



Notre Dame Institute for
ADVANCED STUDY

Mind, Soul, World: Consciousness in Nature

“The Problems with the Materialist Reduction of Consciousness”

Monday, March 14, 2016 – Mid-Morning Session (11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.)

Moderator

Luke Wright is Scholar in Residence in the Department of Religious Studies at the University of Virginia. He is the author of *Samuel Taylor Coleridge and the Anglican Church* (2010) and several articles in a range of academic journals. His current work includes *The Biblical Foundations of English Radical Thought*, currently under contract, and a second project with the working title "The Morality of Knowledge" which links elements of the thought of Michael Polanyi and Levinas. Professor Wright taught at the University of Oxford and other English Universities prior to his return to the United States in 2006 where he has taught both history and theology. He previously served as a Visiting Scholar in the Corcoran Department of History at the University of Virginia.



Presenters



Janet Soskice is Professor of Philosophical Theology at the University of Cambridge and President of Jesus College. Her current areas of research and specialization include religious language, the names of God, and God and creation. She is the author of several works, including *Metaphor and Religious Language* (1984); *The Kindness of God* (2007); and *Sisters of Sinai: How Two Lady Adventurers Discovered the Lost Gospels* (2009), which was named to the Best Books of the Year lists of the *Washington Post*, *Christian Science Monitor* and the *Library Journal*. She has co-edited numerous works that include *Medicine and Moral Reasoning* (with Grant Gillett and K.W.

Fulford, 1994); *Feminism and Theology* (with Diana Lipton, 2003), and *Creation and the God of Abraham* (with Carlo Cogliati, David Burrell, and W. Stoeger, 2010), which examines the doctrine of creation from nothing in Jewish, Christian and Muslim thought. Professor Soskice is a past-President of the Catholic Theological Association of Great Britain and the Society for the Study of Theology. In 1997, she was a McCarthy Visiting Professor at the Gregorian University in Rome and she has been a member of the *Building Bridges Seminar*, an initiative of the Archbishop of Canterbury for Christian/Muslim relations at Georgetown University. She is

currently a Director of the *Bible and Classical Antiquity in 19th Century Culture* project through CRASSH (the Centre for Research in Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities).

Gerald McKenny is the Walter Professor of Theology at the University of Notre Dame. His research and teaching focuses on moral theology, Christian ethics, and the ethics of biotechnology. He is the author of *To Relieve the Human Condition* (1997), a Choice Outstanding Book; *The Analogy of Grace: Karl Barth's Moral Theology* (2010); and forty-five articles and book chapters in Christian ethics, biomedical ethics, the ethics of biotechnology, religious ethics, and the philosophy of medicine. He is co-editor of four books, including *The Ethical* (with Edith Wyschogrod, 2003), *Altering Nature* (two volumes, with Baruch A. Brody and B. Andrew Lustig, 2008), and *Darwin in the Twenty-first Century: Nature, Humanity, and God* (with Phillip Sloan and Kathleen Eggleston, 2015). He is nearing the completion of a book on Christian ethics and biotechnology and has begun work on an additional book focused on eschatological political theology. For eight years he served as Director of the John J. Reilly Center for Science, Technology, and Values.

