

CUA



THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA

McLean Center for the Study of Culture & Values

MCSCV Newsletter — 2019

Message from the Director:

In November 2017, The Catholic University of America renamed this research facility after Father McLean as the McLean Center for the Study of Culture and Values. Following Father McLean's legacy in global outreach the McLean Center has continued conducting the annual seminars begun in 1984, publishing studies written by scholars from different cultural and philosophical traditions across the world, and sponsoring regional conferences and seminars in different countries.

In addition, the McLean Center has been endowed with certain capacities to foster research efforts of CUA faculty and visiting scholars. In last two years, the McLean Center initiated substantive plans about semester seminars and colloquies. The goals of such exercises were to formulate research agendas that could frame the activities of the network of scholars

Meetings of the leadership team of the Council for Research in values and Philosophy held at the McLean Center advanced the preparation of seven panels and a special session devoted to the work of Father Mclean at the World Congress of Philosopher in Beijing. These presentations were well attended and excellently received. This group articulated themes and research agendas such as the meaningfulness of life and philosophy beyond boundaries .

Currently we are in the final stages of preparation for the 2019 Annual Seminar titled, The Meaning of Democracy: Foundations and Contemporary Challenges The seminar will conclude with a session open to the wider CUA community on the relations of institutional cultures and values embedded in contemporary economics institutions and practices. This session will extend the on campus activities of the McLean Center reported below and also introduce the next phase of Mclean Center's on campus programs on the cultures and values embedded in American public life and the vernacular realities of ethnic and immigrant populations.

A closing note: when we were preparing the McLean materials for the CUA archives, we discovered a *samizdat* edition of a collection of articles from the late 1970s. It included not only a paper by Father McLean but also an introduction written by the person that would become (a few months later) Pope John Paul II. This documentation of the intellectual origins of a multi-year research project for Polish scholars was directed by Father McLean and centered at the Catholic University of America. This collaboration flourished well beyond one country and its world wide outreach produced hundreds of studies, now published in print and online, in the publication series "Cultural Heritage and Contemporary Change."

A sincere thank you to all who have made contributions and an invitations to new voices that can extend the mission initiated by Father George McLean



John A. Kromkowski

John A. Kromkowski
June 29, 2019

WEDNESDAY COLLOQUIES AT THE MCLEAN CENTER

Washington, D.C.

Washington, D.C., January-April, 2019: The McLean Center for the Study of Culture and Values at the Catholic University of America hosted a series of colloquies on Wednesdays in the Spring semester of 2019. The original research conversations held in the 1980s were chaired by George F.



At Barbieri's Presentation

McLean and John A. Kromkowski. They engaged scores of faculty members and representatives of each of the Schools that constitute CUA. The original colloquies were synopsised and later became Volume One in the RVP Publication Series "Cultural Heritage and Contemporary Change." The



At Barbieri's Presentation

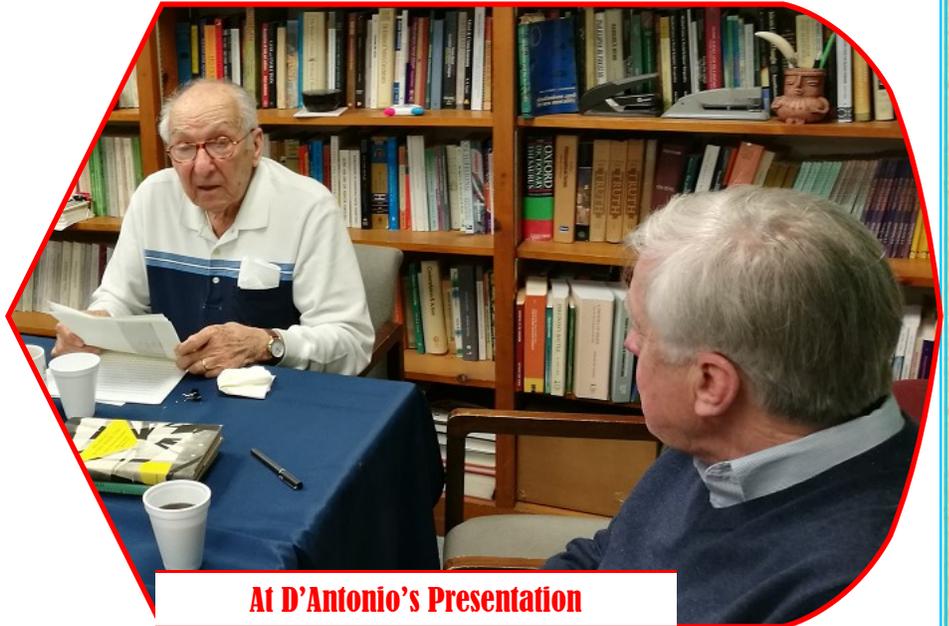
publication of this summation was entitled *Research on Culture and Values: Intersections of Universities, Churches and Nations*. This modest beginning blossomed under the direction of McLean who catalyzed other conversations throughout the world in universities, research insti-

utes and academies of sciences. McLean deepened such conversations through the sponsorship of the annual seminars held at CUA each year for visiting scholars and frequently included CUA faculty and the Washington-based research communities.

Moreover, international participants in these scholarly events constituted a network that replicated the CUA colloquies and broadened them to become conferences, meetings and panels in their own regions and at The World Congresses of Philosophy held every five years, as well as in smaller-scale study groups at the academic institutes. These provided opportunities to rediscover how to understand cultural

traditions and values, and the dynamics which produced transformational currents and events of our times; to search for new ways of expression of the human and divine mystery of existence; and to undertake the academic responsibility to drive the search for wisdom and understanding. Among the products of such initiatives see the more than three hundred philosophical studies in the RVP publication series “Cultural Heritage and Contemporary Change” (www.crvp.org).

The Wednesday colloquies began with William A. Barbieri, Professor of CUA School of Theology and Religious Studies. He introduced the general thematic “The Meaningfulness of Life” for the



At D'Antonio's Presentation



At D'Antonio's Presentation

RVP research project in the next few years. As the general theme the meaningfulness of life contains five subthemes: (1) for the person, the moral life and self-cultivation; (2) in relation to social existence,



At Nolan's Presentation

communicative action, and the common good; (3) with respect to human relations with nature; (4) as founded in the human relation to Ultimate Reality; and (5) in cross-cultural and interreligious perspective.

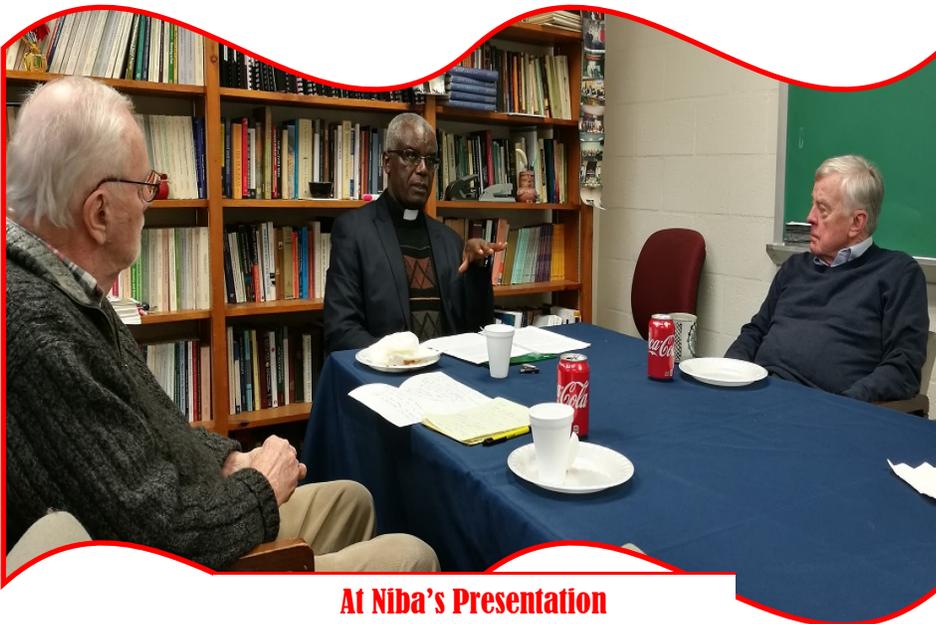
On February, 13 William V. D'Antonio, Professor of Sociology and Research Fellow of the McLean Center and the CUA Institute for Research in Public Policy and Catholic Studies, gave a detailed illustration on his academic life "The Academic as Activist." He humorously outlined his life experiences that included service in the US Navy, teaching and coaching in high school, his professionalization in sociology and evidence-based advocacy. He has published numerous books on social changes, social policies and religion in society, especially he created new journals that are attentive to religious behaviors and social phenomena on the maintenance of longitudinal data sets and cross-tabs on Catholics in the United States and the importance of such evidence for understanding



At Nolan's Presentation

contemporary culture and values in America.

On February 27, James L. Nolan, Professor of Sociology from Williams College and visiting Professor at the CUA Department of Sociology, gave a lecture on "What They Saw in America: Alexis de Tocqueville, Max Weber, G.K. Chesterton, and Sayyid Qutb." Nolan's talk was based on his book in the same title published by Cambridge University Press in 2016. Nolan's presentation offered a historical review of sociological research and its mode of understanding religion in America. His use of accounts of the American spirit articulated by scholarly visitors at various moments and periods of development provide a fresh analytics of culture and values.



At Niba's Presentation

On March 6, Michael Suh Niba, Professor of Philosophy from the Catholic University of Cameroon in Bamenda, gave a talk on "Evangelization and African Culture." Niba studied philosophy at the Pontifical Urbaniana University in Rome. Niba gave a detailed analysis on the phenomenon of some African Christians who live a double life between their Christian faith and their native practices; how to understand the true meaning of Christianity in different cultural settings. Currently Niba is a Research Fellow at the McLean Center and participating in the Center's seminars as well as completing a research project on the intersection of Christianity, vernacular cultures and secular in-



At Sollensberger's Presentation

stitutions, philosophy of religion, as well as John Paul II's notion on person.



At Sheahan's Presentation

On March 27, David Sollenberger, Lecturer of CUA Department of Politics, presented a talk on "The Political Philosophy of Walt Whitman." This talk was based on his dissertation. Sollenberger analyzed Whitman's various poems to show a conflict between the desire to embrace a modern "liberal" form of liberty where Whitman wants to withdraw into private life with friends and lovers as the Civil War becomes inevitable vs a more ancient or "republican" active citizenship that attempts

to use love between men as a public and redemptive force to preserve the union and break the power of slave holders.

On April 10, Luke Sheahan, Associate Director and Postdoctoral Research Fellow of Freedom Project at Wellesley College, gave a talk on "Why Associations Matter: The Individual, the State, and Freedom of Association." Sheahan is a graduate from the CUA Department of Politics. His talk was based on his forthcoming book in the same title (which will be published by the University of Kansas Press. Sheahan applied concepts from political sociology to critique the Supreme Court's free-



At Sheahan's Presentation

McLean Center for the Study of Culture and Values

dom of association jurisprudence. 16 students attended the lecture and participated in an intensive discussion of Sheahan's presentation.

The last lecture in the series was held on April 24. Brandon Vaidyanathan, Professor of Sociology and Chair of CUA Department of Sociology, gave a talk on "Beauty, Awe, and Wonder in Scientific Inquiry." This was based on a research project

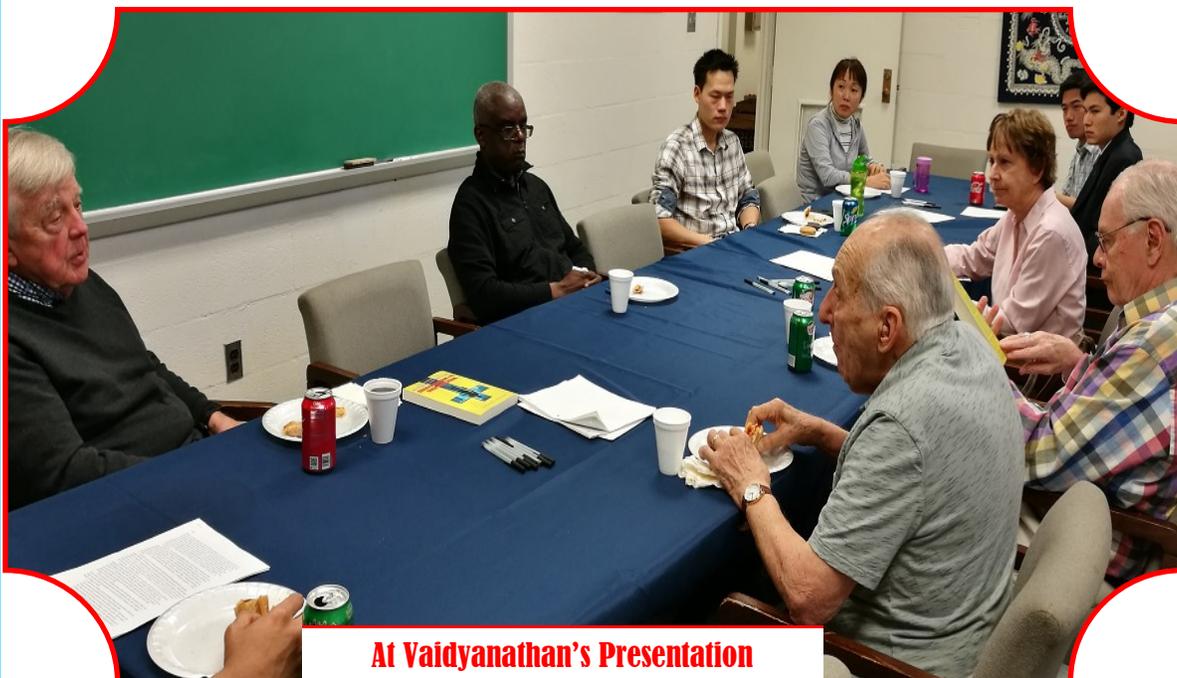
funded by the Templeton Foundation. It is a collaboration of scholars from four countries: Great Britain, India, Italy and the United States. They provide a set of questions to scientists and ask them to give their understanding on the relationship between beauty and sciences.

The McLean Center is currently planning a new series of campus discussions for the Fall Semester. For detailed information and for a list of publications visit the website of the Council for Research in Values and Philosophy (RVP) www.crvp.org.

The RVP was founded by George F. McLean in the early 1980s as the international outreach of the MCSCV.



At Vaidyanathan's Presentation



At Vaidyanathan's Presentation

The McLean Center for the Study of Culture and Values (MCSCV): Gibbons Hall B-20, 620 Michigan Ave. NE, Washington, DC, 20064; 202/319-6089; cua-cscv@cua.edu; www.crvp.org

Washington, DC

August 20–September 20, 2019 (McLean Center for the Study of Culture and Values): “The Meaning of Democracy: Foundations and Contemporary Challenges.” The 2019 annual seminar looked at the following questions related to democracy: Why are democratic values still important and relevant today? How to identify an authentic democratic culture? What kind of role shall human values play



A Group Photo with CUA Provost

in the construction of a democratic culture? What does it take to secure a democratic form of government? What are the epistemic presuppositions of a democratic form of governance? What kind of transformation does democracy require in terms of human self-understanding? What interaction is there between political and economic forces? What are the implications of the Rule of Law in a democratic system? What correlation can we find between the meaning of history and democratic self-affirmation?



João J. Vila-Chã

In order to deepen these and/or other related questions, the 2019 seminar sessions focused on some classical texts: **Francis Fukuyama**, *The End of History and the Last Man* (presented by Prosper Maguchu); **Daron Acemoglu and James A. Robinson**, *Why Nations Fail* (presented by Li Yong and Vũ Thị Thu Hằng); **Eric Voegelin**, *Published Essays 1953-1965* (presented by Wang En and Guiraldo C. Fernandez, Jr.); **Hannah Arendt**, *The Origins of Totalitarian-*



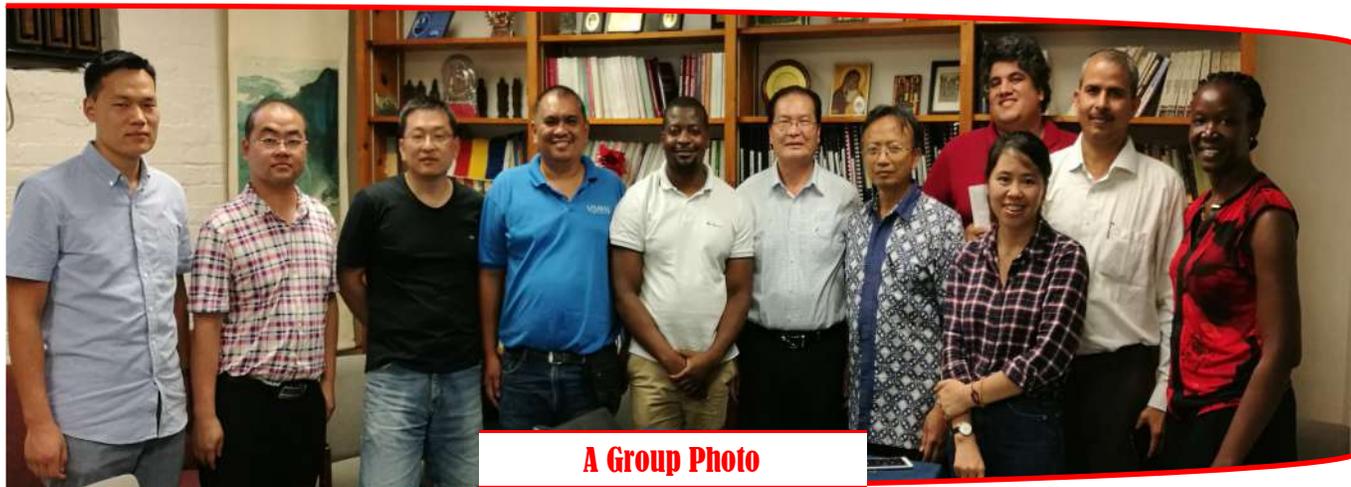
John A. Kromkowski

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Final Gathering

ism (presented by MichaelDua & Sudhir Kumar Singh); **Ralf Dahrendorf**, *Class and Class Conflict in Industrial Society* (presented by Bayor Chantal Ngoltoingar and Yves Bernardo Roger Solís Nicot); **Alexis de Tocqueville**, *Democracy in America* (presented by Vũ Thị Thu Hằng); **Gordon S. Wood**, *The Creation of the American Republic 1776-1787* (presented by Vinnie Rotondaro and Xu Jianfei); **Havey C. Mansfield, Jr**



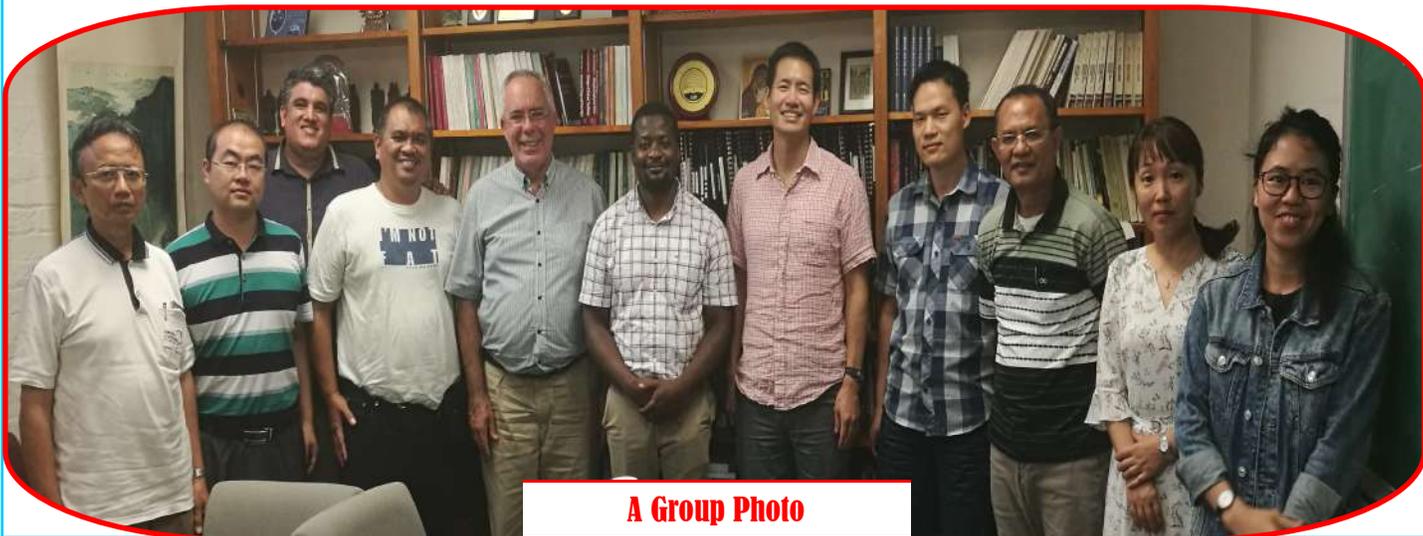
America's Constitutional Soul (presented by John Farina); **Jürgen Habermas**, *Contributions to a Discourse Theory of Law and Democracy* (presented by Prosper Maguchu and Michael Dua); **F.A. Hayek**, *The Constitution of Liberty* (presented by Guiraldo C. Fernandez, Jr. & Wang En); **Karl Popper** *The Open Society and Its Enemies* (presented by Li Linan and Rurrohman Syarif); **Pierre Rosanvallon** *Democracy Past and Fu-*



Invited Speakers (Left to Right): John K. White, Matthew Green, Andrew Yeo, Ouyang Kang, William A. Barbieri, Seamus Finn

ture (presented by Yves Bernardo Roger Solís Nicot).

The focus of the seminar was to understand the socio-ontological interaction of person and society, personality and institutionalization, citizen and state so as to derive both theoretical and pragmatic considerations about socio-political configurations which are capable of granting consistency





A Group Photo

democratic forms of government. The center of this exploration was the anthropological conditions of possibility for a sustainable democratic order. Understandings of human-social realities include projections of trajectories toward or away from the development of democratic cultures and human

values. The 2019 seminar systematically revisited the assumptions that drive expectations of modernity as well as its various critiques. It also studied some persistent discussions of socio-political realities not only as measurable phenomena but also as the complex relationships between persons and institutions. These qualitative dimensions can be accessed



A Group Photo

through interrogation and investigation found in texts of deep and complex philosophical relevance. Social phenomenology focuses on patterns of personal behaviors in different socio-economic and political contexts while traditional beliefs carry forms of understanding about self and family,



A Group Photo at Watergate

community and society, nature and the divine; all illuminate our being-in-the-world and the radical sociality of the human condition.

The seminar was directed by **João J. Vila-Chã**, Professor of the Gregorian University, Rome and Vice President of the RVP, and **John A. Kromkowski**, Director of the CUA McLean Center for the Study of Culture and Values (MCSCV) and Professor of the CUA Department of Politics. Seminar participants came from such countries as Chad, China, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Philippines, United States, Vietnam and Zimbabwe. **Aaron Dominguez**, CUA Provost, greeted the participants



A Seminar Session

and gave a brief remark on the importance of the intercultural dialogue and the significance of the seminar thematic on democracy. Some scholars from the CUA Department of Politics spoke in different seminar sessions on various issues related to democracy: **Andrew Yeo** presented a paper entitled "Has South Korean Democracy Hit a Glass Ceiling? Cultural-Institutional Factors and Limits to Democratic Progress"; **Matthew Green** and **John K. White** shared their insights on American experience of democracy and current political situation in the country. **William A. Barbieri**, Professor of CUA School of Theology and Religious Studies, spoke on "The Mobilization of Dignity: Mi-



A Visit to Philadelphia

gration and Moral Ecology.” **Seamus Finn**, Chair of Interfaith Center for Corporate Responsibility shared his experience on the corporate responsibility in the United States and around the world.

The seminar participants also presented their own research findings and received mutual cri-



A Seminar Session

tique through in-depth discussions on their papers: **Sudhir Kumar Singh** (Dyal Singh College, University of Delhi, India) “Revisiting the Democratic Process of India”; **Michael Dua** (Atma Jaya Catholics University, Indonesia) “Hannah Arendt and the Problem of Totalitarianism, The Political Assessment under Democratic Constitutionalism”; **Nurrohman Syarif** (State Islamic University UIN Sunan Gunung Djati, Indonesia) “Muslim’s Perspective on Democracy: The Meaning, Foundation and Challenge Faced by Indonesia”; **Guinaldo C. Fernandez, Jr.** (Visayas State University, Philippines) “The Role of Democratic Governance in the Philippines Today: An Island Municipality’s Terrestrial Ecosystem Conservation Initiative through Rainforestation”; **Bayor Chantal Ngoltoingar** (CUA Metropolitan School of Professional Studies) “The Impact of Physical and Mental Discrimination in the Modern Society”; **Prosper Maguchu** (Centre for the Politics of Transnational Law, Vrije Universiteit, the Netherlands/Zimbabwe) “‘Seek ye first democracy’ Rethinking the Fight against

Michael Niba (Bamenda, Cameroon) “Building Complementarity?”; **Wang En** (Xi’an Jiaotong University, China) “The Foundations and Crisis of Western Democracy: The Decline and Crisis of the Self-healing Ability of Western Democracy”; **Xu Jianfei** (Yang-



Corruption in Africa”; **Michael Niba** (Catholic University of Bamenda, Cameroon) “Ethnic Identity and in Africa: Competition or



A Special Session on Economic Culture and Values

zhou University, China) “China's Democratic Political Model Declares the Bankruptcy of *the End of History*”; **Li Linan** (Xiamen Institute of Technology, China) “Analysis on *the End of History* Based on Perspective and Methodology”; **Vũ Thị Thu Hằng** (Institute of Philosophy, Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences, Vietnam) “The Expression of Democracy in the Vietnamese Cultural Con-



A Photo at the Oblates Community

text”; **Yves Bernardo Roger Solís Nicot** (University Iberoamericana, Mexico) “Between Civitas and Polis: Carlos Albero Siri Netomist Approach to Democracy in Latin America.”

On September 16 there was a special session on “Contemporary American Economic Culture and Its Values” with four scholars and practitioners who explicated the culture and values embedded in contemporary economic realities. Their unique experiences weaved economics, moral philosophy and faith into matrix of democratic traditions and current challenges. The four speakers were **John McNerney**, the former Head Chaplain of University College Dublin, currently Research Fellow of the CUA Institute for Human Ecology and Visiting Professor at the CUA Busch School of Business, author of *The Wealth of Persons Economy with a Human Face*; **Andrew M. Yuengert**, formerly Research Economist at the Federal Reserve in New York, President of the Association of Christian Economists, editor of the journal *Faith and Economics*, Professor at CUA Busch School of Business, author of *Approximating Prudence: Aristotelian Practical Wisdom* and *Economic Theories of Choice, Inhabiting the Land: The Case for the Right to Migrate*; **Seamus Finn**, Director of the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility, The Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation Ministry of The Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate and The Oblate International Pastoral Investment Trust; **James T. Ryan**, Man-



A Photo at the Oblates Community

aging Director and Senior Portfolio Manager of the Ryan Group, Global Institutional Consulting, The Merrill Lynch Value Investing Project, Bank of America, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith, Inc., Initiator of Faith Consistent Investing Forum, a participant in the Vatican Conference, *Investing for the Poor: The Common Good in light of Evangelei Gaudium*.

On September 6 the participants celebrated a special mass at the Oblates chapel to commemorate **George F. McLean** (1929-2016) and **John P. Hogan** (1938-2019). Participants used their own native languages to express their feelings and admirations for the two founding figures of the RVP.



The Oblates community generously hosted a luncheon for the participants. Afterward **Seamus Finn** talked about the responsibility of business communities both domestic and international.

As usual the participants were invited by the Graham Family for an outing at the Chesapeake Bay on August 24. It was a tradition begun by **Richard and Nancy Graham** and now is carried forward by their daughter **Busy Graham**, the founder and Executive Director of Carpe Diem Arts in Silver Spring, Maryland. **Busy Graham** and her colleague **Ingrid Gorman** greeted the participants. All enjoyed not only the beautiful nature but more so the hospitality and friendship of American people. On the Labor Day **Bayor Chantal Ngoltoingar** invited all the participants to her residence to celebrate American Labor Day (September 2) and to meet her friends from Chad.

John Farina, Professor of Religion at the George Mason University and a close associate of the RVP, took the participants to the Capital Hill to show them the American Congress Hall. He also invited the participants to his residence at Watergate, the Kennedy Center nearby, and then George-



town Waterfront for a Thai Dinner. John also took the participants to a stadium to watch a baseball game so that the participants could experience another kind of American life and spirit. Indeed, over many years, **John Farina** has made generous contributions to the RVP effort in many ways, but especially greeting seminars participants who are from all parts of the world. His generosity and kindness and consistent support are deeply appreciated by all.



Final Gathering

During the seminar some participants visited Philadelphia, the birth place of the United States, to learn the American democracy. The 2019 seminar successfully ended with amiable and cheerful atmosphere full of stories and laughers.

Conferences and Workshop in China and India

(December 2019-January 2020)

December 27-28, 2019 (Liaoning University, Shenyang, China)

Global Governance: Cross-Cultural Communication and Values Consensus

Contact: Qiu Genjiang [qiugenjiang@163.com] & Li Jiaying [19910510ljx@sina.com]

December 30-31, 2019 (Xian Jiaotong University, Xian, China)

Modernity, Multi-Culturalism and Social Development

Contact: Xie Xiaojuan & Gao Siyang [winniewow@163.com]

January 2-3, 2020 (Northwest Normal University, Nanchong, China)

Common Values of Humanity and Cross-cultural Exchanges

Contact: Gang Yi [40305410@qq.com] & Chen Wenxue [pkumzd@163.com]

January 6-12, 2020 (University of Delhi, India)

Happiness and Good Life: Philosophical Reflections through Cultures

Contact: Balaganapathi Devarakonda (balaganapathid@gmail.com) & Geetesh Nirban (drgeeteshnirban@gmail.com)

For more information about RVP various activities (publications, annual seminars, regional conferences, research projects), visit its website: www.crvp.org

The Council for Research in Values and Philosophy (RVP)

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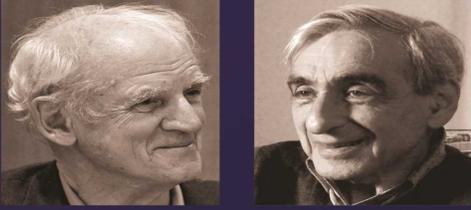
Washington, DC

November 15 (morning), 2019 (The CUA McLean Center for the Study of Culture and Values [MCSCV]): "On the Meaningfulness of Democracy." This event was a dialogue between **Charles Taylor** and **Michael Walzer**, two of the most eminent public intellectuals in North America and the world, to discuss and reflect on the philosophical and religious foundations of democratic politics and culture in our times. The event was initiated and

The Council for Research in Values and Philosophy
The McLean Center for the Study of Culture and Values

ON THE MEANINGFULNESS OF DEMOCRACY

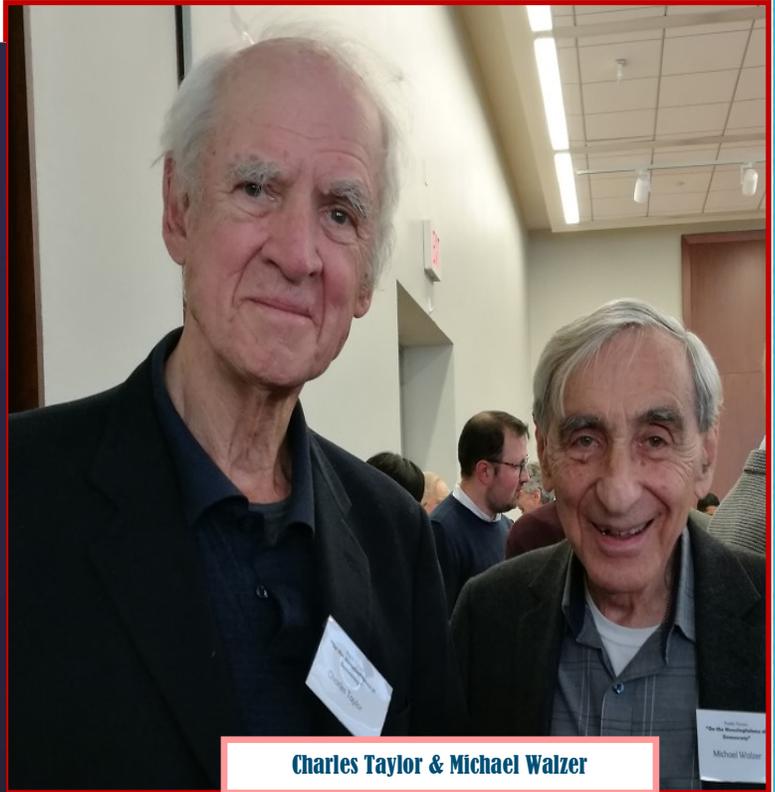
A Discussion with
CHARLES TAYLOR & MICHAEL WALZER



Two of our most eminent public intellectuals reflect on the philosophical and religious foundations of democratic politics and culture.

November 15, 2019
9.30AM-12.30PM

Caldwell Hall Auditorium
The Catholic University of America
620 Michigan Avenue NE, Washington DC 20064
Questions/RSVP: cua-rvp@cua.edu, 202/319-6089



Charles Taylor & Michael Walzer

coordinated and moderated by **William A. Barbieri**, Professor of Ethics at the CUA School of Theology and Religious Studies, Chair of RVP Executive Committees and MCSCV Board Member.

Charles Taylor and **Michael Walzer** focused on the following questions: How do democratic practices contribute to efforts to lead a meaningful life? How can traditional communal systems of meaning, be they religious or philosophical, contribute meaningful and worthwhile. During their conversation **Charles Taylor** and **Michael Walzer** focused a set of questions. They provided a deep



Charles Taylor, William A Barbieri, Michael Walzer

and wide-ranging exploration of the relations between democracy and meaning and pointed out some suggestions and possibilities based on their rich experience and wisdom.

David Walsh, Dean of the CUA School of Arts and Sciences and Professor of Politics, gave

welcome remarks and addressed the important of the conference theme. Nearly 300 people attended the event and asked questions on issues related to democracy and political situations. A report on the event by **Greg Varner**, Associate Editor of *CatholicU Magazine*, can be found at <https://communications.catholic.edu/news/2019/11/meaning-of-democracy.html>.



At the Event

Vinnie Rotondaro, Journalist and McLean Fellow, also wrote a report on the event.

This event marked the 10 years anniversary of the project "Faith in a Secular Age" which was



At the Event

inaugurated on November 9, 2009 by **George F. McLean** (1929-2016), the founding Director of the

CUA Center for the Study of Culture and Values and the past RVP President. It was a dialogue between **Charles Taylor** and **Francis George** (1937-2015), the late Cardinal of Chicago. The project has produced more than 20 volumes published by the RVP under its publication series: "Cultural Heritage and Contemporary Change" (www.crvp.org).



At the Event

Washington, DC

November 16, 2019 (The CUA McLean Center for the Study of Culture and Values [MCSCV]): "Wellbeing, Artificial Intelligence and the Ethical Challenges." The one day and half gathering was a follow-up on the November 15 (morning) conversation between **Charles Taylor** and **Michael Walzer**.



A Group Photo on November 15

On November 16 the discussion focused on both papers by **Charles Taylor** "Degeneration of Democracy" (this is part of a book which will be published with another author), **José Casanova**, Professor of Sociology from the Georgetown University, "The Holy/Unholy Alliance of the Moscow Patriarchate, American Evangelicals, and the Catholic Right towards the Mobilization of anti-EU Populist Movements in Secular Post-Christian Western Europe" (this paper was presented at the IRCPL Conference on "Populist Power, Faith and Precarity in Europe" in Columbia Global Center, Paris in November 2019). In the morning of November 17 the focus was on the paper by **Terry Pinkard**, Professor of Philosophy from the Georgetown University, "Hegel's Chinese Curse of Living in Interesting Times" (this paper was written for 'Ideengeschichte' to be published in German). Besides the three speakers, participants included **William A. Barbieri** (moderator), **Dan Chitoiu** (Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iași, Romania), **Peter Jonkers** (Tilburg University, Netherlands), **John A.**



A Group Photo on November 16



A Session on November 15

Kromkowski (MCSCV), **Bradley Lewis** (CUA School of Philosophy), **Maryann Cusimano Love** (CUA Department of Politics), **Michael Suh Niba** (Catholic University of Cameroon, Cameroon), **Philip Rossi** (Marquette University, Milwaukee), **Yves Solis** (University Iberoamericana Prepa Ibero, Mexico), **William Sweet** (St Francis Xavier University, Canada), **João J. Vila-Chã** (Gregorian University, Italy), **Andrew Yeo** (CUA Department of Politics) as well as Chinese visiting scholars at MCSCV **Li Linan** (Xiamen Institute of Technology), **Xu Jianfei** (Yangzhou University) and **Tan Yali** (Southwestern University of Finance and Economics), **Charles Kitima** (St. August University, Tanzania), **Bayor Chantal Ngoltoingar** (CUA Metropolitan College), **David Schafer** (Fordham University, New York), **David Cloutier** and **David Elliot** (CUA School of Theology and Religious Studies).

In the afternoon of November 17 some RVP members, **William Barbieri**, **Dan Chitoiu**, **Peter Jonkers**, **Michael Suh Niba**, **Philip Rossi**, **William Sweet**, **João J. Vila-Chã** and **Hu Yeping**, gathered together to discuss in-length issues related to RVP research theme which will correspond to the World Congress of Philosophy to be held in Sydney, Australia, in 2023 on the theme "Philosophy across Boundaries." The RVP theme was preliminarily decided around philosophy



A Session on November 15



A Session on November 16

acrossing boundaries in new times which will focus on four aspects: cultural dimensions (political, social, religious), the impact of technologies, ecological challenges and peace building.

Regarding the theme of the 2020 RVP annual seminar the discussion was centered around the rethinking and reconstruction of nation-state, socio-political and cultural boundaries and the impact of technology in our contemporary world. The annual seminar will be held August 17-September 18, 2020 at the McLean Center for the Study of Culture and Values in Washington DC. A set of regional conferences in 2020 has been well-planned in Lithuania, Ukraine, Poland, Romania, Indone-



A Session on November 16