2020 Polanyi Society Boston Annual Meeting

Call for Papers

The 2020 Polanyi Society Annual Meeting will take place in Boston, MA, on Friday, November 20, 2020, immediately prior to the American Academy of Religion’s annual meeting and the week before Thanksgiving. We expect to have two sessions on Friday, November 20, as well as a Polanyi Society Board Meeting. If the number of proposals warrants a third session, this would likely be scheduled on Thursday evening (November 19) or Saturday morning (November 21). There is a possibility that a session on Thursday or Saturday (such as the 2017 workshop on Polanyi’s economic thought at MIT) at a nearby university will be set up. Please check the Polanyi Society web site (http://www.polanyisociety.org/) later in the spring for additional information.

As in the past, we invite paper proposals on any topic related to Polanyian thought that interests you. However, one of the themes in Polanyi’s work that has received attention over the years is that of moral inversion. Some have suggested moral inversion is a useful way of understanding contemporary social and cultural dynamics, and others have argued Polanyi’s account of moral inversion can be a useful way of identifying other forms of “inversion” he identified in his critique of late modern thought. There remain, too, several historiographical questions to be asked regarding Polanyi’s diagnosis of the etiology of moral inversion. Proposals that explore and elaborate Polanyi’s understanding of moral inversion (or other forms of inversion) are encouraged.

Briefly noted below are several additional topics that recently have been suggested or partially discussed and which seem to have the potential for interesting presentations:

- Polanyian understandings of interpretation and frameworks
- Michael Polanyi and Karl Polanyi
- Elements worth developing further in Polanyi and Prosch’s Meaning
- The Meaning Lectures in relation to Polanyi and Prosch’s Meaning
- Post-critical approaches to history (or sacred texts)

A proposal of about 250-300 words should be sent as an attachment to Walter Gulick (wgulick@msubilling.edu) by May 1. This Call for Papers and updated information on papers accepted, the final schedule, etc., will be posted on http://www.polanyisociety.org.

Walter Gulick, Chair of Program Committee.