

The Inaugural Psyence Publishing Society Lecture Series

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“A computational perspective on memory: Why we have been unable to win playing 20 questions with Mother Nature”

Abstract: In the middle of the last century, Psychology underwent a so-called Cognitive Revolution. The revolution replaced the ideas of stimulus-response association with explanations based on analogy to processing in a computer. I contend that that the revolution is incomplete: current theory has a nasty habit of requiring a homunculus to carry out processing, and, although everyone knows that meaning matters, too little is known about how it is represented in memory. I will describe how a computational model can understand the meaning of words and why thinking of memory as a hologram helps to banish the homunculus.

Monday, October 5, 2015 from 4:00-7:00 pm

Room: AH100

Everyone is welcome! Coffee/Tea and dessert will be provided