

INTRODUCTION

This special issue contains the proceedings of the first meeting of the *Reasoning Club*, which was held in Brussels at the *Universitaire Stichting – Fondation Universitaire* from 17 to 19 September 2012.

It is perhaps not necessary to present here extensively the *Reasoning Club*, and its present director, Julien Murzi, also one of the editors of this issue as it has acquired a prominent position in the field of logic as a ‘facilitator’ for the promotion of research in logic (broadly understood). About fourteen countries are now member of this network, counting in many cases several research groups or centers per single country, and its primary goals are: on the one hand to foster the exchange of ideas between researchers working on reasoning-related topics and on the other hand to develop a sense of community for researchers spread geographically and spread across disciplines, as it is stipulated on its website (<http://www.kent.ac.uk/secl/philosophy/jw/reasoning/club/>).

The *Center for Logic and Philosophy of Science* (<http://www.vub.ac.be/CLWF/>), and its director, Jean Paul Van Bendegem, also the other one of the editors of this issue) at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel, as a member of the *Reasoning Club* network, proposed this first meeting. The main focus was to give young researchers an opportunity to present their work and to meet with their equally young fellow researchers, thus giving them a chance to establish their own networks early on in their scientific career. In addition, senior members were asked to present general tutorial-like lectures. The quality of the work presented during this conference was such that it deserved publication (after going through the usual refereeing process, of course, which is an additional confirmation of that quality).

It is worth mentioning that, since this first meeting in 2012, a second meeting was held in Pisa from 17 to 19 June 2013, a third meeting in Canterbury from 23 to 24 June 2014, and a fourth meeting is scheduled (at the moment of writing of this introduction) to be held in Manchester from 30 to 31 March 2015. Let us hope that many such conferences will follow.

Finally it is with great pleasure that we express our thanks to the *Doctoral School Human Sciences* of the Vrije Universiteit Brussel, by way of its director Karen François, for its generous financial support.

Julien MURZI & Jean Paul VAN BENDEGEM
Guest editors