Preface

At the November 2001 annual meeting of the Polanyi Society in Denver, there were two sessions on the thought of Philip Clayton. The programs put together by Philip Rolnick were cosponsored by the Religion and Science Group of the American Academy of Religion. Some of the material prepared for this meeting should eventually find its way into an issue of TAD. I am pleased to report that the discussion was lively and the sessions were better attended than any annual meeting sessions in the last several years. Review the plans for the November 2002 annual meeting on page 5: we will build upon last year's success and have a session on the work of Ursula Goodenough, a prominent cell biologist and religious naturalist whose writing reflects her interests in and sympathies with Polanyi. In addition to this session, there is a general call for papers for the second session.

In the business meeting of the November 2000 meeting, a motion was passed to raise the membership dues for the Polanyi Society to $25/ year, beginning with the fall 2002 subscription. This is the first increase in several years. The rate is still very reasonable but the Society must address the rising cost of mailings.

In this issue, Tibor Frank's interesting essay discusses Michael Polanyi's experience in fleeing two countries; he situates this bit of history in the larger context of the wave of intellectual migrations of Hungarians in the political turmoil of the first half of the twentieth century. David Kettle's short comment is another addition to the dialogue, played out by George Hunsberger and Richard Gelwick over the last three issues, concerning the use of Polanyi's thought by Christian theologian Lesslie Newbigin. Mark T. Mitchell's essay outlines both the important similarities and distinctions between the ideas of Polanyi and Michael Oakeshott, a philosopher who wrote an appreciative early review of Personal Knowledge.

Phil Mullins
New Issue of Polanyiana

Polanyiana Vol. 10, No.1-2, 2001 has very recently been published. This issue includes some essay in Hungarian and some in English. All of the essays were originally materials prepared for the May 31, 2001 Jubilee Conference of the Michael Polanyi Liberal Philosophical Association and the Department of Philosophy and History of Sciences of Budapest University of Technological and Economic Sciences commemorating the 110th anniversary of Michael Polanyi’s birth. There are English titles and abstracts for all essays. There is a full English text for the following essays:


Stefania Jha, “Neo-Polanyian Epistemology and Ethics,” 91-102.


Vol 10, No. 1-2, 2001 should soon be available on the WWW, as are many past issues of Polanyiana; access is from the home page of Polanyiana (http://www.kfki.hu/chemonet/polanyi/index.html).

Other Recent Polanyi-Related Publications


Electronic Discussion List

The Polanyi Society supports an electronic discussion group exploring implications of the thought of Michael Polanyi. Anyone interested can subscribe; send e-mail to Struan Jacobs (swjacobs@deakin.edu.au) who is the moderator. The address for the list is polanyi-list@deakin.edu.au
2002 Polanyi Society Annual Meeting--Call for Papers

This year’s annual meeting of the Polanyi Society will held in Toronto November 22 and November 23, 2002. As is usual, our meeting will be held as an "Additional Meeting" in conjunction with the annual meetings of the American Academy of Religion and the Society of Biblical Literature. Our request to the AAR is that again our Friday night session be from 9:00-11:00 p.m. and our Saturday morning session be from 9:00-11:30 a.m.

Ursula Goodenough, a well known cell biologist from Washington University in St. Louis, will be the featured speaker Friday night. Goodenough, author of *The Sacred Depths of Nature*, is a leading figure in the science and religion discussion. She has served as President of the American Society of Cell Biology and of the Institute on Religion in an Age of Science. Her current project is to illuminate the biological roots of morality. Her paper, which will be available on the Polanyi website in the fall, will report on her findings to date and indicate the contributions Polanyi’s thought might make to her project. The Friday session, entitled “From Biology to Morality with Polanyian Footnotes,” will include several respondents and good time for audience discussion. We hope that once again the AAR Science and Religion Group will co-sponsor the session.

Proposals are solicited for the Saturday session. A number of topics have been proposed, but we would be pleased to review submissions on any topic dealing in some way with Polanyi’s thought. Here are some of the topics that have been suggested:

(1) Polanyi and Philosophy of Biology
(2) The Relationship of Personal Knowledge and Public Discussion
(3) The History of Polanyi Studies
(4) Michael and Karl Polanyi: A Comparison of Perspectives
(5) Agency and Meaning in Polanyian Thought
(6) A Polanyian Ethics?

All suggestions about organizing the Saturday session are welcome. Please send your proposals and comments by April 15, 2002 to:

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