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Nanyang Technological University

Heart of Science

Date : 15 September 2025 (Monday)

Time : 16:45 – 18:15

Venue : LKK107 & Zoom Seminar

Scan the QR code or
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In a forthcoming book (*Heart of Science*) I develop what I call a deontic philosophy of science, which holds, in a slogan: good science need not attain its aims, it must justify its claims. I argue first that the constitutive aim of science is 'common knowledge'. I then argue that despite this constitutive aim, our evaluative concepts for science should not have as a success criterion the achievement of common knowledge. Instead, evaluative concepts for science should be based on justification, specifically, the satisfaction of justificatory norms. Justificatory norms get their normative status via what I call the *Leibniz procedure*. I describe the Leibniz procedure and argue that, in addition to truth-conduciveness, putative justificatory norms are genuinely normative only if they manifest and promote epistemic agency and responsibility. This deontic philosophy of science offers fresh accounts of scientific demarcation, values in science, scientific progress, scientific credit, and perhaps many other familiar notions in philosophy of science.

All are welcome

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