

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHIES

Gergely Bognár (M.A. Eötvös Lóránd University Faculty of Science, M.A. Pázmány Péter Catholic University Faculty of Arts, M.A. Pázmány Péter Catholic University Faculty of Religious Studies)

Mr. Bognár obtained degrees in physics (MA) at ELTE-TTK, philosophy (MA) at PPKE-BTK, and Catholic religious education (MA) at PPKE-HTK. He works in Hungary in the Religion and Science Research Group of the István Széchenyi University in Győr. He also teaches physics and philosophy at Miklós Révai High School. His main field of research is the question of the boundaries between physics, philosophy, and theology.

Alexey Burov (Ph.D. Budker Institute of Nuclear Physics, Novosibirsk)

Dr. Burov is a Senior Scientist at Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory, USA, with research focused on the beam physics. He published around 200 scientific articles and about 50 journal articles on various philosophical topics, in Russian and English languages. He is a Fellow and an Outstanding Referee of the American Physical Society, a laureate of the FQXi prize for his philosophical concept of the Pythagorean Universe. Dr. Burov is the author and the host of a weekly radio show “Science and Religion” at Russian-speaking Radio NVC, Chicago.

Antonio Colombo (M.S. Politecnico di Milano)

Antonio Colombo worked as an IT specialist for all his professional life, the first six years for the Agusta Helicopters and then for the Amdahl computer company, dealing with mainframe operating systems (MVS and Unix), system and application programming, providing customer support to various companies in Italy and abroad, including FIAT, Citroen, IVECO, CREDEM, SIA, IPSOA, Lloyd Adriatico, and the Joint Research Center of the European Community in Ispra, Italy. He met Father Jaki in 1999, and collaborated with him from 2000 to 2009, proofreading his works in English, and translating into Italian some of them, including *Questions on Science and Religion*, *Bible and Science*, and *The Ethical Foundations of Bioethics*. Colombo belongs to the ecclesial movement Communion and Liberation.

Jacquelyn Deppe (M.I. Rutgers University)

Jacquelyn Deppe is the Technical Services Archivist in the Archives and Special Collections Center at Seton Hall University. She is focused on processing the collections and cataloging rare books to facilitate better access.

Collin Doyle

Collin Doyle is a second-year undergraduate Physics student who has done research under the New Jersey Space Grant Consortium, as well as in the Archives and Special Collections here at Seton Hall University. His work with Mathematica, a computer algebra system, will be featured as a part of the Time Machines Project at the Petersheim Academic Exposition. Collin currently works in Seton Hall's Academic Resource Center as a Physics Tutor-in-Residence.

Peter J. Floriani (Ph.D. Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute)

Dr. Floriani has designed, implemented, and maintained software for several different companies over some 30 years of employment, ranging from Numerical Control and related tasks to tools for software development, and a system for local ad insertion for Cable Television. His doctoral work assisted molecular biologists by finding rRNA sequences of specified uniqueness for use in their hybridization experiments. He has written over 70 books, including some 35 on computing, science and religion, Chesterton, Jaki, and related topics. He is a student and supporter of Jaki's intellectual work.

Ryan M. Fino (M.B.A. Seton Hall University)

Ryan Fino is the technology engineer for the library at Seton Hall University. His work focuses on researching and implementing technology solutions that advance the goals of the Walsh Library. He also holds a CompTIA A+ certification as well as being Certified in Cybersecurity by the (ISC)².

Rev. Paul M. Haffner (S.T.D. Pontifical Gregorian University)

Father Haffner, a priest of the diocese of Portsmouth, UK, studied physics at Corpus Christi College, Oxford. In 1987, he defended and published his doctorate at the Gregorian University, on the relation between Creation and science in S. L. Jaki. Since 2014, he has taught online at Seton Hall University. He is president of the Stanley Jaki Foundation since 13 April 2010, and is author of over 40 books and 150 articles on philosophical and theological themes, and many of his books have been translated into other languages, including Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, and Russian.

Geir Hasnes (M.Sc. Norwegian University of Science and Technology)

Geir Hasnes is an associate professor of engineering cybernetics at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU) in Trondheim, Norway. His research is particularly dealing with the philosophical and conceptual basis for the description languages and processes of systems development, in short, with innovation. He authored a recent three-volume bibliography on G. K. Chesterton (2022) and received the American Chesterton Society's Chesterton Lifetime Award in 2006. He also assisted Fr. Jaki during his research on Sigrid Undset.

Rev. Brian Humphrey (S.T.L. Pontifical University of the Holy Cross)

Born in Elyria, Ohio, the Rev. Humphrey is a priest of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. Before being ordained, Fr. Humphrey received an A.S. in Recording Engineering from Full Sail University in Florida and moved to Los Angeles where he worked for fifteen years in the music business as a producer and engineer. He received his B.A. in Theology from Cloverdale College in Indiana and his M. Div. and M.A. from St. John's Seminary in California. He received his S.T.L. in Dogmatic Theology from Santa Croce in Rome and is currently a doctoral student in the same specialization. His research focuses on Trinitarian theology as well as theological anthropology and wisdom in Augustine, Thomas, and Hans Urs von Balthasar.

Rev. Joseph R. Laracy (S.T.D. Pontifical Gregorian University)

Father Laracy is a priest of the Archdiocese of Newark and assistant professor of systematic theology at Seton Hall University. He also teaches in the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, the Program in Catholic Studies, the Core Curriculum, and the University Honors Program. He earned his doctorate from the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome, his master's degree from MIT, and his bachelor's degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Along with Father Haffner, he is the editor of the *Acts of the 2015 Jaki Congress*. Father Laracy is also the author of *Theology and Science in the Thought of Ian Barbour: A Thomistic Evaluation for the Catholic Doctrine of Creation* (Peter Lang, 2020).

John M. Long (Ph.D. Monash University)

Dr. Long is a senior lecturer in physics and engineering at Deakin University in Geelong, Australia. He has undergraduate qualifications in physics and philosophy from University of Michigan-Flint, and originally trained with General Motors Corporation in materials testing. His research includes engineering applications of advanced materials as well as education in engineering and science. He is co-editor-in-chief of the *International Journal on Innovations in Online Education*. A member of both the Society of Catholic Scientists and ISCAST Australia, he has studied Fr. Jaki's writings for over 30 years.

Rev. Zachary Mabee (Ph.D. University of Reading)

Fr. Mabee is Instructor of Philosophy and Director of the College Propaedeutic Stage of formation at Sacred Heart Major Seminary (Detroit, MI). He is also Pastor of St. Joseph Shrine (Brooklyn, MI). Fr. Mabee earned a licentiate degree in fundamental theology from the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome and a doctorate in philosophy from the University of Reading in the UK.

Samantha R. Mattheiss (Ph.D. Rutgers University)

Dr. Mattheiss is an assistant professor of psychology at Felician University. Her current research focuses on self-transcendent emotions, moral beauty, and academic flourishing amongst first-generation college students. Her work is inspired by lived experiences including serving as a Salesian Lay Missionary in Bolivia and living in Catholic communities in Philadelphia, PA. She has published in scholarly journals such as *Cerebral Cortex* and *Frontiers in Psychology*, and has presented at national conferences such as the Society of Catholic Scientists.

Jordan M. Miller (Ph.D. Fordham University)

Dr. Miller is a Core Fellow at Seton Hall University, teaching in the University's Core Curriculum. His background is in Catholic systematic theology, and in addition to teaching at Seton Hall he has also taught courses at Fordham University, St. Peter's University, and the Pontifical John Paul II Institute for Studies on Marriage and Family at the Catholic University of America.

Braden Molhoek (Ph.D. Graduate Theological Union)

Braden Molhoek is Director of the Center for Theology and the Natural Sciences and the Ian G. Barbour Assistant Professor of Theology, Science, Ethics, and Technology at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley California. Double majoring in Religion and Genetics at Ohio Wesleyan University led him to put together his interests in science and religion. His research interests include virtue ethics, theological anthropology, gene editing, artificial intelligence, and the ethical and theological implications of emerging technology. He is a Fellow of the International Society for Science and Religion and is currently Program Director for two CTNS grants: "Virtuous Ai?: Cultural Evolution, Artificial Intelligence, and Virtue" funded by the John Templeton Foundation and "Science, Technology, and the Environment: Exploring Implications for Science and Religion in the Bay Area and Beyond," funded by the DoSER Program of AAAS.

Jeffrey L. Morrow (Ph.D. University of Dayton)

Dr. Morrow is a professor of theology at Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology at Seton Hall University. His research focuses on the history of modern biblical interpretation. He is co-editor of the *Verbum Domini* book series (Catholic University of America Press), a member of La Société Internationale d'Études sur Alfred Loisy, and author or co-author of 10 books including *Alfred Loisy and Modern Biblical Studies* (2019).

Iain Morton

Iain Morton is a fourth year physics and mathematics undergraduate at Seton Hall University. Deeply interested in research in theoretical physics, Iain has pursued research under NASA's New Jersey Space Grant Consortium, Texas A&M's Cyclotron Institute for the Nuclear Sciences, research in optical physics, and the California Institute of Technology's study in gravitational waves. His work has led to presentations at Seton Hall, Brookhaven National Laboratory, and Texas A&M. Iain is also interested in discussing works related to mathematical Platonism.

Rev. Brian K. Muzas (Ph.D. The University of Texas at Austin)

Father Muzas is an assistant professor of diplomacy and international relations at Seton Hall University (SHU), South Orange, NJ. His research interests include international security, defense systems, and ethics. He serves as an international peace and security expert for the Permanent Observer Mission of the Holy See to the United Nations (UN), treasurer of UN civil society's Global NGO Executive Committee (GNEC), and director of SHU's Center for UN and Global Governance Studies. Father Muzas is also the faculty adviser of both SHU's Black Diplomacy Student Organization (BDSO) and the campus chapter of the United Nations Association (UNA-SHU).

Sarah Ponichtera (Ph.D. Columbia University)

Sarah Ponichtera is the Assistant Dean for Special Collections and the Gallery at Seton Hall University. Her PhD is in Germanic Languages, with a concentration in Comparative Literature. Recent research has focused on social media archiving, archival project management, and accessibility in archives.

Biff Rocha (Ph.D. University of Dayton)

Dr. Rocha is an independent scholar in Ohio who works primarily in the area of the history of catechesis and of Catholicism in the U.S. during the 19th century. He is a member of the Academy of Catholic Theology, the American Catholic Historical Association, and the American Society of Church History. He is a co-author of *A Catholic Guide to the Old Testament* (2024) from Ascension Press.

Rev. João Paulo C. F. Santiago, CSJ

A native of Brazil, Father João Paulo is a religious of the Community of St. John (Frères de Saint-Jean). He completed his philosophical and theological studies for ordination at the École Saint-Jean, France. He is currently pursuing an MA in Theology with a concentration in Systematic Theology from Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology, Seton Hall University, where he also serves on the Campus Ministry Staff. His research focuses on the meaning of Christian suffering in Thomas Aquinas.

Stacy Trasancos (Ph.D. Pennsylvania State University)

Stacy Trasancos has a Ph.D. in chemistry, a M.A. in dogmatic theology, and will complete a M.A. in systematic philosophy this summer. She is the author of *Particles of Faith: A Catholic Guide to Navigating Science* and has worked the last decade to share Fr. Jaki's teaching with the next generation. Dr. Trasancos is an adjunct faculty member in the Catholic Studies program at Seton Hall University.

Alexei Tselik (Ph.D. Kurchatov Institute for Atomic Energy, Moscow)

Dr. Tselik is a Senior Scientist at Brookhaven National Laboratory, USA; his scientific research focuses on the quantum field theory. He published around 250 scientific articles and 5 books; he is a laureate of Alexander von Humboldt prize in theoretical physics, a Fellow and an Outstanding Referee of the American Physical Society.