Introduction

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This volume of *Schutzian Research* includes several papers that were presented at a conference entitled “Knowledge, Nescience and the (New) Media,” the Fourth Conference of The International Alfred Schutz Circle for Phenomenology and Interpretive Social Science held at the University of Konstanz in May of this year. The first paper by Professor Luigi Muzzetto, “Schutz-Wittgenstein on the Natural Attitude,” was the key-note presentation of the conference, and it explores the often neglected but important linkages between the work of Alfred Schutz and Ludwig Wittgenstein, in particular their views of the natural attitude, a foundation that is given no philosophical foundation by its denizens, but that is indispensable. Muzzetto also explains how the common sense formulates the basic features of the natural attitude, which are certainties that actually have a grammatical nature.

Guillaume Gass-Quintero undertakes an effort to define the We-experience of social groups that goes beyond a mere We-relationship and that depends on the relevances of a group and the group’s definition of its social situation. Barton Buechner, Segej van Middendorp, and Rik Spann consider the combative nature of cyberspace in which objective truth and facticity are often the victims, but the authors rely on the experience of veterans in warfare as a lens for viewing the combat, and they suggest pragmatic theories of management and jazz improvisation as affording models for searching for truth together. Daniela Lopez examines neoclassical accounts of supply and demand and articulates how social interactions of the kind that Schutz explains underpins these accounts and are often lost from sight. Manuel Petrik examines on-line conflicts in Brazilian social media for a week and shows the relevance of a phenomenology of commentaries, and he contrasts such social media conflicts with the Brazilian identity and the present situation of the country. Michael
Hanke presents the problem of fake news, and he shows the relevance of Schutz’s theory of truth, which is a matter of social in-groups’ seeking consensus, which pertains to the determination of the truth or falsity of claims, and which follows the logic of internet phenomena. Riccardo Venturini, developing themes pursued by Muzzetto, points to language and intersubjectivity as key to meanings and, relying on Cicourel, shows the convergence between Schutz and Wittgenstein on multiple realities and language games. Benjamin Stuck argues that truth is appresentational insofar as it brings together the polythetical elements of knowledge into relationship with interpretational relevances. Bentz, Rehorick, Marlatt, Nishii, and Estrada discuss the potentiality of transformative phenomenology, as a community practice, to counter deformations of the life-world by what they call “technological deathworlds.” The volume concludes with a paper by Jerry Williams that was not presented at the conference, but which accentuates Schutzian themes by showing parallels between music and poetry and by analyzing a poem of his own through the socially differentiated perspectives of poet and listener/hearer.

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Michael D. Barber
Editor