

Paris, October 2011

Dear colleagues,

I invited Eric SCERRI to give a lecture within an international workshop I scheduled in Paris at the CREA –ÉCOLE POLYTECHNIQUE- in September 2010. This conference assembled great philosophers and chemists from all over the world.

I think that the short description of the context of this workshop may help you to assess Dr. SCERRI's ability to manage both a clear and deep lecture. As a matter of fact, my two main aims were to encourage a debate between chemists, historians and philosophers while connecting two antagonistic philosophical approaches, analytical philosophy on the one hand with 'continental' philosophy on the other hand. An overview of the last books published in this field could give you a good understanding of the strong opposition between those two philosophical 'worlds'. Furthermore, making a debate possible between multifarious communities of research is never easy.

Whatever difficult the situation may be, Eric SCERRI managed to propose a lecture completely clear, deep and open to different philosophical approaches and scientific communities. His speech was precise, rigorous and very well articulated. This ability to go beyond oppositions and to integrate people from different fields into a coherent debate is one of the main abilities of Eric SCERRI. I was not really surprised in so far as I attended two of his previous lectures given during the 2009 and 2010 symposia of the International Society for the Philosophy of Chemistry. Dr. SCERRI is always looking to be understood. In this respect, he carefully chooses arguments and examples to catch attention while going to the key ideas. His lectures are thus extremely valuable for experts, students or any people who simply want to widen his knowledge in a particular field such as chemistry or its philosophy and the philosophy of science in general.

For all those reasons, I decided to write this letter to support Dr. SCERRI's speaking career in whatever way possible. I recommend him fully to your organization.

Best regards,

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