



30th Annual

Lilly Fellows Program National Conference

Tranquillitas Ordinis:
Liberal Arts Education and the Common Good

Friday, Oct. 9, 2020

Virtually presented by St. Mary's University



ST. MARY'S
UNIVERSITY

CENTER FOR
CATHOLIC STUDIES





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About the Conference

The theme of this year's conference, "The Tranquility of Order," suggests how we should think about, and engage in, Christian higher education as we continue to read the "signs of the times" (*Gaudium et Spes*, para. 44). The theme indicates to us, as educators, that we have a responsibility to the tranquility of order, which we recognize can be mirrored in the souls of students, through the process of education, and for the sake of the common good that flows from education.

The conference will focus on the crucial role played by liberal arts education in this emergence of a personal and social *tranquillitas ordinis*, insofar as it is within the liberal arts that, first, serving the common good becomes an explicit goal and value; second, it is clearly recognized what it means to belong to a regional, a national and a global community; and third, that the discovery is made by students that they know, and are obligated by, genuine truths and values which guide them toward affirming the dignity of persons and protecting the rights of others; in particular, the most vulnerable among us in our communities today.

Our theme suggests that much is at stake in a properly liberal education.



The peace of the whole universe is the tranquility of order.”

- St. Augustine of Hippo

The conference is open to Lilly Fellows Program representatives only. Registrants should have received a link to participate in the conference via Zoom in an email at the email address that was provided during registration.

A livestream of the plenary sessions will be available for non-conference attendees at www.stmarytx.edu/live on the day of the conference. Viewers on the livestream will not be able to contribute via chat or videoconference.

Conference Schedule

All times are in Central Standard Time (CST).

10 to 10:30 a.m., Welcome and Invocation

10:30 to 11:30 a.m., Opening Plenary with Q&A
with Jeremy D. Wilkins, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Theology, Boston College

11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., Plenary 1 Discussion Groups

1 to 2:15 p.m., Plenary 2 with Q&A
Moderated by James Greenaway, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Philosophy, St. Mary's University; and featuring panelists David Grenardo, J.D., Professor of Law, St. Mary's University; Terri Boggess, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Exercise and Sports Science, St. Mary's University; Verónica Contreras-Shannon, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, St. Mary's University; and Stephanie Ward, Ph.D., Professor of Management and Interim Dean of the Greehey School of Business, St. Mary's University

2:15 to 3 p.m., Plenary 2 Discussion Groups

3:30 to 5 p.m., Plenary 3 with Q&A
Moderated by Alicia Cordoba Tait, D.M.A., Beirne Director of the Center for Catholic Studies and Professor of Music, St. Mary's University; and featuring panelists: Nathan Cornelius, D.M.A. (Cohort 8), Adjunct Faculty, Johns Hopkins University and Towson University; Joel Scott Davis, D.M.A. (Cohort 2), Associate Professor and Director of Music Theory, Composition, and Musicology, Samford University; Daniel Gee, D.M.A. (Cohort 10), Assistant Professor of Music, Westmont College

Plenary Topics

OPENING PLENARY

Order Oeuvres: Liberal Education in Its New Context(s)

with Jeremy D. Wilkins, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Theology, Boston College

The classical function of wisdom is to order and to judge. Our contemporary appreciation for relativity and diversity poses problems of order and judgment in an acute form. This presentation proposes a strategy for recovering the possibility of intellectual, moral and spiritual normativity in a postmodern society, and examines opportunities and risks for liberal education — education for effective freedom and responsibility — in the social and intellectual contexts of the modern university.



PLENARY 2

The Dignity of Persons and Divine Presence: The Aim of Education as the Growth of the Soul

Moderator:

James Greenaway, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Philosophy, St. Mary's University

Panelists:

David Grenardo, J.D., Professor of Law, St. Mary's University; Terri Boggess, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Exercise and Sports Science, St. Mary's University; Verónica Contreras-Shannon, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, St. Mary's University; and Stephanie Ward, Ph.D., Professor of Management and Interim Dean of the Greehey School of Business, St. Mary's University

As parents, we love our children. As professors, we love our students. Of course we want our children, our friends and our students to prosper, but we also want them to become authentic human beings: capable of telling the truth even when those around them falsify; willing to do what is genuinely good even when it is inconvenient; and able to recognize the beautiful and the extraordinary in the midst of all the ordinary things of life. Preparation for life always means more than career preparation. For the liberal arts university, the preparation of our students thus becomes a heightened responsibility.

The discussion will cover topics such as the complementarity of work and leisure, the professional and the personal, measurable outcomes and immeasurable goals; the need that a free and competent society has for the liberal arts; the impediments to the growth of the soul that a poor education can generate; the role that both liberal education and professional practice play in bearing witness to the presence of God.

PLENARY 3

Spirituality and the Arts: Music and Conversation with Lilly Graduate Fellows



Moderator:

Alicia Cordoba Tait, D.M.A., Beirne Director of the Center for Catholic Studies and Professor of Music, St. Mary's University

Panelists:

Nathan Cornelius, D.M.A. (Cohort 8), Adjunct Faculty, Johns Hopkins University and Towson University; Joel Scott Davis, D.M.A. (Cohort 2), Associate Professor and Director of Music Theory, Composition, and Musicology, Samford University; Daniel Gee, D.M.A. (Cohort 10), Assistant Professor of Music, Westmont College

For speaker bios, visit www.stmarytx.edu/2020-lilly-fellows-conference/speakers.



About the Lilly Fellows Program

One of the three Lilly Fellows Program initiatives is the Lilly Network of Church-Related Colleges and Universities. The National Network addresses issues of common interest to institutions in church-related higher education. The 98 members of the Network represent a diversity of denominational traditions, institutional types and geographical locations. Through their collaborative efforts, they explore and discuss the relationship of Christianity to the academic vocation and strengthen the religious nature of church-related institutions through a variety of activities and publications.

Lilly Network of Church-Related Colleges and Universities

Lilly Fellows Program Flyer

Current Lilly Postdoctoral Fellow Jillian Snyder

The Catholic Intellectual Tradition: Challenges and Opportunities for the Catholic University in the 21st Century

Online conference

Sacred Heart University, Fairfield, Connecticut

Oct. 29-31, 2020

Communication and Religion in the 2020 U.S. Presidential Election

Live broadcast event

Institute for Communication and Religion, Seton Hall University, South Orange, New Jersey

Oct. 21-23, 2020

Learn more at lillyfellows.org.

About St. Mary's University

St. Mary's University is a Catholic and Marianist university in San Antonio, Texas. At St. Mary's, we ensure our students complete an excellent liberal arts education in good time. We help students discover, affirm and cultivate their unique talents and gifts. We prepare each student to enter the world with the skills and motivation to make a difference. The strong community environment is rooted in the University's Catholic and Marianist commitments to providing a holistic education in a faith-centered, family-spirit environment. As a Catholic and Marianist University, we foster the formation of deep Christian faith in our students and educate ethical leaders for the common good. For more than 165 years, our Marianist brothers and lay faculty and staff have gently mentored St. Mary's students to graduate with generous spirits and humble hearts, and to view their careers as vocational journeys, not simply jobs.

Learn more at www.stmarytx.edu.