



International Research Network for the  
Study of Science & Belief in Society

**First Annual Conference, 4-6 July, 2019**

Edgbaston Park Hotel, University of Birmingham, UK

Any amendments and the full list of abstracts can be found online at:

<https://www.scienceandbeliefinsociety.org/about/engage/events/annual-conference-2019/>

Day 1: Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July

**11:00 – 12:00: Registration Opens**

**12:00 – 13:00: Lunch**

**13:00 – 13:15: Welcome, Professor Fern Elsdon-Baker (Room: Writers' Suite)**

**13:15 – 14:15: Plenary Session 1 (Room: Writers' Suite)**

**Boundaries and Horizons: Exploring the potential and future directions of research on science and belief in society**

Professor Elaine Ecklund, Rice University, USA

Dr Bankole Falade, Stellenbosch University, South Africa

Dr Carola Leicht, University of Kent, UK

Dr Chris Toumey, University of South Carolina, USA

Chair: Alexander Hall

**14:15 – 14:30: Refreshments, coffee and cakes**



# International Research Network for the Study of Science & Belief in Society

## 14:30 – 16:30: Panel Session 1

Panel A (Room: Writers' Suite)	Panel B (Room: Elgar)	Panel C (Room: Bantock)
<p><b>Epistemic Insight: Teaching Students about the Nature of Knowledge, Science, Religion and Beyond</b> Berry Billingsley, Canterbury Christ Church University, UK</p> <p><b>Key moments in history and science: a fossil hunter's story</b> Marianne Cutler, Association for Science Education, UK</p> <p><b>"What distinctive contribution does Religious Education make to the development of epistemic literacy in relation to Big Questions in religion and science?"</b> Jo Pearce and Alexis Stones, Institute of Education, UCL, UK</p> <p><b>The OARS Project: Cross-disciplinary Research and Professional Development of Argumentation in Science and Religious Education</b> Nigel Fancourt and Liam Guilfoyle, University of Oxford, UK</p> <p>Chair: Harris Wiseman</p>	<p><b>Public Health: An Emerging Locus of Science/Religion Interaction</b> Doug Oman, UC Berkeley, USA</p> <p><b>Explaining the link between religiosity and well-being: Social support versus optimism</b> Michael E Price, Brunel University, UK</p> <p><b>Improving Evolution Advocacy: Translating Vaccine Interventions to the Evolution Wars</b> Tom Aechtner, University of Queensland, Australia</p> <p><b>Religion, Social Connectedness, and Xenophobic Responses to Ebola</b> Roxie Chuang, University of California, USA</p> <p>Chair: Tom Kaden</p>	<p><b>Moving from Complexity to Global Histories of Science and Religion</b> Sarah Qidwai, University of Toronto, Canada</p> <p><b>Faithful Translations: Religion and the Encounter with Western Science in Colonial India</b> Rajive Tiwari, Belmont Abbey College, USA</p> <p><b>When Missionary's Astronomy Encountered Chinese Traditional Astrology in Qing Dynasty in China</b> Liuyan Liu, Beijing Normal University, China</p> <p><b>Modernity and the Formative Buddhist-Science Discourse: The Case of Venerable Taixu</b> Dong Zhao, Beijing Foreign Studies University, China</p> <p>Chair: Bernard Lightman</p>
<b>16:30 – 17:30: Free time (&amp; hotel check-in)</b>		





## International Research Network for the Study of Science & Belief in Society

**17:30 – 18:45: Plenary Session 2 (Public Lecture, Lecture Theatre C, Aston Webb Building)**

### **Rethinking Science-Religion Conflict Narratives**

Professor Peter Harrison, University of Queensland, Australia

Chair: Bernard Lightman

(A member of the team from Birmingham will direct delegates from the hotel to the Aston Webb Building. Meet in the hotel lobby at 17:15)

**19:00 – 21:00: Dinner and Wine Reception (Lapworth Museum)**





# International Research Network for the Study of Science & Belief in Society

Day 2: Friday 5<sup>th</sup> July

## 09:00 – 10:30: Panel Session 2

Panel A (Room: Writers' Suite)	Panel B (Room: Elgar)	Panel C (Room: Bantock)	Panel D (Room: Pevsner)
<p><b>Simple, complex metaphors: trying to narrate a new history of science and religion</b> Nick Spencer, Theos, UK</p> <p><b>Atheism and Tactics to Save Public Science</b> Alan Nixon, Western Sydney University, Australia</p> <p><b>Science Skepticism in the United States: Is there a "War on Science"?</b> Jonathan Hill, Calvin College, USA</p> <p>Chair: Glen Moran</p>	<p><b>Narratives of change of opinion on science and religion of British and Canadian life scientists and publics</b> Tom Kaden, Universität Bayreuth, Germany</p> <p><b>Science as a Moral Authority? A Multilevel Analysis of International Perspectives on Science</b> Shiri Noy, Denison University, USA</p> <p><b>Examining the links between gender and religion and support for science and technology across the globe</b> Amy Adamczyk, City University of New York, USA</p> <p>Chair: Stephen Jones</p>	<p><b>Darwin, the Darwinians, and the Problem with Atheism</b> Bernie Lightman, York University, Canada</p> <p><b>Radical Artisans, Divine Design, and Evolution in Britain, 1819–36</b> Jonathan R Topham, University of Leeds, UK</p> <p><b>A.R. Wallace and the 'Theory of Spiritualism': When Human Evolution Gets Wacky</b> Efram Sera-Shriar, Science Museum Group, UK</p> <p>Chair: Alexander Hall</p>	<p><b>A new religion? Personality cults in Central Asia seen through the lens of museums</b> Katarzyna Jarosz, International University of Logistics, Poland</p> <p><b>The Devil's Advocate Revisited: (non)religious differences in reactions to reading Dawkins</b> Carissa Sharp, University of Birmingham and Carola Leicht, University of Kent, UK</p> <p><b>Science as Religion? Ways of Life and Worldviews in Stem Cell Research Laboratories</b> Silke Gülker, Universität Leipzig, Germany</p> <p>Chair: Carola Leicht</p>

10.30 - 11.00: Refreshment Break (tea and coffee)

## 11:00 – 12:30: Panel Session 3





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Panel A (Room: Writers' Suite)	Panel B (Room: Elgar)	Panel C (Room: Bantock)	Panel D (Room: Pevsner)
<p><b>Biology and Faith Instruction for American Christian High School Students</b> Kathryn Applegate, BioLogos, USA</p> <p><b>Religious students' definitions of evolution predict their acceptance.</b> Liz Barnes, Arizona State University, USA</p> <p><b>Religion and integral social development: Faith-based education's advocacy in Southeast Asian Philippines</b> Juliana Manrique, Saint Scholastica's College, Philippine</p> <p>Chair: Cagdas Dedeoglu</p>	<p><b>The "socio-psychology of error" in the study of science and religion</b> Zara Thoko Kamwendo, University of Edinburgh, UK</p> <p><b>Stereotypes about the Science of Religion</b> Kimberly Rios, Ohio University, USA</p> <p><b>The Formative Aspirations of Science and Religion: Intersections, Parallels and Divergences</b> Will Mason-Wilkes, University of Birmingham, UK</p> <p>Chair: Carissa Sharp</p>	<p><b>Religious Intolerance and the Secularization of Science: The Argument towards Deep Equality and Sacred Cosmopolitan Science.</b> Zaheeda P. Alibhai, Ottawa University, Canada</p> <p><b>The 'Scientific' Interpretation of the Bible and the Victorian Conflict between Science and Religion.</b> James Ungureanu, University of Queensland, Australia</p> <p><b>Science and the Question of Divine Action: A Leading Source of Perceptions of Conflict between Science and Religion</b> Clinton Ohlers, University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong</p> <p>Chair: Tom Kaden</p>	<p><b>"Importing creationism" and teaching "alien rubbish"? Surveying Public Attitudes to Science among British Muslims</b> Amy Unsworth, University of Kent, UK</p> <p><b>Understanding negative perceptions of evolution amongst British Muslims</b> Glen Moran, University of Birmingham, UK</p> <p><b>+ Discussion session on future directions of research on science &amp; Islam</b></p> <p>Chair: Rebecca Catto</p>
<p><b>12:30 – 14:00: Lunch</b></p>			
<p><b>13:00 – 14:00: Meet the Editors Panel</b> (Room: Writers' Suite) Professor Kevin Ladd, Indiana University South Bend (USA) and Editor-in-Chief, <i>Archive for the Psychology of Religion</i> Professor Arthur Petersen, University College London (UK) and Editor, <i>Zygon: Journal of Religion and Science</i> Professor Hans Peter Peters, Freie Universität Berlin (Germany) and incoming Editor, <i>Public Understanding of Science</i> Dr Kimberley Rios, Ohio University (USA) and Associate Editor, <i>Group Processes and Intergroup Relations</i> Joshua Wells, Routledge – Editor of Series in Religion Chair: Dr Carissa Sharp</p>			





# International Research Network for the Study of Science & Belief in Society

**13:00 – 14:00: Advisory Board Meeting** (Room: Elgar)

Chaired by Prof. Fern Elsdon-Baker

## 14:00 – 15:30: Panel Session 4

Panel A (Room: Writers' Suite)	Panel B (Room: Elgar)	Panel C (Room: Bantock)	Panel D (Room: Pevsner)
<p><b>Evolution and Evangelicals in Brazil: The ABC2 Surveys</b> Tiago Garros, Independent Scholar, Brazil</p> <p><b>Preliminary analysis of the relationship between science and religion in Mexico: the case of biological evolution</b> Juan Manuel Rodriguez-Caso, Universidad Nacional de Autónoma de México, Mexico</p> <p><b>Science teachers' views and stereotypes of the dialogue between religion, scientists and scientific research</b> Nasser Mansour, University of Exeter, UK</p> <p>Chair: Adam arap Chepkwony</p>	<p><b>A Dynamics of religious actors and radicalization in state prisons: Muslim American chaplaincy in California prisons</b> Angelina Gutierrez and Juliana Moonette Manrique, Saint Scholastica's College, Manilla, Philippines</p> <p><b>The Divide between Atheist Elites and Laypeople on Science and Politics</b> Richard Cimino, State University of New York at Old Westbury, USA</p> <p><b>Between Seeing and Non-seeing: Contestations of Rationalism, Scientific Temper and Belief</b> Meera Gopakumar, Jesus and Mary College, University of New Dehli, India</p> <p>Chair: Glen Moran</p>	<p><b>Nineteenth Century Positivist Roots of the Relations between Science and Religion in Latin American</b> Ignacio Silva, Austral Universidad, Argentina</p> <p><b>Nationalisms at the root of the science-and-religion disputes. The Spanish case.</b> Jaume Navarro, University of the Basque Country, Spain</p> <p><b>Missionary work, and the making of Islam as a "scientific religion" in late nineteenth Century Istanbul</b> M Alper Yalcinkaya, Ohio Wesleyan University, USA</p> <p>Chair: Kostas Tampakis</p>	<p><b>Negotiating the boundary between science and religion in modern rational institutions</b> Pia Vuolanto, University of Tampere, Finland</p> <p><b>The last Church of Humanity: Understanding Unbelief in Brazil</b> Miguel Farias, Coventry University, UK</p> <p><b>Trajectories of (non)belief and "boundary work" in the scientific community. The case of Polish and Ukrainian natural scientists</b> Maria Roginska, University of Krakow, Poland</p> <p>Chair: Renny Thomas</p>

**15:30 – 16:00: Afternoon Refreshments (tea and coffee)**





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16:00 – 17:30: Panel Session 5			
<p>Panel A (Room: Writers' Suite)</p> <p><b>Domain differences in belief disagreements among Indonesian children and adults from Muslim and Christian backgrounds</b> Melanie Nyhof, North Western College, USA</p> <p><b>Psychological Perspective on Science and (Ir)Religion</b> Geoffrey Cantor, University of Leeds, UK</p> <p><b>The Science/Religion distinction, human cognition and the function of belief</b> Konrad Talmont-Kaminski, University of Finance and Management, Poland</p> <p>Chair: Carissa Sharp</p>	<p>Panel B (Room: Elgar)</p> <p><b>The failure of environmental implicit religion</b> Caroline McCalman, Independent Scholar, UK</p> <p><b>Exploring the limits of dogmatism: religion, science and environment in turkey</b> Cagdas Dedeoglu, Independent Scholar, Canada</p> <p><b>The inadequate toolbox: Science, religious identity, and responses to climate change</b> David Long, Morehead State University, USA</p> <p>Chair: Alexander Hall</p>	<p>Panel C (Room: Bantock)</p> <p>Book Discussion Panel</p> <p><b>Science, belief and society: International perspectives on religion, non-religion and the public understanding of science</b> Edited by Stephen H. Jones, Tom Kaden and Rebecca Catto</p> <p>Shiri Noy Renny Thomas Silke Gülker Johnathan Hill</p> <p>Chair: Rebecca Catto</p>	<p>Panel D (Room: Pevsner)</p> <p><b>Jesuit Sciences and the Scientisation of Religion: A Study of the Science and Religion Movement in India</b> Dhruv Raina, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India <i>(delivered in absentia by Alexander Hall)</i></p> <p><b>Religion, Heritage and Science: Some popular mis-readings of the past in South Asia</b> S. Irfan Habib, New Delhi, India</p> <p><b>Revivalism, science, and new Hindu beliefs in the context of globalization in India</b> Badri Rao, Kettering University, USA</p> <p>Chair: Sarah Qidwai</p>
17:30 – 18:00: Free Time			
18:00 – 19:00: Plenary Session 3 (Writers' Suite)			
<p><b>The Coexistence of Natural and Supernatural Explanations across Cultures and Development</b> Dr Cristine Legare, The University of Texas at Austin, USA Chair: Carola Leicht</p>			
19:00 – End: Conference Dinner (Room: Fry)			





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Day 3: Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July

09:00 – 10:30: Panel Session 6

Panel A (Room: Writers' Suite)	Panel B (Room: Elgar)	Panel C (Room: Bantock)
<p>Book Discussion Panel</p> <p><b>Morals Not Knowledge Recasting the Contemporary U.S. Conflict between Religion and Science</b> By John H. Evans</p> <p>Introduced by John H. Evans Featuring Tom Kaden and Shiri Noy Chair: Fern Elsdon-Baker</p>	<p><b>Spiritual Skepticism</b> Bastiaan Rutjens, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands</p> <p><b>Religious Reactions to Synthetic Biology</b> Chris Toumey, University of South Carolina, USA</p> <p><b>Lakatos and the millennium</b> Hauke Riesch, Brunel University, UK</p> <p>Chair: Harris Wiseman</p>	<p><b>National and international comparative perspectives on the study of science, religion and belief in society</b> Bankole Falade, Stellenbosch University, South Africa</p> <p><b>Categorising Catholics: Methodological insights into the study of religious attitudes towards evolution</b> James Riley, University of Birmingham, UK</p> <p><b>Science and Religion in Latin America: enemies or allies? A literature review.</b> Reynaldo Rivera and Patricia Rodriguez Aguirre, Universidad Austral, Argentina</p> <p>Chair: Cagdas Dedeoglu</p>

10.30 - 11.00: Refreshment Break (tea and coffee)

11:00 – 12:30: Panel Session 7

Panel A (Room: Writers' Suite)	Panel B (Room: Elgar)	Panel C (Room: Bantock)	Panel D (Room: Pevsner)
<p><b>The Cultural Meanings of Science: Understanding Science Identification Using the Sociology of (Non)religion</b></p>	<p><b>Brain Science in-between Worldviews: Elective Affinities between Neuroscience and Religion</b></p>	<p><b>'For the Study of': A particular agenda regarding religion and science?</b> Willem Drees, Tilberg University, the Netherlands</p>	<p><b>The Founder of Intelligent Design: Understanding Robert Boyle's Apologetic</b> Ted Davis, Messiah College, USA</p>







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<p>Stephen Jones, University of Birmingham, UK</p> <p><b>Perspectives from the shipwrecked: Terror management dynamics undergirding religious orientation and belief in science</b> Ron Wright, Southern Nazarene University, USA</p> <p><b>Religion in social media discourse: understanding how users position themselves and their beliefs</b> Stephen Pihlaja, Newman University, UK</p> <p>Chair: Rachael Shillitoe</p>	<p>Anneke Pons De-Witt and Liza Cortois, University of Leuven, Belgium</p> <p><b>The Spirituality of Science: development of a new construct and scale</b> Jesse Preston, University of Warwick, UK</p> <p><b>Higher-Dimensional Dreams, and the Fashioning of A “More Scientific” Supernatural</b> Christopher White, Vassar College, USA</p> <p>Chair: Harris Wiseman</p>	<p><b>Understanding Knowledge outside academic disciplines in traditional societies: The holistic approach to the study of religion and science</b> Adam Chepkwony, Kabianga University, Kenya</p> <p><b>Autobiographies of Science and Religion: Scientists, Beliefs and Autobiographies</b> Renny Thomas, Jesus &amp; Mary College, India</p> <p>Chair: Rebecca Catto</p>	<p><b>Faith and thought? Negotiating science and scripture at the Victoria Institute, 1865-1932</b> Stuart Mathieson, Queens University Belfast, Ireland</p> <p><b>Being Orthodox and Greek: Scientists and theologians in 19th and early 20th century Greece</b> Kostas Tampakis, National Hellenic Research Foundation, Greece</p> <p>Chair: Alexander Hall</p>
<p><b>12:30 – 14:00: Lunch</b></p> <p><b>13:00 – 13:45 Network Development Meeting</b> (Room: Writer’s Suite) Chair: Alexander Hall</p>			
<p><b>14:00 – 16:00: Panel Session 8</b></p>			
<p>Panel A (Room: Writers’ Suite)</p> <p><b>Illusions of actuality: The power of scientific belief on postwar American television</b> Ingrid Ockert, Science History Institute, USA</p>	<p>Panel B (Room: Elgar)</p> <p><b>The effects of liberal and scientific education on religious attitudes and beliefs</b> Jordan LaBouff, University of Maine, USA</p>	<p>Panel C (Room: Bantock)</p> <p><b>Can community conversations facilitate safe dialogical spaces for church groups and public health?</b> Mercy Nahmo Murire, Rhodes University, South Africa <i>(delivered in absentia by Bankole Falade)</i></p>	<p>Panel D (Room: Pevsner)</p> <p><b>The question of Science and Religion in decolonial terms: contributions to reflect upon educational praxis</b> Emmanuel Ginestra, Universidad Nacional de San Luis (UNSL),</p>





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<p><b>The Common Sense of Science: speaking about science and religion at the BBC</b> Alexander Hall, University of Birmingham, UK</p> <p><b>Science, Religion, Censorship, and the Sanctity of the Soul on the Silver Screen</b> David Kirby, University of Manchester, UK</p> <p><b>Sacred Science, Secular Faith: Evolution as Religious Myth</b> Stephen LeDrew, Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada (<i>withdrawn</i>)</p> <p>Chair: James Riley</p>	<p><b>The Paradoxical Nature of Developing Scientific Literacy when you are a Pre-Service Primary Teacher.</b> Hannah Griffin-James, University of the West of Scotland, UK</p> <p><b>Exploring science and religion in childhood</b> Rachael Shillitoe, University of Birmingham, UK</p> <p><b>Arguing in Secondary Science and Religious Education: Analysing Research and Curricula for Cross-disciplinary Opportunities in Argumentation</b> Liam Guilfoyle, University of Oxford, UK</p> <p>Chair: Stephen Jones</p>	<p><b>Alternative medicine vs. biomedicine: Evaluation of efficacy of CAM methods and practices</b> Danijela Jerotijevic, University of Comenius, Slovakia</p> <p><b>Changing Science vs Religion to Science &amp; Religion? An analysis of potential mental health treatment collaborations in Ghana</b> Vivian Afi Dzokoto, Virginia Commonwealth University, USA</p> <p>Chair: Amy Unsworth</p>	<p>Argentina (<i>delivered in absentia by Lorena Andrade Barbosa Machado</i>)</p> <p><b>Evolution in Catholic seminaries in Brazil</b> Marcio Antonio Campos, Gazeta do Povo, Brazil</p> <p><b>Between science and religion: A case-based study about evolution teaching in Colombia</b> Gonzalo Peñaloza Jiménez, Unidad de Monterrey, Mexico (<i>delivered in absentia by Hesley Machado Silva</i>)</p> <p><b>God and Evolution: perceptions of biology teachers in three Latin American countries</b> Hesley Machado Silva, University Center of Formiga/MG, Brazil</p> <p>Chair: Ignacio Silva</p>
<b>16:00 – 16:30: Afternoon Refreshments (tea and coffee)</b>			
<b>16:30 – 17:30: Plenary Session 4 (Room: Writers' Suite)</b>			
<b>Reflecting on the conference themes and next steps for the network</b> Participants TBC Chair: Fern Elsdon-Baker			
<b>17:30 – 18:30: Free Time/Drinks Bar (Room: Lloyd and Bar)</b>			
<b>18:30 – End: BBQ Dinner (Room: Lloyd and Bar)</b>			





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Notes:

