

# Tradition & Discovery

## The Polanyi Society Periodical

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# Preface

In *TAD* 25:2, I indicated in this column that the Polanyi Society voted, in the Fall 1998 Polanyi Society meeting, to file an application to become an official tax exempt nonprofit organization and that some reorganization of the *TAD* editorial board would soon occur. Since this is the beginning of the academic year, the editorial board changes have been put into place and are reflected in the re-constituted mast printed to the left. No longer do we have area studies coordinators; instead, you will note that we have a board of directors and officers with specific responsibilities. This scheme corresponds to that employed in our pending application for nonprofit status. With a little luck, this application should be approved at some point in this academic year. Thanks go to all those who served—some for many years—as area studies coordinators.

In this issue on page 4, you will find the notice about the upcoming 1999 Polanyi Society annual meeting to be held in Boston on November 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. Be sure that you note that the papers prepared for both sessions of the meeting are now available on the Polanyi Society WWW site: simply go to <http://www.mWSC.edu/~polanyi/> and click on the highlighted Papers for 1999 Boston Polanyi Society meeting and you can read them online or print a copy. If you don't have WWW access and wish to have copies, contact Marty Moleski (address on the mast to the left) who coordinates the annual meeting.

Struan Jacobs' review article in this issue is a careful study of RT. Allen's new book *Beyond Liberalism: The Political Thought of F. A. Hayek & Michael Polanyi*. R. T. Allen is an important Polanyi scholar especially interested in Polanyi's social and political philosophy and in comparing Polanyi's ideas with ideas of other social and political philosophers. Jacobs does a nice job of summarizing and assessing Allen's account. Allen was kind enough to respond to some of the points at issue in Jacobs' review essay. The third major article in this issue, "Wittgenstein and Polanyi: Metaphysics Reconsidered" by Charles W. Lowney, is an interesting essay that links Wittgenstein's criticism of metaphysical philosophy and the kind of rehabilitation of metaphysics possible through Polanyi's epistemology of tacit knowing. Also you will find reviews of the recently published audio tape *Tacit Knowing, Truthful Knowing: The Life and Thought of Michael Polanyi*, a resource likely to be very useful for introducing Polanyi's thought.

Please note that there is an insert included for membership renewal. Thanks are due to those who have already sent renewals—please ignore the insert. But please don't ignore the insert if you have not paid dues for 1999-2000. Remember that the main expense for the Polanyi Society is printing and mailing *TAD*. We remain a solvent professional society but barely so.

Phil Mullins

*Tradition and Discovery* is indexed selectively in *The Philosopher's Index* and *Religion One: Periodicals*. Book reviews are indexed in *Index to Book Reviews in Religion*.

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## NEWS AND NOTES

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The October, 1999 issue of *Appraisal* (Vol. 2, No. 4) has just been published. It contains papers from the third *Appraisal*-sponsored Polanyi Conference held last April. The following are the major articles: James Lund, "What Are We to make of One Another?"; Percy Hammond, "Models of Reality"; R. J. Brownhill, "Polanyi and the Development of Qualitative Research"; Sue Watkinson, "Tacit Knowledge and Professional Judgment"; Hans Popper, "The Interpretation of Literary Texts: An Exercise in Understanding"; David Kettle, "On the Primacy of Indwelling." In addition, there is a review by Chris Goodman of R. T. Allen's *Beyond Liberalism: A Study of the Political Thought of F. A. Hayek and Michael Polanyi* and reviews by R. T. Allen of several new editions of books by R. G. Collingwood and a volume of *Collingwood Studies*.

Georg Hans Neuweg from the Institute für Pädagogik und Psychologie at the Universität Linz has just published *Könnerschaft Und Implizites Wissen: Zur lehrertheoretischen Bedeutung der Erkenntnis und Wissenstheorie Michael Polanyis*. This book will soon be reviewed in *TAD*.

### Electronic Discussion List

**The Polanyi Society supports an electronic discussion group exploring implications of the thought of Michael Polanyi. For those with access to the INTERNET, send a message to owner-polanyi@lists.sbu.edu to join the list or to request further information. Communications about the electronic discussion group may also be directed to John V. Apczynski, Department of Theology, St. Bonaventure University, St. Bonaventure, NY 14778-0012 E-MAIL: apczynsk@sbu.edu PHONE: (716) 375-2298 FAX: (716) 375-2389.**

### Polanyi Society Membership

*Tradition and Discovery* is distributed to members of the Polanyi Society. This periodical supercedes a newsletter and earlier mini-journal published (with some gaps) by the Polanyi Society since the mid seventies. The Polanyi Society has members in thirteen different countries though most live in North America and the United Kingdom. The Society includes those formerly affiliated with the Polanyi group centered in the United Kingdom which published *Convivium: The United Kingdom Review of Post-critical Thought*. There are normally three issues of *TAD* each year.

Annual membership in the Polanyi Society is \$20 (\$10 for students). The membership cycle follows the academic year; subscriptions are due September 1 to Phil Mullins, Humanities, Missouri Western State College, St. Joseph, MO 64507 (fax: 816-271-5987, e-mail: mullins@griffon.mwsc.edu) Please make checks payable to the Polanyi Society. Dues can be paid by credit card by providing the card holder's name as it appears on the card, the card number and expiration date. Changes of address and inquiries should be sent to Mullins. New members should provide the following subscription information: complete mailing address, telephone (work and home), e-mail address and/or fax number. Institutional members should identify a department to contact for billing. The Polanyi Society attempts to maintain a data base identifying persons interested in or working with Polanyi's philosophical writing. New members can contribute to this effort by writing a short description of their particular interests in Polanyi's work and any publications and/or theses/dissertations related to Polanyi's thought. Please provide complete bibliographic information. Those renewing membership are invited to include information on recent work.

## Upcoming 1999 Polanyi Society Meeting in Boston

The program for the Polanyi Society annual meeting to be held in Boston on November 19 and 20, 1999, is printed below. This program is fashioned from seven papers on the general topic of “Polanyi and Realism” that are soon to be published in a special issue of *Tradition and Discovery* edited by Andy Sanders. The draft papers are all posted on the Polanyi Society web site (<http://www.mwsc.edu/~polanyi>). Since the papers will not be read in annual meeting sessions, participants should download and study them before the meeting. Each session will include a panel commenting on particular papers but this will be followed by open discussion.

The location for the meetings is Boston's Hynes Convention Center, Room 312. As in past years, Polanyi Society sessions are held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion and Society for Biblical Literature. In recent years, all sessions have been assigned time slots just prior to the official opening of the AAR/SBL meetings. Because of the pressure for space, these large umbrella professional organizations are now carefully monitoring hotel reservations. It is necessary to register for the AAR/SBL annual meeting to be eligible for hotel accommodations in one of the primary hotels near where meetings are held. However, anyone who is interested is welcome to attend the Polanyi Society meetings, whether or not they are attending the AAR/SBL meetings. The Hynes Convention Center where the Polanyi Society meetings will occur is a stop on the subway. If you want information about registration for the AAR/SBL meetings (and information about hotels), please phone AAR/SBL Joint Ventures at 404-727-2343.

**Friday, November 19, 1999—Hynes Convention Center, Room 312—9:00-11:00 p.m.**

**“Science, Meaning and Reality”**

**Chair: Andy Sanders**

**Panelists: Walter Gulick, Stephania Jha, Esther Meek and Phil Mullins**

**Saturday, November 20, 1999—Hynes Convention Center, Room 312—9:00-11:30 a.m.**

**“Realism, Ethics and Religion”**

**Chair: Walter Gulick**

**Panelists: Stefania Jha, Andy Sanders, Esther Meek, Phil Mullins**

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