

WORKSHOP ON
LOGIC AND SEMANTICS

Organized by

CALCUTTA LOGIC CIRCLE

AND

**CENTRE FOR COGNITIVE SCIENCE, JADAVPUR
UNIVERSITY**

ON THE 26th, 27th, 28th, AND 29th DAYS OF OCTOBER, 2005.

The general theme of the workshop is the following:

Any language proper – formal or natural – has a syntax and a semantics. While in a natural language syntax remains hyphenated with semantics, in a formal language semantics is added on to syntax. Whatever may be the nature of language, how a syntactic unit gets a semantic value has been a perennial problem. Bertrand Russell in his classic essay ‘On Denoting’ (1905) has attempted to solve this problem and other related issues. His main opponent in this article is Gottlob Frege who accommodates an additional element called sense (*sinn*) in his semantics. The background of the Frege-Russell debate comprised a number of puzzles – some epistemic, some semantic, some logical in nature, e.g., the puzzle of identity statements, truth values of statements containing empty names, logical forms, definite descriptions in consonance with logical rules of negation, etc. The Frege-Russell debate on semantics has far fetched consequences in the realm of philosophy as well as logic, and can be considered instrumental for the development of different systems of logic and different types of formal semantics.

The Calcutta Logic Circle proposes to celebrate the centenary year of Russell's epoch making essay by organizing a workshop in its 2005 Autumn Meet in Kolkata where various issues in the interface between logic and semantics will be discussed.

Speakers:

Amita Chatterjee, Jadavpur University, West Bengal

Wilfrid Hodges, Queen Mary College, University of London

Benedikt Löwe, ILLC, Amsterdam

Amitabha Mukherjee, IIT Kanpur

Ranjan Mukhopadhyaya, Visva-Bharati, West Bengal

Piero Pagliani, Computer Scientist, Rome

Tim Poston, National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore

Amit Kumar Sen, Katwa College, West Bengal

Venue: *Professor Anita Banerjee Memorial Seminar Hall
Faculty of Arts Building, Ground Floor
Jadavpur University
Kolkata 700032*