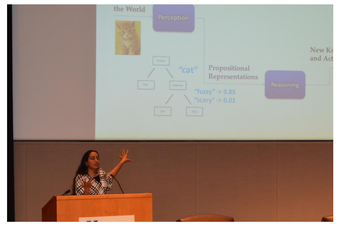
The AAAS Dialogue on Science, Ethics, and Religion (DoSER) Program: Linking science and technology to the cultures, interests, and values of broader publics

American Association for the Advancement of Science

The DoSER program was established in 1995 to facilitate constructive dialogue between scientific and religious communities. The program builds on AAAS' commitment to relate scientific knowledge and technological developments to the interests and concerns of society at large.



(Left) Facilitated discussion between scientists and religious leaders as part of a DoSER Perceptions workshop.
(Center) Dr. Maithilee Kunda speaking at the 2017 DoSER Holiday Lecture, "Of Minds and Machines."
(Right) Geneticist and ordained priest Dr. Nicanor Austriaco speaking at DoSER's "Gene Editing and Human Identity" symposium at the 2018 AAAS Annual Meeting.

Events and Public Programs

Public Lectures

Of Minds and Machines: What Artificial Intelligence Tells Us About Ourselves (2017)

Advancing Together: Cooperation and Creativity in Human Evolution (2016)

Did My Brain Make Me Do It? Neuroscience and Morality (2014)

AAAS Annual Meeting Symposia

Gene Editing and Human Identity: Promising Advances and Ethical Challenges (2018)

Religious Support for the Paris Agreement on Climate Change (2017)

SXSW Symposium

Life Emerging in an Ancient Universe (2018)

Recent Projects

Perceptions (2012 – 2015)

Investigated perceptions that scientific and religious communities have of one another. The project outputs included community workshops for scientists and religious leaders, a national survey, a national conference, and a discussion starter booklet (*Same World, Different Worldviews*).

Bringing Forefront Science to Religion Reporters (2016 – 2018)

Offered science enrichment opportunities to journalists reporting on religion and culture. Stories drawn from project activities have appeared in *The Atlantic*, *The Washington Post*, *Sojourners, The Salt Lake Tribune*, and on CBS News, among other venues.

Active Project: Science for Seminaries (2014 –)

Goal

Support theological institutions in incorporating forefront science into their core curricula.

Activities

-Curriculum development meetings and faculty enrichment retreats with scientists and theologians

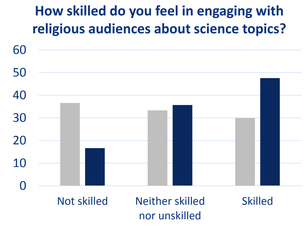
-Science enrichment activities on- and off-campus (e.g., lab visits, guest lectures, film screenings)

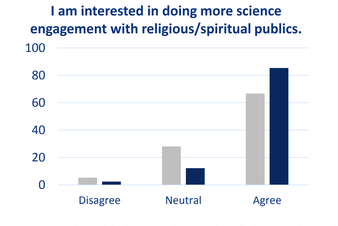
Outputs

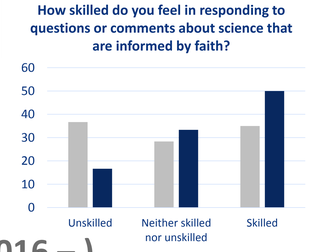
-*Science: the Wide Angle* film series

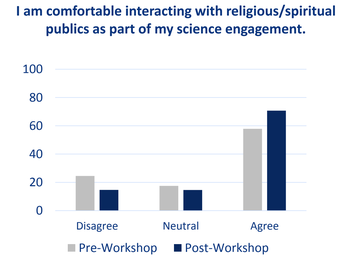
-More than 116 syllabi and course materials across 10 institutions incorporate new science content; more than 77 project events (as of Phase I)

(Above) Workshop and presentations by Drs. Gregg Davidson and Leandra Swanner at our poster symposia at the 2017 American Geophysical Union Annual Meeting.
(Right) Self-reported impacts on participants from the Engaging Scientists Workshop ($n=61_{pre}$, $n=45_{post}$).









Active Project: Engaging Scientists (2016 –)

Goal

Support scientists in becoming effective ambassadors for science in their classrooms and in engagement activities with diverse publics, especially with religious individuals and communities.

Activities

-Workshops, symposia and other programming at academic society meetings (ongoing)

-Campus events w/award competitions for science engagement with religious publics (forthcoming)

Outputs

-Booklet Series

Scientists in Civic Life: Promoting a New Dialogue-Based Culture (in press)

Science Engagement with Religious Publics: Strategies and Case Studies (in development)

-Online resources (in development)