

# Tradition & Discovery

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Martin X. Moleski, S.J.

# The Polanyi Society

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## Preface

This issue of *TAD* contains the first fruits of the June 13-15, 2008 Polanyi Society-sponsored conference “*Personal Knowledge at Fifty*” held at Loyola University, Chicago. Included are two plenary session addresses, one by Richard T. Allen and the other by Richard Gelwick. Allen is a British Polanyi scholar who has written or edited many important Polanyi-related things, including *Society, Economics and Philosophy: Selected Papers of Michael Polanyi*; *Emotion, Reason and Tradition, Essays on the Social, Political and Economic Thought of Michael Polanyi* (co-edited with Struan Jacobs); *Thinkers of our Time: Polanyi*; *Beyond Liberalism: The Political Thought of F.A. Hayek and Michael Polanyi*. Richard is also editor of *Appraisal: A Journal of Constructive and Post-Critical Philosophy and Interdisciplinary Studies*. Richard Gelwick most readers probably know since his articles have frequently appeared in *TAD*. Richard is the author of the first introduction to Polanyi’s thought, his 1977 *The Way of Discovery*, as well as the first bibliography of Polanyi’s non-scientific writing. He worked with Polanyi from 1962 until his death and is one of the founders of the North American Polanyi Society. I’m sure that future issues of *TAD* will bring to readers some of the other papers that the conference produced. Take a look at the conference program on page 6 or go to the Polanyi Society web page for a look at all of the abstracts and some of the papers.

Please also note (page 4 and 5) that upcoming in the fall are Polanyi Society meetings at both the American Academy of Religion and the American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division. The AAR Polanyi Society meetings are in Chicago on October 31 and November 1, 2008, earlier this year than the normal Thanksgiving week date for these Polanyi Society meetings. Sessions this year will focus on new books by Society members. The APA, Eastern Division Polanyi Society meetings in Philadelphia will probably be December 28, 2008. Papers and responses are by folk who have often written for *TAD*. Additional information about both of these meetings will be included in the October *TAD* and will be posted when available on the Polanyi Society web site.

Phil Mullins

*Tradition and Discovery* is indexed selectively in *The Philosopher’s Index* and *Religious and Theological Abstracts* and is included in the EBSCO online database of academic and research journals.

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# NEWS AND NOTES

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## Polanyi Society Travel Funds

For students and others requiring assistance to attend the Society's meetings held in conjunction with the AAR and the APA, Eastern Division, limited funding may be available. Please do apply although the travel fund resources were substantially reduced in providing grants for the June 13-15, 2008 "*Personal Knowledge At Fifty*" Conference at Loyola University, Chicago. Society members are urged to call the availability of this assistance to the attention of those they consider worthy candidates. Those interested in applying for this funding, as well as those able to assist in making this funding available, should contact Walter Mead ([wbmead@insightbb.com](mailto:wbmead@insightbb.com)) and see the information on the Polanyi Society web site (<http://www.missouriwestern.edu/orgs/polanyi/>). Anyone interested in contributing to the travel fund should also contact Walter Mead.

## WWW Polanyi Resources

The Polanyi Society has a World Wide Web site at <http://www.missouriwestern.edu/orgs/polanyi/>. In addition to information about Polanyi Society membership and meetings, the site contains the following: (1) digital archives containing all issues of *Tradition and Discovery* since 1991; (2) a comprehensive listing of *Tradition and Discovery* authors, reviews and reviewers; (3) the history of Polanyi Society publications, and information on locating early publications not in the archive; (4) information on *Appraisal* and *Polanyiana*, two sister journals with special interest in Polanyi's thought; (5) the "Guide to the Papers of Michael Polanyi," which provides an orientation to archival material housed in the Department of Special Collections of the University of Chicago Library; (6) photographs of Polanyi; (7) links to a number of essays by Polanyi as well as audio files for the McEnerney Lectures (1962) and Polanyi's conversation with Carl Rogers (1966).

## Submissions for Publication

Articles, meeting notices and notes likely to be of interest to persons interested in the thought of Michael Polanyi are welcomed. Review suggestions and book reviews should be sent to Walter Gulick (see addresses listed below). Manuscripts, notices and notes should be sent to Phil Mullins. Manuscripts should be double-spaced type with notes at the end; writers are encouraged to employ simple citations within the text when possible. MLA or APA style is preferred. Because the journal serves English writers across the world, we do not require anybody's "standard English." Abbreviate frequently cited book titles, particularly books by Polanyi (e.g., *Personal Knowledge* becomes *PK*). Shorter articles (10-15 pages) are preferred, although longer manuscripts (20-24 pages) will be considered. Consistency and clear writing are expected. Manuscripts normally will be sent out for blind review. Authors are expected to provide an electronic copy as an e-mail attachment.

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# 2008 Polanyi Society Meetings

## Annual Meeting With Two Sessions at the American Academy of Religion

The Polanyi Society will hold its annual meeting in conjunction with the AAR, November 1-3, 2008 rather than in the week before Thanksgiving, the period for the meeting for many years. To attend the Polanyi Society annual meeting, it is not necessary to register for the AAR meeting. For additional information about the AAR meeting, go to [http://www.aarweb.org/meetings/Annual Meeting/Current Meeting/Reg1.pdf](http://www.aarweb.org/meetings/Annual_Meeting/Current_Meeting/Reg1.pdf). The hotels and rooms in which the annual meeting will be held will be included in the October 2008 issue of *TAD* and will be posted, when available, with other information about the annual meeting on the Polanyi Society web site (<http://www.missouriwestern.edu/orgs/polanyi/>).

### Friday, October 31, 9:00 pm to 11:00 pm

A Symposium on Tony Clark's *Divine Revelation and Human Response* (Session M31-419)

Reviews: Chris Kettler, Friends University  
Walter Mead, Illinois State University  
Response: Tony Clark, Friends University  
Open discussion

### Saturday, November 1, 9:00 am to 11:30 am

A Symposium on Phil Rolnick's *Person, Grace, and God* (Session M1-115)

Reviews: Paul Lewis, Mercer University  
Amy E. Marga, Luther Seminary  
Response: Phil Rolnick, University of St. Thomas  
Open Discussion

Business Meeting

## December Sessions at the American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division

The Polanyi Society will be holding its first ever sessions in conjunction with the American Philosophical Society. We have become officially recognized as an affiliated group by the APA. The committee responsible for overseeing our programs and relationship with the APA is Robert Innis, Ron Hall, Walter Gulick, and Wally Mead, *ex officio*. These inaugural sessions will be held in conjunction with the APA's, Eastern Division meeting at the Philadelphia Marriott from December 27-30, 2008. The date requested for the two sessions is December 28, but final confirmation of times and places will be in the October issue of *TAD* along with abstracts of the papers being presented. Additional information will also be posted on the Polanyi Society web site as soon as it is available.

## Session 1: Polanyi and Langer on Meaning

Robert Innis, University of Massachusetts, Lowell

“Between Articulation and Symbolization: Framing Polanyi and Langer”

Walter Gulick, Montana State University Billings

“Polanyi and Langer: Existential Meaning”

Response: Vincent Colapietro, Penn State University

## Session 2: Polanyi on Normative Thought and Action

Ronald Hall, Stetson University

“Natural Normativity: Polanyi and/or Searle”

Response: Drew Leder, Loyola College in Maryland

Charles Lowney, Washington and Lee University

“From Science to Spirituality: A Polanyian Perspective on Moral Law and Virtue *ForItself*”

Response: Michael Raposa, Lehigh University

## Notes on Contributors

**Richard Allen** edited *Society, Economics and Philosophy: Selected Papers of Michael Polanyi*, was co-editor of *Emotion, Reason and Tradition, Essays on the Social, Political and Economic Thought of Michael Polanyi*, as well as author of *Thinkers of our Time: Polanyi and Beyond Liberalism: The Political Thought of F.A. Hayek and Michael Polanyi*; he also edits *Appraisal: A Journal of Constructive and Post-Critical Philosophy and Interdisciplinary Studies*.

**Richard Gewick** is Professor Emeritus, University of New England, author of *The Way of Discovery*, the first introduction to Polanyi’s philosophy. He also compiled the first bibliography of Polanyi’s non-scientific writing, and served for a number of years as General Coordinator of the Polanyi Society as well as editor of *TAD*.

**N. E. Wetherick** is a retired psychologist who has been for many years be interested in Polanyi’s thought.

**Brian G. Gowenlock** is a retired chemist who was educated at Manchester University in the last years that Polanyi served as a chemistry professor there.

**John Puddefoot** teaches mathematics at Eton; several of his articles have appeared in *TAD*.

**Martin X. Moleski, S. J.** is the surviving author of the 2005 Polanyi biography, *Michael Polanyi, Scientist and Philosopher*.

***Personal Knowledge At Fifty***  
**June 13-15, 2008**  
**Conference Program**

[Information on speakers, abstracts and some papers are posted on the conference program posted on the Polanyi Society web site: <http://www.missouriwestern.edu/orgs/polanyi/Loyola08/Loy08-conf-sch-6-2.htm>]

**Friday, June 13**

8:30-2:30 Trip to Polanyi Papers, Department of Special Collections, University of Chicago Library

3:00-4:30 Concurrent sessions with conference participants' papers

Session 1

Phil Mullins, "Marjorie Grene on *Personal Knowledge*"

Esther Meek, "Marjorie Grene Fifty Years Later: Stopping Short of Personhood"

Session 2

Chris Mulherin, "A Rose by Any Other Name? Personal Knowledge and Hermeneutics"

Craig Scandrett-Leatherman, "Anthropology, Polanyi, and Afropentecostal Ritual: Toward a Scientific, Personal and Social Epistemology of Participation"

4:45-6:15 Concurrent sessions with conference participants' papers

Session 1

Phil Rolnick, "Wittgenstein and Polanyi On The Concept Of The Person"

Diane Yeager, "Intellect, Hope, and Cupidity"

Session 2

Eduardo Echeverria, "Why Is Polanyi's Post-Critical Philosophy Not Post-Modernist?"

David Rutledge, "Individual and Community in a Convivial Order, or Polanyian Optimism"

6:30-7:15 Dinner

8:00-9:00 Plenary Address: Richard T. Allen, "Political Implications of Commitment"

**Saturday June 14**

7:00-8:00 Breakfast

8:30-10:00 Concurrent sessions with conference participants' papers

Session 1

Walter Gulick, "How Susanne Langer's Thought Can Augment Polanyi's Philosophy"

Charles Lowney, "The Tacit in Frege: A Defense of Michael Polanyi's Thought from within Analytic Philosophy"

Session 2

Bob Doede, "The Promise and Peril of Transhumanism: A Post-Critical Assessment"

Aaron Milavec, "Polanyi's "Cosmic Field"-Prophetic Faith or Religious Folly?"

10:00 Coffee break

10:15-11:45 Concurrent sessions with conference participants' papers

Session 1

Keith Morgan, "Does Polanyi's Tacit Knowledge Dimension Exist?"

Jere Moorman, "Hazardous Commitment in Organizational Leadership"

## Session 2

Stephen Henry, "How Can Personal Knowledge Improve Decision Making in Clinical Medicine?"

Andrew Meszaros and Catherine Quatman, "Tacit Knowledge and the Deception of Human Movement"

11:45-12:45 Lunch

1:00-2:00 David A. Peck, "Backstage: Magic, Mentorship and Tradition"

2:15-3:45 Concurrent sessions with conference participants' papers

## Session 1

Fuat Oguz, "Economists on Polanyi and Tacit Knowledge: Do We Really Mean What We Say?"

Eric Howard, "A Joint Pursuit: The Unique Epistemic Project of Friedrich Hayek and Michael Polanyi"

## Session 2

Emmanuel Dissake, "Polanyi and Popper on Scientific Objectivity: From a Critical to a Postcritical Philosophy of Science?"

Kiernan Cashell, "Making Tacit Knowing Explicit: William Poteat's Adaptation of Polanyi's Post-Critical Method"

3:45-4:15 Coffee break

4:15-6:15 Panel Discussion: "William Poteat and Michael Polanyi: An Ongoing Dialogue"

Moderator: Walter Mead

Discussants: Gus Breyspraak, Dale Cannon, Ron Hall, Robert Osborn, James Stines, and Diane Yeager

7 p.m. Banquet

Plenary Address: Richard Gelwick, "Fifty Years of Discovering *Personal Knowledge*, The Rise and Development of the Polanyi Society"

## Sunday, June 15

7:00-8:00 Breakfast

8:30-10:00 Concurrent sessions with conference participants' papers

## Session 1

Richard Haney, "The Tacit Dimension Applied to Understanding Christian Mission as Translation"

Samantha Clark, "Knowledge and Piety: Michael Polanyi, Alasdair MacIntyre, and the Epistemological Crisis of Evangelicalism"

## Session 2

Bill Kelleher, "Empathy as Method in the Social Science Writings of Michael Polanyi"

David Hiles, "Putting Heidegger, Polanyi and Popper in the Same Frame"

10:00 Coffee break

10:15-11:45 Concurrent sessions with conference participants' papers

## Session 1

Koen Swinkels, "From Republic to Market: An Austro-Libertarian Analysis of Michael Polanyi's 'The Republic of Science'"

Ted Brown, "Polanyi and the Concept of Well-ordered Science"

## Session 2

John Apczynski, "The Relevance of Personal Knowledge: Reflections on the Practices of Some Contemporary Philosophers"

11:45-12:45 Lunch