The Pittsburgh-Konstanz Colloquium in the Philosophy of Science is the joint undertaking of the Center for Philosophy of Science at the University of Pittsburgh and Zentrum Philosophie und Wissenschaftstheorie, Universität Konstanz.

The colloquium consists of a series of biennial conferences that alternate between Konstanz and Pittsburgh. The first meeting of the colloquium, took place in 1991. The series has since covered a number of diverse themes such as:

- 1991 Konstanz: The Carnap-Reichenbach Centennial
- 1993 Pittsburgh: The Philosophy of Biology
- 1995 Konstanz: Philosophy and the Sciences of the Mind
- 1997 Pittsburgh: Science at the End of the Century: The Limits of Science
- 1999 Konstanz: Limits of Science: Philosophical Problems in the Neurosciences
- 2003 Pittsburgh: Science, Values, and Objectivity

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Sponsors

Peter Machamer, co-chair
Gereon Wolters, co-chair
Martin Carrier
James Lennox
Sandra Mitchell
Wolfgang Spohn
Thursday, 26 May 2005
Ancient Philosophy
9:00-10:30 The Concept of Causality in Greek Thought
Speaker: Jürgen Mittelstraß, University of Konstanz
Commentator: Jim Lennox, University of Pittsburgh
Chair: Gereon Wolters, University of Konstanz
10:30-11:00 Coffee Break
11:00-12:30 Moral Causes: The Role of Explanation in Ancient Ethics
Speaker: Brad Inwood, University of Toronto
Commentator: Emidio Spinelli, University of Rome, Sapienza
Chair: To be announced
12:30-14:30 Lunch

Medieval Philosophy
14:30-16:00 Powerless Causes: The Case of Sacramental Causality
Speaker: Marilyn Adams, Christ Church, Oxford
Commentator: J.E. McGuire, University of Pittsburgh
Chair: To be announced
16:00-16:30 Coffee Break

17th Century
16:30-18:00 From Scholastic to Mathematical Physics - and Back: Different Concepts of Causality in Descartes and Occasionalism
Speaker: Robert Schnepf, University of Halle
Commentator: Peter Machamer, University of Pittsburgh
Chair: Paolo Palmieri, University of Pittsburgh

Public Lecture
20:00 Causality in Economics
Speaker: C.W.J. Granger, University of California at San Diego, Nobel Laureate (2003) in Economics
Chair: Gereon Wolters, University of Konstanz

Friday, 27 May 2005
18th and 19th Centuries
9:00-10:30 Kant on Causal Laws
Speaker: Eric Watkins, University of California at San Diego
Commentator: Bernhard Thoele, University of Konstanz
Chair: Martin Carrier, University of Bielefeld
10:30-11:00 Coffee Break
11:00-12:30 J.S. Mill on Causation in the Human and Natural Sciences
Speaker: Laura Snyder, St. John’s University, New York
Commentator: Paolo Parrini, University of Florence
Chair: To be announced
12:30-14:30 Lunch

20th Century
14:30-16:00 Responsibility in History: Weber and Kries on Causality
Speaker: Michael Heidelberger, University of Tübingen
Commentator: Henry Krips, University of Pittsburgh
Chair: Radu Dudau, University of Iasy
16:00-16:30 Coffee Break
16:30-18:00 Plurality in Causation
Speaker: Maria Carla Galavotti, University of Bologna
Commentator: Christopher Hitchcock, California Institute of Technology
Chair: Stathis Psillos, University of Athens

Saturday, 28 May 2005
Physics
9:00-10:30 Spacetime as a Causal Set: a Philosopher’s Introduction
Speaker: Jeremy Butterfield, All Souls, Oxford
Commentator: John Norton, University of Pittsburgh
Chair: Martin Carrier, University of Bielefeld
10:30-11:00 Coffee Break

Biology
11:00-12:30 Higher Level and Lower Level Causation
Speakers: Lawrence Shapiro and Elliott Sober, University of Wisconsin
Commentator: Peter McLaughlin, University of Heidelberg
Chair: Sandra Mitchell, University of Pittsburgh
Afternoon: Excursion and Banquet*

Neurosciences
9:00-10:30 Mental Causation in Cognitive Neuroscience
Speaker: Henrik Walter, University of Frankfurt
Commentator: Wolfgang Spohn, University of Konstanz
Chair: Jürgen Mittelstraß, University of Konstanz

* The excursion includes a ship cruise to the beautiful old Swiss town of Stein am Rhein and a bus ride to the German hamlet of Schienen for a banquet