

# Announcements

## IRAS

The Institute on Religion in an Age of Science

**Purpose**—IRAS is an independent society of scientists, philosophers, religion scholars, theologians, and others who want to understand the role of religion in our dynamic scientific world.

**Activities**—Each year IRAS holds a week-long conference on Star Island, 10 miles off the coast of Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Topics are selected to be relevant to current scientific thinking and to fundamental religious questions. (IRAS members pay a reduced rate for conference registration.)

IRAS organizes events at the annual meetings of the American Academy of Religion (AAR) and the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). IRAS has sponsored more than 250 meetings at universities, colleges, and theological schools.

**Publications**—*Zygon: Journal of Religion and Science*, *IRAS Newsletter*, and *Science & Religion News*. IRAS members receive subscriptions to these three publications free of additional charge.

**Special Relationships**—Affiliated Society, American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS); Member, Council of Societies for the Study of Religion (CSSR).

### Membership Dues

\$50.00 Individual Member

\$55.00 Joint Member (two memberships but one set of publications)

\$30.00 Student Member (requires copy of student ID)

\$100.00 Institutional Member (supports IRAS's work: \$47.50 is tax deductible)

Overseas members will be assessed a surcharge to cover mailing costs.

**Invitation to Join**—If you are in accord with the purposes of IRAS and would like to become a member, please submit an application to the IRAS Council, which reviews and votes on applications at biannual meetings in February and July. For an application write to:

Nancy Anschuetz, 26 Turning Mill Road, Lexington, MA 02173

[*Zygon*, vol. 29, no. 1 (March 1994).]

© 1994 by the Joint Publication Board of *Zygon*. ISSN 0591-2385

**Institute on Religion in an Age of Science**  
The Forty-First Annual Star Island Conference  
Saturday, July 30 to Saturday, August 6, 1994

**Knowledge Most Worth Having in the Decade of the Brain**

When the President and Congress designated the nineties "The Decade of the Brain," they recognized not only the tremendous advances being made in the neurosciences, but also that this new information speaks directly to core questions of our society: What are the sources of the self, and what confers meaning and worth on individual lives?

A pluralistic society interested in the brain comes with its own goals, preconceptions, and values. The best way for neuroscience to illuminate the most profound questions of what it means to be human is not to negate these goals, preconceptions, and values, but somewhat to reintegrate them with those of the time in which we must negotiate authentic lives.

Neuroscience in the past twenty years has taken great strides toward helping us understand ourselves. We have begun exploring new horizons of knowledge and potential therapies using transplants and grafts into the human brain. We are learning the nature and causes of severe depression and schizophrenia. This progress offers help and restores hope for many. It also affects deeply held human values, and is transforming our self-understanding.

The conference will focus on topics that are central to both modern neuroscience and modern society, and will present current information and perspectives on them by recognized scientists, theologians, and ethicists. Speakers and topics include:

Terrence Deacon, Neurobiologist, McLean Hospital

Larry Greenfield, Theologian, Park Ridge Center for the Study of Health, Faith and Ethics

Anne Harrington, Historian of Science, Harvard University

Robin Lovin, Theological Ethicist, Dean of the Theological School, Drew University

Mary Mahowald, Biomedical Ethicist, University of Chicago

Sue Savage-Rumbaugh, Primatologist, Yerkes Primate Center and Georgia State University

Duane Rumbaugh, Primatologist, Yerkes Primate Center and Georgia State University

John Sladek, Director of the Neuroscience Institute, Chicago Medical School

**REGISTRATION FEES**

IRAS member adult \$85; nonmember adult, \$100; registration plus new IRAS membership, \$135; registration plus new joint IRAS membership (two adults), \$225; young people between five and sixteen, \$60, including youth program; children under five, free, or, with optional child-care program, \$60. Student scholarships are available. Fees less 20 percent are refundable if registration is canceled before June 1, 1994. Room and board are payable on the island.

*Registration forms and further information available from:*  
Mrs. Bonnie Falla, Registrar, 810 1/2 North 9th Street,  
Allentown, PA 18102. Telephone (215) 432-8711.

[*Zygon*, vol. 29, no. 1 (March 1994).]

© 1994 by the Joint Publication Board of *Zygon*. ISSN 0591-2385