

Cognitive Science Brown Bag Series presents

## Prospects for Emotions in Synthetic Minds

**Speaker: Prof. James Beale**  
**IUSB Dept. of Psychology**

**Date: Friday, April 25, 2003**  
**Time: 12:30pm**  
**Place: IUSB Student Activity Center (SAC) 225**

### Abstract

What are emotions? Why do you have them? Where do they come from? Do your emotions control you? Or do you control them? Are they determined by the functioning of specific, innate brain structures? How do you know what others are feeling? For that matter, how can you know that other people really have emotions that are like your own? What is the relationship between emotions and intelligence?

I will attempt to answer these questions by considering arguments and evidence from many fields within the Cognitive Sciences: Psychology, Philosophy, Neuroscience, and Computer Science.

I will argue that: The emotional states of others can only be inferred. Emotional states are largely innate, depending on specific brain structures. Emotions are necessary for the survival of our (and any) advanced species, allow for greater mental adaptability, and are necessary for any truly intelligent, artificial mind. I predict that future synthetic minds will not only be smarter but also more emotional.



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