



UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN DENMARK

ORTHODOX THEOLOGY AND THE SCIENCES

International Scientific Conference: April 26-30, 2011

Fr. Dr. George Dragas, Holy Cross Orthodox School of Theology, USA: *Christ's humanity: the key to understanding of the Universe*

Dr. Jean-Claude Larchet, Patristic scholar & theologian, France: Patristic views on the nature and status of scientific knowledge

Dr. Tinko Eftimov, Faculty of Physics, Plovdiv University, Bulgaria: *The epistemological lessons from the development of physics*

Fr. Dr. Nikolaos Loudovikos, University Ecclesiastical Academy of Thessaloniki, Greece: *Modern Psychology in the Destiny of Theology: Is a Theological Epistemology of Psychology Possible?*

Dr. Ivan Christov, Faculty of theology, Sofia University, Bulgaria: *Theological & scientific approaches to contemplating nature*

Dr. Dmitry Biryukov, Department of Byzantine Philosophy, Christian Academy for the Humanities, Saint-Petersburg, Russia: *Patristic insights on the nature of language and reality*

Fr. Dr. Dmitry Leskin, Orthodox Theological School, Tolyatti, Russia: *Philosophy of the name in 20th century Orthodox thought*

Dr. Vladimir Cvetkovic, Aarhus University, Aarhus, Denmark: *Maximus the Confessor's geometrical analogies applied to the relationship between Christ and creation*

Dr. Todor Veltchev, Faculty of Physics, Sofia University: *Scientific apologetics: Is there a place for science in Christian apologetics?*

Dr. Stefan Stefanov, Faculty of Education, Trakia University, Bulgaria: *Faith and Science*

Goran Sekulovski, Institute of Orthodox Theology "Saint Sergius", Paris, France: *The Orthodox understanding of evil*

Dr. Stoyan Tanev, University of Southern Denmark, Odense, Denmark: *The language of Orthodox theology & quantum mechanics: St Gregory Palamas and Niels Bohr*

Metropolitan Hierotheos Vlachos, Nafpaktos, Greece: *Foundations of orthodox psychotherapy*

Dr. Emil Traychev, Faculty of theology, Sofia University, Bulgaria: *Life's origin and purpose in the light of modern science*

Dr. Plamen Fiziev, Faculty of Physics, Sofia University, Bulgaria, *The big open questions in physics*

Dr. Marian Stoyadinov, Faculty of theology, Tarnovo University, Bulgaria: *The scientific presuppositions of Orthodox theological research*

Dr. Dimo Penkov, Faculty of theology, Sofia University, Bulgaria: *Faith and knowledge*

Dr. Georgi Kapriev, Faculty of philosophy, Sofia University, Bulgaria: *The axiomatic foundations and reception of Byzantine philosophy*

Dr. Svetoslav Ribolov, Faculty of theology, Sofia University, Bulgaria: *The Economics of Christian Asceticism - a postmodern view on the social challenges of the Church*

Fr. Dr. Christopher Knight, International Society for Science and Religion & Faraday Institute at St. Edmund's College, Cambridge, England: *The science and theology of Divine action*

Fr. Dr. Stephane Bigham, University of Sherbrooke, QC, Canada: *Image, meaning and reality – the theology of the icon as a hermeneutic tool in the dialogue between 'science' and religion*

Matthew Baker, Fordham University, New York, USA: *Cosmological Contingency and Logical Necessity: G. Florovsky and T. Torrance*

Dr. Pavel Pavlov, Faculty of theology, Sofia University, Bulgaria: *Person, event & history: the theological insights of Fr. G. Florovsky*

OPENING SESSIONS PROGRAM (Sofia)

Tuesday, April 26

- 17:30-18:00 Official opening of the conference in Plenary Hall # 1 of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", 15 Tzar Ovoboditel, 1504 Sofia
- Opening address by Dr. Pavel Pavlov, Dr. Stoyan Tanev and Fr. Dr. George Dragas
 - Greetings on behalf of the Rector of Sofia University; Mrs. Yordanka Fandakova, Mayor of the municipality of Sofia; Dr. Emil Traychev, Dean of the Faculty of Theology at Sofia University; Dr. Paul Wason, Director of Life Sciences and Science and Dialogue programs at the John Templeton Foundation
- 18:00-18:40 1st plenary talk: Fr. Prof. Dr. George Dragas - *Christ's humanity: the key to understanding of the Universe*
- 18:40-19:20 2nd plenary talk: Dr. Jean-Claude Larchet - *Patristic views on the nature and status of scientific knowledge*
- 19:20-20:00 3rd plenary talk: Metropolitan Hierotheos Vlachos - *Theology and science*
- 20:00-20:20 Presentation of the Bulgarian version of Dr. Larchet's book "*The theology of illness*"

Wednesday, April 27

08:45-09:30 Plenary Hall in the Grand Hotel Sofia,
Metropolitan Hierotheos Vlachos - *Fundamentals of Orthodox Psychotherapy*

For more information, please contact: Dr. Pavel Pavlov: ppavloff@yahoo.com, Dr. Stoyan Tanev: tan@iti.sdu.dk

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WORKING SESSIONS PROGRAM

(Conference Center of the Balkanski Foundation, Oryahovitzza, region Stara Zagora)

Wednesday, April 27

- 09:30-13:00 Trip to the Balkanski Conference Center in the proximity of Stara Zagora
13:00-14:00 Accommodation and lunch at the Cafeteria of the Center

First working session

- 14:30-15:00 Fr. Stephane Bigham: *The theology of the icon as a hermeneutic tool in the dialogue between 'science' and religion*
15:00-15:30 Dr. Dmitry Biryukov: *Patristic insights on the nature of language and reality*
15:30-16:00 *Coffee break and networking*
16:00-16:30 Vladimir Cvetkovic: *Maximus the Confessor's geometrical analogies applied to the relationship between Christ and creation*
16:30-17:00 Dr. Stoyan Tanev: *The language of Orthodox theology & quantum mechanics: St Gregory Palamas and Niels Bohr*
17:00-17:30 Dr. Plamen Fiziev: *The big open questions in physics*
17:30-18:00 Open discussion: *Open questions in the dialogue between theology and science: What is a question that is worth asking? How to build an International Interdisciplinary Center for Theology and Science (I2CTS)?*

Thursday, April 28

Second working session

- 08:30-09:00 Fr. Dr. N. Loudovikos, *Modern Psychology in the Destiny of Theology: Is a Theological Epistemology of Psychology Possible*
09:00-09:30 Fr. Dr. Dmitry Leskin: *Philosophy of the name in 20th century Orthodox thought*
09:30-10:00 Dr. Ivan Christov: *Theological & scientific approaches to contemplating nature*
10:00-10:30 *Coffee break and networking*
10:30-11:00 Goran Sekulovski: *The Orthodox understanding of evil: Patristic insights for contemporary society*
11:00-11:30 Dr. Svetoslav Ribolov: *The economics of Christian asceticism*
11:30-12:00 Open discussion
12:00-13:00 Lunch

Third working session

- 13:30-14:00 Fr. Dr. Christopher Knight: *The science and theology of Divine action*
14:00-14:30 Dr. Georgi Kapriev: *The axiomatic foundations and reception of Byzantine philosophy*
14:30-15:00 Dr. Tinko Eftimov: *The epistemological lessons from the development of physics*
15:00-15:30 Dr. Marian Stoyadinov: *The scientific presuppositions of Orthodox theological research*
15:30-16:00 Open discussion: *Divine action and energies*
16:30-17:10 Vespers in the Church "The Entry of the Most Holy Theotokos into the Temple" in Stara Zagora

Friday, April 29

Fourth working session

- 08:30-09:00 Fr. Dr. George Dragas: *The scientific theological legacy of Fr. G. Florovsky, T. Torrance and S. Jaki*
09:00-09:30 Dr. Pavel Pavlov: *The theological insights of Fr. George Florovsky*
09:30-10:00 Matthew Baker: *Cosmological Contingency and Logical Necessity: G. Florovsky and T. Torrance*
10:00-10:30 *Coffee break and networking*
10:30-11:00 Dr. Dimo Penkov: *Faith and knowledge*
11:00-11:30 Dr. Stefan Stefanov: *Faith and reason*
11:30-12:00 Open discussion moderated by Dr. Dimo Penkov, Dr. Stefan Stefanov and Dr. Todor Veltchev: *Scientific apologetics: Is there a place for science in Christian apologetics*
12:00-12:15 Discussion about next steps and closing of the working sessions
12:00-12:45 Lunch
13:00-19:00 Trip to Sofia with a visit of Bachkovo Monastery

Saturday, April 30

- 09:00-10:30 Divine Liturgy in the Church "St. Sophia" in Sofia
11:00-12:00 Celebration of the 1700 anniversary of the Edict of tolerance that was signed in Serdica (Sofia) in 311 A.D.

For more information, please contact: Dr. Pavel Pavlov: ppavloff@yahoo.com, Dr. Stoyan Tanev: tan@iti.sdu.dk

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