

Announcements

Institute on Religion in an Age of Science

The Thirty-Ninth Annual Star Island Conference

Saturday, 25 July, to Saturday, 1 August, 1992

Global Ecology and Human Destiny

Is human civilization—even humanity itself—approaching extinction?

Human beings are inescapably dependent on a nurturing and sustaining global environment. There is growing awareness that human activity is altering this environment in irreversible ways that threaten the continuation of many forms of life on Earth. Increasing scientific knowledge is focusing widespread attention on the possible, far-reaching consequences of the depletion of nonrenewable resources, the greenhouse effect and global warming, loss of arable land and the destruction of rain forests, increased rate of species extinction, and ozone layer depletion. However, there still is needed more high-level, integrated thinking that considers the social, moral, and religious dimensions of the current crisis situation.

The 1992 IRAS Star Island Conference will bring a diversity of natural and social scientific, philosophical, and religious perspectives to bear on questions such as the following:

1. What is being predicted about what the future will bring? What are the bases for and reliability of current predictions regarding the continuation or demise of various life forms, humanity, and civilization?

2. Considering a diversity of viewpoints, what visions of how people ought to live should be projected for people today and future generations? How can conflicting visions be reconciled, and how can questions of equity and justice be resolved?

3. How must human ways of living be changed in order to achieve fulfilled lives in life-promoting interaction with the environment? How can proposed changes in behavior be carried out in light of current—or reformed—political and economic systems?

4. What institutional resources—religious, political, legal, economic, scientific, and technological—are available to facilitate changes in behavior, so as to allow for the realization of values that ensure a promising human destiny that also is good for the Earth?

Speakers include: Barry Allen, environmental economics, Rollins College; Frederick Ferre, philosophy, University of Georgia; Thomas Gilbert, physics, risk analysis, Chicago Center for Religion and Science;

[*Zygon*, vol. 27, no. 1 (March 1992).]

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Lora Gross, religious studies, Pacific Lutheran University; Rodney Holmes, neural physiology, University of Chicago; Solomon Katz, biological anthropology, University of Pennsylvania; Paul Lutz, biology, University of North Carolina; Karl Peters, philosophy of religion, Rollins College; Holmes Rolston, environmental ethics, Colorado State University; and Sharon Stein, psychology, McLean Hospital, Belmont, Mass.

Chaplain: Leslie Kawamura, Buddhist Studies, University of Calgary.

Co-chairs: Nancy Anschutz, The MITRE Corporation; and Karl E. Peters, Rollins College.

IRAS Seminar

At the 1992 Star Island Conference, IRAS will inaugurate the IRAS Seminar. Held from 3:30 to 5:00 each afternoon, the seminar is designed to be an extended discussion of recent work by an IRAS thinker. For 1992 the focus will be on the new book manuscript by Philip Hefner, *The Human Factor: Evolution, Culture, Technology and Religion in Theological Perspective*. Anyone interested in participating in the seminar discussions will be asked to purchase and read this book in advance. There also will be room for observers.

Registration fees: Adults, \$95; young people between 5 and 16, \$60; children under 5, free. There will be a youth program for ages 5-16. Fees, less 20 %, are refundable if registration is canceled before 1 June. Room and board payable on the island.

Registration forms and further information available from
Mrs. Bonnie Falla, Registrar, 810- $\frac{1}{2}$ North Ninth Street
Allentown, PA 18102. Tel: 215-432-8711

Call for Manuscripts

The Bertrand Russell Society, Inc.

The Bertrand Russell Society announces a call for papers to be presented at its meeting with the Eastern Division of the American Philosophical Association in December 1992. Papers may be on any aspect of Russell's philosophy. They should have a reading time of about half an hour and should be submitted in triplicate, typed and double-spaced, with an abstract of not more than 150 words. The name and address of the author and the title of the paper should be submitted on a separate page. The submission deadline is 1 April 1992, and the papers should be sent to David E. Johnson, Chair, Philosopher's Committee, The Bertrand Russell Society, Sampson Hall, 107 Maryland Avenue, U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD 21402-5044. Those desiring the return of their papers should enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope.