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What is a Neural Representation?

The concept of neural representation is central to contemporary neuroscience; however, it is also deeply mysterious. While neuroscientists frequently utilize this concept, they rarely explain what is meant by it. The few accounts of it that are provided in neuroscience are also philosophically problematic. This talk will explain why it is important to gain a better understanding of neural representation, both for the purposes of philosophy of mind and neuroscience, as well as for neuroscience itself. I will discuss the problematic accounts of neural representation provided by neuroscientists and then point the way towards a more satisfactory account. This account still has some hurdles to overcome that will also be outlined.

April 5, noon to 1:30, GC 288

This talk is co-sponsored by the FIU Philosophy Club and Philosophy Department. Everyone is welcome. Feel free to bring your lunch.