

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Judith Cebula, Director
Center for Faith and Vocation
Butler University
4600 Sunset Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46208-3485

Telephone: (317) 923-7252
Fax: (317) 923-7251
Email: jcebula@butler.edu
Web: www.butler.edu/cfv

The Seminar on Religion and World Civilization is a program of the Center for Faith and Vocation at Butler University, promoting understanding of interfaith and intercultural relations through the discussion of religious issues in global perspective.

The Center for Faith and Vocation gratefully acknowledges the financial support of Lilly Endowment Inc.

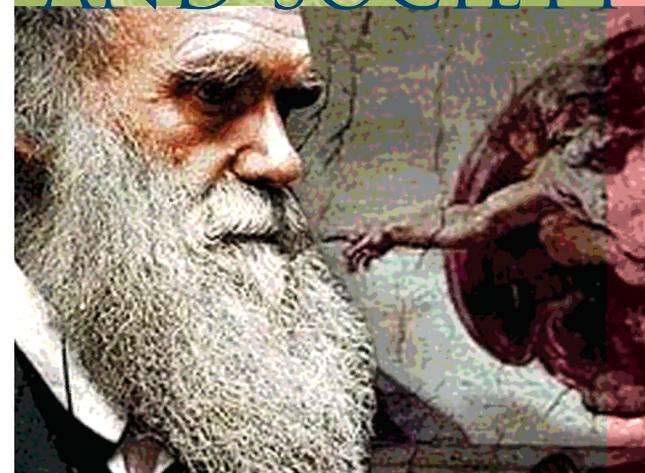


**BUTLER
UNIVERSITY**

BUTLER UNIVERSITY

*The Butler University Seminar on Religion
and World Civilization presents*

DARWIN, RELIGION, AND SOCIETY



FOUR PUBLIC SEMINARS

Sept. 16 and Oct. 21, 2008

Jan. 27 and Feb. 24, 2009

*Seminars meet from 7 to 9 p.m.
in Clowes Memorial Hall,
on the campus of Butler University
4600 Sunset Ave., Indianapolis, IN
Admission is free, but tickets are required and
available at the Clowes box office.*

DARWINISM, NATURAL THEOLOGY AND MORAL VALUES

Sept. 16, 2008

Many contemporary biologists argue that Charles Darwin's theory of evolution by natural selection shows that the natural world is amoral and non-progressive. Darwin's own views were more complex. This session will explore how Darwin thought about the relationship between the biological, moral and divine orders, and consider how his views may inform contemporary debates.

Speaker



Dr. Robert Richards is Morris Fishbein Professor of the History of Science and Medicine at the University of Chicago. He is the author of several books, including *The Meaning of Evolution: The Morphological Construction and Ideological Reconstruction of Darwin's Theory*.

Respondents

Dr. Douglas Allchin teaches history and philosophy of science at the University of Minnesota.

Dr. Michael Zimmerman is dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Science, Butler University and professor of biology.

DARWINISM AND POLITICAL THOUGHT

Oct. 21, 2008

Since the publication of *The Origin of Species*, both promoters and detractors have argued that Charles Darwin's theory has profound implications for how we understand human beings as social and political animals. This session will explore how political thinkers, both liberal and conservative and secular and religious, have responded to Darwin's thought.

Speaker



Dr. Carson Holloway is assistant professor of political science at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. He is a specialist in political philosophy and author of *The Right Darwin? Evolution, Religion, and the Future of Democracy*.

Respondent

Dr. Susan Curtis is professor of history and the director of the Interdisciplinary Studies Program at Purdue University. She is the author of *A Consuming Faith: The Social Gospel and Modern American Culture*.

INTERFAITH PERSPECTIVES ON DARWINISM

Jan. 27, 2009

Discussion of Darwinism and religion has often focused on conflicts between evolutionary theory and certain Christian views about creation. In this session panelists will offer a broader perspective, considering how different faith traditions can make sense of the natural world described by Charles Darwin's theory.

Panelists



Dr. C. Mackenzie Brown is King Professor of Religion at Trinity University in Texas. His research focuses on Hinduism as well as the relation between religion and science in the East and West.



Dr. Lisa Sideris is an assistant professor of religion at Indiana University in Bloomington. Her research focuses on world religions and ecology, science and religion and evolution controversies.



Dr. Claire Baker teaches chemistry at Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory School in Indianapolis. She holds a master of theological studies degree from St. Meinrad School of Theology in southern Indiana.

DARWINISM AND THE SCIENTIFIC STUDY OF RELIGION

Feb. 24, 2009

The Darwinian theory of evolution has given rise to a field of scientific research that considers how human religious behavior could have evolved through a process of natural selection. This session will examine the insights and challenges to evolutionary models of religion and religious behavior.

Speaker



Dr. Richard Sosis is an associate professor of anthropology and head of the Evolution, Cognition and Culture Program at the University of Connecticut. His work has focused on the evolution of cooperation and the adaptive significance of religious behavior.

Respondents

Dr. Elise Edwards is an assistant professor of anthropology, Butler University. Her research interests include historical anthropology and anthropology of sport.

Dr. Christopher Hess is an assistant professor of biology, Butler University. His research interests include evolutionary biology, evolutionary medicine and genetics.

Each seminar meets from 7 to 9 p.m. in Clowes Memorial Hall, on the campus of Butler University. Admission is free, however, tickets are required and must be picked up at the Clowes Hall box office. There is a limit of **two** tickets per person. The box office is open 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday and 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday. For more information or for group tickets, call (317) 923-7253.