuals to improve privacy protection. He argues using practical problems of informed consent as a means to protect privacy, and illustrates by means of current data protection regulations concerning behavioral targeting. Borgesius concluded that policymakers should be more attentive to regulations that protect people and less to those that empower. This article was translated by Elisa Perfeito.

Ruud Kaulingfreks is a professor at the University of Humanistic Studies in Utrecht, the Netherlands, and Samantha Warren is a professor at the University of Surrey, United Kingdom. They present an article discussing whether digital music file players contribute to social isolation or integration. This discussion is given rise to from a philosophical perspective. It applies to other technologies and to an entire generation, for instance, boys locked inside their rooms playing video games.

Kaulingfreks and Warren argue that this little technological marvel is at the same time, the possibility of isolating themselves from the rest of the world in a real or imagined loneliness, and a way of being in the company of others, sharing experiences as member of

a community. The authors further discuss how digital technologies provide the experience of solitude and social integration.

This Logeion issue is concluded with an article written by Antonio Rodrigues de Andrade, a professor at the State Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Catarina Roseira, a professor at the School of Economics of the University of Porto, and Aldo de Albuquerque Barreto, a professor at the University of Amazon. In this article, the authors make an approach to information as a fundamental element of the companies seeking to achieve competitive advantage.

This article is one of the outcomes of Antonio Andrade's post-doctoral report under the supervision of Aldo Barreto. It is part of a more traditional aspect of studies of Information Science seeking functional solutions. In this case, there is an important inquiry on the concept of information, its dynamics and the composition of such dynamic with organizational dynamics. This inquiry has a philosophical basis: What is information. From then on, an interesting discussion of concepts is brought up.

We hope these articles can contribute with an interested and critical reading within Information Science and related fields, as well as within Philosophy and Humanities. The proposed discussions are diverse and current, and more often than not, bring as a denominator, the social use of language and information as a social construction. Even the technical approaches relate to social processes and dynamics.

We would like to conclude this presentation with two remarks. The first is an invitation for readers to participate and contribute with their articles in the forthcoming issues of the journal. The second is once again, speaking of recognition and tolerance of the other, philosophical themes very much current and important in this era of open conflict. Hegel studied love when he wished to understand human interaction.