



## Newsletter

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October 2023

Welcome to an occasional newsletter from the Mistakes in Living Systems team. We are a multi-disciplinary [team](#) of philosophers and scientists working on a three-year project funded by a generous grant from the [John Templeton Foundation](#).

Our project's full title is: [Mistakes in Living Systems: A New Conceptual Framework for the Study of Purpose in Biology](#). It is one part of a multi-year, multi-million dollar global cohort programme, involving teams of scientists and philosophers from around the world, funded by the Templeton Foundation. The global programme is entitled [Agency, Directionality and Function](#).

To register for future newsletters, please sign up [here](#).

### Recent activities

- Thanks to everyone who attended the Cluster Workshop and the Annual *Ratio* Conference in September; they were a great success! The *Ratio* conference proceedings will be published in a Special Issue in December 2024.
- Jonathan Hill, Christopher Austin, and David Oderberg presented on mistake theory at a symposium on 'Biological Mistakes' at the 4th [Lisbon International Conference on Philosophy of Science](#) (LICPOS 2023), in July 2023.
- David Oderberg and Ingo Bojak presented on 'Mistake Theory and the Question of Function' at the 8<sup>th</sup> annual [Society for the Metaphysics of Science conference](#) at Dalhousie University, Canada, in August 2023.
- Ingo Bojak presented on 'Modelling Mistakes' at the Cluster Workshop in September 2023.
- François Cinotti presented on 'Modelling Clot Formation' at the Cluster Workshop in September 2023.
- Christopher Austin presented on 'Mistakes and the Metaphysics of Powers' at the Cluster Workshop in September 2023.
- In September the team also had a meeting with [Gregor Greslehner](#), discussing mistake theory and the immune system. You can watch the video [here](#).

### Upcoming activities

- November 2023: The team will be meeting with [Vikram Gadagkar](#) to discuss birdsong. How do zebra finches manage to learn and maintain accurate birdsong and how do they evaluate and correct [errors](#)?

- January 2024: the team will be meeting with [Marta Bertolaso](#) to discuss mistakes and cancer. Cancer is mistaken cell division - but what is the standard of correctness for cell division and how is mistaken division evaluated and regulated? (Marta is the author of [The Philosophy of Cancer](#).)

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