

# Tradition & Discovery

## The Polanyi Society Periodical

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# The Polanyi Society

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## Preface

This issue of *TAD* includes the plenary addresses of Mary Jo Nye and Walter Gulick given at the June 8-10, 2012 Polanyi Society-sponsored conference at Loyola University, Chicago. There are a few details about this third Loyola conference in News and Notes. Also in particular I call your attention in this section (p. 3) to the Polanyi Society Endowment challenge grant open until the end of 2012; this is an opportunity to help build the Society's resource base. Details about the fall 2012 annual meeting program (November 17, 2012 in Chicago) of the Society are in this issue. There are papers by Andrew Grosso, David Stone, and François Euvé, S.J., Professor of Theology, Center Sèvres (Paris), a physicist and theologian, who is visiting this term at Georgetown University. Dale Cannon's paper, with Jake Sherman as respondent, will apply ideas discussed in last year's treatment of Polanyi and the "Participatory Turn" to specific issues of religious practice (Sherman provided the paper in 2011 and Cannon responded). In sum, the fall annual meeting should be very interesting. In this issue is a review article by Will Stillman and a short paper by Jere Moorman on what seems to be a perennial topic that bubbles up from time to time, the matter of connections between ideas of Gregory Bateson and Michael Polanyi. There are also review articles by David Rutledge and Dale Cannon which treat the writings of Jerry Gill. Gill, an early student of William Poteat, is an unbelievably productive scholar who has been teaching more than fifty years. He briefly responds to comments from Rutledge and Cannon. Finally, there are two short reviews by Esther Meek and Ryan Pollock which treat interesting books.

Phil Mullins

*Tradition & 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. *Tradition & Discovery* is listed in the Directory of Open Access Journals and is available online at [polanyisociety.org](http://polanyisociety.org).

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## NEWS AND NOTES

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### Endowment Challenge Grant

The Polanyi Society has recently received pledges from members to match up to \$2000 in donations to the Polanyi Society Endowment; donations need to be made before January 1, 2013 to take advantage of the match. Checks should be sent directly to the Polanyi Society Treasurer, Dr. Charles Lowney (Department of Philosophy, Baker Hall 213, Washington and Lee University, Lexington, VA 24450). If membership dues and a donation are combined, please include a note indicating the amount you intend to designate as an endowment gift. Donations can also be made using PayPal which is available at the following address: <http://polanyisociety.net/paypal/donate.html>. Checks are preferred since the Society is charged for PayPal services.

The Society established an endowment fund in the fall of 2010. The purpose of the fund is to provide some regular income that can support Society projects such as the recent conference at Loyola University, Chicago. At each of the last three Loyola conferences, the Society has provided travel and/or registration scholarships for a number of younger scholars. In 2009, there was a similar program bringing graduate students to the Atlanta annual meeting to make presentations. The Polanyi Society is a frugal, low budget organization, one whose membership dues are minimal; although the Society has very limited resources, the Board of Directors has been willing to take calculated risks to sponsor programming that promotes interest in Polanyi's writings. Some Society members have been generous in donating to the very specific programs (usually advertised in *TAD*) such as the Travel Fund or the Loyola Conference Fund. Clearly, however, the long-term solution to problems such as how to support a travel and/or scholarship program for a conference is to establish a fund that will annually yield enough

income that the Board can plan the financial aspect of programs without relying so extensively on short-term fund raising. The last Treasurer's Report (included in *TAD* 38:2) indicates the August 31, 2011 balance in the Society's endowment fund was \$9950.24. We are thus in the infancy stage of building an endowment. The Board did, however, establish an Endowment Committee and that committee is now working to build this nest egg. If you are interested in making a bequest or an annual commitment to the endowment fund (such annual gifts have promoted the year-end challenge program in recent years), please contact David Rutledge ([David.Rutledge@furman.edu](mailto:David.Rutledge@furman.edu)), the President of the Polanyi Society, who currently chairs the Endowment Committee.

### Dues Payment and Address Changes

The Oct. and Feb. but not the July issue of *TAD* include a membership flyer and an addressed envelope to be used to mail annual academic year dues and/or to make donations to the Polanyi Society. US postage regulations require that **EVERY** copy of *TAD* mailed in the postage class used must weigh exactly the same. Thus, even if you pay your annual dues in October, you will, nevertheless, receive these membership materials in your February copy of *TAD*. Dues remain \$35 (\$25 for libraries and \$15 students), a bargain in the academic journal world. Except for those residing outside the US, members should pay dues with a check. The Society can no longer easily and inexpensively process credit cards. For those living outside of the U.S., there is a Pay Pal payment option on the Polanyi Society membership web page (<http://polanyisociety.net/register/join-renew.php>). Dues and donations are handled by the Polanyi Society Treasurer, Charles Lowney (Dept. of Philosophy, Baker Hall 213, Washington and Lee University, Lexington, VA 24450 USA). Phil Mullins ([mullins@missouriwestern.edu](mailto:mullins@missouriwestern.edu)) should be contacted directly for *TAD* address changes.

## Polanyi Society Speakers Bureau

The Polanyi Society's Speakers Bureau helps organize talks to groups by Polanyi scholars. Marty Moleski, S. J., and Richard Gelwick gave talks in 2010 at universities; Richard Moodey and Phil Mullins gave talks in summer of 2011 at a meeting in Gummersbach, Germany. If you know anyone who might be interested in a speaker, send the name and e-mail address to Phil Mullins ([mullins@missouriwestern.edu](mailto:mullins@missouriwestern.edu)). There is now a link on the Polanyi Society web page with general information about the Speakers Bureau. You will find there a précis of the talks given by Moleski and Gelwick. Several Society members have indicated interest in speaking on different aspects of Polanyi's thought. It is likely that the Society can arrange for someone nearby to provide a talk on a topic of interest.

## Travel Assistance For Younger Scholars Attending Polanyi Society Annual Meeting

For students and other young scholars planning to attend the November 2012 Annual Meeting in Chicago, limited travel funding is available. Society members are urged to inform worthy candidates about this assistance. Candidates and anyone who wants to nominate a potential candidate, should contact Walter Mead ([wbmead@ilstu.edu](mailto:wbmead@ilstu.edu)) who administers the travel fund. Applications must be completed no later than November 1, 2012.

Contributions to the travel fund are, of course, always welcome. Those who wish to contribute to this fall's travel program as well as anyone who wishes to explore options for an ongoing sustaining travel fund gift, should e-mail Walter Mead. Send checks directly to Charles Lowney, the Polanyi Society Treasurer (Department of Philosophy, Baker Hall 213, Washington and Lee University, Lexington, VA 24450). Donations can also be made using the link for the Pay Pal Donation Form on the membership page on the Polanyi Society web site (<http://polanyi-society.net/register/join-renew.php>). All donations are eligible for an IRS letter certifying a charitable

deduction. Related information about travel funds is available on the Polanyi Society web site ([polanyi-society.org](http://polanyi-society.org)).

## 2012 Loyola Conference Report

The Polanyi Society hosted its third Chicago conference on the thought of Michael Polanyi on June 8 to 10 of this year. Our previous conferences (2001 and 2008) were at the Loyola University, Lakeshore campus, while this one took place at the Water Tower campus downtown.

The theme of the conference was "Connections/Disconnections: Polanyi and Contemporary Concerns and Domains of Inquiry." On the opening day of the conference, eleven people went on the field trip to the Regenstein Library to work in the Papers of Michael Polanyi. There were keynote addresses by Mary Jo Nye and Walter Gulick. Richard Gelwick reminisced about his experience of working with Polanyi and Polanyians in a most pleasant conversation before the Saturday buffet banquet. Eduardo Beira arranged the first public showing since the 1940s of Polanyi's film, "Unemployment and Money," and led a lively discussion afterward. Two panels were part of the program: "Polanyi and Politics/Political Philosophy" and "Mysticism and the Tacit Dimension." There were more than 20 individual presentations on a broad array of topics in Sociology, Information Theory, Biology, Neurology, Philosophy, Theology, Aesthetics, Semiotics, Technology, Linguistics, Social Work, Political Science, and Economics. Compared to the two preceding conferences, there were more participants (44) from more countries (Australia, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Portugal, The Netherlands, Poland, and the U.S.) at this conference.

**Stephan Turner's** essay "Making the Tacit Explicit" recently appeared online in *Journal of the Theory of Social Behavior* (DOI: 10.1111/j.1468-5914.2012.00500.x) and will soon be available in the print version of the journal.

**Struan Jacobs'** article "Tradition as a Topic of Philosophical Interest in Britain in the 1940s" was published in *Journal of Philosophical Research* 37 (2012): 313-335. DOI: 10.5840/jpr20123715.

*Michael Polanyi, [Vor] Denker des Liberalismus im 20. Jahrhundert*, R. T. Allen (Hrsg.). Gumpersbach, Germany: Friedrich-Naumann-Stiftung für die Freiheit, Theodor-Heuss-Akademie, 2012. pp. 130. Richard Allen has recently edited this small volume of essays intended for readers new to Polanyi; essays are brief and footnotes are few. The eleven essays introduce principal features of Polanyi philosophy, focusing on his contributions to political, social and economic theory. These essays grew out of papers given at the Polanyi Seminar held July 28-31, 2011, at the Theodor-Heuss-Academie of the Fredrich Naumann Stiftung für die Freiheit, Gumpersbach, Germany. Authors and essay titles are: R.T. Allen, "Introduction: Michael Polanyi and his Political and Economic Writings"; Endre Nagy, "Polanyi on Liberty: Earlier Writings"; Phil Mullins, "Polanyi on 'Public Liberty' and 'Dynamic Orders'"; Simon Smith, "Authority and Practice: General and Specific Authority in Science and Society"; Viktor Genk, "On Moral Inversion"; Tihamer Margitay, "Moral Inversion: A Social Diagnosis"; Richard W. Moodey, "The From-To Structure of Political and Economic Thinking"; R. T. Allen, "A Polanyian Account of Relations between Politics and Economics"; Richard W. Moodey, "Polanyi and the Sociology of Economic Life"; Klaus-Ulrich Neumann, "The Organization of Science in Polanyi's Days and Now"; Klaus Allerbeck, "Michael Polanyi: Almost a Sociologist." For information about obtaining a copy of the book, write Corinna Schulz-Roggenkamp ([corinna.schulz-roggenkamp@freiheit.org](mailto:corinna.schulz-roggenkamp@freiheit.org)).

## 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, APA or Chicago style are 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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# 2012 Polanyi Society Annual Meeting Program

The annual meeting for the Polanyi Society for 2012 is November 17, 2012 in Chicago in conjunction with the American Academy of Religion annual meeting. There will be a morning and evening session with two papers apiece. The papers will also be posted on the Polanyi Society web site ([polanyisociety.org](http://polanyisociety.org)) by early November. Please download the papers since they will only be summarized in the sessions..

**Session I** : Saturday morning, Nov. 17th, 9 – 11:30 a.m.  
South Building, Room S502b, McCormick Place Convention Center

9:00

Andrew Grosso, Trinity Episcopal Church, Atchison, KS  
“Michael Polanyi Meets Abba Moses: Embodiment, Indwelling, and Interdisciplinarity”  
Respondent: Dick Moodey, Gannon University

10:00-10:15 Break

10:15

David Stone, Northern Illinois University  
“Realigning the Tacit and Indwelling”  
Respondent: Phil Mullins, Missouri Western State University

11:15 - Business Meeting

**Session II**: Saturday evening, Nov. 17th, 7 – 9:30 p.m.  
PDR #3, Hilton Chicago Hotel

7:00 p.m.

François Euvé, S.J., Professor of Theology, Center Sèvres (Paris)  
“Polanyi and the Renewed Dialogue between Religion and the Natural Sciences”  
Respondent: Philippe Gagnon, Université de Strasbourg

8:00-8:15 Break

8:15 p.m.

Dale Cannon, Western Oregon University  
“A Polanyian-Participatory Approach to Comparative Study of Religion: *The Questions of King Melinda* and Anselm’s *Proslogion* as Two Traditions of Religious Practice”  
Respondent: Jake Sherman, California Institute of Integral Studies

The Online Program Book is available at [http://papers.aarweb.org/program\\_book](http://papers.aarweb.org/program_book). Sessions can be located by searching for P17-107 and P-17-402.