



Notre Dame Institute for  
**ADVANCED STUDY**

## **Templeton Colloquium at the NDIAS: The Invisible Aspects of Human Evolution**

**Monday, April 14, 2014, 2:00pm**

**“The Origin of Religion”**

### **Session Moderator:**



**Susan Sheridan** is Associate Professor of Anthropology at the University of Notre Dame. She is a biological anthropologist who specializes in the reconstruction of ancient diet and disease patterns, with particular interests in daily activities, interpersonal violence, childhood health and adaptability, and migration. Regions of interest include the ancient Near East, Sudanese Nubia, and the American Southwest. With DP Van Gerven, Professor Sheridan is the co-editor of *The Bioethnography of a Classic Hohokam Population: Nutrition, Health, and Disease at Pueblo Grande* (1994) and numerous publications in journals such as the *International Journal of Osteoarchaeology*, *American Anthropologist*, the *Journal of Anthropological Archaeology*, the *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*, and *Human*

*Evolution*. She is one of the lead researchers for the osteological component of the Dead Sea Plain Project, an ongoing excavation that has investigated the way people lived and died in the world's earliest walled towns more than 3,000 years ago on the southeastern shore of the Dead Sea. She has also worked with remains from Qumran associated with the Dead Sea Scrolls, and is currently writing a book about the community at the largest monastery in Byzantine Jerusalem.

### **Session Rapporteur:**



**Neil Arner** is an Assistant Professor of Moral Theology at the University of Notre Dame. He has degrees in mathematics, biology, philosophy, and theology from the Georgia Institute of Technology, Princeton Theological Seminary, Yale Divinity School, and Yale University. He specializes in moral and philosophical theology and his work in fundamental moral theology focuses on the integration of natural-law and divine-command approaches to morality, the relevance of historical sources for contemporary theology, the potential for ecumenical and interreligious collaboration in addressing common moral conundrums, and theological appropriations of biological studies of morality. He is currently at work on a book project that defends

the coherence of the integrated natural-law and divine-command theories of John Duns Scotus, John Calvin, and Samuel Pufendorf.