



Notre Dame Institute for
ADVANCED STUDY

The Impact of Laughter and Humor in History and Today's Digitized World

“The Evolution and Development of Humor”

Thursday, April 7, 2016 – Mid-Morning Session (11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.)

Moderator



Donald L. Stelluto is Associate Director of the Notre Dame Institute for Advanced Study. He received his Ph.D. in U.S. constitutional history from the University of Maryland, College Park and he specializes in U.S. constitutional history and the nineteenth century, with a focus on the American Civil War era. Dr. Stelluto is the author of several articles on western legal history, the American South, and the Civil War era, and co-editor, with Vittorio Hösle, of *The Idea of a Catholic Institute for Advanced Study*. His current project, “*A light that reveals its true meaning*,” is a book-length examination of legal and constitutional developments in the mid-19th century South. He is the project leader and a member of a team awarded a \$1.58 million research award in 2012 from the John Templeton Foundation.

Presenters

Greg Bryant is a cognitive psychologist and an associate professor in the Department of Communication Studies at the University of California, Los Angeles. His research is interdisciplinary and focused on the evolution of communication and social behavior, especially ways that acoustic structure in vocalizations is shaped by communicative goals. In his work, he examines a variety of vocal phenomena across diverse cultures including infant-directed speech, vocal emotion, laughter, and perceptions of physical strength. He is the author of more than 35 journal articles, book chapters, and other scholarly writings. He was awarded a Paul S. Veneklasen Research Foundation grant (2012) and currently serves on the editorial boards of *Frontiers in Evolutionary Psychology and Neuroscience* and *Metaphor and Symbol*.





Darcia Narvaez is Professor of Psychology at the University of Notre Dame. Her research explores questions of moral cognition and moral development over the lifespan in multiple contexts (e.g., family, school). She examines how early life experience influences moral functioning and moral character in children and adults. She integrates neurobiological, clinical, developmental and education sciences in her theories and research about moral development. She is the author of *Neurobiology and the Development of Human Morality: Evolution, Culture and Wisdom* (2014) , for which she won the 2015 William James Book Award from the American Psychological Association, and co-editor of *Evolution, Early Experience and Human Development: From Research to Practice and Policy* (with J. Panksepp, A. Schore, and T. Gleason, eds., 2013); *Ancestral Landscapes in Human Evolution: Culture, Childrearing and Social Wellbeing* (with K. Valentino, A. Fuentes, J. McKenna, and P. Gray, 2014); and *Handbook of Moral and Character Education* (2nd ed., with L. Nucci, and T. Krettenauer, 2014). She is executive editor of the *Journal of Moral Education* and also writes a popular blog for *Psychology Today* titled “Moral Landscapes.”