Mind, Soul, World: Consciousness in Nature

“Can Consciousness Evolve or Emerge from Matter?”
Monday, March 14, 2016 – Afternoon Session (2:00 to 3:30 p.m.)

Moderator

Celia Deane-Drummond is Professor of Theology and founding Director of the Center for Theology, Science and Human Flourishing at the University of Notre Dame. She holds a doctorate in plant physiology as well as a doctorate in systematic theology. Her research focuses on the engagement of systematic and moral theology and the biological and social sciences. Professor Deane-Drummond is the author or editor of twenty five books, including Creation Through Wisdom (2000); The Ethics of Nature (2004); Genetics and Christian Ethics (2006); Future Perfect (ed. with Peter Scott, 2006); Ecotheology (2008); Christ and Evolution (2009); Religion and Ecology in the Public Sphere (2011) (ed. with Heinrich Bedford-Strohm); Animals as Religious Subjects (2013) (ed. with David Clough and Becky Artinian Kaiser (2013; The Wisdom of the Liminal (2014); Technofutures, Nature and the Sacred (2015) (ed with Sigurd Bergmann and Bronislaw Szerszynski) and more than one hundred and forty book chapters, academic articles and popular articles on topics related to her research interests. She is also currently Chair of the European Forum for the Study of Religion and Environment and is Visiting Professor in theology and science at the University of Durham (United Kingdom).

Presenters

Stephen R. L. Clark is Professor Emeritus from Liverpool University. His research interests include the philosophy of Plotinus, especially in relation to ethical, political and theological theory; the treatment and understanding of non-human animals; G.K Chesterton; and the philosophy of religion. He is the author of 18 books and more than 200 articles, book chapters and other shorter scholarly works, as well as several edited works including Philosophy as a Way of Life, with Michael McGhee and Michael Chase (2013) and Late Antique Epistemology: Other Ways to Truth, with Panayota Vassilopoulou (2009). His most recent books include: Plotinus: Myth, Metaphor and Philosophical Practice (forthcoming, 2016), Ancient Mediterranean Philosophy (2013), Philosophical Futures (2011); Understanding

Michael Hanby is Associate Professor of Religion and Philosophy of Science at the John Paul II Institute in Washington, D.C. He is the author of Augustine and Modernity (2003), a re-reading of Augustine's Trinitarian theology and a protest against the contemporary argument for continuity between Augustine and Descartes, and No God, No Science?: Theology, Cosmology, Biology, a reassessment of the relationship between the doctrine of creation, Darwinian evolutionary biology, and science. Professor Hanby is also the author of chapters in numerous volumes articles appearing in Communio, First Things, Modern Theology, Pro Ecclesia, and Theology Today. In 2001, he was named Arthur J. Ennis Fellow in the Humanities at Villanova University.