

# Update on Polanyi Society Loyola Conference

The Polanyi Society conference that is scheduled for June 8-10, 2012 at Loyola University, Chicago, is beginning to take shape. The conference will be held at the downtown Loyola conference center which is easily accessible by public transportation. This site is much like the Loyola conference center at which the 2008 Polanyi Society conference was held. During the fall of 2011, details about food, housing, registration and other matters will be posted on the Polanyi Society web site (<http://www.missouriwestern.edu/orgs/polanyi/> or simply [polanysisociety.org/](http://polanysisociety.org/)). A notice indicating that details are posted will be circulated on the Polanyi Society electronic discussion list and such information will be included in the February 2012 issue of *Tradition and Discovery: The Polanyi Society Periodical*. The conference planning committee presently anticipates that some travel assistance/conference registration scholarships will be available for students and/or younger scholars. See the note in this issue of *TAD* about travel assistance as well as Polanyi Society President David Rutledge's open letter which seeks to stimulate the Society's fund raising efforts.

The conference planning committee is pleased to announce that some of the plenary sessions for the Loyola conference are now in place and others are slowly taking shape. Mary Jo Nye, Horning Professor in the Humanities and Professor of History Emeritus at Oregon State University, will give a talk on Friday evening June 8. Nye is a historian of chemistry with long-standing interest in (and many publications about) Michael Polanyi. Professor Nye received the History of Science Society's Sarton Medal for Lifetime Scholarly Achievement in 2006. Her new book, *Michael Polanyi and His Generation: Origins of the Social Construction of Science* is scheduled for publication by the University of Chicago Press in fall 2011. Walter Gulick, Professor Emeritus from Montana State University, Billings, will give an address at the Saturday, June 9 evening banquet. Gulick had a long career at MSU, Billings, working not only as a professor teaching a wide array of material in philosophy, religious studies and interdisciplinary humanities, but also as a department chair, founding honors director and academic vice president. He was twice a Fulbright Scholar (once in Budapest where he worked on the then new journal of the MPLPA, *Polanyiana*) and has also taught in several other programs in Europe and was a member of the Montana Humanities Council and President of the Montana Association of Churches. Gulick joined the Polanyi Society in 1972 at its inception and has been an important leader, serving as Society President, Board member and *TAD* review editor for many years. Over those years, Gulick has published more than thirty essays, review articles, and book reviews in *TAD* as well as many essays and reviews in other Polanyi journals like *Appraisal* and *Polanyiana* and journals like *Zygon*. On Saturday afternoon, a third plenary session will be a panel discussion focusing on issues in political philosophy. Presently, we are still working on assembling the panel of scholars whose writings about political theory/political philosophy makes use of Polanyi's work. Two earlier Loyola conferences featured a plenary session with a skilled practitioner ( a musician and a magician in 2001 and 2008); suggestions are invited.

The 2012 Loyola conference, like the earlier conferences, will also include a number of concurrent sessions at which conference participants can give papers. Insofar as possible, papers will be grouped thematically. Sessions will be scheduled with ample time for discussion. The conference planning committee hopes for proposals covering a wide range of topics to which Polanyi's ideas can be related. See the call for papers elsewhere in this issue of *TAD*. This conference, like earlier Loyola conferences, will build in time for informal discussions among participants.

# 2012 Polanyi Society Conference

## Connections/Disconnections: Polanyi and Contemporary Concerns and Domains of Inquiry

### Call For Papers

The Polanyi Society will sponsor a three-day conference June 8-10, 2012. Conference participants will have the opportunity to spend a morning (June 8) at the Regenstein Library of the University of Chicago reviewing the archival Polanyi materials held there. The conference will include several plenary speakers or panels as well as parallel sessions in which conference participants present and discuss papers with others interested in the session's particular topic. Like the Polanyi Society sponsored conferences in 2001 and 2008, this will be a conference that builds in many opportunities for discussion and is open to persons using Polanyi-related ideas in a number of fields.

Proposals are invited for papers that examine the themes of post-critical thought in the context of the new century. The following are some suggested general categories within which specific papers might be grouped. [Please do not think of these categories as a limit for submissions but as a springboard for your own reflections. The final program will reflect groupings adjusted in light of proposals submitted.]

- Polanyi As Public Intellectual: Cultural Criticism and Reorientation in the New Global Order
- Redeeming Reason: Does “Personal Knowledge” Have a Future in a Partisan World?
- Polanyi in the Light of Developments in Psychology (and vice versa)
- Polanyi’s Work in Relation to Current Accounts of Organizations, Institutions and Authority
- Doubt and Commitment in the Postmodern Environment
- Religion and Science: Polanyi and Current Discussions
- History and Philosophy of Science: Polanyi and Current Discussions
- Contemporary Politics and Economics in Polanyian Perspective (and vice versa)
- Polanyi and the Rediscovery of Embodiment
- Language, Learning and Logic—Polanyi and Current Discussions
- Trust, Truth and Conscience: Polanyian Communal Values and Contemporary Culture
- The Good Society: Polanyi and Current Challenges
- Pluralism: Does Polanyi Help Us Address Current Interest in and Problems Associated with Diversity?
- Can Polanyi Speak to a Digital Age?
- Resources in Polanyi for Theological Reconstruction in the Face of Fanaticism and Secularism
- Skills, Practice and Virtue—Polanyian Links
- Polanyi on the Importance of the Beautiful
- Polanyi’s Antireductionism and the Logic of Emergence
- Proposals for panel presentations are invited

Proposals should be 250-300 words and will be reviewed by a panel of jurors. Send an electronic copy of the proposal without your name on it as an attachment to Phil Mullins at **mullins@missouriwestern.edu**. In the body of the e-mail, provide a preferred mailing address (or fax number) as well a phone number of the author. The initial deadline for receipt of proposals is October 1, 2011 (however, if delivery of the October issue of *TAD* is slow, proposals received in early October will be reviewed in the first round) . If there is space on the program, those who do not submit for the October initial review can submit proposals before the final deadline of March 30, 2012. Priority consideration will be given to proposals considered in the October review. If the proposal is for a panel, the full panel needs to be identified and one member designated as the primary contact. The panel proposal should outline why a discussion of this topic is important. Future issues of *TAD* and a posting on the Polanyi Society web site ( <http://www.missouriwestern.edu/orgs/polanyi/> or [polanyisociety/org](http://www.missouriwestern.edu/orgs/polanyisociety/org)) will include additional conference information.

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