A Digital Companion to C. S. Peirce
Poster displayed at the Peirce Centennial in 2014

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The Commens Working Papers
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In the Centennial year of 2014, the new Commens Digital Companion brings together two established on-line resources of Peirce research, adding improvements and new tools and publication possibilities, such as a dynamic news service, a collaboratively compiled bibliography of Peirce studies, and the publication of working papers.

**Background**

- **Commens: Digital Companion to C. S. Peirce**, opened in 2014, merges the Helsinki-based Peirce research site Commens, created by Mats Bergman and Sami Paavola in 2001, with the Brazilian Digital Encyclopedia of Charles S. Peirce, founded by João Queiroz in 2000
- Together with the new version the Encyclopedia, the popular Commens Dictionary forms the backbone of the new Digital Companion
- 132 terms, more than 700 quotes, and 33 articles have been transferred from the old Dictionary to the new platform

**Why a new ‘Digital Companion’?**

- The goal of the original Commens was to enable scholarly communication as well as to provide free resources for researchers and students
- The new version, built on a dynamic content management platform (Drupal), realises this aim by providing new possibilities for user input and research collaboration
- In addition to evoking the original Digital Encyclopedia, the term ‘Digital Companion’ refers to the new forms of publication that Commens provides
- Functions as a complement to existing web resources, such as Ariste, and established publications, such as the Transactions of the Charles S. Peirce Society

**News**

- Commens collects and publishes news pertaining to Peirce studies and closely related fields
- Divided into categories, such as ‘academic meetings’, ‘calls for papers’, and ‘publications’
- Registered users are allowed to post news (moderated by the editors)

**Bibliography**

- The Commens Bibliography is an open-ended biographical database that lists both primary and secondary Peirce research sources
- Records are automatically formatted and exportable in various formats
- Registered users will be permitted to add records to the Bibliography

**The Commens Dictionary**

- Consists of original quotations, in which Peirce characterises his technical terms
- Aims to offer representative samples of Peirce’s terminological definitions, arranged chronologically - does not lay claim to completeness
- Quotes are associated with sources from the Bibliography
- The Dictionary is a collaborative project. Editors and contributors may add and edit the contents, registered users may post user comments, and all users may suggest new terms and quotes

**New terms in the Second Edition (constantly being added):** Action, Actual, Anthropomorphism, Communicational Interpretant, Concept, Consciousness, Continuity, Critical Common-Sensism, Effectual Interpretant, Entitative Graph, Essence, Existence, Fact, Feeling, First Rule of Reason, Graph, Habit, Heccitity, Il Lume Naturale, Intentional Interpretant, Intuition, Judgment, Learning, Necessitarianism, Perception, Philosophical Criticism, Plausibility, Proposition, Scholastic Realism, Synthetic Philosophy, Thought

**The Commens Encyclopedia**

- Publishes original research articles related to different aspects of the philosophy, scientific accomplishments, and life of Peirce
- The articles will be peer reviewed
- Publishes both full-length and short articles (see http://www.commens.org/encyclopedia/submissions for more information)
- Articles that focus on specific terminological questions and distinctive problems in Peirce studies are especially welcome; but all proposals with relevance to Peirce research will be considered

**The Commens Working Papers**

- The Commens Working Papers: Preprints, Research Reports, and Scientific Communications puts out preliminary scientific papers and research reports in different formats
- Submissions are assessed by the editors; working papers do not undergo full peer review
- The Working Papers format is suited for the swift distribution of relevant intellectual products that lack other suitable outlets for publication

**Future Prospects**

- New possibilities of collaborative research on Peirce’s nachlass are being explored
- More opportunities for user participation will be made available
- Keep up to date by following the Commens RSS and Twitter feeds, and by registering a user account!