Transition: From Online Course "Given Together 1" to Online Course "Given Together 2" Spring 2016

As I mentioned in the last class, we have been reviewing the unfolding structure of the course regularly as we go along, so I won't say much about it here. The basic vision we have been activating is that human beings stand in a different relationship to space than inanimate objects. Objects (including our bodies, considered simply as bodies) *occupy* space. Human beings *inhabit* space.

Now, that's just a preliminary formulation, to get us thinking along the right lines. It's not completely accurate. Why not? Because space is not an invariant reality that things relate to in one way and human beings relate to in another. Human space is fundamentally different from thing space. Human space is much richer, because human beings enjoy a much richer range of possibilities than things do. Human beings can feel, think, enjoy, fear, hold beliefs, maintain values, and much more. Things can't do that. And human space (we could also say 'TSK space') allows or accommodates that much richer range of possibilities. That's what we mean when we say that space is multidimensional.

In the second course, we are going to be exploring space dimensionality. That will quite naturally take us toward what we think of as the mental realm. Conventional understanding holds that the realm of the mental—thoughts, ideas, judgments, memories, etc.—has nothing to do with space. In a multidimensional view, that is simply not so.

Before we get into these questions, we will start of the next course by looking at the notion of space as a field, which is the theme of the essay in *Inside Knowledge* that we started with. So please reread that essay if you're continuing on.

I also am going to place on the website two articles that deal with quantum field theory: one by Charles Musser and the other by Sean Carroll. Carroll also has a good YouTube talk, which is linked in the article; in the video, if you're pressed for time, the main discussion starts at around 23:00. Field theory is suggestive, but what I find more interesting is the idea of nonlocality, although the two are linked.

Finally, I am also going to post the text of two exercises from Dynamics of Time and Space)Exercises 9 & 10), together with their commentaries. Many of the points these exercises and discussions explore will sound familiar, and may shed new light on what we've been doing. The exercises speak of the possibility of sustained practice—anyone who has the time for a short retreat would no doubt benefit, and I'd be interested in hearing how it goes.

See you in a couple of weeks.