

## PREFACE

This issue opens with Kyle Takaki's discussion of Alicia Juarerro's work in complexity theory as it might relate to Polanyi. Takaki introduces us to her thought by identifying some important points at which her work converges with Polanyi's and others on which they can learn from one another. Not only is the article interesting in its own right, but it serves as a good introduction to the featured speaker for the Saturday evening session of the 2013 annual meeting in Baltimore (see p. 4 for a copy of the program). Dr. Juarerro is Professor *Emerita* of Philosophy at Prince George Community College in Largo, MD. She received her bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees all from the University of Miami in Florida. She is an award-winning teacher and author who served on the Advisory Board of the National Endowment for the Humanities from 1992-2000. For more information, see [www.alicijuarro.com/about](http://www.alicijuarro.com/about).

Tihamér Margitay's 2010 essay, "From Epistemology to Ontology: Polanyi's Arguments for the Layered Ontology," continues to evoke response and so we also have in this issue a continuation of an earlier *TAD* forum. Charles Lowney begins the interchange in this issue by conceding Margitay's point that a simple one-to-one correspondence between knowing and being is untenable. However, he goes on to argue for more nuanced ways of reading Polanyi that he thinks can overcome Margitay's concerns. Margitay replies to Lowney by noting places where his critics are making incorrect assumptions about his views. He also expresses concern about a tendency to go to the concept of emergence as a relatively easy answer to sticky problems.

Next, we have two review articles. The first is Andrew Grosso's review of a cluster of books on the theme of personhood: Malcolm Jeeves' *Rethinking Human Nature*, J. Wentzel van Huyssteen and Erik Wiebe's *In Search of Self*, and Christian Smith's *Moral, Believing Animals*, along with his *What is a Person?* Grosso puts these authors in conversation with each other and Polanyi in suggestive ways. The second is Jon Fennell's review of Thomas Nagel's *Mind and Cosmos: Why the Materialist Neo-Darwinian Conception of Nature is Almost Certainly False*. Nagel, like Polanyi, challenges scientific orthodoxy and in this review, Fennell show how both authors might profitably learn from one another.

At least two threads run through the disparate articles in this issue. The first has to do with the complexity of reality. Whether we are talking about evolution, boundary conditions, or vector spaces, complexity comes up in a variety of ways. A second thread is that of conversation, as each of our authors points to places where a contemporary thinker and Polanyi (as well as Polanyians) can engage in fruitful conversations so that each party can learn from the other.

In other important business, we have an *update on the Poteat Conference* in News and Notes. In addition, it is *time to pay dues and raise funds* for other important projects, so please attend carefully to the information about paying dues that is found in the insert to this issue, as well as News and Notes. Readers know tacitly the good work that the Society does on modest dues, so please make your support of this work explicit. News and Notes also contains information about the *latest publications* of seven Society members. The Editorial Board has worked hard to revise the submission process and create a *style guide*, something that is par for the course for all other journals. This information is now on p. 55 of this issue and is also available at [www.polanyisociety.org](http://www.polanyisociety.org). Please read carefully the formatting instructions and note the deadlines as you submit work. We look forward to receiving your contributions to this journal. Finally, check out pp. 53-54 for *ads for books* from Mercer University Press that may be of interest—and do take note of the discount *TAD* readers are being offered.

Paul Lewis

P.S. Thanks to Phil Mullins for stepping back in to help finalize this issue as I recovery from minor surgery.