Riksbankens Jubileumsfond (The Bank of Sweden Tercentenary Foundation) has awarded a research group headed by one of us (THOMSEN THÖRNQVIST) at the University of Gothenburg, Sweden, SEK 32.700.000 (ca. € 3.500.000) for a seven-year research programme: “Representation and Reality: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives on the Aristotelian Tradition.” The programme will run 2013-2019 and aims at analyzing the Greek, Latin and Arabic reception of Aristotle’s theories on sense perception and concept-formation from Antiquity to the Late Middle Ages, with special regard to the little-studied tradition of commentary on the Parva naturalia, although commentaries on other Aristotelian works (Categories, Posterior Analytics, De anima, etc.) will, of course, also be taken into account. The programme is the result of a research collaboration between the University of Gothenburg and the University of Copenhagen that has developed since the late 1990s.

The tradition of studying commentaries on Aristotle at the University of Copenhagen goes back to the mid-twentieth century, and more precisely to the foundation of Corpus Philosophorum Danicum Medii Aevi (1946) and of the Institute for Greek and Latin Medieval Philology (1958, now part of the Saxo Institute). In the late 1960s, under the inspiring leadership of Jan Pinborg (†1982), a small research group of young Danish scholars was gathered, and in Pinborg’s later years foreigners began to be involved. Under the leadership of one of us (EBBESEN) the University of Copenhagen continued to be the home of a small but productive research environment specializing in philosophico-philological research on the Byzantine and Medieval Latin reception and development of Aristotle’s logic and semantics. Already in the 1970s, the Copenhagen group had formed an extensive international network and the Cahiers de l’Institut du Moyen-Âge Grec et Latin (first issue 1969) gradually became a well-established journal, but there was only sporadic collaboration with the other Nordic countries, which, Finland excepted, had no similar research groups.

However, in the early 2000s this picture changed. In 2001-2002 two
Swedish students received their doctorates from the University of Gothenburg, one having written on a topic in Byzantine philosophy (Börje BYDÉN) and the other on a topic in Latin philosophy (THOMSEN THÖRNQVIST). Both theses were supervised by Ebbesen. Later in the decade four young doctors (three Danes and a Colombian) were added to the Copenhagen group, and we decided to pool Danish and Swedish resources. In 2009, we were awarded a small grant by Riksbanken’s Jubileumsfond to establish a network, “The Aristotelian Tradition: The Reception of Aristotle’s Works on Logic and Metaphysics in the Middle Ages.” The University of Gothenburg, Stockholm University and University of Copenhagen took turns in arranging nine workshops during 2009-2011. In 2011 the group was awarded continued funding for composing an application for a major research programme with the aid of an international advisory board, and the grant was finally awarded in 2012.

The programme’s research group consists of eleven scholars, including two at the postdoctoral level, to be recruited in the course of the programme. The first four-year period is structured around seven sub-projects, all focused on different aspects of Aristotle’s psychology, with a range from sense-perception to concept-formation:

- Sense-Perception in the Aristotelian Tradition (Katerina IERODIAKONOU)
- The Greek Commentators on Phantasia, Nous and Concept-Formation (Börje BYDÉN)
- From Perception to Knowledge: Before and After Avicenna (Taneli KUKKONEN)
- Dreaming and the Illusion of Reality in the Aristotelian Tradition (Filip RADOVIC and Christina THOMSEN THÖRNQVIST)
- Concept-Formation of Natural Kinds (Ana Maria MORA MÁRQUEZ)
- Personality and Conceptualization (Jakob LETH FINK)
- Categorical Representation of the World (Heine HANSEN)²

In addition, there is a cataloguing and editorial project, to be described below.

The project is expected to result in a considerable number of articles in scholarly journals, some editions, and, in the second half of the programme, three joint volumes providing comparative analyses of the development of a number of theories of sense-perception and conceptualization in each of the three linguistic traditions, while also addressing these issues in relation to current concerns in cognitive science and the philosophy of mind. It is not as if

² For detailed descriptions of the individual sub-projects, see http://representationandreality.gu.se/research/sub-projects/
there has been no earlier research on theories of cognition in the Aristotelian tradition, but we expect to be able to make major advances (a) by combining the study of the Greek, Latin and Arabic branches of the tradition, and (b) by studying and editing inedita. A broad international collaboration with prominent scholars and partner institutions within the field is an essential part of the programme. An advisory board of 14 leading researchers will meet annually with the research group for evaluating progress and to assure the general quality of the research. Other activities include in all 28 workshops and six major annual conferences in the course of the programme.

Editorial Plans

“Representation and Reality” has a strong philological component. Several of the participants have a training in classics, and both they and a couple of participants with a background in philosophy have experience as editors of philosophical texts in Greek and Latin. We do not plan to publish any new Arabic texts, but we do intend to edit a considerable number of texts in Greek and Latin.

Greek

*Ancient texts:* Unedited ancient texts are non-existent, but some editions need a successor. So far, our only intention in that direction is for Katerina IERODIAKONOU to produce a new edition of Theophrastus’ *De sensibus* to replace Hermann Diels’ 1879 edition in *Doxographi Graeci.*

*Byzantine texts:* The number of relevant unedited texts in Greek is relatively small, but we intend to reduce that number further. Börje BYDÉN has been working on the early fourteenth-century philosopher Theodore Methochites for almost two decades, and has all but finished an edition of his commentary on *De anima,* which is to be published in the recently established series *Commentaria in Aristotelem Graeca et Byzantina* under the aegis of the Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften, the successor institution, that is, to the Königlich-Preußische Akademie der Wissenschaften, which was the institution responsible for Bekker’s groundbreaking edition of Aristotle in 1833 and the no less ground-breaking *Commentaria in Aristotelem Graeca* (1882-1907). We have no definite plans for further editions of Byzantine texts, but quite likely the project will result in more editions, whether partial or complete.

Latin

There is a mass of relevant unedited Latin material from the Scholastic
period. We intend to edit as much as we can manage, but primarily in the shape of unpretentious publications of the sort that for nearly half a century have been characteristic of Cahiers de l’Institut du Moyen-Âge Grec et Latin. This means that some editions will be partial and some will not be based on an examination of all existing manuscripts. It also means that we shall not spend ages hunting down the source of every single quotation.

Within the framework of the sub-project “Categorial Representations,” Heine Hansen is expected to produce several partial, and perhaps some complete, editions of Aristotelian commentaries, in particular commentaries on the Categories, of which he has already published a couple. Another sub-project titled “Concept-Formation” to a large extent will be based on commentaries on De anima. Ana Maria Mora-Márquez has established an inventory of such works, and editions may be expected of extracts from unpublished texts. A major effort will be put into the investigation of commentaries on De sensu et sensato, De memoria and De somno et vigilia (including De insomniis and De divinatione per somnum, which were generally not treated as separate treatises). There are few printed editions of such works, and still fewer modern ones. Thomas Aquinas on De sensu and De memoria, Peter of Auvergne on De sensu, De memoria and De somno, Nicole Oresme on De sensu, and Hugo Benzi on De somno are available in twentieth-century editions, but otherwise we only have a few fifteenth- and sixteenth-century uncritical editions plus Jammy’s equally uncritical 1651 edition of Albert the Great (of which Borgnet’s 1890 edition is fundamentally a reprint) and a nineteenth-century edition of a commentary on De somno et vigilia (mis)-attributed to Adam of Buckfield. An edition of Adam’s commentary on De memoria has been prepared by Julie Brumberg and Dominique Poirel (Paris), who have kindly allowed us to see their unpublished text. Also, and very fortunately, concurrently with our project, Silvia Donati of the Albertus Magnus-Institut in Bonn is preparing a critical edition of Albert’s companions to the Parva naturalia. We have a close and very fruitful collaboration with Dr. Donati.

The authors of this notice are busy cataloguing commentaries on the Parva naturalia. We do not aim at being exhaustive. We do, however, aim at producing descriptions, including lists of questions, of all question-commentaries from the thirteenth and early fourteenth centuries plus selected commentaries from later periods, primarily works by such famous masters as John of Jandun, John Buridan, Marsilius of Inghen and John Versor. Literal commentaries (Expositiones) are of secondary interest, unless they contain well-developed dubia.

Our first editorial efforts centre on De somno et vigilia. An edition of
Simon of Faversham’s questions (ca. 1280) on that work has already appeared, and later in 2014 we expect to publish Geoffrey of Aspal’s questions and Walter Burley’s *expositio*, which contains several *dubia*. Interestingly, Burley’s work exhibits so many similarities to Simon’s that it is tempting to think in terms of a direct influence. We do not know when Burley wrote his commentary, but his early years just after 1300 coincided with Simon’s last years, when he was an Oxford theologian and Chancellor of the University (1304-1306). Another possible candidate for edition is James of Douai’s question-commentary, to which we shall soon turn our attention. Next, we are likely to concentrate on question-commentaries on *De memoria*.

We are about to announce a new position for a postdoctoral researcher, and by mid-2014 we expect the group to be joined by one more scholar with editorial skills and a project in the general field of the *Parva naturalia*. We do not, for the moment, at least, intend to edit any complete commentary on *De sensu*, but we do plan to publish anthologies of questions on specific themes. Thus we are building up a dossier of questions about whether people who are born deaf can learn a language, and whether children reared without contact with any existing language would develop one nevertheless (King Psammetichus’ experiment). Most commentaries on *De sensu* deal with the former question, and several with the latter, which also appears in commentaries on other Aristotelian works and on Priscian.

Christina THOMSEN THÖRNQVIST (Göteborg) and Sten EBBESEN (København)

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A. Instruments de travail


**C. Éditions de textes d’auteurs médiévaux**

**Albertus de Saxonia**

**C1.** *Sophismata*, ed. M. VON PERGER.

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