

# 科学

# 哲学

# 信仰

## INITIATIVE

Calvin College and The Society of Christian Philosophers (SCP) announce a major, three-year initiative for Chinese scholars to reflect on the relationship between science, philosophy and belief. This initiative, which receives major support from the John Templeton Foundation, will include a variety of projects:

An intensive seminar at Calvin College in the summer of 2008 for selected Chinese scholars, in conversation with some of the leading Western experts in this field.

A major academic conference at a Chinese university in the summer of 2009, at which the seminar participants present papers they have prepared, alongside SCP members.

A volume of essays drawn from the conference, published by a Chinese university press.

A three-year series of lectures and seminars in China taught by visiting SCP scholars.

A program of visiting fellowships for Chinese postgraduate students at Baylor University, University of Notre Dame, Calvin College, and Hope College; and, for junior faculty, a year of study at Notre Dame, Baylor and Calvin.

A program of book distribution for Chinese seminar participants and universities hosting SCP programs.

## SUMMER SEMINAR

A four-week faculty development seminar for Chinese professors and postgraduate students will be held at Calvin College in the summer of 2008. The seminar will involve Alvin Plantinga (University of Notre Dame), John Polkinghorne (Cambridge University), Owen Gingerich (Harvard University) and Richard Swinburne (Oxford University).

This seminar will consider historical and contemporary philosophical conceptions of science, the role of philosophy and theology in the rise of modern science, and historical and contemporary approaches to science/religion relationships. Instruction will be in English.

Each participant will begin research on a related scholarly paper. We will pair Chinese and Western scholars to continue working on these papers. A selection of these papers will be presented at a followup conference in China to be held spring 2009.

Participants: Sixteen Chinese professors plus six Chinese graduate students with relevant interests. Interested professors should email a Curriculum Vitae, writing sample, letter of recommendation and permission from their department chair, and a two-page expression of interest or project description to [drom@calvin.edu](mailto:drom@calvin.edu) by January 1, 2008. Successful applicants will be notified by February 1, 2008. Students will be admitted on an invitation only basis.

This program will fund all travel and seminar expenses, and provide books and other gifts for all participants.

## RANGE OF TOPICS

This initiative aims to support an ongoing conversation between Chinese scholars and their western colleagues about the relation between science, philosophy and belief. The conversation will begin with a seminar in North America and a conference in China. The range of possible topics for discussion is wide, as the list below indicates.

Sociobiology	Emotion and Cognition
Neurology and Culture	Science and Spirituality
Evolution and Morality	Evolution and Religious Belief
The Cognitive Science of Religion	Miracles
Evolution and Social Cooperation	Scientific Reasoning
Evolution and Purpose	Origins of Modern Science
Environmental Ethics	Science and Determinism
Bioethics	Realism/Anti-Realism
The Origin of the Universe	
The Fine-Tuning Argument	
The Cosmic Anthropic Principle	<i>Comparing Western views on any of the above topics with, for example, Confucianism, Daoism or Buddhism</i>
Physics and Meaning	
Human Nature	
Free Will	
Philosophy of Mind	

*This list is not exhaustive but it merely intended to be suggestive of the wide range of topics in the field of science and belief.*

# Science, Philosophy, Belief Summer Seminar

Calvin College  
23 June – 18 July 2008

## PROGRAM DIRECTOR

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## SEMINAR DIRECTORS

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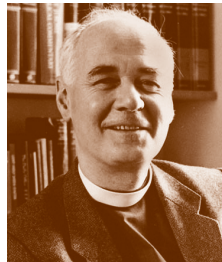
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Complete application instructions may be  
found at: [www.chinascienceandbelief.org](http://www.chinascienceandbelief.org)



### Dr. Alvin Plantinga

Alvin Plantinga is a contemporary American philosopher known for his work in epistemology, metaphysics, and the philosophy of religion. His current position is John A. O'Brien Professor of Philosophy at the University of Notre Dame. He gave the 2004–5 Gifford Lectures at St. Andrews University, titled *Science and Religion: Conflict or Concord?* (forthcoming).



### Sir John Polkinghorne

John Polkinghorne, former president of Queens College, Cambridge, worked as a theoretical elementary particle physicist and then a mathematical physics professor at Cambridge University. He was awarded the 2002 Templeton Prize for progress in religion. He is the author of *The Faith of the Physicist*, *Belief in God in an Age of Science*, and *Faith, Science and Understanding*.



### Dr. Owen Gingerich

Owen Gingerich is senior astronomer emeritus at the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory and Research Professor of Astronomy and History of Science at Harvard University. He is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the American Philosophical Society. His books include *The Great Copernicus Chase: And Other Adventures in Astronomical History* and *The Eye of Heaven: Ptolemy, Copernicus, Kepler*.



### Dr. Richard Swinburne

Richard Swinburne is Emeritus Nolloth Professor of the Philosophy of the Christian Religion, University of Oxford and Emeritus Fellow of Oriel College, Oxford. He is also a Fellow of the British Academy. Swinburne is the author of fifteen books including *Space and Time*, *Epistemic Justification*, *An Introduction to Confirmation Theory*, and *The Existence of God*.

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