

# 2013-2014 BANNAN INSTITUTE

WHAT GOOD IS GOD?

SANTA CLARA UNIVERSITY



IGNATIAN CENTER  
FOR JESUIT EDUCATION

Bannan Institutes are yearlong thematic programs that address matters of significance within the **Jesuit, Catholic intellectual tradition**, foster an **ethic of dialogue** among persons of diverse religious and philosophical commitments, and facilitate opportunities for **interdisciplinary exchange** across the University and broader community.

The Ignatian Center for Jesuit Education sponsors the Bannan Institutes through the generosity of the Bannan family endowment.

The logo is a circular emblem. In the center is a blue circle containing a white cross and the letters 'IHS' in a stylized font. Below the letters is a white anchor. Surrounding this central circle is a ring of twelve golden sun rays. The entire emblem is set against a light blue background.

## IGNATIAN CENTER FOR JESUIT EDUCATION

### **Our Mission**

The Ignatian Center promotes and enhances the distinctively Jesuit, Catholic tradition of education at Santa Clara University, with a view to serving students, faculty, staff, and through them the larger community, both local and global.

### **Our Vision**

The Ignatian Center for Jesuit Education will be recognized throughout Silicon Valley as providing leadership for the integration of faith, justice, and the intellectual life.

## WELCOME TO THE 2013-2014 BANNAN INSTITUTE!



What Good Is God? In an age in which religion is associated as much with violence as benevolence, where propositions of faith are often framed as oppositional to modern science, and one-fifth of all Americans self-identify as “none of the above” with regard to religion, the 2013–2014 Bannan Institute will publicly engage one the most significant questions of our time through a series of lectures and facilitated dialogues with scientists, philosophers, literary scholars, engineers, theologians, poets, artists, and educators.

We begin the Bannan Institute in the fall quarter with a focus on God and culture, exploring the significance of secular and religious goods within civil society. We then move to engage the questions and resources of emergent scientific, technological, and religious paradigms under the theme of God and reality in the winter quarter. In the spring quarter, we conclude by considering the God-question within the life of a university, hosting a series of lectures and events around the role of religion within higher education.

We hope that you will be challenged and engaged through your participation in this year’s Bannan Institute, as you consider the question of What Good Is God? within your own life, work, and communities, and within our larger world and cosmos.

*Theresa Ladrigan-Whelpley*

**Theresa Ladrigan-Whelpley**  
*Director of Institutes and Spirituality*  
Ignatian Center for Jesuit Education

*Michael C. McCarthy, S.J.*

**Michael C. McCarthy, S.J.**  
*Executive Director*  
Ignatian Center for Jesuit Education



# GOD AND CULTURE

## SECULAR AND THE RELIGIOUS GOOD IN CIVIL SOCIETY

The first amendment of the Constitution of the United States of America prohibits any law respecting an establishment of religion or impeding the free exercise of religion. And yet, American civil society is saturated with anti-religious and religious sensibilities that often frame religious and secular goods as mutually subjugating. This quarter's lecture series will attempt to disrupt this polarizing frame.

### WHY IS GOD FOR CHRISTIANS GOOD FOR NOTHING?



**Terry Eagleton**, *Lancaster University and University of Notre Dame*

October 7, 2013 | 5–6:30 p.m.

St. Clare Room, Library and Learning Commons

*Reception immediately following*

### MY BRIGHT ABYSS: THOUGHTS ON MODERN BELIEF



**Christian Wiman**, *Yale Divinity School and Yale Institute of Sacred Music*

October 17, 2013 | 4–5:15 p.m.

Main Gallery, DeSaisset Museum



### KEEPING THE FAITH: CATHOLIC WRITERS ON HEROES OF CONSCIENCE

October 30, 2013 | 4–5:15 p.m.

St. Clare Room, Library and Learning Commons

#### FACILITATOR



**Catherine Wolff**

Editor of *Not Less Than Everything: Catholic Writers on Heroes of Conscience, from Joan of Arc to Oscar Romero*

#### PANELISTS:



**Bo Caldwell**

Author of *The Distant Land of My Father* and *City of Tranquil Light*



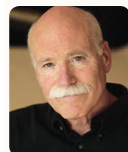
**Robert Ellsberg**, *Orbis Books*

Author of *All Saints: Daily Reflections on Saints, Prophets, and Witnesses for Our Time* and *The Duty of Delight: The Diaries of Dorothy Day*



**Ron Hansen**, *Santa Clara University*

Author of *Atticus*, *Mariette In Ecstasy*, and *A Stay Against Confusion: Essays on Faith and Fiction*



**Tobias Wolff**, *Stanford University*

Author of *This Boy's Life*, *In Pharaoh's Army: Memories of the Lost War*, and *Old School*





**WELL, I'LL BE DAMNED!  
CONSIDERING ATHEISM IN THE UNITED STATES TODAY**



**Jerome Baggett**, *Jesuit School of Theology,  
Santa Clara University*

November 6, 2013 | 4–5:15 p.m.

St. Clare Room, Library and Learning Commons

**VIOLENT RELIGION OR THE SACRED STATE?  
VIOLENCE, IDOLATRY, AND RELIGION IN CIVIL SOCIETY**



**William Cavanaugh**, *DePaul University*

November 12, 2013 | 4–5:15 p.m.

St. Clare Room, Library and Learning Commons

**GUADALUPE UNBOUND:  
RELIGIOUS POWER AND SOCIAL RESISTANCE**

**Ana María Pineda, R.S.M. Honorary Lecture**



**Socorro Castañeda-Liles**, *Bannan Institutes  
Junior Scholar, Santa Clara University*

November 19, 2013 | 4–5:15 p.m.

St. Clare Room, Library and Learning Commons

This lecture is the inaugural Bannan Institutes Junior Scholar Research Lecture, highlighting the scholarship of a notable junior faculty member at Santa Clara whose research explores the theme of the yearlong Bannan Institute. The lecture will be named annually in honor of a Santa Clara faculty member who has served as a significant mentor to the Bannan Institutes Junior Scholar during his/her early years at the University.

“I BELIEVE THAT OUR UNIVERSITIES ARE CALLED TO FIND NEW WAYS OF CREATIVELY RENEWING THIS COMMITMENT TO A DIALOGUE BETWEEN FAITH AND CULTURE THAT HAS ALWAYS BEEN A DISTINGUISHING MARK OF JESUIT LEARNED MINISTRY.”

**FR. ADOLFO NICOLÁS, S.J.**,  
SUPERIOR GENERAL OF THE SOCIETY OF JESUS

**IGNATIAN DAY OF REFLECTION**

**WHY DO WE SUFFER?  
AN IGNATIAN DAY OF PRAYER AND REFLECTION**



**Robert W. Scholla, S.J.**, *Bannan Faculty Fellow,  
Santa Clara University*

November 16, 2013 | 9 a.m.–2 p.m.

Multifaith Sanctuary, Saint Joseph's Hall

Fee \$10, lunch included. Register at [scu.edu/ic](http://scu.edu/ic)

Given the Bannan Institute's theme “What Good is God?,” this day of reflection will attend to the related perennial human question “Why do we suffer?” Utilizing methods and insights from Ignatius of Loyola's *Spiritual Exercises*, participants will have opportunities for personal prayer and communal reflection, as we attend to the reality of human suffering and to the liberating and compassionate response of God.

ALL EVENTS ARE **FREE** AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC, UNLESS NOTED.

PLEASE **RSVP** at [SCU.EDU/IC](http://SCU.EDU/IC)

# GOD AND REALITY

## EMERGENT SCIENTIFIC, TECHNOLOGICAL, AND RELIGIOUS PARADIGMS

While scientific advancements and technological innovations are often characterized as oppositional to religious faith and practice, the reality is more complex. This quarter's lecture series and symposium will explore emerging dialogues among scientific, technological, and religious frames of knowledge and truth.

### RELIGION IN HUMAN EVOLUTION



**Robert Bellah**, *University of California at Berkeley*

January 21, 2014 | 4–5:15 p.m.

St. Clare Room, Library and Learning Commons

### UNKNOWNABLE REALITY: SCIENCE, MATHEMATICS, AND MYSTERY



**Alex Zecevic**, *Santa Clara University*

January 28, 2014 | 4–5:15 p.m.

St. Clare Room, Library and Learning Commons

### OUTSOURCING MEMORY: GOOGLE, MEMORY, AND FORGIVENESS



**Noreen Herzfeld**, *St. John's University and the College of St. Benedict*

February 4, 2014 | 4–5:15 p.m.

St. Clare Room, Library and Learning Commons

### WHY SCIENCE NEEDS GOD



**Br. Guy Consolmagno S.J.**, *Vatican Observatory*

February 11, 2014 | 4–5:15 p.m.

St. Clare Room, Library and Learning Commons

### 2014 SANTA CLARA LECTURE

The annual Santa Clara Lecture provides a platform for distinguished theologians, scholars, and authors to engage issues of contemporary theological significance.

### GRACE IN SHAKESPEARE



**Marilynne Robinson**, *novelist and essayist*

February 26, 2014 | 7–8:30 p.m.

Recital Hall, Music and Dance Building

*Co-sponsored with the Religious Studies Department and the Jesuit School of Theology*

Marilynne Robinson is the author of *Gilead*, which won the 2005 Pulitzer Prize for fiction and the 2004 National Book Critics Circle Award for Fiction. Her most recent novel, *Home*, won the 2008 L.A. Times Book Prize for fiction and the 2009 Orange Prize for fiction. Robinson is also the author of the modern classic *Housekeeping*, which won the PEN/Ernest Hemingway Award for First Fiction and the Richard and Hinda Rosenthal Award from the Academy of American Arts and Letters, and was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize. She also has authored four books of nonfiction, *Mother Country*, *The Death of Adam*, *Absence of Mind*, and *When I Was a Child I Read Books*.

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PLEASE **RSVP** at **SCU.EDU/IC**

# GOD & REALITY



## SCIENCE AND SEEKING: RETHINKING THE GOD QUESTION IN THE LAB, COSMOS, AND CLASSROOM

**Bannan Institute Symposium | February 28–March 1, 2014**

With the many advances in biology and cosmology, the question of the relation of science to theology has become more acute and yet filled with new possibilities for rethinking the God question in the lab, cosmos, and classroom. Is there a third way beyond the polarizations of the current debates? This symposium brings together leading thinkers in the fields of science and religion to highlight new horizons in the ongoing endeavor to understand more deeply what it is to be human in an evolving universe.

Fee \$25, lunch included. Register at [scu.edu/ic](http://scu.edu/ic)

### SESSION I: SCIENCE AND SEEKING AFTER DARWIN

SCIENCE AFTER DARWIN: THE LINEAGE OF EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGY AND GEORGE JOHN ROMANES



**Donald R. Forsdyke**, *Queen's University, Canada*  
February 28, 2014 | 6:30–7:15 p.m.  
Williman Room, Benson Memorial Center

SEEKING AFTER DARWIN:  
THE LOSS OF UNBELIEF AND GEORGE JOHN ROMANES



**John David Pleins**, *Santa Clara University*  
February 28, 2014 | 7:15–8 p.m.  
Williman Room, Benson Memorial Center  
*Reception immediately following*

### SESSION II: TRUTH AND GOODNESS IN GOD AND NATURE CAN THEOLOGY MAKE SENSE OF EVOLUTION?



**John Haught**, *Georgetown University*  
March 1, 2014 | 9–9:45 a.m.  
Williman Room, Benson Memorial Center

SUFFERING AND THE MYSTERY OF EVIL:  
BELIEVING IN AN UNMOORED GOD



**Paul Crowley, S.J.**, *Santa Clara University*  
March 1, 2014 | 9:45–10:30 a.m.  
Williman Room, Benson Memorial Center

### SESSION III: HUMANS AND ANIMALS IN THEOLOGY AND EVOLUTION

THE WISDOM OF THE LIMINAL: RE-IMAGING THE IMAGE OF GOD IN AN EVOLUTIONARY MULTISPECIES CONTEXT



**Celia Deane-Drummond**, *University of Notre Dame*  
March 1, 2014 | 11–11:45 a.m.  
Williman Room, Benson Memorial Center

WHAT GOOD IS GOD TO ANIMALS? CHALLENGES TO HUMAN UNIQUENESS IN THEOLOGY AND SCIENCE



**Oliver Putz**, *Santa Clara University*  
March 1, 2014 | 11:45 a.m.–12:30 p.m.  
Williman Room, Benson Memorial Center

### SESSION IV: BRIDGING COSMOLOGY AND THEOLOGY COSMOLOGY, PHILOSOPHY, AND THEOLOGY IN CREATIVE MUTUAL INTERACTION



**Robert Russell**, *Center for Theology and the Natural Sciences*  
March 1, 2014 | 1:30–2:15 p.m.  
Williman Room, Benson Memorial Center

### IN VIEW OF HEAVEN AND EARTH: AN ASTRONOMER'S FAITH



**Jennifer Wiseman**, *NASA and American Association for the Advancement of Science*  
March 1, 2014 | 2:15–3 p.m.  
Williman Room, Benson Memorial Center

EXCAVATING DIALOGUES: A GLIMPSE INTO HISTORIC MANUSCRIPTS ON SCIENCE AND RELIGION



*Tour of Related Books and Manuscripts in Archives and Special Collections*  
March 1, 2014 | 3–5 p.m.  
Third Floor Gallery and Reading Room, Library and Learning Commons

# GOD AND THE UNIVERSITY

## RELIGION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Early universities within the United States were largely established to advance the ideals of liberal education within a religious moral framework. In the last century, however, the academy has become widely ambivalent about the place of “God” in the broader discourse of a university. This quarter’s lecture series will ask why, as we consider the role of religion within higher education in the United States.

### THE FRAGILITY OF FAITH: HOW CAN A THINKING PERSON STILL BELIEVE IN GOD?

Inaugural Louis I. Bannan, S.J. Lecture



Michael C. McCarthy, S.J., *Santa Clara University*

April 15, 2014 | 4–5:15 p.m.

St. Clare Room, Library and Learning Commons

### CONTAINMENT OR ENGAGEMENT? THE SHIFTING ROLE OF RELIGION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

April 22, 2014 | 4–5:30 p.m.

St. Clare Room, Library and Learning Commons



Julie Reuben, *Harvard Graduate School of Education*

Author of *Making of the Modern University: Intellectual Transformation and the Marginalization of Morality*



Douglas “Jake” Jacobsen and Rhonda Hustedt Jacobsen, *Messiah College*

Co-authors of *No Longer Invisible: Religion in University Education*

### WHAT GOOD IS GOD OUTSIDE OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES? INTERDISCIPLINARY REFLECTIONS ON THE GOD-QUESTION

April 30, 2014 | 12–1:15 p.m. (Lunch provided)

Williman Room, Benson Memorial Center

#### FACILITATOR



Phyllis Brown, *associate provost, Undergraduate Studies; professor, English Department, Santa Clara University*

#### PANELISTS:



Brian Buckley, *lecturer, Philosophy Department; director, Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Santa Clara University*



Kristin Kusanovich, *senior lecturer, Theatre and Dance Department, Santa Clara University*



Leilani Miller, *associate professor, Biology Department; director, University Honors Program, LEAD Scholars Program, Office of Fellowships, Santa Clara University*



Tom Plante, *Augustin Cardinal Bea, S.J. University Professor, Psychology Department, Santa Clara University*

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## BANNAN INSTITUTES RESEARCH REPORT

WHAT GOOD IS GOD FOR GRIEF AND LOSS?  
PSYCHOLOGY MEETS PHILOSOPHY:  
AN INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH STUDY

May 7, 2014 | 12–1:15 p.m. (Lunch provided)

Williman Room, Benson Memorial Center

Professor Feldman and Professor Gressis will be reporting on their research regarding the role of religious belief on experiences of loss and death anxiety in philosophy faculty, Jesuit priests, and undergraduate students. This research study was funded through a What Good Is God? Bannan Institute Research Grant.



**David Feldman**, *associate professor, Counseling Psychology Department, Santa Clara University*

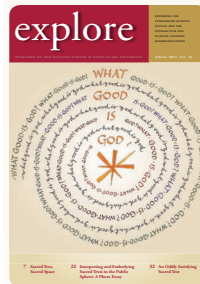


**Robert Gressis**, *assistant professor, Philosophy Department, California State University, Northridge*



## 2014 EXPLORE JOURNAL:

## WHAT GOOD IS GOD?



Exploring the Integration of Faith, Justice, and the Intellectual Life in Jesuit, Catholic Higher Education

Published in print and online May 2014

Previous publications available at [scu.edu/explore](http://scu.edu/explore)

## IGNATIAN RETREAT FOR FACULTY AND STAFF

## ENCOUNTERING GOD WITHIN THE IGNATIAN TRADITION

June 20–22, 2014

Villa Maria del Mar, Santa Cruz, Calif.



As a university community we have engaged the provocative question raised by the Bannan Institute this year: “What Good Is God?”

This Ignatian Retreat offers the University’s faculty and staff an opportunity for personal prayer and reflection as we begin our summer months. Where has God been laboring in our work and service at Santa Clara University? How might divine love and life desire to heal and to enliven us?

*Registration limited to Santa Clara University faculty and staff.*

Register at [www.scu.edu/ic](http://www.scu.edu/ic)

GOD & THE UNIVERSITY

# EVENTS CALENDAR

## 2013–2014 BANNAN INSTITUTE

### GOD AND CULTURE—FALL QUARTER 2013

#### OCTOBER

7	5 p.m.	Why Is God for Christians Good for Nothing? (Eagleton)
17	4 p.m.	My Bright Abyss: Thoughts on Modern Belief (Wiman)
30	4 p.m.	Keeping the Faith: Catholic Writers on Heroes of Conscience (Wolff and Panelists)

#### NOVEMBER

6	4 p.m.	Well, I'll be Damned! Considering Atheism in the United States Today (Baggett)
12	4 p.m.	Violent Religion or the Sacred State? Violence, Idolatry, and Religion in Civil Society (Cavanaugh)
16	9 a.m.	Why Do We Suffer? An Ignatian Day of Prayer and Reflection (Scholla, S.J.)
19	4 p.m.	Guadalupe Unbound: Religious Power and Social Resistance (Castañeda-Liles)

### GOD AND REALITY—WINTER QUARTER 2014

#### JANUARY

21	4 p.m.	Religion in Human Evolution (Bellah)
28	4 p.m.	Unknowable Reality: Science, Mathematics, and Mystery (Zecevic)

#### FEBRUARY

4	4 p.m.	Outsourcing Memory: Google, Memory, and Forgiveness (Herzfeld)
11	4 p.m.	Why Science Needs God (Consolmagno, S.J.)
26	7 p.m.	Grace in Shakespeare (Robinson)
28	6:30 p.m.	Science and Seeking: Rethinking the God Question in the Lab, Cosmos, and Classroom (Symposium)

#### MARCH

1	9 a.m.	Science and Seeking: Rethinking the God Question in the Lab, Cosmos, and Classroom (Symposium)
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### GOD AND THE UNIVERSITY—SPRING QUARTER 2014

#### APRIL

15	4 p.m.	The Fragility of Faith: How Can a Thinking Person Still Believe in God? (McCarthy, S.J.)
22	4 p.m.	Containment or Engagement? The Shifting Role of Religion in Higher Education (Reuben, Jacobsen, and Hustedt Jacobsen)
30	noon	What Good is God Outside of Religious Studies? Interdisciplinary Reflections on the God-Question (Brown and Panelists)

#### MAY

7	noon	What Good Is God for Grief and Loss? Psychology Meets Philosophy (Feldman and Gressis)
Publication		<i>explore Journal</i> 2014: What Good Is God?

#### JUNE

20-22		2014 Ignatian Retreat for Faculty and Staff: Encountering God Within the Ignatian Tradition (Scholla, S.J.)
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It is through your ongoing support of Ignatian Center's vision "to be a leader for the integration of faith, justice and the intellectual life" that we are able to continue this fruitful and fulfilling labor.

Please make a gift and help advance our work in fostering religious dialogue throughout Silicon Valley.

To make a gift over the phone, contact Emily Shoemaker, Director of External Relations at: **(408) 551-7176** or **eshoemaker@scu.edu**.

To make a gift online go to: **[www.scu.edu/ic](http://www.scu.edu/ic)** and click "Give" on the top right corner of the webpage.

Thank you in advance for all you do to support and enhance the Bannan Institutes.



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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

The Jesuit University in Silicon Valley



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