Just as ontology developed over the centuries as part of philosophy, so in recent years ontology has become intertwined with the development of the information sciences. Researchers in such areas as artificial intelligence, formal and computational linguistics, biomedical informatics, conceptual modeling, knowledge engineering and information retrieval have come to realize that a solid foundation for their research calls for serious work in ontology, understood as a general theory of the types of entities and relations that make up their respective domains of inquiry. In all these areas, attention has started to focus on the content of information rather than on just the formats and languages in terms of which information is represented. A clear example of this development is provided by the many initiatives growing up around the project of the Semantic Web. And as the need for integrating research in these different fields arises, so does the realization that strong principles for building well-founded ontologies might provide significant advantages over ad hoc, case-based solutions. The tools of Formal Ontology address precisely these needs, but a real effort is required in order to apply such philosophical tools to the domain of Information Systems. Reciprocally, research in the information science raises specific ontological questions which call for further philosophical investigations.
Contents:

Invited Talks
A.L. Thomasson and P. Gärdenfors

1. Categories
With contributions by:
T. Bittner, M. Donnelly, B. Smith, F. Neuhaus, P. Grenon and J. Simon

2. Perspectives
With contributions by:
B. Smith, S.K. Milton and J.A. Goguen

3. Methodology
With contributions by:
B. Bennett, W. Andersen, C. Menzel, M. Carrara, P. Giaretta, V. Morato, M. Soavi, G. Spolaore, K.
Lüttich and T. Mossakowski

4. Semantics and Cognition
With contributions by:
M. Raubal, N. Asher, P. Denis, M. Poesio, A. Almuhareb, O. Bodenreider, B. Smith and A. Burgun

5. Social Reality
With contributions by:
G. Boella, L. van der Torre, J. Breuker, R. Hoekstra and J. Bateman

6. Space, Time and Causation
With contributions by:
Gangemi

7. Mind and Action
With contributions by:
R. Ferrario, A. Oltramari, W. ten Brinke, D. McG. Squire, J. Bigelow, D. Rajpathak and E. Motta

8. Ontological Analysis
With contributions by:
Dhaen, W. Ceusters, P. Bera and Y. Wand

Order Information

If you would like to order one or more copies of the above, please fill in this
order form and send it back to:
IOS Press, Promotion Department, Nieuwe Hemweg 6B, 1013 BG,
Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

O I would like to order .... copies of Formal Ontology in Information
Systems (US$118 / €95 / £66)

O Please bill me

O Please charge my credit card
O Amer. Express O Euro/Master O Visa
Card no. Exp. Date Security code

Name:
Address:
City/Zipcode: Country:
Fax: E-mail:
Date: Signature:

FOR MORE INFORMATION
VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.IOSPRESS.NL
OR SEND AN E-MAIL TO MARKET@IOSPRESS.NL