

SEMIOTICS, COGNITION AND COMMUNICATION - PRESENTATION

Patrícia Fonseca Fanaya¹
Priscila Borges²

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This thematic dossier of ESFERAS seeks to advance the ongoing dialogue between semiotics, cognition, and communication by gathering papers that, though diverse in their theoretical and methodological orientations, are committed to investigating meaning-making processes in their epistemological and cultural dimensions.

Reflecting the interdisciplinary ethos of this special issue, the contributions engage in fruitful conversations between the North American pragmatist tradition—particularly the work of Charles Sanders Peirce—and contemporary debates in philosophy of mind, cognitive science, and language studies. Alongside conceptually driven inquiries, the dossier also includes applied research articles that address pressing issues such as disinformation, artificial intelligence, digital games, streaming platforms, and other communicative phenomena.

Two special features further enrich this issue. First, an in-depth and previously unpublished interview with Professor Nathan Houser, titled “On the Trail of Mind: Nathan Houser Discusses Peirce, Pragmatism and Cognition”, in which the philosopher and editor reflects on his intellectual trajectory and

¹ Doutora, Universidade de Brasília, Brasília – DF, Brasil. patriciafanaya@gmail.com | <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4842-9813>.

² Doutora, Universidade de Brasília, Brasília – DF, Brasil. primborges@gmail.com | <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4573-5807>.

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elaborates on the relevance of Peircean pragmatism to contemporary issues for the philosophy of mind and cognition. Second, the first-ever Portuguese translation of Charles S. Peirce's seminal essay "The Law of Mind", a foundational text for understanding his conception of mind as a continuous and dynamic process of semiosis.

By promoting the intersection of philosophical tradition, cognitive science, and contemporary communication practices, this dossier is aimed at researchers interested in exploring how signs articulate, sustain, and transform the regimes of meaning that structure our experiences in the world. We hope that the articles gathered here will contribute to renewing interest in the semiotic approach to cognition and communication, reaffirming its timelessness and relevance, both at the theoretical level and in the empirical challenges of the present and, why not, of the future.