PROGRAM

International Conference

“Physics and Theology – Yesterday and Today”

The conference intends to share scientific experience and knowledge in view of discussing the role played by natural sciences and Physics in particular in the development of ideas and concepts in Theology and Philosophy.

20-22 June 2019, Plovdiv

Plovdiv University “Paisii Hilendarski”
24 Tsar Asen St., 4000 Plovdiv, Bulgaria
LOCAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

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Assoc. Prof. Dr. Todorka L. Dimitrova

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Prof. Dr. Guido Vergauwen
Prof. Dr. Ivan Dimitrov
Prof. Dr. Antoine Weis
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Todorka L. Dimitrova
Thursday, 20 June 2019
5th Auditorium “Todor Vasilev”

OPENING SESSION: DOES GOD PLAY DICE?

12.00-14.00 registration
Conference Hall “Compass”

14.00-14.10 Todorka L. Dimitrova
Opening of the conference

14.10-14.30 Welcome addresses

14.30-15.15 Guido Vergauwen
The concept of “Nature” and its importance for Theology

15.15-15.45 Coffee break

15.45-16.45 Todorka L. Dimitrova and Antoine Weis
(Lecture with demonstrations)
The wave-particle duality of light

16.45-17.30 Barbara Hallensleben
(Book presentation)
New Chances and Challenges for Theology as a Consequence of Research Results in Physics

17.30-19.00 Cocktail
Coffee Bar F10
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00-9:30</td>
<td>Venelin Kozhuharov</td>
<td>A world of particles</td>
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<td>9:30-10:15</td>
<td>Antoine Weis</td>
<td>Mysteries of the Universe</td>
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<td>10:15-10:45</td>
<td>Stoyan Tanev</td>
<td>A methodological approach to the encounter of Theology with Physics</td>
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<td>10:45-11:15</td>
<td>Coffee break</td>
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<td>11:15-12:00</td>
<td>Arnold Benz</td>
<td>Astrophysics and Theology of Creation</td>
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<td>12:00-12:30</td>
<td>Ralf Bergmann</td>
<td>On the Relation of Divine Intervention and Laws of Nature</td>
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<td>12:30-13:00</td>
<td>Ivan Dimitrov</td>
<td>Faith and Science – a Permanent Basic Discussion</td>
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<td>13:00-14:00</td>
<td>Lunch: Self-organized</td>
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SESSION 2: THEOLOGY TODAY

14:00-14.30  Valentin Kozhuharov  
Theology of the Mission of the Church in Light of Quantum Physics

14:30-14.50  Maria Schnitter  
Transformation in the understanding of time after the introduction of Christianity as reflected in the ancient Bulgarian literary tradition

14:50-15:10  Atanas Terziyski, Nikolay Kochev and Stoyan Tenev  
Dynamics of Science-Religion Interactions: practical, social and political implications

15:10-15:30  Viktor Kostov  
Returning to the fundamentals: the fallacy of scientific eschatology

15:30-16:00  Coffee break

16:00-16:20  Todor Veltchev  
Physics as vocation – now and in the past. A Christian perspective

16:20-16:40  Velislav Altunov  
Theology and science fiction - a possible dialogue?

16:40-17:00  Victor Makarov  
The God who plays hide and seek reflected in the ancient Bulgarian literary tradition

17:00-18:00  General discussion
led by Goran Blagoev (“Faith and Society”, Program of the Bulgarian National Television)

20:00  Conference Dinner
Restaurant Central Park (Tsar Simeon Garden)
SESSION 3: SCIENCE AND THEOLOGY – YESTERDAY AND TODAY

9:00-9:30  Dieter Hattrup
In the 20th century, the former threat from natural sciences turned out to be an opportunity for theology

9:30-10:00  Ralf Bergmann
Christian faith in a Post-Christian Europe: obstacles and opportunities

10:00-10:45  Henry F. Schaefer
The life and faith of a scientist

10:45-11:20  Coffee break

11:20-11:40  Vladimir Bozhilov
Photopolarimetric study of Blazar – type AGN OJ287 - Results and Discussion

11:40-12:00  Helmut Brückner
Measuring time - potentials and limits of geological dating

12:00-12:20  Nayden Yotov
Humanity+

12:20-12:40  Andrey Romanov
Faith as an intellectual, emotional and spiritual endeavor

12:40-13:00  Yordan Epitropov, Yoan Epitropov
On the evolutionary stages of knowledge

13:00-14:00  Lunch: Self-organized
SESSION 4: SHORT COMMUNICATIONS

14:00-14:10  Valentin Velchev
Is it possible to present a scientific argumentation for the existence of God?

14:10-14:20  Oliver Cackov Yuliana Belcheva
The transition of Blaise Pascal from the calculating machine to Jansenism

14:20-14:30  Dimo Hristozov
Spiritual value in human evolution through physics and theology achievements

14:30-14:40  Kiril Kolikov
The Spiritual Waves Doctrine in the Teachings of Wisdom

14:40-14:50  Tzvetelin Angelov
The theological idea in theological context in the philosophy of Immanuel Kant

14:50-15:20  Coffee break

15:20-18:00  Round table discussion
led by Barbara Hallensleben / Maria Schnitter
Science and Theology: What do we know, what have we learned?

18:00  Closing remarks
The conference is sponsored by the Bulgarian National Science Fund (BNSF), Project number КП-06-МНФ/18 in the frame of the Procedure for financial support of scientific conferences in the Republic of Bulgaria 2019.