

The Ecumenical, Theological, and Interdisciplinary Symposium

2015: Cultural Transparency and the Loss of Privacy in the Era of Digital Technology: How Is This Shaping Our Becoming and the Ethical Dilemmas Related to It

2014: Remembering Peace: Justice, and Forgiveness in a Time of War

2013: Vivat Academia! How Post-Modern Rhetoric Shapes Our Understanding of Modern and Pre-Modern Values

2012: Time, Place and Self in Interdisciplinary Narratives

2011: Alienation and Authenticity in Environments of the 21st Century: Technology, Person and Transcendence

2010: Meaning and Mystery: From the Philosophy of Knowledge to the Theology of Person

2009: Religion and Politics: The Human Society between the Power of God and the Power of Man

2008: Cult and Culture: The Transcendental Roots of Human Civilization

2007: Theology and Literature: The Deification of Imagination and Its Cathartic Function in Spiritual Growth

2006: The Glory of Knowledge: Construction and Deconstruction. When Human Quest Ends in Apophasis

2005: Unity in Diversity: Can We Live Together in an Apocalyptic World?

2004: Globalization from A (Archeology) to S (Spirituality): What Is It and Who Needs It?

2003: Science and Theology: New Challenges and Perspectives

2002: Contemporary Culture in the Light of Christian Spirituality at the Beginning of the Third Millennium. The Secular Realities and Spiritual Perspectives

2001: Prayer as Theology of the Mind and of the Heart for the Humanity in the New Millennium

2000: Humanity in the Third Millennium and the Mystery of the Divine

1999: Jesus Christ as the Theandric Paradigm of Man's Restoration at the Dawn of the Third Millennium

1998: The Theological Legacy of Fr. Dumitru Staniloae and its Ecumenical Actuality

1997: Rediscovering God: The Relation between God and Man and its Significance for our Life Today

1996: Freedom and Responsibility in Contemporary Society

1995: Divine Creation and Human Responsibility in the Context of Contemporary Ecological Preoccupations

1994: Quo Vadis Homo? Salvation and the Modern World

1993: Worship and Identity in our Contemporary Society



THE ACADEMY OF ROMANIAN SCIENTISTS

Splaiul Independentei 54, Sector 5
050094 Bucharest, Romania
tel. +40-21-314 7491, www.aos.ro
USA: 30-18 50th Street, Woodside,
NY 11377, Tel. (718) 626-6013,
Theodor Damian, PhD, US Branch president
DamianTh@aol.com,



THE ROMANIAN INSTITUTE OF ORTHODOX THEOLOGY AND SPIRITUALITY

30-18 50th Street, Woodside, NY 11377,
Tel. (718) 626-6013, DamianTh@aol.com
Theodor Damian, Ph.D., president



METROPOLITAN COLLEGE OF NEW YORK Audrey Cohen School for Human Services and Education

60 West Street
New York, NY 10006
Tel. (212) 343-1234, aweiner@metropolitan.edu
Adele Weiner, PhD, Dean

PROGRAM

*The XXIVth Ecumenical Theological
and Interdisciplinary Symposium*

**Knowledge and Enchantment:
A World without Mystery?**

Saturday, December 3rd, 2016
10:00 AM

Metropolitan College of New York
60 West Street, New York, NY 10006
Commons on First Floor
Subway: Rector Street on R or 1,
Wall Street on 4 or 5 trains

Adele Weiner, PhD

Dean of Audrey Cohen School for Human Services and Education,
Metropolitan College of New York
Enchantment and Technology

Theodor Damian, PhD

Professor of Philosophy and Ethics,
Metropolitan College of New York;
President of the Romanian Institute of Orthodox Theology and Spirituality:
Sing a New Song to the World: The Never Ending Enchantment

Humphrey Crookendale, JD

Dean of School for Public Affairs and Administration,
Metropolitan College of New York
Does Knowledge Mask Truth and Reality?

Richard Grallo, PhD

Professor of Applied Psychology,
Metropolitan College of New York:
Epictetus in the City

Louis Tietje, PhD

Professor of Ethics,
Metropolitan College of New York:
Equality of Opportunity and Social Justice

Doru Tsaganea, PhD

Professor of Mathematics,
Metropolitan College of New York
From this Enchantment to Re-enchantment in Theoretical Physics

Alina Feld, PhD

Affiliate Faculty at the General Theological Seminary, New York
David G. Leahy's Novitas Mundi: The Good News of a World Renewed

David Rosner

Associate Professor of Values and Ethics,
Metropolitan College of New York:
The Artificial Enchantment of the World

GUESTS OF HONOR:

Vinton Thompson, PhD

President of Metropolitan College of New York

His Eminence Nicolae Condrea, PhD

Metropolitan of the Romanian Orthodox Archdiocese in the Americas

MODERATOR:

Humphrey Crookendale, JD

Dean, School for Public Affairs and Administration,
Metropolitan College of New York

DISCUSSANT:

David Rosner

Associate Professor of Values and Ethics,
Metropolitan College of New York

“SPIRITUS” ART GALLERY

(Director **Viorica Colpacci**)

Works by Viorica Colpacci and other artists from the US and Romania

Knowledge and Enchantment

It appears that knowledge has an epictatic dimension just like the endless progression of one's enjoyment in the divine communion in God's kingdom. Yet one of the beauties of the world consists of its enchantment that is related to its mystery.

Do we enchant the world or is the world enchanting us? Who sings to whom? We sing to the world when we celebrate its beauty and mystery, and the world sings to us from cradle to tomb when it envelopes us with the sound of the wind, of leaves and waves and of the stars.

And is knowledge an attempt to take the veil away, to desecrate the world's mystery and beauty, its silence, or is it an attempt to better understand it in order to celebrate it more appropriately?

This topic invites such kind of questions and many others from different disciplines that complement each other and that together can help us adopt a better and more adequate position *coram mundo* and *coram Deo*.

Th.D.