



Religious Hermeneutics of Change In the Abrahamic Traditions

Time: October 31, 2022

Location: Gibbons Hall B12, Michigan Ave. NE, Washington DC

Religions today inhabit a world that has been described as experiencing a continuous acceleration of social change, in which ongoing scientific and technological developments persistently alter the fabric of daily life, powerful tides of modernization and secularization erode traditional outlooks and practices, and forces of globalization thrust communities and cultures into ever greater proximity and potential conflict with one another. These conditions are providing a “stress test” for the abilities of religious traditions to cope with rapid systemic change, and they raise a profound, yet insufficiently explored, question: What effective practices and resources do religions have, singly and collectively, for adapting themselves to the challenge of changing times and maintaining their viability while retaining their integrity? In actuality, major religious traditions have long negotiated the delicate historical task of shifting their teachings and practices to adjust to new conditions while preserving core commitments and rites. This event invites six scholars from the Abrahamic faith traditions to discuss the above-mentioned challenges: **Karim Crow** (CUA McLean Center for the Study of Culture and Values), **Edward Alam** (Notre Dame University-Louaize, Lebanon) and **Robert Eisen** (George Washington University) will present their ideas; **Yasmin Saikia** (Arizona State University), **Wilhelmus Valkenberg** (Catholic University of America) and **Susannah Heschel** (Dartmouth University) respond. **William Barbieri** (McLean Center) will moderate the discussion.



Susannah Heschel



Wilhelmus Valkenberg



Yasmin Saikia



Robert Eisen



Edward Alam



Karim Crow



William Barbieri