



Newsletter

jtfgoal@reading.ac.uk

July 2024

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](#).

Final newsletter

This is the final newsletter for our Mistakes in Living Systems project, which ends on 31 July 2024.

It has been an exciting and productive time for all of us since the project began late in 2021, and we are full of gratitude to the John Templeton Foundation for its generous support of our research activity.

The Final Summit for the Agency, Directionality and Function global research programme was held in Minneapolis in July, bringing together all the teams on the programme to talk about their projects – the highs, the lows, the discoveries, the challenges, and the way ahead. We are all immensely grateful to the incomparable Alan Love for his masterly stewardship of the programme from beginning to end, and for his gracious hosting of the summit at the University of Minnesota, along with the incredibly helpful and efficient team of Anne Lageson, Keely Khoury, Janet McKernan, and many others.



Anne-Sophie Meincke, Justin Garson, David Oderberg

David Oderberg (Philosophy), Jonathan Hill (PCLS), Ingo Bojak (PCLS), Jon Gibbins (Biological Sciences), Christopher Austin (Postdoctoral Research Assistant), François Cinotti (Postdoctoral Research Assistant)





Ingo Bojak, Jon Gibbins, Jonathan Hill, David Oderberg

Recent events up to the end of the project include:

- June 2024: Dr François Cinotti gave a talk to the University of Reading's School of Psychology and Clinical Language Sciences PhD and ECR conference: 'A computational Investigation of Thrombus Growth Termination'.
- June: Dr François Cinotti gave a talk to the University of Reading's School of Biological Sciences Early Career Researcher symposium: 'Computational Modelling of Thrombus Growth under Flow'.
- May: Prof. Jonathan Hill presented on 'Philosophy, Biology and Family Therapy: From Theory to Practice' to an audience of psychiatrists, psychologists and interested academics at the University of Reading. This was part of the series of talks by the WARM group: Wellbeing and Resilience in Mental Health.
- April: Prof. Ingo Bojak gave a presentation to the Platelet Society, Aberdeen, on 'Termination of Thrombus Growth Through the Dependence of Platelet Activation on Distance to Injury: An In-Silico Investigation'.
- May: Prof. Ingo Bojak gave a talk on termination of blood clotting for the University of Reading Community Festival, where the latest research is presented to interested people from outside the University.
- May 2024: Prof. David Oderberg's interview with Siddhant Pusdekar for the [Purpose Podcast](#) is now on Spotify [here](#).

Future plans:

- David Oderberg and Jonathan Hill have both been contracted to write concise monographs on the theory of biological mistakes for a [new series](#) edited by Alan Love.
- David Oderberg and Jonathan Hill are also working towards future funding on mistakes; further news in due course.
- We will keep the website going, updating it with new content such as publications, and if future funding becomes available we will link the new project to this website as well.

END