
Preface

This volume is the product of talks we had about the important ways in which information shapes our understanding of biological organization, and more generally, of the difference between living and inanimate matter. It later occurred to us to broaden our conversation to include other researchers, both philosophers and scientists, who could write on this theme at a level of biological organization that reflects the interests of their respective disciplines. With this in mind, we solicited contributions, through both invitation and a global call for papers. As a result, we were able to assemble a group of papers that addresses our informational theme at levels of organization that range from the genetic and epigenetic, at one end of the biological continuum, to the cognitive and linguistic, at the other. These papers also exemplify the deeply interdisciplinary nature of our theme.

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