International Conference

Contemporary Philosophy of Religion: Eastern & Western Contexts

Date : *4 - 6 February 2009 (Wednesday - Friday)*

Time : *9 am - 6 pm*

Venue : *Dr. Wu Yee Sun Lecture Theatre (NAB 209)*
Lam Woo International Conference Centre
Shaw Campus, Hong Kong Baptist University

Language : *English*

Keynote Speaker : *Richard Swinburne,* *University of Oxford, UK*

Speakers:

- **Lynne Rudder Baker,** *University of Massachusetts Amherst, USA*
- **Jonathan Chan,** *Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong*
- **Chan Kai Yan,** *Lingnan University, Hong Kong*
- **Cheng Lian,** *Peking University, Beijing*
- **Andrew Chignell,** *Cornell University, USA*
- **Kelly James Clark,** *Calvin College, USA*
- **C. Stephen Evans,** *Baylor University, USA*
- **Jerome Gellman,** *Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel*
- **Victoria Harrison,** *University of Glasgow, UK*
- **Frances Howard-Snyder,** *Western Washington University, USA*
- **Kang Phee Seng,** *Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong*
- **Kwan Kai Man,** *Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong*
- **Ng Yau Nang,** *Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong*
- **Stephen Palmquist,** *Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong*
- **Charles Taliaferro,** *St. Olaf College, USA*
- **David W. Tien,** *National University of Singapore, Singapore*
- **William J. Wainwright,** *University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, USA*
- **Edward Wierenga,** *University of Rochester, USA*
- **Mark Robert Wynn,** *University of Exeter, UK*
- **Xu Yingjin,** *Fudan University, Shanghai*
- **Zhang Lifeng,** *Nanjing University, Nanjing*

Co-organized by:

Centre for Sino-Christian Studies

Society of Christian Philosophers

Co-sponsored by:

Department of Religion and Philosophy and the MALSE Program

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香港浸會大學
HONG KONG BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

Wednesday, 4 February 2009

Opening Ceremony	
09:00 – 09:15	**Welcome Speeches** Prof. NG Ching Fai President and Vice-Chancellor, Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong Prof. Kelly James CLARK Professor, Department of Philosophy, Calvin College, USA Prof. KANG Phee Seng Director, Centre for Sino-Christian Studies; Head and Professor, Department of Religion and Philosophy, Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong
09:15 – 09:30	**Photo-taking / Coffee Break**

Keynote Speech	
09:30 – 10:15	**Could There be a Scientific Explanation of Human Consciousness?** Richard SWINBURNE, University of Oxford, UK
10:15 – 10:45	**Discussion**
10:45 – 11:05	**Coffee Break**

Session 1	**Natural Theology I**
11:05 – 11:30	**Natural Signs of God's Reality** C. Stephen EVANS, Baylor University, USA
11:30 – 11:55	**Plantinga's Evolutionary Argument against Naturalism Revisited** XU Yingjin, Fudan University, Shanghai
11:55 – 12:25	**Discussion**
12:25 – 14:00	**Lunch**

Session 2	**Natural Theology II**
14:00 – 14:25	**How Skeptical is Skeptical Theism?** Edward WIERENGA, University of Rochester, USA
14:25 – 14:50	**Some Reflections on John Schellenberg's Argument for Atheism from Divine 'Hiddeness'** Mark Robert WYNN, University of Exeter, UK
14:50 – 15:20	**Discussion**
15:20 – 15:40	**Coffee Break**

Session 3	**Natural Theology III**
15:40 – 16:05	**Elements of the Argument from Fine-Tuning** CHENG Lian, Peking University, Beijing
16:05 – 16:30	**Theism, Naturalism, and the Fine-Tuning Design Argument** CHAN Kai Yan, Lingnan University, Hong Kong
16:30 – 17:00	**Discussion**
17:30 – 20:00	**Dinner**

Thursday, 5 February 2009

Session 4	Natural Theology IV
09:00 – 09:25	**A New Look at Anselm's Ontological Argument** Lynne Rudder BAKER, University of Massachusetts Amherst, USA
09:25 – 09:50	**Reflection on the Modal Ontological Argument for God's Existence** ZHANG Lifeng, Nanjing University, Nanjing
09:50 – 10:20	**Discussion**
10:20 – 10:40	**Coffee Break**

Session 5	Issues in Philosophy of Religion I
10:40 – 11:05	**Two (or Maybe One and a Half) Cheers for Perfect Being Theology** William J. WAINWRIGHT, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, USA
11:05 – 11:30	**Reformed Epistemology and the Cognitive Science of Religion** Kelly James CLARK, Calvin College, USA
11:30 – 12:00	**Discussion**
12:00 – 14:00	**Lunch**

Session 6	Issues in Philosophy of Religion II
14:00 – 14:25	**Richard Dawkins Against God** Jerome GELLMAN, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel
14:25 – 14:50	**Could Kant's Jesus be God?** Stephen PALMQUIST, Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong
14:50 – 15:20	**Discussion**
15:20 – 15:40	**Coffee Break**

Session 7	Issues in Philosophy of Religion III
15:40 – 16:05	**Liturgical Philosophy** Andrew CHIGNELL, Cornell University, USA
16:05 – 16:30	**The Puzzle of Petitionary Prayer** Frances HOWARD-SNYDER, Western Washington University, USA
16:30 – 17:00	**Discussion**
17:30 – 20:00	**Dinner**

Friday, 6 February 2009

Session 8	Philosophy of Religion and Cross-Cultural Dialogue I
09:00 – 09:25	**Religious Experience in a Multicultural Context** KWAN Kai Man, Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong
09:25 – 09:50	**Philosophy of Religion in a multicultural context** Victoria HARRISON, University of Glasgow, UK
09:50 – 10:15	**Truth Claims and Religious Dialogue: From Common Ground to Genuine Respect for Others** KANG Phee Seng, Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong
10:15 – 11:00	**Discussion**
11:00 – 11:20	**Coffee Break**

Session 9	Philosophy of Religion and Cross-Cultural Dialogue II
11:20 – 11:45	**The Double-movement Model of Forgiveness in Buddhist and Christian Rituals** Charles Taliaferro, St. Olaf College, USA
11:45 – 12:10	**The Life Principle: A Comparative Study of the Catholic and the This-World Buddhist Perspective on Abortion** NG Yau Nang, Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong
12:10 – 12:40	**Discussion**
12:40 – 14:00	**Lunch**

Session 10	Philosophy of Religion and Cross-Cultural Dialogue III
14:00 – 14:25	**A Moorean-Wittgensteinian approach to the Metaphysics of Dao** Jonathan CHAN, Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong
14:25 – 14:50	**Virtue and Joy in the Philosophy of Wang Yangming (1472-1529)** David W. TIEN, National University of Singapore, Singapore
14:50 – 15:20	**Discussion**
15:20 – 15:40	**Coffee Break**

Plenary Session	
15:40 – 16:40	**Plenary Discussion**
16:40 – 17:00	**Closing Remarks**
17:30 – 20:00	**Dinner**