

## Brief Bio and (PR)<sup>2</sup>: Problems & Pitches – Rants & Raves by *Colin Allen*



Professor of Cognitive Science and of the History & Philosophy of Science at Indiana University, and Director of the Indiana Philosophy Ontology (InPhO) project. I am primarily a philosopher by training (PhD, UCLA), but also did graduate work in computer science in artificial intelligence and neural networks, and have helped build several applications for the web, including the Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy, and a couple of logic teaching sites. My philosophical interests are in the history & philosophy of cognitive science, especially nonhuman animal cognition and robots.

- list of up to five major publications
  - Niepert, M., Buckner, C., and Allen, C. (2007)  
A dynamic ontology for a dynamic reference

work. In Rasmussen, E.M., Larson, R.R., Toms, E., and Sugimoto, S. Proceedings of the 7th ACM/IEEE-CS Joint Conference on Digital Libraries, Vancouver, BC, Canada, June 18-23, 2007, pp. 288-297.

- Niepert, M., Buckner, C. and Allen, C. (2008) Answer set programming on expert feedback to populate and extend dynamic ontologies. In Proceedings of 21st FLAIRS. AAAI Press, 2008; 500-505.
- Allen, C., Buckner, C., & Niepert, M. (2008) The World is Not Flat: Expertise and InPhO. First Monday [Online], Volume 13 Number 8 (20 August 2008).
- Vigo, R., and Allen, C. (2009) How to reason without words: Inference as categorization. Cognitive Processing 10: 77-88.
- Wallach, W. and Allen, C. (2009) Moral Machines: Teaching Robots Right from Wrong. New York: Oxford University Press.
- list of relevant projects you are working on  
InPhO <http://inpho.cogs.indiana.edu/>
- links to data or software you serve (if applicable)  
<http://inpho.cogs.indiana.edu/taxonomy/>
- link to your home page.  
<http://mypage.iu.edu/~colallen/>



**An Image I relate to:**

## General Questions

1) What is (are) your main interest(s) in attending the workshop?

I am primarily interested in connecting to others who are interested in building useful and practical tools that link data from diverse sources. I am most interested in tools that will be useful to scholars and interested laypeople without sacrificing scholarly values to a Web 2.0 free-for-all, although I believe that there are ways of using data with varying provenance to support this goal.

2) What would you like to learn / achieve at the workshop?

I would like to know more about what other HPS scholars want from the kinds of tools I think we are capable of building, and I want to learn from the technology producers how we can share data and aggregate methods to produce tools that people will use and reuse.

3) *If you are a philosopher of an historian of science:* In what ways might people that study and map science benefit from your work?

I would be able to use maps to more quickly locate and investigate work that is relevant to the topics I am currently researching, and to think of new questions, or answer old questions that previously seemed unanswerable. Specifically, I'm curious to know whether maps that show how philosophers have interacted and continue to interact with scientists can help us understand the role that philosophers play in the historical development of different sciences.

*If you are a scientometrician/science map maker:* In what ways might philosophers or historians of science benefit from your work?

*Please send the completed document by June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009  
to Katy Borner <[katy@indiana.edu](mailto:katy@indiana.edu)> and Mark Price <[maaprice@indiana.edu](mailto:maaprice@indiana.edu)>*