



THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA

McLean Center for the Study of Culture & Values

Message from the Director

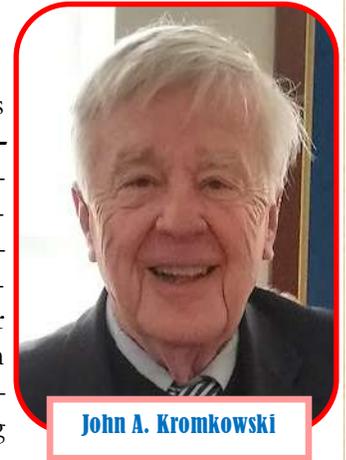
This Fall the McLean Center for the Study of Culture and Values organized its Wednesday Colloquy Series titled, *The Meaning of Democracy: Practicing Citizenship and Understanding Pluralism in America*. The series offered in a ZOOM format. The constraints caused by COVID 19 required canceling Spring and Summer seminars and all our scheduled international conferences were postponed. Yet this emergency offers a significant opportunity to expand participation, beyond the friendly confines of the library/seminar room in the basement of Gibbons Hall. We are no longer limited to the participation of our campus community and by the size of our room (though we hope to regain the personal warmth of hospitality and the well-being induced by pizza and salad); we expect to reconstitute the face to face research sharing community when we are all safe and healed.

The ZOOM format for the Wednesday Colloquy Series allowed us to engage participants from other universities and academies of science associated with our outreach partner the **Council for Research in Values and Philosophy (RVP)**. This enabled us to reach other scholarly communities in various countries and to continue the exploration of topics of our most recent Annual International Seminars such as: *Power, Truth and Trust: In Search of More Human Governance* (2018); *The Foundations and Challenges of Contemporary Democracies* (2019), and *Nations, States and the Transformation of Boundaries* (2020 postponed to 2021).

Moreover, the theme, *The Meaning of Democracy: Practicing Citizenship and Understanding Pluralism in America*, had the capacity to intersect and to extend the participation of CUA in the project initiated by the *Fondazione Gravissimum Educationis*. Previous contributions of the McLean Center to this multi-university scholarly effort of the Pontifical Foundation of the Vatican Congregation for Catholic Education included campus-wide participation in the Michael Walzer-Charles Taylor dialogue on the meaning of democracy and a follow-up faculty planning seminar to focus and to deepen efforts that could address the educational urgency related to clarifying and to fostering research regarding cultures and values in multi-cultural and multi-religious contexts. The Wednesday Colloquies consisted of a set of talks given by scholars and practitioners who are specialized in American political situations and discourse, and their relationship to the meaning of democracy.

As we begin another phase of critical clarification of the theory and practice of democracy—its foundations and challenges—it is worth noting that our previous seminars and colloquies were designed to be collaborative. This mode of mutual education in an essential way makes it a form of democracy and an opening into the practice of truth seeking and truth telling. Thus, it is appropriate after a few years of this project to quote excerpts from an account of our activities written by Dr. David Walsh, whose participation in the seminars and colloquies well prepared him to present a preliminary assessment to a consultation on *Democracy: An Educational Urgency in Multi-cultural and Multi-religious Contexts* sponsored by the *Fondazione Gravissimum Educationis*. Walsh says, “The need for communication and education is paramount in the work of our McLean Center as it seeks to partner with collaborators from around the globe.”

Meanwhile the McLean Center also co-organized two international online seminars with the Liaoning University in Shanyang, China “**Building Global Governance in a Time of Global Crisis**,” July 18, 2020 (Beijing Time) and the RVP-Iasi Center at the Alexandru Ioan Cuza University, Iasi, Romania “**Rethinking Borders and Boundaries: Exploring New Ways of Intercultural Encounters**,” October 17, 2020 (Iasi Time)



John A. Kromkowski

John A. Kromkowski
November, 2020

The Meaningfulness of Life



January 22, 2020, 12.40pm-2.00pm

Nicholas E. Lombardo

School of Theology and Religious Study
The Catholic University of America

*What Does It Mean to Speak 'Literally'?
Words, Metaphors, and the Literal Sense of a Text*

January 30, 2020, 12.40pm-2.00pm

Sandra L. Hanson and John K. White

Department of Sociology and Department of Politics
The Catholic University of America

*Nation Dreaming: A Consideration of the American Dream
in Poland, the U.S., and among Polish Americans*



February 12, 2020, 12.40pm-2.00pm

Julia G. Young

Department of History
The Catholic University of America

The End of Asylum? Notes from the South Texas Family Detention Center

February 27, 2020, 12.40pm-2.00pm

James Youniss

Department of Psychology
The Catholic University of America

Youth: The Key to Our Democratic Renewal



The Meaning of Democracy: Practicing Citizenship and Understanding Pluralism in America.



September 9, 2020, 12.40pm-2.00pm

Joshua L. Miller

Senior Policy Advisor, U.S. Congress

Ph.D. Graduate of the Catholic University of America

The Law-and-Order Presidents: From Catching Fugitive Slaves to Caging Immigrants

September 16, 2020, 12.40pm-2.00pm

Steven P. Millies

Associate Professor of Public Theology

Director, The Bernardin Center

Catholic Theological Union, Chicago

Just Two Words: Political Catholicism and Implications for Democracy



September 23, 2020, 12.40pm-2.00pm

Eugene Halus

Freedom Foundation at Valley Forge, PA

Civic Education as a Foundational Component of Democracy: Engaging the American Polity in a Time of Crisis

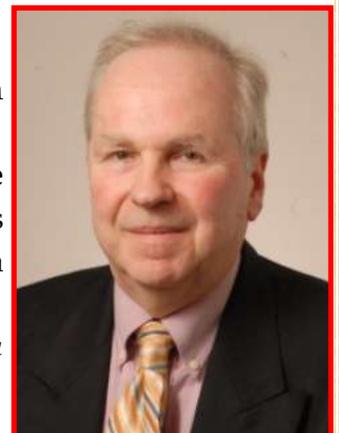
September 30, 2020, 1.00pm-2.20pm

John K. White

Professor, Department of Politics

The Catholic University of America

Democracy on Trial: The 2020 Election



October 7, 2020, 12.40pm-2.00pm

Ryan Fecteau

The Assistant Majority Leader, The Maine House of Representatives

Democracy in the Hallways of a State House



October 14, 2020, 12.40pm-2.00pm

John Mickey

Ph.D. Graduate of The Catholic University of America

Elements of the Rule of Law in Late Medieval English Politics

October 21, 2020, 12.40pm-2.00pm

Emily B. Finley

Postdoctoral Fellow, Stanford University

Managing Editor, *Humanitas*

The Specter of Democratism



October 28, 2020, 12.40pm-2.00pm

Cecil Chabot

Postdoctoral Research Fellow & Lecturer in First Peoples Studies

The School of Community & Public Affairs

Concordia University, Montreal

Our Common Ground on the Edge of Humanity: Reflections on Power, Authenticity, Polarization and Entanglement



Council for Research in Values and Philosophy

JOINT INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR (ONLINE)

Liaoning University, Shenyang, P.R. China
The Council for Research in Values and Philosophy (RVP)

Building Global Governance in a Time of Global Crisis

Place: Liaoning University, Shenyang, P.R. China

Time: July 18, 2020 (China Time)

Program

8.30—9.00 Opening Session



Xie Xiaojuan
School of Marxism
Liaoning University
Shenyang, PR China

William A. Barbieri

The Council for Research in Values and Philosophy



9.00—11.30 First Session



9.00—9.30

John A. Kromkowski

The CUA McLean Center for the Study of Culture and Values
Washington, DC

*The Search for a Science of Order: Elemental Aspects of Governance,
Social Cohesion and Economic Well-being*

9.30—9.50 Discussion

9.50—10.20

William Sweet

St Francis Xavier University
Antigonish, Canada

*Insecurity, Law, and Global Governance:
Some Insights from the History of Philosophy*

10.20—10.40 Discussion



10.40—11.10

Carlos Maldonado Castaneda

University of Bosque
Bogota, Colombia

The Complexity about Fighting Poverty

11.10—11.30 Discussion

11.30—14.00 Lunch Break

14.00—17.20 Second Session

14.00—14.30

Balaganapathi Devarakonda
University of Delhi
Delhi, India



Re-Globalisation: The New Post-Pandemic Global Order

14.30—14.50 Discussion

14.50—15.20

Holger Zaborowski
Universität Erfurt
Erfurt, Germany



The Corona Crisis and the Need for Global Solidarity

15.20—15.40 Discussion

15.40—16.10

Dan Chitoiu
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University
Iasi, Romania



Governance as Quest for Wellbeing: Crisis Scenarios

16.10—16.30 Discussion

16.30—17.00

João J. Vila-Chã
Gregorian University
Rome, Italy



The Responsibility of Governance in the Face of a Major Crisis

17.00—17.20 Discussion

17.20-17.30 Concluding Session



Xie Xiaojuan
School of Marxism
Liaoning University
Shenyang, PR China



Hu Yeping
The Council for Research in Values and Philosophy

*N.B. Each speaker will have 30 minutes for presentation, 20 minutes for response and discussion. All participants are welcome to give comments and ask questions in relation to the seminar thematic. If you are interested in taking part in this online seminar, please contact Dr. Zhang Jialin, School of Marxism, Liaoning University, Shenyang, P.R. China; Email: zhangjialin0429@126.com; Telephone: (86)158 0405 6829.

The Council for Research in Values and Philosophy (RVP)
Gibbons Hall B20, 620 Michigan Avenue, NE, Washington, DC, 20064
Telephone: 202/319-6089; Email: cua-rvp@cua.edu; Website: www.crvp.org



Council for Research in Values and Philosophy

AN INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR (ONLINE)

Rethinking Borders and Boundaries: Exploring New Ways of Intercultural Encounters

*RVP-Iasi Center at Alexandru Ioan Cuza University,
Iasi, Romania*

Saturday October 17, 2020 (Iasi Time)

Program

9.00 – 9.30 Opening Session



Moderator

Dan Chitoiu
RVP-Iasi Center
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University
Iasi, Romania

Luca M. Scarantino, President
The International Federation of Philosophical Societies (FISP)



9.30—12.00 First Session



9.30—10.00

Ouyang Kang

Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Wuhan, China

*The New Boundaries and Cross-Cultural Encounters
in the Post Pandemic Time*

10.00—10.30

John Ozolins

Notre Dame University, Sydney, Australia

Australian Borders in a Time of Co-Vid 19



10.30—11.10

Asha Mukherjee

Visva-Bharati University, Santiniketan, India

Borders and Boundaries: Tagorean Way of Encountering and Breaking



11.00—11.30

Michael Dua

Atma Jaya Catholic University of Indonesia, Jakarta, Indonesia

*Gotong Royong: A Philosophical Foundation of a Transversal Way of
Thinking in Intercultural Encounters*



12.00-12.45 Discussion

14.00—16.45 Second Session

14.00—14.30

Nur Kirabaev

Russian People's Friendship University, Moscow, Russia

*Dialogue of Civilizations: Intercultural Philosophy
in the Time of Modern Social Crisis*



14.30—15.00

Joseph C.A. Agbakoba

University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Nigeria

*Heterosis, Colligative Hermeneutics and Fusional Scholarship:
An African Perspective in Intercultural Philosophy*



15.00—15.30

Jūratė Baranova Rubavičienė
Vilnius University, Vilnius, Lithuania

*Teaching Solidarity through Multimodality:
Philosophical Reflections*



15.30—16.00

Riccardo Pozzo

University of Rome Tor Vergata, Rome, Italy

Innovation for the Reflective Society



16.00—16.45 Discussion

16.45-17.00 Concluding Session



Moderator

Oana Cogeanu
RVP-Iasi Center
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University
Iasi, Romania



Hu Yeping

The Council for Research in Values and Philosophy (RVP)

For more information contact Drs. **Dan Chitoiu** (dan811@yahoo.com) and **Oana Cogeanu** (oa_na_co@yahoo.com).

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