

social ontology 2025 program

Trinity Business School
Trinity College Dublin

Social Ontology 2025 Keynotes - All keynotes in Dargan (downstairs)

Bill Wringe Bilkent University
"Non-Agential Groups and Political
Philosophy: A Manifesto"



Elizabeth Barnes University of Virginia
"Is Hysteria Real?"



Joakim Sandberg University of Gothenberg
"Corporate Moral Responsibility as a Normative
Rather Than a Metaphysical Issue"



David Wiens UC San Diego
"Idealistic Models in a Non-Ideal World"



Esa Díaz-León Universitat de Barcelona
"Social Constructionism Revisited"



Ying Huang
Winner of the *Junior Scholar Essay Prize*
"Let's Talk about the Metaphysics of
Intersectionality—but Let's Take It Slow"

Social Ontology 2025, August 5-8 in the Trinity Business School

Time/Day	Monday 4th	Tuesday 5th of August	Wednesday 6th of August	Thursday 7th of August	Friday 8th of August
9:00	ISOS Summer School		Book symposium: Hans Bernhard Schmid's "WE TOGETHER: The Social Ontology of Us"	Keynote: Joakim Sandberg	Keynote: Ying Huang, Winner of Junior Scholar Essay Prize
		Registration/coffee			
10:00		Welcome	Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break
11:00		Parallel sessions	Parallel sessions	Parallel sessions	Parallel sessions
12:00		Lunch	Lunch (mentor/mentee meetup)	Lunch	Lunch
13:00		Parallel sessions	Parallel sessions	Parallel sessions	Parallel sessions
14:00		Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break
15:00		Parallel sessions	Parallel sessions	Parallel sessions	Parallel sessions
16:00					
17:00		Keynote: Bill Wringe	Keynote: Elizabeth Barnes	Keynote: David Wiens	Keynote: Esa Diaz-Leon
18:00		ISOS meeting			
19:00				Reception (The Long Room)	Formal dinner (Trinity Dining Hall)
20:00					
21:00					

Tuesday

Place/	Jones Engineering (2.31)	Bank of Ireland (2.25)	KPMG (3.22)	3.28	4.36	Boardroom - 5th floor
Time	Responsibility & Individualism chair: Olle Blomberg	The Non-Ideal chair: Nathan Placencia	Epistemic Injustice chair: Berkay Ozar	Social Metaphysics chair: Mark Okrent	Conceptual Engineering chair: Rosa Vince	The Ethical Firm chair: Jonas Franzen
11:00	Authors: Pekka Mäkelä and Raul Hakli Title: "Responsible Institutional Agency"	Author: Johan Brännmark Title: "What is this thing called nonideal social ontology?"	Author: Grace Paterson Title: "Incredible Confidence"	Author: Giulia Lasagni Title: "On the mechanisms of entry into existing organisations"	Author: Grégoire René Title: "Conceptual Engineering, Implementation, and Social Change"	Author: Mihailis Diamantis Title: "The Good Corporate Person"
11:30	Author: Carter Delegal Title: "Ontological Individualism and Justice-Relevant Insights"	Author: Georgie Malone Title: "What's Nonideal About Nonideal Social Ontology?"	Author: Han Edgoose Title: "Challenging the 'Debate' Framing of the Trans Panic: On Cissexist Ideology and Epistemic Injustice"	Author: Danny Wardle Title: "Making Sense of Temporary Memberlessness"	Author: Stephanie Hoffmann Title: "Conceptually Engineering Sex"	Author: Sergei Levin Title: "The Complexity of Corporate Grandstanding"
1:00	Fictionalism chair: King Fung Kelvin Chan Author: Erim Bakkal Title: "A Fictionalist Social Ontology"	Political Responsibility chair: David Wiens Author: Evrensel Sebeş Title: "An Associative Account of Citizenry's Remedial Responsibility"	Race and Ethnicity chair: Giulia Schirripa Author: Daniel James Title: "Racism as racialised oppression—or: how to make a cage out of a bundle of sticks"	Collective Intentionality chair: Keith Sawyer Author: Zara Anwarzai Title: "Shop Floor Social Ontology: The role of collective intentionality in understanding and addressing nonideal social phenomena"	Social Movements chair: Rowan Mellor Authors: Kevin Richardson, Katrina Haaksma, Luke Beesley, Vasiliki Polykarpou, Yorgos Karagiannopoulos Title: "Epistemic Resistance, Radical Politics, Positionality: Panel Presentation of Edited Volume on 'How Social Movements Inform Philosophy'"	Social Power chair: Charlotte Witt Author: Ecenur Yavaş Title: "A Proposition for Two New Types of Social Power"
1:30	Author: Fernanda Birolli Abrahão Title: "Erotic Contexts as Fictions"	Author: Mohammad Shokri Title: "Political Responsibility Revisited: A Case for Retrospective Accounts"	Author: Nathan Placencia Title: "Replacing the Concept of Race: A Three-Step Approach"	Author: Nathan Biglietti Title: "Solving the “mode of mode” problem: An experientialist solution for mode accounts of collective intentionality"	Author: Marco Emilio Title: "Social Powers, Resilient Institutions and Climate Justice"	
2:00	Author: Jessica Li Title: "Natural Kind Fictionalism"	Author: Gunnar Björnsson Title: "Distributing the State's Agency: A New Framework for Political Justice"	Author: Armin Mašala Title: "The Ontology of Ethnicity"	Author: James Kintz Title: "Shared Agency and the We Relation"		Author: Jonathan Knutzen Title: "Social Power, A Force to Be Reconned With"
3:00	Politics chair: Gunnar Björnsson Author: Eric Wilkinson Title: "A Theory of Nationhood"	Language chair: Megan Stotts Author: Isabel Herburger Title: "'Woman': Neither Context-Sensitive Nor Polysemous, but Multidimensional"	The Artisanal chair: Ecenur Yavaş Author: Arto Laitinen Title: "Normative Reasons and Social Normativity"	Group and Collective Agency chair: David Storrs-Fox Author: Krzysztof Poslajko Title: "Normative arguments in the group agency debate"	Technology chair: Torsten Menge Author: Maren Behrens Title: "Ontic Capture and Technofascism"	
3:30	Author: August Faller Title: "Finding a Place for Politics in History: Lessons from Social Ontology"	Author: Anna Klieber Title: "Grammatical Gender and (non-binary) Linguistic Representation"	Author: Charlotte Witt Title: "Social Power"	Authors: Stephanie Collins and Luara Ferracioli Title: "Nested Collective Agency and the Right to Control Migration"	Author: Anthony Nguyen Title: "Data Colonialism: The Rise of the Landless Empire"	

Wednesday

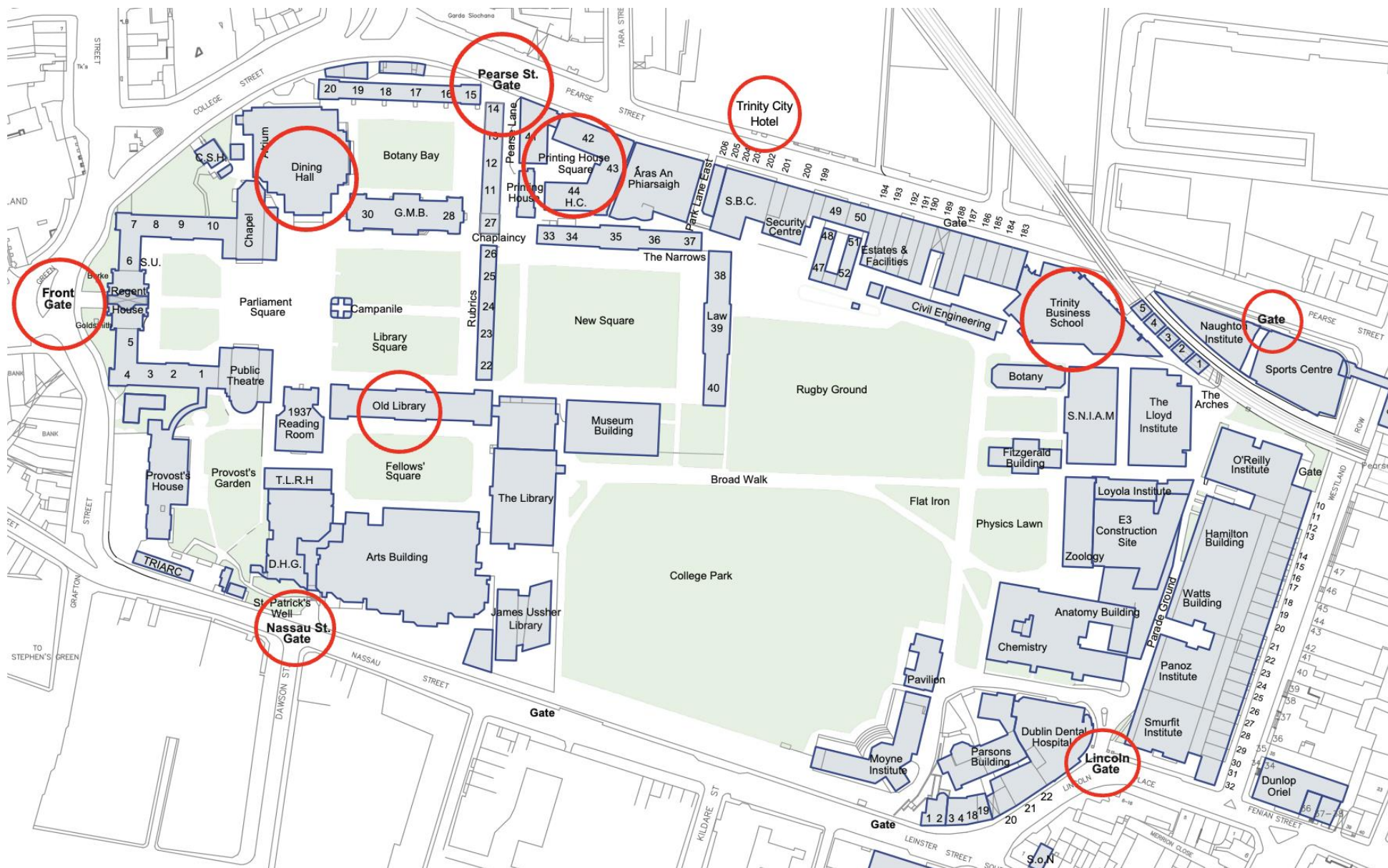
Place/Time	Jones Engineering (2.31)	Bank of Ireland (2.25)	KPMG (3.22)	3.28	4.36	Boardroom - 5th floor
	Science chair: Zara Anwarzai	Group Agency and Patience chair: Kirk Ludwig	Harm chair: Mattias Gunnemyr	Law chair: Mihailis Diamantis	Social Metaphysics chair: Willa Saadat	Gender chair: Rowan Bell
11:00	Author: Kirun Sankaran Title: "Is Social Ontology Continuous With Social Science?"	Author: Olof Leffler Title: "Group Constitutivism"	Author: Alex Gillham Title: "The Metaphysics of Harm of Preferring Attractive Partners"	Author: Bartosz Biskup Title: "Standard View about Legal Artifacts"	Author: Costanza Penna Title: "How Groups Persist Through Generations"	Author: Jade Fletcher Title: "The Metaphysics of Misgendering"
11:30	Author: Ronald Mallon Title: "Group essentialism as a pro-social adaptation"	Author: Antonio Monaco Title: "Group Well-Being and Rational Care"		Author: Masato Yoshihara Title: "Meta-Grounding and the Conventionality of Social Construction : A Case Study of Law's Conventional Foundations"	Authors: Robbie Morgan and Will Hornett Title: "Touching Through: The Puzzle of Mediated Touch"	Author: Nick Laskowski and Nathan Howard Title: "Gender With Gender Identity"
1:00	Collective Rationality chair: James Kintz Author: Dashiell Shulman Title: "Irrational and Unfaithful Groups"	The Ethical Firm chair: Stephanie Collins Author: Lily Tappe Title: "Corporate Ignorance – The Danger of Collectively Failing to Know"	Telic Power chair: Sebastian Aster Author: Max Gab Title: "Telic Self-Empowerment"	Agency and Technology chair: Raul Hakli Author: Miguel Garcia Title: "Institutional Agency and Collective Responsibility for AI Governance"	Norms chair: Kirun Sankaran Author: Ilayda Arık Title: "Understanding Social Norms Through Game Theory: Is It Really Possible?"	Social Metaphysics chair: Brian Epstein Author: Kevin Richardson Title: "Is There a Mark of the Social?"
1:30	Author: Bronagh Dunne Title: "Universalisation or Identification: Distinguishing Kantian Optimisation from Team Reasoning"	Author: Michael Eigner Title: "The Right to Say No –Towards an Ethical Form of the Firm"	Author: Peter Sucaet Title: "Dancing with Foucault: On the Sources of Telic Power in Nonideal Social Ontology"	Author: David Storrs-Fox Title: "Could a Mixed Human-Artificial Group Agent be Blameworthy?"	Author: Joshua Rust Title: "A natural history of authoritative norms"	Author: Aaron Griffith Title: "What is Social Context?"
2:00	Author: Yuanye Hu Title: "Relaxing Collective Consistency"	Author: Nathan Biebel Title: "The Role of Forgiveness in Group Moral Agency"	Authors: Åsa Burman and Nemi Pelgrom Title: "Academic Excellence and Telic Power"	Author: Kirk Ludwig Title: "Social Affordances and Large Language Models"	Author: Cailin O'Connor Title: "A Conceptual Space for Convention"	
3:00	Marx chair: August Faller Author: Junzhe Liu Title: "Is A Marxist Social Ontology Incompatible with Social Nominalism?"	Bad Norms chair: Klara Andersson Author: Eline Gerritsen Title: "Playing along with bad norms"	Meaning and Solidarity chair: Arto Laitinen Author: Kjell Fostervold Title: "Exploring the Social Dimensions of Meaning in Life"	Justice chair: Katherine Crone Author: Isaijah Shadrach Title: "'Skyward Stone by Stone': The History and Future of Liberation"	Corporate Metaphysics chair: Keith Begley Author: Ziad Eldanaf Title: "Hylomorphic Corporate Agents"	Sex and Gender chair: Jade Fletcher Author: Zoe Edelson Title: "Work With Me Here (On How You See Me)!"
3:30	Author: Lenart Nici Title: "On Marx's Historical Social Ontology"	Author: Alessandro Guerra Title: "Norms as Catalysts of Social Tipping Points: A Framework for Understanding Transformative Change"	Author: Rowan Mellor Title: "Solidarity and Self-Deprivation"	Author: Victor Babin Title: "Do we need blame to address structural injustice? An aspirational-deconstructive proposal"	Author: Fabian Corver Title: "The Social Ontology of Firms: The Prospects for an Integrationist Strategy"	Author: Ásta Title: "The Social Construction of Sex"

Thursday

Place/Time	Jones Engineering (2.31)	Bank of Ireland (2.25)	KPMG (3.22)	3.28	3.33	4.36	4.35
11:00	Social Metaphysics chair: Ella Zhang Author: Brian Epstein Title: "Social Categories and Exportation"	The Non-Ideal chair: Nemi Pelgrom Author: Ellen Davidsson Title: "Objectification in nonideal social ontology: the power of empathy"	Politics chair: Evrensel Sebepe Author: Belen Pueyo-Ibanez Title: "What is it that we do when we engage in public discourse?"	Implicit Bias chair: Gen Eickers Author: Setareh Ezzatabadi Title: "Beyond psychology: A Social Ontology of Implicit Biases as Social Practices"	Power chair: Max Gab Author: Tuomo Tiisala Title: "Nudging as a Technique of Power"	Sexual Orientation chair: Glenda Satne Author: Lukas Joosten Title: "Bisexuality without Biconditionality: In Support of Non-Conditional Dispositionalism about Sexual Orientation"	Technology chair: Joshua Rust Author: Sâde Hormio Title: "Freedom from facts? On the epistemic responsibility of social media platforms"
11:30	Author: Bess Rothman Title: ""Was Socrates Gay?": An Investigation into the Open Texture of Social Kind Terms"	Author: Eric Chelstrom Title: "The collective intentionality claim and non-ideal social ontology"	Author: Horia Tamovanu Title: "Inside Political Principles"	Author: Sarah Gregory Title: "Shared Reasons, Implicit Bias, and Internalization"	Author: Torsten Menge Title: "Power as an Expressive Concept"	Author: Waner Zhang Title: "Sexual Orientation Abolition"	Author: Olimpia Giuliana Loddo Title: "Regulatory Digital Artifacts as Social Design Tools"
1:00	Heidegger and Hegel chair: Lenart Nici Author: Trung Hậu Nguyễn Title: "Collective Intentionality and Two Levels of Analysis in Heidegger's Being and Time"	Indeterminacy chair: James Weatherall Author: David P. Schweikard Title: "Indeterminacy and Joint Duties"	Joint Agency chair: Catherine Dale Author: Guido Löhr Title: "What is "standing" in joint action?"	Group Reasons and Motivation chair: Sarah Gregory Author: Lilian O'Brien Title: "Group action, reasons-responsiveness, and guardianship"	Institutions chair: Frank Hindriks Author: Klara Andersson Title: "The Market as a Deficient Practice?"	Social Construction chair: Emilia Wilson Author: Josephine Lovejoy Title: "Are Social Kinds Socially Constructed?"	Conferralist Connections chair: Ásta Author: Rose Fonth Title: "Naming and Conferring: Why We Care About What We Are Called By"
1:30	Authors: Luca Moretti and Sandro Guli' Title: "Internalism and externalism about social role normativity: The Hegelian model"	Author: Giulia Schirripa Title: "Social Indeterminacy: A Supervaluationist Approach"	Author: Anni Raty Title: "A joint decision account of consent"	Author: Sebastian Aster Title: "Explaining Group Motivation"	Author: Megan Stotts Title: "Languages and Institutions"	Author: Jenni Ryttilä Title: "Practice-Dependence vs Intentionality-Dependence: the Case of Mathematical Social Construction"	Author: Katrina Haaksma Title: "Categories We Choose To Live By: Toward a theory of social leverage"
2:00	Author: Olerato Kau Mogomotsi Title: "Ontological Injustice: A Hegelian Account of Marginality"	Author: King Fung Kelvin Chan Title: "Social Constructionism, Metaphysical Indeterminacy, and Reasonable Pluralism"	Author: Alexander Leferman Title: "Internalism and Reasons for Joint Action"	Authors: Sophie Keeling and Kenneth Silver Title: "How Groups Respond to Reasons"	Author: Seumas Miller Title: "The Procedural Social Rule Model of Social Institutions: A Teleological/Functionalist Critique"	Authors: Siiri Porkkala and Lauri Lahikainen Title: "Constitutive Exclusion in Social Construction"	Author: Eliot Davenport Title: "A Buddhist Account of Misgendering"
3:00	Disability chair: Tuomo Tiisala Author: Emilia Wilson Title: "Testimonial Distortion and Perspectival Clash"	Social Kinds chair: Gillian Gray Author: Francesco Franda Title: "From Dead to Resurrected: A Puzzle for Mind-Dependent Kinds"	Linguistic Innovation chair: Pepa Mellema Author: Marija Jankovic Title: "Shared Intention in Linguistic Innovation"	Collective Responsibility chair: Leo Townsend Author: Olle Blomberg Title: "Interpersonal Moral Luck and Collective Blameworthiness"	Feminism chair: Daniel James Author: Willa Saadat Title: "Differentiated Unity in Care"	The Non-Ideal chair: Johan Brännmark Author: Onni Hirvonen Title: "Critical Social Ontology - What Is It?"	
3:30	Author: Sophie Kikkert Title: "Disability is a Lack of Society-relative Abilities"	Author: Jacob Berk Title: "Can Social Kinds generate valid moral or political content?"	Author: Andreea Popescu Title: "Conceptual engineering vs. Linguistic Innovation in Discussing Gender Terms"	Author: Marion Smiley Title: "How to Talk about Collective Moral Responsibility Without Worrying about Collective Intentions"	Author: Rosa Vince Title: "Good, Bad, and Feminist Porn"	Author: Zhanshuo Zhang Title: "Perfect Ideals, Imperfect Practice: Situation Mismatch in Social Life"	

Friday

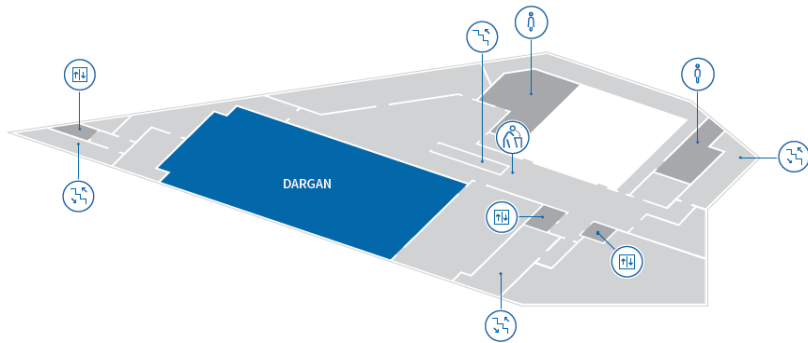
Place/	Jones Engineering (2.31)	Bank of Ireland (2.25)	KPMG (3.22)	3.28	3.33	4.36	4.35
Time	Authority in Groups chair: Niels de Haan Author: Abe Roth Title: "The Puzzle of Institutional Authority"	Feminist Metaphysics chair: Josephine Lovejoy Author: Ella Zhang Title: "Feminist metaphysics is metaphysics"	Emotions chair: Hunter Gentry Author: Yifan Wang Title: "Silenced Emotions at Work"	Law chair: Bartosz Biskup Author: Kamil Zyzik Title: "Bridging ontological categories legally. On the norms and intuitions surrounding legal personality of ecosystems"	Social Metaphysics chair: Giulia Lasagni Author: Jonathan Payton Title: "The Reductionist's Guide to Social Mereology"	The Non-Ideal chair: Robin Jeshion Author: Anna Bloom-Christen Title: "Epistemic Hypochondriacs: Anthropologists' Unease About Shared Action"	Social Movements chair: John Mancini Author: Michael Veldman Title: "Between hierarchy and horizontalidad: the democratic dilemma for social movements"
11:00							
11:30	Author: Leo Townsend Title: "Negotiating Spokesperson Authority"	Author: Matthew Cull Title: "Feminist Deflationism"	Author: Anastasija Filipovic Title: "How Collective Sentiments Can Lead to Affective Injustice?"	Author: Eric Sievers Title: "Conceptual Jurisprudence: Engineering Legal Concepts"	Author: Pauline Souman Title: "Social Constraints and Enablements: A Capacity-based Approach"	Author: Pepa Mellema Title: "A less (than) ideal definition of slurs"	Author: Sena Bolek Title: "How Social Movements Bear Collective Duties"
1:00	Generics in Social Ontology chair: Isabel Herburger Author: Katherine Crone Title: "Generic sentences and social kinds"	Realism chair: Jessica Li Author: Alejandro Naranjo Sandoval Title: "Social Figments and Social Realities"	The Social and the Ethical chair: Bronagh Dunne Author: Frank Hindriks Title: "Structure and Culture in a Just and Open Society"	Social Identity chair: Katrina Haaksma Author: Jake Beardsley Title: "Age in the Philosophy of Gender Identity"	Artifacts chair: Jonathan Payton Author: Keith Begley Title: "A Composite Object Ontology for Social Entities and Artefacts"	Scripts and Social Cognition chair: Misha Goudsmit Authors: Gen Eickers, Anna Klieber and Eline Gerritsen Title: "Book Symposium "Scripts and Social Cognition: How We Interact with Others" (Routledge, 2025)"	Group Epistemology chair: Grace Paterson Authors: Ludovic Soutif and Katja Crone Title: "What is Collective Singular Thought?"
1:30	Author: Vittorio Catalano Title: "Enforcing the Normal: A Speech Act Perspective on Generics"	Author: Thomas Hasler Title: "Are You For Real?: Social kinds and a new metaphysical realism"	Author: Niels de Haan Title: "Moral Collectivism and the Methodology of Ethical Theory"	Author: Dana Grabelsky Title: "Intra-group disagreement and social identity group ontology"	Author: Alper Güngör Title: "From Categories of Art to Categories of Artifact"		Authors: Michael Markunas and Kenneth Silver Title: "Can Group Agents have Knowledge by Acquaintance?"
2:00	Author: Anna Pederneschi Title: "'Women are crazy': The use of essentializing generics in the diagnosis of Premenstrual Dysphoric Disorder"	Author: Thilde Wolf Title: "On the natural/social distinction: Can both be real?"	Author: Carla Bagnoli Title: "Disorientation and the collapse of the collective"	Author: Richard Hassall Title: "Ontic Injustice and the Experience of Stigmatised Identity: the example of a childhood autism diagnosis"	Author: Adrián Solís Title: "The Existence of Religious Artifacts From Arifacts' Intention-Essentialism Point of View"		
3:00	Pluralism chair: Michael Veldman Author: James Murphy Title: "Pluralism, Contextualism, and the Normative Theory of Gender"	Identities chair: Zoe Edelson Author: Gillian Gray Title: "Emerging Social Group Identities"	Firms and Shareholders chair: Sergei Levin Author: Duncan Wallace Title: "Corporations As Slaves"	Joint Agency chair: Rory Harder Author: Catherine Dale Title: "Neither together nor all alone - the nature of dependent intentional action"	Love chair: Sandro Guli Author: Bengü Demirtaş Title: "Two hearts that beat as one!: The Social Ontology of Loving Companionship"	Social Kinds chair: Virginia Presi Author: Thomas Brouwer Title: "Unconstructed Social Kinds"	Conceptual Engineering chair: Stephanie Hoffmann Author: Berkay Ozar Title: "Ameliorative Projects, Hermeneutical Injustices and Metalinguistic Negotiations of Social Terms"
3:30	Author: Pixie Shen Title: "Fragmentation of the World: A Realist Guide to Metaphysical Pluralism"	Author: Rowan Bell Title: "Stories Told Backwards: Narrative Identity and "Retconning""	Author: Mattias Gunnemyr Title: "Shareholder Complicity"	Author: Marcus Hedahl Title: "Writing together: Collective testimony, collective action, and the need for a team of teams framework"	Author: Alexa Yiqing Li Title: "Love Under Oppression: The Intersection of Pathogenic and Interpersonal Vulnerability"	Author: John Mancini Title: "Determining Social Kinds: The Place for Conceptual Analysis and Pragmatism"	Author: Isabella Bartoli Title: "Revising Socially Significant Social Kind Terms: Social Externalism and the Implementation Challenge"



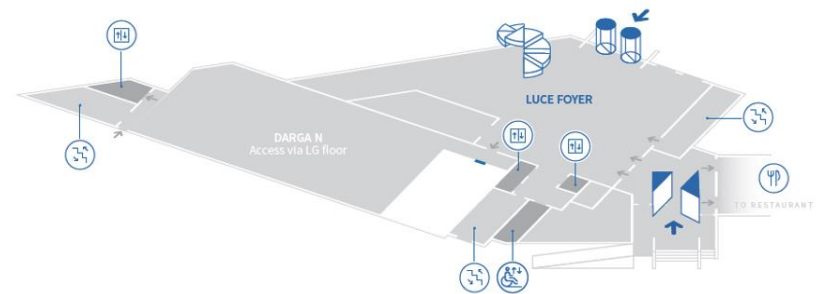
BUILDING MAPS

TRINITY BUSINESS SCHOOL

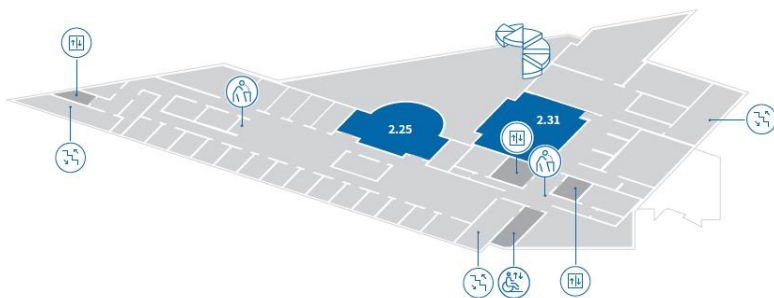
GROUND FLOOR



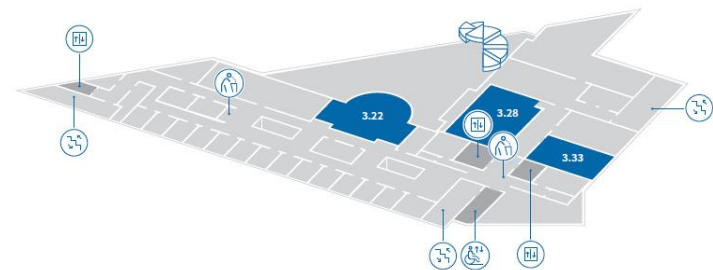
FIRST FLOOR



2ND FLOOR



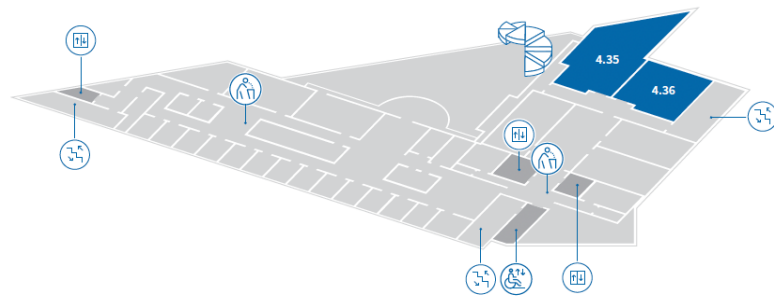
3RD FLOOR



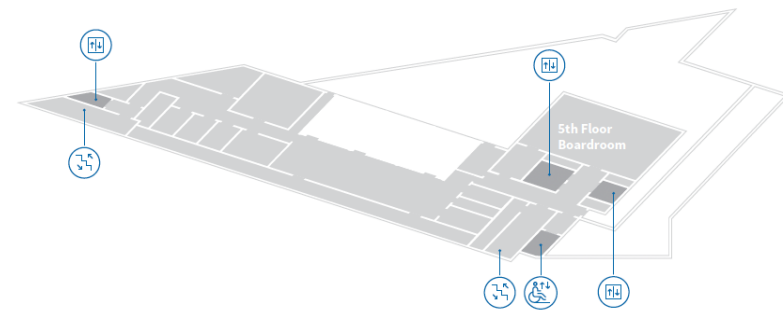
BUILDING MAPS

TRINITY BUSINESS SCHOOL

4TH FLOOR



5TH FLOOR



Many thanks to...

The Program Committee

Kenneth Silver	Kirk Ludwig	Thomas Brouwer	Kevin Richardson
Matthew Cull	Säde Hormio	Brian Flanagan	Asya Passinsky
Åsa Burman	Sergei Levin	Brian Epstein	Peter Finocchiaro
Glenda Satne	Leonie Smith	Ásta	

Trinity support: Una Hennigan, conference volunteers

Funding support

ERC Starting Grant "Corporate Moral Progress"

PI: Kenneth Silver; grant number: 101077471



European Research Council
Established by the European Commission

