The Institute for Faith Integration sponsors conferences, symposia, and lectures for the purpose of bringing together the best of secular wisdom and critical thinking with orthodox Christian faith. The Institute works with the Center for Research in Science as well as the Center for Research in Ethics and Values at the university. Starting in 2008, the institute will publish bi-annually, The Journal of Faith Integration. For more information on the institute, these events, the monthly faith integration lectures, faculty development program, or for any other information please visit our website at: www.apu.edu/faithintegration

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Azusa Pacific University’s Institute for Faith Integration 2007-08

Sept 26-Oct 1: Inaugural Lectures
Nov 15: Evangelical Voices on Science & Culture
Feb 7-9: C.S. Lewis Conference
Feb 12-13: Sophia Forum
April 10-12: Open Theism and Science Conference
Inaugural Institute Lectures

Sep 26-Oct 1 will be given by Dr Marsha Fowler (Senior Fellow, Institute for Faith Integration, Azusa Pacific University) and Dr Alan Padgett (Prof. of Theology, Luther Seminary, Minneapolis, MN). Dr. Fowler is the author of numerous scholarly articles at the intersection of theology and health care. Dr Padgett is the author of numerous articles and books including, Science and the Study of God and Reason and the Christian Religion. All lectures in the LAPC room.

‘Faith Integration into a World of Secular Scholarship’ Marsha Fowler (Sept 26: 4:00 p.m.)

‘Is Religion Dangerous or Just Plain Stupid? On Atheism Dressed up as Science’ Alan Padgett (Oct 1: 4:00 pm)

‘The Wisdom of Faith-full Reason: Why Theology and Science Need Each Other’ (Oct 1: 7:00 pm)

Evangelical Voices on Science and Culture Nov. 15 is a symposium bringing together 5 of the leading younger evangelical scholars in the area of science and Christian faith. Dr James K.A. Smith (Calvin College), Dr Amos Yong (Regent University), Dr Thomas Jay Oord (Northwest Nazarene University), Dr F. LeRon Shults (Agder University, Norway), and Dr Craig A. Boyd (Azusa Pacific University).

‘Science and Religion Take Practice: Engaging Science as Culture’ James K.A. Smith
‘The Delightful Terror of Interdisciplinary Dialogue’ F. LeRon Shults
‘Evangelical Theology and Science: What Difference does Being Pentecostal or Charismatic Make?’ Amos Yong
‘A Relational View of Divine Action for Science and Theology’ Thomas Jay Oord
‘Narrating the Science-Religion Dialogue: Stories Theologians and Scientists tell about Themselves and Each Other’ Craig A. Boyd

The most important cultural institution in the modern and post-modern world is that of “science.” Evangelical Christians in all theological traditions have had a tumultuous relationship with science over the past 100 years but have rarely engaged it as a cultural phenomenon. These 5 voices on the topic come together for an evening of dialogue, discussion, and proposals for thinking through one of the most important of issues facing the Church today. Upper Turner Campus Center 6:00 pm

C.S. Lewis Conference: C. S. Lewis, the Inklings, & the Call to Christian Community Feb 7-9 features two of the preeminent scholars on “The Inklings,” Dr Tom Shippey (St. Louis University) and Dr Diana Glyer (Azusa Pacific University). Dr Shippey is author of JRR Tolkien: Author of the Century and The Road to Middle-earth. Dr Glyer is author of The Company They Keep: CS Lewis & JRR Tolkien as Writers in Community. The conveners of this 3 day conference also invite paper submissions on all topics relating to Lewis’s life and work but papers are especially encouraged on the following: the Inklings and their influence, the nature of Christian friendship, Christian love, the interaction of Lewis and Tolkien. Abstracts of no more than 500 words should be emailed to: caboyd@apu.edu no later than October 31, 2007. This conference begins what will become an annual event at APU each spring.

Sophia Forum (co-sponsored with the Philosophy Department) Feb 12-13 Dr Nicholas Wolterstorff (Yale University). These are the inaugural lectures of a new series of philosophy lectures given by the leading Christian philosophers of our time. Dr Wolterstorff is the author of numerous books in philosophy including Reason Within the Limits of Religion Alone, John Locke and & the Ethics of Belief, and Divine Discourse. Location to be determined.

Open Theism and Science (co-sponsored with the John Templeton Foundation) April 10-12. Keynote Speakers: Dr Francis Collins (National Institute for Health), and author of The Language of God; and Dr Gregory Boyd (Woodland Hills Church, MN), and author of God of the Possible. Open theism is a quickly emerging orthodox, evangelical theological movement that provides a challenge to the assumptions of High Calvinism and the latter’s insistence upon extreme notions of sovereignty. In its place open theism posits a relational God who genuinely encounters humans and provides authentic choices in a contingent world. Francis Collins, the director of the human genome project, and Greg Boyd, pastor of one of the largest churches in Minnesota, and other scholars from across the country address the issues of an evolving creation, the Christian God who works in the midst of various possibilities, and the problem of evil. Location to be determined.