WHAT GOOD IS GOD?
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.
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  
Director of Institutes and Spirituality  
Ignatian Center for Jesuit Education

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

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

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.

“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

ALL EVENTS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC, UNLESS NOTED.
PLEASE RSVP at SCU.EDU/IC
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

**UNKNOWN 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*.

All events are free and open to the public, unless noted.

Please RSVP at scu.edu/ic
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

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

ALL EVENTS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC, UNLESS NOTED. PLEASE RSVP AT SCU.EDU/IC
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

All events are free and open to the public, unless noted.
Please RSVP at scu.edu/ic
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

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
# 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)

# 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 Husted 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  
*explore Journal* 2014: What Good Is God?

**JUNE**
- 20-22 2014 Ignatian Retreat for Faculty and Staff: Encountering God Within the Ignatian Tradition (Scholla, S.J.)
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 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.
Santa Clara University
The Ignatian Center for Jesuit Education
500 El Camino Real
Santa Clara, CA 95053-0454

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