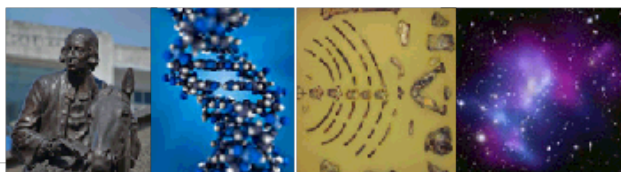


WesleyNexus

Science and Religion within the Wesleyan Tradition



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April 25, 2013

Dear WesleyNexus Colleague:

Below you will find a number of postings for events and resources for science and religion discussion groups and personal development. If you run across an item that you think should be posted on WesleyNexus, please let me know by sending an email to WesleyNexus@aol.com. I hope you enjoy this month's newsletter.

God Bless,

Rick Barr, WesleyNexus

Upcoming events:

April 27, 2013 Ignorance and Curiosity

“Physics Nobel laureate David Gross claims that the most important product of science is ignorance. Science is the quest not just for knowledge, but for

better questions, and we're generally more engaged by questions than by answers. Thus, ignorance

drives science and curiosity is its engine. How do we know what we don't know? Why are we driven to ask questions? How do we select questions? Is curiosity an integral mental process, or an emergent psychological phenomenon? How should curiosity and ignorance be applied to education, research, and policy?” Come join a panel of experts as they delve into how we should understand this paradoxical statement.



The program will take place on April 27, 2013 at 2:30 pm at the The Marianne & Nicholas Young Auditorium, 247 East 82nd Street, NYC. More information can be found [here](#).

April 28, 2013 The Ethical Brain: The Science of Moral Dilemmas

The Institute for Science and Judaism and The Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington are presenting Dr. Michael Gazzaniga

and Rabbi Elliot Dorff, PhD in an evening discussion titled Ethical Behavior, Synthesizing the Insights of Neuroscience and Judaism. Dr. Michael Gazzaniga is a Professor of Psychology at the University

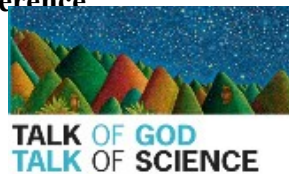
THE INSTITUTE FOR SCIENCE AND JUDAISM
AND
THE JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER
OF GREATER WASHINGTON

of California, Santa Barbara and heads the SAGE Center for the Study of the Mind. He is the author of numerous books including *The Ethical Brain: The Science of our Moral Dilemmas* and *Who's in Charge? Free Will and the Science of the Brain*. Rabbi Elliot N. Dorff, PhD is Rector and Distinguished Service Professor of Philosophy at the American Jewish University in Los Angeles, CA. He has served universities, state and federal ethics committees and along with writing on medical issues for the Conservative Movement's Committee on Jewish Law and Standards. He has authored twelve books including *Matters of Life and Death: A Jewish Approach to Modern Medical Ethics*.

The program will begin at 7:00 pm on April 28, 2013 at The Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington, 6125 Montrose Road, Rockville, Maryland 20852. Refreshments will be provided. Donations of \$10 for non-members and \$5 for JCCGW members are requested. The flyer can be found [here](#).

May 2-4, 2013 Talk of God Talk of Science Conference

The Ogilvie Institute of Preaching and Scientists in Congregations is sponsoring a conference that will bring the world of science and the world of Christian faith together for a



weekend. **Talk of God, Talk of Science** will host in one location a number of the nation's top contributors to the science and religion conversation including Jennifer Wiseman (astronomer and Director of the Dialogue on Science, Ethics, and Religion for the American Association for the Advancement of Science), Ron Numbers (historian and author of *The Creationists: The Evolution of Scientific Creationism*), Philip Clayton (Dean of Faculty at Claremont School of Theology) and Richard Mouw (President of Fuller Theological Seminary).

The program will take place on **May 2-4, 2013 at Fuller Theological Seminary** 135 N Oakland Ave Pasadena, CA 91182, Pasadena, CA. The regular registration fee is \$100. More information can be found [here](#).

May 31, 2013 The relationship between scientific and religious perspectives on human evolution.

On May 31, 2013 at 3:00 pm there will be a discussion on the relationship between science and religion as it concerns our understanding of human evolution. The event will be held in the **Hall of Human Origins at the Smithsonian Institution** in Washington, DC. WesleyNexus will post details on our Events webpage when they become available.



Internet Resources

Evolution Resources from the National Academy of Sciences

The **National Academy of Sciences** has developed an internet resource for information on biological evolution. Information is available from a variety



of perspectives including agriculture, medicine, education, and industry. A glossary of evolutionary terms is provided as is a list of additional internet resources. There is a separate section that discusses science and religion issues including the teaching of evolution in schools. The main page to access all the materials can be found [here](#).

Richard Feynman on How Scientists Can Believe in God

On April 11, 2013, Ross Pomeroy posted on **RealClearScience.com** a short summary of a 1956 talk where the famous physicist discussed the relationship between science and religion. In the



talk, he addresses the need to accept uncertainty in both science and religion. For both, “it is of great value to realize that we do not know the answers to different questions.” It is a short but insightful article worth sharing and discussing. The article can be found [here](#).

Wesley Wildman Articles Available on the Web

Wesley Wildman teaches philosophy, theology, religion, and ethics at **Boston University**.



He also directs Boston University’s unique religion and science PhD program and is the founder of the Institute for the Bio-Cultural Study of Religion, a research institute dedicated to the scientific study of religion. One of his web resource pages contains a number of articles and book chapters on issues in science and religion. The resource page can be found [here](#).

Of special note are the following article: 1) [Science and Religion](#) 2) [Evolution](#) and 3) [The Inevitability of Religion and the Wisdom of Cooperation with Science](#)

Also of interest may be a recent article on philosophy of religion which that can be found [here](#).

Wildman’s homepage can be found [here](#) and has some interesting resources as well.

Atom + Eve Project: Using Science in Pastoral Ministry Online Videos

The Atom + Eve Project concluded their final conference last month. Supported by a grant from the **John Templeton Foundation**, this

**atom + Eve:
Using Science in Pastoral Ministry**

multi-year project initiated a program to encourage a lively conversation between scientists and theologians on big issues of common interest such as creation, evolution, and spirituality. Under the leadership of **Rev. Joseph F. Wimmer**, S.T.D. and **Daryl P. Domning**, Ph.D., four public conferences featuring scientists and theologians were held between fall 2011 and spring 2013 on various issues of the interaction between science and religion. The conference videos can be found [here](#).

