

Alin Christoph Cucu

University of Lausanne

E-mail: alin.cucu@unil.ch

Personal website: www.alincucu.com



Education

from 08/2020

PhD candidate/researcher

University of Lausanne

Supervisor: Prof. Michael Esfeld

Title of PhD thesis: *“Interacting Minds in the Physical World – Towards a Scientifically Informed Theory of Dualistic Mental Causation”*

10/2019 – 07/2020

PhD student

International Academy of Philosophy (IAP), Mauren, Liechtenstein

08/2017 – 09/2019

PhD fellow

International Academy of Philosophy (IAP), Mauren, Liechtenstein

As part of the project “The Openness of the Universe for Divine Interaction and Human Free Will” funded by the Templeton foundation (grant ID: 59226)

Research topic: *“Interactive Dualism in the Physical World – Towards a Scientifically Informed Model of Dualistic Mind-to-Brain-Interaction”*

15 Oxford-style tutorials (see “Graduate Coursework”):

- 10 with Prof. Daniel von Wachter (my dissertation supervisor) on foundational topics in metaphysics, epistemology, ethics and philosophy of religion
- 1 with Dr. Paul Näger (University of Münster) in philosophy of science
- 1 with Dr. Daniel Hill (University of Liverpool) in philosophy of religion
- 3 with Dr. Dr. Brian Pitts (University of Cambridge) in classical physics and philosophy of mind

09/2010

2nd state examination for a high school teaching position in biology and chemistry (Zweites Staatsexamen)

Ministry of Education and Science, Free State of Bavaria

Grade: 1,90 (“good”)

06/2008

1st state examination in biology and chemistry (Erstes Staatsexamen)

Ludwig-Maximilians-University, Munich

Grade: 2,05 (“good”)

07/2006

1st state examination in educational sciences (Erstes Staatsexamen in Erziehungswissenschaften)

Ludwig-Maximilians-University, Munich

10/2003-02/2008

Studies of biology, chemistry and philosophy (10 semesters)

Ludwig-Maximilians-University, Munich

Philosophy: several semester-long lectures in different areas of philosophy and one semester-long seminar in analytic philosophy with weekly essay assignments (tutor: Dr. Dr. Daniel von Wachter)

Peer-reviewed publications

1. Cucu, Alin C. and Pitts, Brian J. (2019): "How Dualists Should (Not) Respond to the Objection from Energy Conservation". [*Mind and Matter* 17:1, 95-121](#)
2. Cucu, Alin C. (forthcoming) "Does Consciousness-Collapse Quantum Mechanics Facilitate Dualistic Mental Causation?". *Journal of Cognitive Science*
3. Cucu, Alin C. (forthcoming): "The Problematic Contacts Between Religious and Physicalist Metaphysics". [*Introduction to Philosophy*](#), Metaphysics Volume, Chapter 9. Rebus Community Press

Papers currently under peer review

1. Cucu, Alin C. and Esfeld, Michael (2020): "High Impact, Low Diligence – A Case Study of Model Calculations in the Corona Crisis". Submitted to *Foundations of Science*

Book reviews

1. Cucu, Alin C. (2020): "Henry P. Stapp. Quantum Theory and Free Will: How Mental Intentions Translate into Bodily Actions". *Philosophia Christi* 22(1): 173-177

Paper drafts

1. "Why the Incarnation Is Incompatible With An Atemporal Concept of God" (declined with referee reports by *Theologica*)

Prizes

1. Mind-matter prize for the best paper 2020 of the Society for Mind Matter Research (winning paper: Cucu, Alin C. and Pitts, Brian J. (2019): "How Dualists Should (Not) Respond to the Objection from Energy Conservation". [*Mind and Matter* 17:1, 95-121](#))

Conference papers and presentations

1. "Interacting Minds in the Physical World" (Presentation at the University of Lausanne, philosophy of science group of Prof. Michael Esfeld, Dec 10, 2019)
2. "Does QM help model dualistic mental interaction?" (Presentation at Biological Mentality Online Workshop, Dec 09, 2019)
3. "Energy Conservation, Physicalism and the Prospects for Interactionist Dualism" (Biological Mentality Online Workshop, Sep 23, 2019)
4. "Does Energy Conservation Preclude Dualistic Agent Causality?" (Free Will and Divine Action conference organized by the IAP, Munich, August 21-23, 2019)
5. "The Ghost is Alive: How Physics and Neuroscience Support the Idea of Interacting Souls". Poster presentation at the Science of Consciousness Conference in Interlaken, Switzerland, June 25-28, 2019

6. "Steht der interaktionistische Substanzdualismus im Widerspruch zur modernen Naturwissenschaft?" ("Is Interactionist Substance Dualism at Odds With Modern Science?"). Invited presentation at the Systematic Theology and Ethics Conference of the Association for Evangelical Theology, Gießen, Germany, Feb 23, 2019
7. "Widerlegt die moderne Naturwissenschaft die Existenz von Seelen?" ("Does Modern Science Refute the Existence of Souls?"). Invited presentation at the philosophy workshop of the Wort und Wissen Institute, Neustadt/Germany, Jan 19, 2019
8. "Turning the Tables on Physicalism: The Energy Conservation Objection to Substance Dualism as a Two-Edged Sword". Paper presentation at the conference "[Substance Dualism in the 21st century](#)", Budapest, Dec 7, 2018.
9. "Does Substance Dualism Violate Energy Conservation?" Presentation at the Moscow Center for Consciousness Studies Summer School on Malta, June 30, 2018
10. "Doubting the God of the Philosophers: Why Atemporalism Is Incompatible With the Incarnation". Paper presentation at the Southwestern Conference of the Evangelical Philosophical Society, Houston, TX, Mar 3, 2018

Peer-reviewed interactions with my work

1. Barnden, J. „The Meta-Dynamic Nature of Consciousness“. Preprints 2020, 2020030178 (doi: 10.20944/preprints202003.0178.v2).
2. "Anti-Physicalism and the Metaphysics of Substances and Properties". Ralph S. Weir, PhD thesis, University of Cambridge, forthcoming.
3. Pitts, J.B. „Conservation Laws and the Philosophy of Mind: Opening the Black Box, Finding a Mirror“. *Philosophia* (2019). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11406-019-00102-7>

Translations

1. Beckermann, A. (2019): "Active Doings and the Principle of the Causal Closure of the Physical World". *Organon F* Vol. 26, Issue 1 (Translation from German into English)
2. Halbig, C. (2019): "Reasons and God's Discretion". Presentation at the conference "Free Will and Divine Action" organized by the IAP (Translation from German into English)

Editing

1. Swinburne, R. (forthcoming): *Geist, Gehirn und freier Wille*. Darmstadt: Wissenschaftliche Buchgesellschaft.
2. Mele, A. (forthcoming): *Frei – Warum die Naturwissenschaft den freien Willen nicht widerlegt hat*. Darmstadt: Wissenschaftliche Buchgesellschaft.

Graduate Coursework

International Academy of Philosophy Liechtenstein (supervisor: Prof. Dr. Dr. Daniel von Wachter)

The following ten essays are all available on my personal webpage alincucu.com

1. "In welchem Sinne, falls es einen gibt, könnte Gott allmächtig sein?" ("In Which Sense, If Any, Could God be Omnipotent?")
2. "Could God be Outside Time?"
3. "Is the Existence of the Universe Evidence for the Existence of God?"
4. "What Is the Best Form of Arguments from Design?"

5. "How Are Perceptual Beliefs Justified?"
6. "Are There Strong Reasons for Believing That There Are No Objective Moral Values?"
7. "Is Determinism True?"
8. "Is Determinism Compatible With Free Will?"
9. "Is Any Libertarian Account of Free Action Adequate?"
10. "Which Is the Most Plausible Account of Personal Identity?"

University of Liverpool (supervisor: Dr. Daniel J. Hill; credit through the IAP)

1. "The Evil in the World Is Not Strong Evidence Against the Existence of God"

University of Münster (supervisor: Dr. Paul Näger; credit through the IAP)

1. "Does Mind-Brain-Interactionism Violate Any Physical Law?"

University of Cambridge (supervisor: Dr. Dr. Brian Pitts; credit through the IAP)

1. Conservation Laws in Lagrangian Particle Mechanics
2. Conservation Laws in Lagrangian Field Theory
3. Conservation Laws in Lagrangian Field Theory: Assessing E.J. Lowe's Varying Constants Proposal

Teaching Experience

03/2019

International Academy of Philosophy Liechtenstein

Adjunct Instructor, Philosophical Training for Students of Philosophy and Theology

01/2018 – 02/2018

State Independent Theological College (Staatsunabhängige Theologische Hochschule), Basel

Adjunct Instructor, Philosophical Training for Theology Students

09/2014 – 07/2017

European School of Munich

Seconded teacher for Biology, Chemistry and Integrated Sciences (teaching in German, English and French)

09/2010 – 08/2014

Staatliches Gymnasium ("High School") Kirchseeon

Lecturer (Studienrat) for Biology, Chemistry and Integrated Sciences

09/2008 – 08/2010

Asam-Gymnasium München

Probationary teacher ("Studienreferendar") for Biology, Chemistry and Philosophy/Ethics

Professional Memberships

1. Evangelical Philosophical Society (since 2017)
2. Society of Christian Philosophers (since 2018)

Languages

1st native language: German

	Understanding	Speaking	Writing
--	----------------------	-----------------	----------------

	Listening	Reading	Spoken interaction	Spoken production	
English	C2	C2	C2	C2	C2
French	C1	C1	C1	C1	C1
Romanian (2 nd native language)	C2	C2	C2	C1	C1

[Common European Framework of Reference for Languages - Self-assessment](#)

Other relevant interests and involvements

Project and time management

Development of and blogging about innovative time management and project management models and tools with [weekview® innovative Zeitplansysteme](#) in Munich (since 07/2013)

Academic proofreading

Revised several Bachelor theses in economics and theology

Translation

Voluntary simultaneous English interpreter at Free Evangelical Church “Stami” in St. Gallen, Switzerland

References

Prof. Dr. Michael Esfeld

Professor of Philosophy of Science
University of Lausanne
michael.esfeld@unil.ch

University of Cambridge
jbp25@cam.ac.uk

Dr. Joshua R. Farris

Paluch Lecturer
Mundelein Seminary
joshua.r.farris@gmail.com

Prof. Dr. Dr. Daniel von Wachter

Professor of Philosophy, Director
International Academy of Philosophy
dvwachter@iap.li

Dr. Paul Näger

Assistant Professor of Philosophy
University of Münster
paul.naeger@wwu.de

Dr. Dr. J. Brian Pitts

Senior Research Fellow of Philosophy of Physics



Alin Cucu / Arbon, 12.08.2020