At Georgetown University we have long recognized the necessity of building bridges of understanding between faiths and cultures. Through the Berkley Center, we bring together intellectual leaders and the public to provide knowledge, inform debate, and promote greater dialogue across religious traditions.

“Georgetown University President Dr. John J. DeGioia

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Georgetown University President Dr. John J. DeGioia
“Young people intuitively understand our emerging intercultural and interfaith world. Our students’ diverse backgrounds, passion for big ideas, and love of dialogue are vital to the Center’s research, teaching, and outreach missions.”

Berkley Center Director and Associate Professor Thomas Banchoff

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The economic and financial crisis that erupted in late 2008 moved faith-related issues down the global agenda—at least initially. While politicians scrambled for short-term policy fixes, effective longer-term solutions will have to engage religious communities. They remain active around education, health care and poverty relief, serve as traditional sources of hope, and provide opportunity for the disadvantaged. And they are emerging as ardent defenders of core values that must underpin just and durable economic and political order, including integrity, transparency, and social responsibility. While continued economic and social dislocation may exacerbate religious tensions and spur more violence within and across societies, interreligious and intercultural engagement is becoming a more important, if still underappreciated and underutilized, vehicle for cooperation and peace.

The Berkley Center seeks to build and share knowledge about religion’s changing role in today’s world—and to shape its impact for the better. Its research, teaching, and outreach activities advance the interdisciplinary study of religion, promote dialogue across traditions, and support current and future leaders working at the intersection of faith and international affairs. The Center is closely aligned with Georgetown’s mission as a Catholic and Jesuit student-centered research university open to other faiths and to the wider secular world. It was created in March 2006 in the office of Georgetown’s President, John J. DeGioia, through the generous support of William R. Berkley, a member of the University Board of Directors.

This report outlines our major activities during the 2008–09 academic year, including: the Berkley Center Lectures with philosopher Charles Taylor; the publication of religious freedom policy recommendations for the Obama administration; a three-day seminar at The National Defense University on the religious dynamics of war and peace; a high-level dialogue with Chinese officials around issues of religion and society; several new religion and development issue surveys (gender, governance, malaria, shelter); an undergraduate report on interfaith marriage in America; the expansion of faculty blogs on Georgetown/On Faith, a site hosted by The Washington Post; a grant from the John Templeton Foundation; the renewal of the Luce/SFS Program on Religion and International Affairs; and the announcement of the Doyle Building Tolerance Initiative.

We invite you to follow the Center’s further development over the coming year.

Thomas Banchoff
Director
LUCE/SFS PROGRAM ON RELIGION AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Since 2006, the Berkley Center and the Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service (SFS) have collaborated in the implementation of a generous grant from the Henry Luce Foundation’s Initiative on Religion and International Affairs. The Luce/SFS Program on Religion and International Affairs supports research, teaching, and outreach in two program areas, Religion and U.S. Foreign Policy and Religion and Global Development. A major focus is engagement with public officials in the U.S. government and international organizations grappling with religion and world affairs. The Luce/SFS program was renewed in 2008 through the 2010–11 academic year.

WORLD FAITHS DEVELOPMENT DIALOGUE

Established in 1998 by James D. Wolfensohn, then President of the World Bank, and Lord George Carey, then Archbishop of Canterbury, the World Faiths Development Dialogue (WFDD) bridges the worlds of faith and secular development. Housed at the Berkley Center and affiliated with the World Bank, the WFDD supports dialogue and conferences, case studies on faith-based organizations, and communities of practice. WFDD convened a major meeting of faith and development leaders in Accra in July 2009 to focus on Africa and the current economic crisis. Center faculty member Katherine Marshall serves as its executive director.

WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM

In 2007, Georgetown and the Center began a collaboration with the Geneva-based World Economic Forum around issues of faith and the global agenda. The core of the collaboration is an annual report project that convenes religious leaders and leading academics to address a particular global challenge in its complexity. The first report, Islam and the West, released at the Forum’s annual meeting in Davos in January 2008, tracked dialogue efforts across a range of issue areas, including international politics, citizenship and integration, and economic and social development. A second report, on the theme of values in a post-crisis world, is slated for publication in December 2009.

PROJECT REBIRTH AND THE NATIONAL SEPTEMBER 11 MEMORIAL & MUSEUM

The Berkley Center is part of a new partnership between Georgetown University, Project Rebirth, and the National September 11 Memorial & Museum. Project Rebirth is a major film project led by alumnus Jim Whitaker (C’90) that chronicles the rebuilding of the World Trade Center and the strength of the human spirit after 9/11. A draft segment of the film was shown at Georgetown in September 2008. The Center’s collaboration with the National September 11 Memorial & Museum involves consultation between Georgetown faculty and museum leaders about the context, causes, and consequences of the attacks.
Georgetown/On Faith, an online partnership between the Berkley Center and Washingtonpost.Newsweek Interactive, is designed to provide knowledge, inform debate, and promote greater dialogue and understanding across religious traditions. The site is part of On Faith, the leading online conversation about religion and current affairs, hosted by Newsweek editor Jon Meacham and the Washington Post's Sally Quinn.

Faculty blogs on Georgetown/On Faith include:

- **Just Law and Religion**, by Michael Kessler, examines contemporary issues at the intersection of religion, law, politics, and ethics.
- **Islam and the West**, by Dan Brumberg, analyzes the foreign policy implications of the global rise of Islam as a social and political force.
- **This Catholic's View**, by Thomas Reese, S.J., examines contemporary politics, culture, and society at the intersection of the Church and the world.
- **The God Vote**, by Jacques Berlinerblau, explored the role of religious issues and rhetoric in the 2008 presidential campaign.

During the spring and summer of 2009, the Center co-produced the video interview series *Faith Complex*, hosted by Jacques Berlinerblau of the Program for Jewish Civilization, which featured conversations with Asra Nomani, Richard Cizik, and Abdullahi An-Na'im.

You can find Georgetown/On Faith at:
http://newsweek.washingtonpost.com/onfaith/georgetown/

The Berkley Center’s website includes a complete, searchable archive of the blogs.

Conversation with Abdullahi An-Na’im (right) from the video interview series *Faith Complex*, hosted by Jacques Berlinerblau (left) of the Program for Jewish Civilization.
We live in a secular world full of religious ferment. In October 2008, the philosopher Charles Taylor gave three lectures under the heading “Narratives of Secularity” that explored the origins and possibilities of our contemporary secular age.

**Master Narratives of Modernity** critiqued the narratives of modernity—views about the inevitable decline of religious belief and practice in our contemporary age.

**Disenchantment and Secularity** examined how religion has paradoxically thrived in a secular age, as individuals have approached faith in less structured and more personal ways.

**A More Adequate Narrative of Western Secularity** developed an alternative understanding of secularity that can account for religion’s growing role in public affairs.

**Charles Taylor** is one of the world’s leading scholars working at the intersection of religion, secularity, and modernity. A philosopher at home in other humanities and social science disciplines, he has authored many pathbreaking books, including *The Sources of the Self* (1992), *Multiculturalism: Examining the Politics of Recognition* (1994) and, most recently, *A Secular Age* (2007). Taylor was for many years Professor for Political Sciences and Philosophy at the McGill University in Montreal, Canada, where he now serves as professor emeritus. He was awarded the Templeton Prize in 2007.

**About the Berkley Center Lectures**

The Berkley Center Lectures annually bring global thought leaders to campus to explore cutting edge topics at the intersection of religion, culture, and politics. The formal lectures are flanked by informal interaction with faculty and students. The inaugural lectures in 2007 were given by Muslim reformer Tariq Ramadan.
Knowledge Resources

The Berkley Center Knowledge Resources are designed for students, scholars, citizens, and policymakers seeking a better understanding of how religion plays out in culture, society, and politics in the United States and around the world.

The Internet has emerged as a site for vibrant, but often vitriolic, conversations about religion and its impact. The Center’s Knowledge Resources are designed to inform and support productive conversations about faith in world affairs. The fruit of collaboration between Georgetown students and faculty, the online resources allow users to explore connections across topics, traditions, and countries.

BY TOPIC:
The Berkley Center’s Knowledge Resources track a range of topic areas at the intersection of religion and world affairs. Each topic features an overview essay, a news feed, and a mapping of key resources, including organizations, programs, people, quotes, and publications critical to the topic. Coverage includes:

- **Religion and Global Development** addresses the role of religious actors, issues, and controversies in the sphere of economic and social development worldwide.

- **Religion and U.S. Foreign Policy** tracks the development of religious issues and actors in America’s relations with the world on topics including international religious freedom.

- **Presidential Rhetoric** provides an overview of faith in presidential rhetoric from Washington through Obama, with a focus on social and foreign policy issues.

- **Global Political Leaders on Religion** consists of key quotes from world leaders that relate religion to issues of politics, culture, and society.

- **Faith and the 2008 Election** provides a detailed overview of the role of religion in the 2008 presidential election through a survey of all the faith-related statements of the candidates.
BY TRADITION:

Different religious traditions approach ethical and political questions in diverse but related ways. On these pages, now in development, users can compare and contrast the stances of five major traditions—Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, and Judaism—across five major issue areas. The emphasis is now on scripture, but key texts in the evolution of each tradition will also be added. Themes include:

- Peace/Violence
- Wealth/Poverty
- Justice/Injustice
- Health/Illness
- Insiders/Outsiders

BY COUNTRY:

- The Knowledge Resources include country-by-country analyses of the relationship between religion, society, and politics. Each country page features an overview essay, analysis of key constitutional provisions relating to religion, and short descriptions of key national-level resources, including relevant organizations, programs, people, quotes, and publications.
Georgetown students, like their counterparts at other colleges and universities, confront a world of unprecedented religious and cultural diversity.

Inside and outside the classroom, they are challenged to tolerate persons with different views and to engage traditions other than their own. Through its teaching, research, and outreach programs, the Center empowers students to deepen their engagement with religious and cultural differences while at Georgetown—and prepares them as future leaders in an intercultural and interreligious world.

During the spring of 2009, Georgetown announced the Doyle Building Tolerance Initiative, a campus-wide collaboration between Georgetown College, the Berkley Center, and the Center for New Designs in Learning and Scholarship. Generously funded by William Doyle, a member of the University Board of Directors, the Doyle Initiative is designed to promote tolerance and intellectual engagement with diversity both in the curriculum and outside the classroom. In 2009–10, the Doyle Initiative will support three successful Berkley Center programs: the Junior Year Abroad Network, the Undergraduate Fellows Program, and the Undergraduate Learning and Interreligious Understanding Survey.

**JUNIOR YEAR ABROAD NETWORK**

TheJunior Year Abroad Network (JYAN) connects Georgetown students studying abroad in a variety of cultures. Students share reflections on religion, politics, and society in their host countries through letters from abroad posted on a dedicated website and shared with the wider Georgetown community and beyond. Since JYAN began in Fall 2006, more than 115 Hoyas have participated, building and sharing knowledge gained in more than 29 countries. On their return, students present their best work in a publication. The Doyle Initiative will support new programs for returning JYAN students to work with faculty exploring new ways to engage cultural and religious difference in the classroom.
UNDERGRADUATE FELLOWS

The Undergraduate Fellows Program gives a select group of Georgetown students the resources to conduct interviews, organize events, and formulate policy recommendations around a salient theme related to religion and world affairs. Publications to date include: “Secular and Religious Approaches to Global Development” (2006), “Religious Advocates: A Force in U.S. Politics?” (2007), and “A Leap of Faith: Interreligious Marriage in America” (2008). The Doyle Initiative will double the undergraduate fellow cohort each year and increase the range of topics covered.

UNDERGRADUATE LEARNING AND INTERRELIGIOUS UNDERSTANDING SURVEY

In fall 2007, the Berkley Center and Georgetown’s Center for New Designs in Learning and Scholarship began a four-year longitudinal study of student attitudes about their religious traditions—and others—and how the undergraduate experience shapes their knowledge and attitudes. Following on the initial publication of the survey results in 2007, the project has involved interviews and focus groups to track student learning while at Georgetown. As part of the Doyle Initiative the project will deepen our understanding of how the student experience can change attitudes towards cultures and religions other than their own.

From the Report:

“Interreligious marriage provides a lens into the future of our society and the increasingly mixed nature of contemporary relationships. This topic is pertinent not only to those for whom interreligious marriage is a personal possibility, but also for all who live in the ‘global village’ of the United States.”

—A Leap of Faith: Interreligious Marriage in America
The growth of religious pluralism poses new challenges—for faith communities confronting the religious “other” and for states and international organizations confronting greater religious diversity.

The program on Religious Pluralism in World Affairs, under the direction of Thomas Banchoff, addresses new patterns of interaction among religious and secular actors, both nationally and internationally. Through scholarship, seminars, and outreach, it promotes knowledge of diverse religious traditions and their role in world politics, joins those traditions in dialogue, and generates resources for policymakers grappling with global policy challenges of diplomacy, democracy, and development.

**FACULTY LEADER: THOMAS BANCHOFF**

Thomas Banchoff is Director of the Berkley Center for Religion, Peace, and World Affairs and Associate Professor in the Government Department and the School of Foreign Service. His research and teaching center on the politics of religious pluralism, both nationally and internationally. Banchoff is editor of *Democracy and the New Religious Pluralism* (Oxford University Press, 2007), *Religious Pluralism, Globalization, and World Politics* (Oxford University Press, 2008), and a forthcoming volume on *Religion and the Global Politics of Human Rights*. He is currently completing a manuscript on the religious and secular politics of embryo and stem cell research in Europe and the United States. Banchoff received his B.A. in History from Yale (summa cum laude) in 1986, an M.A. in History and Political Science from the University of Bonn in 1988, and a Ph.D. in Politics from Princeton in 1993.

*Religious Pluralism, Globalization, and World Politics* (Oxford, 2008) explores how globalization has transformed the relationship between religious communities and contemporary policy challenges. Communications technologies have enabled the formation of stronger transnational religious identities, while the emergence of a global human rights regime has created more space for religious engagement across multiple issue areas. The book brings together leading scholars including Kwame Anthony Appiah, R. Scott Appleby, Jean Bethke Elshtain, Katherine Marshall, and John Witte to explore the practical and theoretical implications of that engagement across issues including international development, transitional justice, and religious freedom.
RELEVANT ISSUES

Open discussion of salient issues, marked by a willingness to listen to and learn from the other, will serve to build knowledge and trust over time. It will also help to define areas of agreement and disagreement and suggest successful ways to manage both.

Thomas Banchoff
The last two decades have seen the dramatic acceleration of two related trends: economic, cultural, and political globalization, and a resurgence of religion in public affairs.

The Globalization, Religions, and the Secular program, under the leadership of José Casanova, examines the impact of globalization on the religious and secular spheres and their interaction across countries and regions around the world. The program brings together leading scholars across disciplines to explore the dynamics of globalization and their impact on the role of religion in public affairs. Research and publications center on the emergence of a postsecular world and its implications.

**FACULTY LEADER: JOSÉ CASANOVA**

José Casanova joined Georgetown University as Professor of Sociology and Senior Fellow in the Berkley Center in January 2008. Casanova, a leading authority on religion and world affairs, has published widely on sociological theory, migration, and globalization. His critically acclaimed *Public Religions in the Modern World* (Chicago, 1994) has been published in five languages. Casanova studied philosophy in Saragossa, Spain, received an M.A. in Theology from the University of Innsbruck, and an M.A. and Ph.D. in Sociology from the New School for Social Research. Casanova moved to Georgetown from the New School, where he served as Professor of Sociology from 1987–2007.
RELIGIOUS AND POLITICAL IDENTITIES: THE MEDITERRANEAN SINCE 1492

The Berkley Center for Religion, Peace, and World Affairs at Georgetown University and the Van Leer Jerusalem Institute are engaged in a joint research project that rethinks the relationship between religion, nation, and state throughout the Mediterranean basin from early modernity to the present. A series of workshops, to culminate in a conference and major book project, is exploring the interaction of Eastern and Latin Christianity, Islam, and Judaism—with one another and with states and societies across the region. The first meeting was held in September 2008 at the Center and a second meeting took place in Jerusalem in July 2009.

THE ANTHROPOLOGY OF RELIGION, MONEY, AND THE ECONOMY LECTURE SERIES—2008/09

The Berkley Center and the Department of Anthropology arranged a series of talks by well-known anthropologists of religion, culture, and political economy. Based on fieldwork conducted in a range of ethnographic settings in Africa, India, Japan, and the United States, the talks brought together anthropological work on religion and more recent work in the discipline on money, markets, and finance to consider the complex relationship between the economy and religion in the contemporary era.

SEMINAR ON SECULARISM AND RELIGIOUS PLURALISM IN THE U.S., FRANCE, TURKEY, AND INDIA (October 29, 2008)

José Casanova led this seminar engaging senior scholars who examined the cases of the United States, France, Turkey, and India—four secular democratic states with distinctively different patterns of religion/state separation and distinctively different modes of religious pluralism. Charles Taylor, Rajeev Bhargava, and Nilüfer Göle examined comparatively the historical patterns of constitution of the four secular regimes, as well as the contemporary contentious debates on secularism, religion, and democratic politics in all four countries.

ISLAM AND THE SECULAR: DISCUSSIONS WITH ABDULLAHI AN-NA’IM (February 19, 2009 and April 27, 2009)

What is the proper relationship between Islamic law and the state in modern Muslim societies? Distinguished human rights activist and legal scholar Abdullahi Ahmed An-Na’im, Charles Howard Candler Professor of Law at Emory University, visited the Berkley Center twice in Spring 2009 to discuss his most recent work around this critical question, speaking in favor of secular politics from his perspective as a devout Muslim. An-Na’im will be a Visiting Senior Fellow at the Berkley Center during the Fall of 2009.
Religious factors can exacerbate tensions between ethno-religious communities, dividing peoples between “us” and “them,” even framing the others as “infidels.” Religion can lead people to martyrdom, to violent hatred of outsiders, and to transcend one’s own self-interest in favor of violence—such as the logic of suicide bombing.

However, religion can also promote conflict resolution, by calling adherents to peacemaking and to provide assistance to those in need. Former enemies can become “brothers and sisters” in a particular faith. Religion can be a profound basis of forgiveness and reconciliation.

This program examines the intersection of religion with other cultural, social, and political factors in the generation and resolution of conflict and efforts toward sustainable peace. To promote scholarship and learning in this area, the Berkley Center provides courses on the nexus of religion, conflict, and peacebuilding and is developing knowledge resources, most notably a set of critical case studies that analyze the role of religion in conflict and post-conflict environments such as Bosnia, Colombia, Kashmir, and Sri Lanka. In addition, the Center reaches out to government agencies to provide expertise on these important topics, such as a three-day seminar on “The Religious Dynamics of War and Peace” co-hosted by The National Defense University in June 2009.

FACULTY LEADER: ERIC PATTERTON, PH.D.

Eric Patterson, Ph.D. is Assistant Director of the Berkley Center for Religion, Peace, and World Affairs and is a Visiting Assistant Professor in the Department of Government. He is also the Project Consultant for the Chicago Council on Global Affairs’ Religion and U.S. Foreign Policy Task Force. His research and teaching focus on religion and politics, ethics and international affairs, and just war theory in the context of contemporary conflict. He is the author or editor of five books, including *Just War Thinking: Morality and Pragmatism in the Struggle Against Contemporary Threats* (Lexington Books, 2007) and the edited volume *Christianity and Power Politics Today* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2008). His forthcoming co-edited volume *Debating the War of Ideas* (Palgrave Macmillan) will be available in 2009.
PROSECUTIONS AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION: IS THE ICC USING AFRICA AS A GUINEA PIG? 
(December 5, 2008)

The Berkley Center hosted Charles Villa-Vicencio, a leading global authority in matters related to transitional justice and reconciliation. Villa-Vicencio has published numerous works in various scholarly forums and, from 1996–1998, he played a central role in South Africa’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission. At Georgetown, he discussed recent cases before the International Criminal Court, with a focus on tensions at the interface between justice and sustainable reconciliation and peace in Africa.

GOVERNMENT OUTREACH: A FACULTY DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR ON THE RELIGIOUS DYNAMICS OF WAR AND PEACE

(June 23, 2009)

U.S. and associated armed forces, including interagency and non-governmental partners, are involved in regions of the world where religion and identity concerns drive conflict. U.S. government representatives seek to use religious resources to reduce, resolve, or prevent conflict. In order to further understanding among military leaders, the Berkley Center and National Defense University’s Institute for the Study of Ethics and Leadership (INSEL) conducted a three-day interactive faculty development seminar for uniformed military faculty from the 18 U.S. military staff colleges and senior service colleges. The seminar focused on the increasingly relevant and complex topic of religion and conflict from three perspectives: (1) how religion can be a factor in causing conflict; (2) how religion can be a factor in conflict resolution; (3) how religion can be a force for peace-building and development. The Berkley Center’s government outreach is supported by the Luce/SFS Program on Religion and International Relations.

CASE STUDIES

The Berkley Center Religion and Conflict Case Study series draws attention to religious factors in war and peace in a format useful for students and educators. Each case provides a historical introduction and an analysis of the religious, domestic, and international factors involved in conflict and post-conflict, from war among religiously-defined communities in Bosnia and Lebanon to religiously-inspired violence in Uganda to religiously-motivated peacemaking in Northern Ireland and Colombia. The case studies are written in a format appropriate for student and classroom use, from the advanced high school and undergraduate level to professional audiences, and have been carefully vetted by outside experts. Three of the case studies recently debuted at a faculty seminar for war college professors at The National Defense University in Washington, DC. The case study project is supported through the Luce/SFS Program on Religion and International Affairs.
Both the practice and analysis of U.S. foreign policy has traditionally excluded religious questions. For some, faith is of marginal importance; for others, it is dangerous and divisive and has no productive place in diplomacy.

Today, for better or worse, religion has emerged as an influential and often powerful force in world affairs. A better understanding of its dynamics can inform better policy. The Religion and U.S. Foreign Policy program, supported in part by the Luce/SFS Program on Religion and International Affairs, examines the role of religion—at home and abroad—in the formation and execution of U.S. foreign policy, with special attention to issues of religious freedom, human rights, and cross-national comparisons.

**FACULTY LEADER: THOMAS FARR**

Thomas F. Farr, a former American diplomat, is Visiting Associate Professor of Religion and International Affairs in the Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service. A Senior Fellow in the Berkley Center, he directs the Religion and U.S. Foreign Policy program. After a distinguished career in the U.S. Army and the Foreign Service, Farr served as the first director of the State Department’s Office of International Religious Freedom from 1999–2003. He is a leading authority on international religious freedom and has traveled worldwide to engage governments, religious communities, and the victims of religious persecution. He has testified as an expert witness before the U.S. House International Relations Committee and is a member of the Chicago World Affairs Council Task Force on Religion and Foreign Policy. Farr has published widely, including “Diplomacy in an Age of Faith,” in *Foreign Affairs* (March/April 2008), and *World of Faith and Freedom: Why International Religious Liberty is Vital to American National Security* (Oxford, 2008). Farr’s work at the Center is generously supported by the Henry Luce Foundation’s Initiative on Religion and International Affairs and the John Templeton Foundation.
THE INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM ACT: TEN YEARS LATER

The Berkley Center, with the support of the Luce/SFS Program on Religion and International Affairs, organized a series of three symposia to mark the tenth anniversary of landmark 1998 legislation that made the promotion of religious freedom an official component of U.S. foreign policy. Co-organized with the Council on Faith & International Affairs at the Institute for Global Engagement, the symposia examined the origins, development, and future trajectory of American foreign policy in this crucial but sensitive area. Two symposia were held in early 2008: Why Religious Freedom? The Origins and Promise of the International Religious Freedom Act (February 25, 2008) and U.S. International Religious Freedom Policy: Assessing the Results (April 21, 2008).

The third symposium, held on October 10, 2008 under the heading The Future of U.S. Religious Freedom Policy: Recommendations for the New Administration, featured three panels addressing U.S. IRF policy and democracy promotion, civil society, religion-based terrorism, law (domestic and international), and public diplomacy. The symposium, which received additional support from the John Templeton Foundation, led to a policy brief with recommendations for the Obama administration. The brief calls for focused attention on the role of religion as a central factor in democracy promotion, public diplomacy, counterterrorism strategy, and international law.

WORLD OF FAITH AND FREEDOM: WHY INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS LIBERTY IS VITAL TO AMERICAN NATIONAL SECURITY

Virtually every trouble spot on the planet has some sort of religious component. One need only consider Iraq and Afghanistan, Iran, Israel and Palestine, Turkey, India, Pakistan, Russia, and China, to name but a few. In this pathbreaking book, Thomas Farr argues that U.S. foreign policy is gravely handicapped by an inability to understand the role of religion either nationally or globally. There is a strong disinclination in American diplomacy to consider religious factors at all, either as part of the problem or part of the solution. In his insider account, Farr offers a closely reasoned argument that religious freedom, in its various dimensions, can and should be pursued more effectively as a cornerstone of U.S. foreign policy.

INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM: HOW IMPORTANT IS IT TO AMERICA? (April 15, 2009)

At a roundtable discussion Thomas Farr argued that the advancement of religious freedom is a central component of America’s quest for justice in the world and crucial to its national security. Farr discussed what role the promotion of international religious freedom plays in American foreign policy and how the nation’s foreign policy has suffered since U.S. diplomacy has so deemphasized the issue of religious freedom. This event brought Farr together with a panel of prominent experts and scholars to discuss some of the important issues raised by his new book, including how the Obama administration should craft its international religious freedom policy.
With globalization, contact across religious traditions has accelerated, sparking tension and conflict but also enabling new forms of dialogue and collaboration.

The Second Vatican Council of 1962–65 was a key juncture that opened the Church to the secular world and to dialogue with other religious traditions, working from the legacies inherited and developed by Pope John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI. The Program on The Church and Interreligious Dialogue, under the leadership of Chester Gillis, examines the historical evolution of the Church’s interaction with other religious traditions as well as challenges posed today by cultural and religious pluralism at the local, national, and international level.

FACULTY LEADER: CHESTER GILLIS

Chester Gillis, Professor of Theology, is the Amaturo Chair in Catholic Studies and the founding director of the Center’s program on The Church and Interreligious Dialogue. After a year as Interim Dean of Georgetown College in 2008–09, he was appointed Dean in May 2009. He holds degrees in Philosophy and Religious Studies from the Catholic University of Louvain in Belgium and earned his Ph.D. from the University of Chicago. Professor Gillis has served on the faculty of Georgetown since 1988, was Chair of the Department of Theology from 2001 to 2006, and Director of the Doctor of Liberal Studies program from 2006 to 2008. Gillis’ research interests include comparative religion and contemporary Roman Catholicism. He is the author of *A Question of Final Belief: John Hick’s Pluralistic Theory of Salvation* (1989), *Pluralism: A New Paradigm for Theology* (1993), *Roman Catholicism in America* (1999), *Catholic Faith in America* (2003), and editor of *The Political Papacy* (2006) as well as numerous articles, book chapters, and encyclopedia entries. Gillis is also co-editor of the Columbia University series Religion and Politics.
HIGH-LEVEL CATHOLIC-EVANGELICAL DIALOGUE

The Berkley Center is a sponsor of the Evangelical-Catholic Dialogue on the Common Good/Public Policy, inaugurated at Georgetown in April 2008. The dialogue met for a second time in March 2009 at Eastern University, a prominent Baptist institution. Two of America’s most prominent religious leaders, Pastor Rick Warren and Theodore Cardinal McCarrick, convene the discussions, which center on how Catholics and Evangelicals can more wisely bring faith to bear on public life, especially on social, cultural, and economic issues. Georgetown participants include President John J. DeGioia, John Borelli, Special Assistant to the President for Interreligious Initiatives, and Chester Gillis. Prominent evangelical participants include Richard Cizik, the former head of the National Association of Evangelicals, and Michael Gerson, Washington Post columnist and former speech writer and advisor to President George W. Bush.

RELIGION AND RELIGIONS SEMINAR SERIES

Over the course of Fall 2008, Georgetown professors from a variety of fields addressed how religion and religions intersect in theory and practice. An ongoing theme was whether and how interreligious dialogue sheds new light on the overall category of “religion” and how the term advances or impedes our understanding of the complex phenomena that lie behind it.

RELIGION AND RELIGIONS
Jacques Berlinerblau (September 4, 2008)

WHEN MISSION INCLUDES DIALOGUE AND DIALOGUE BECOMES MISSION
John Borelli (September 16, 2008)

NEW FRONTIERS FOR INTERRELIGIOUS DIALOGUE
Dennis McManus (October 1, 2008)

INTERRELIGIOUS DIALOGUE: CHANCES AND PERILS
Felicitas Opwis (October 30, 2008)

THE HOLY SPIRIT AND THE UNIVERSALITY OF GOD’S SAVING GRACE IN HUMAN HISTORY
Peter Phan (November 13, 2008)
Debates about religion, politics, and law have shifted decisively over the past two decades.

In the United States and around the world, religious actors and institutions have increasingly gained political influence, drawing on their traditions to justify legal and political stances and actions.

The Religion, Politics, and Law program, under the leadership of Michael Kessler, explores the shifting configuration of religion, politics, and law, around the world and across religious traditions, and the religious, ethical, and policy implications of the intersection of religion and politics. Project areas include:

**The Future of Political Theologies**
This project maps and analyzes historic and contemporary understandings of political engagement across Christianity, Judaism, and Islam. The project engages political theologies not merely as a set of theoretical concepts, but as religious beliefs and principles that ground political action within contemporary geopolitical struggles.

**Religion and the 2008 Election**

**FACULTY LEADER: MICHAEL KESSLER**
Michael Kessler is Assistant Director of the Berkley Center for Religion, Peace, and World Affairs at Georgetown University and a Visiting Assistant Professor of Government. His current work focuses on legal and political notions of fundamental rights, particularly about individual moral liberties and religious freedom. Kessler received his Ph.D. in religion and moral and political theory from the University of Chicago, where he was a William Rainey Harper Fellow and held a Henry Luce Dissertation Fellowship. He graduated with a B.A. with honors in Theology from Valparaiso University and has also studied law at Georgetown University Law Center.
POLITICAL THEOLOGIES: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE
(October 15–16, 2008)

This event was the inaugural conference of the Berkley Center’s project on The Future of Political Theologies, which inquires about the meaning of religion’s role in politics, most especially about the enduring way that human reflection continues—even in the modern West—to seek legitimacy for political and legal affairs in religious narratives and first principles. Leading thinkers and practitioners from within each tradition—and critics from outside the traditions—came together to examine core questions at the intersection of religious pluralism and democratic politics, including: what are the main trends and challenges for political theologies today; how do globalization, secularization, and pluralism affect political theologies; and, how might political theologies change in the 21st century? Featured guests included Mark Lilla, John Milbank, Robin Lovin, David Novak, Jocelyne Cesari, Eric Gregory, Charles Mathewes, and Hent DeVries.

BROOKS, DIONNE, AND TIPPETT DISCUSS THE LEGACY OF REINHOLD NIEBUHR AND THE FUTURE OF CHRISTIAN REALISM
(January 29, 2009)

The Berkley Center hosted David Brooks and E.J. Dionne, Jr. who discussed the lasting impact of Reinhold Niebuhr and Christian Realism on American political and theological ideas. Krista Tippett of American Public Media’s Speaking of Faith moderated the conversation and portions of the conversation were used on the show. They addressed how Christian Realism presents an enduring option for many aspects of our political life, from foreign policy and the war on terror to issues about religion’s role in politics. As President Obama took office, Brooks and Dionne took the opportunity to reflect both upon the past presidential election and the future problems and dilemmas that the next administration will face.

NEW CHALLENGES FOR THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE OF FAITH-BASED AND NEIGHBORHOOD PARTNERSHIPS
(April 2, 2009)

The Berkley Center hosted a symposium addressing the future possibilities and challenges for the White House Office of Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships. Panelists E.J. Dionne, Ira C. Lupu, Melissa Rogers, and Stanley Carlson-Thies addressed issues related to the challenges facing President Obama’s reconfiguration of the Office’s mission, whether to bar religious groups from using religion as a basis for hiring, the political effects of President Obama’s strong support for the office and his wide outreach to religious leaders, and what directions the Office should take in the future.
Through research, teaching, and outreach, the Religion and Global Development program builds knowledge about the role of religious communities in economic and social development—as a source of ethical commitment, material resources, professional expertise, and effective policy implementation.

The program, supported in part through the Luce/SFS Program on Religion and International Affairs, brings together practitioners and analysts for structured conversations about the challenges of development policy and the potential for deeper collaboration across the religious/secular divide.

**FACULTY LEADER: KATHERINE MARSHALL**

After a long career in the development field, including several leadership positions at the World Bank, Marshall moved to Georgetown in 2006, where she serves as a Visiting Associate Professor in the Department of Government and leader of the Berkley Center’s Program on Religion and Global Development. Marshall has more than three decades of experience on a wide range of development issues, in Africa, Latin America, East Asia, and the Middle East. She led the Bank’s outreach on issues of faith and ethics in 2006. Marshall helped to create and now serves as the Executive Director of the World Faiths Development Dialogue. She is the author of several books about religion and development, the most recent being (co-authored with Marisa Van Saanen) *Development and Faith: Where Mind, Heart and Soul Work Together* (World Bank, 2007) and (with Lucy Keough) *Mind, Heart and Soul in the Fight Against Poverty* (World Bank, 2004).
WORKSHOP ON GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT WITH FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS IN AFRICA AND EUROPE (June 24, 2008)

Engaged practitioners met in the Hague to take stock of the wide range of ongoing work by different organizations that are inspired by religious faith and to explore the policy implications that emerge from their interactions with development organizations. The participants addressed emerging challenges arising because of different perspectives on cultural practices, issues around governance and accountability, links to sectoral programs supported by international financing agencies, and practical issues such as blockages in funding channels.

GOVERNANCE AND FAITH: CONSULTATION ON ISSUES AND NEXT STEPS (October 14, 2008)

Faith leaders and institutions play myriad roles in social fields but broad and sustained engagement on public anti-corruption and good governance issues has been somewhat muted. This event explored current efforts by faith leaders and institutions to address governance challenges internationally and possible avenues towards more effective engagement. The discussion focused on how faith leaders might mobilize to play a greater role in these areas globally and generated ideas for faith engagement on transparency issues in advance of the biannual International Anti-Corruption Conference in Athens.

DECENT SHELTER FOR ALL MEETING (October 23, 2008)

Participants discussed the role of faith-inspired organizations in global efforts to ensure decent housing for all persons. They explored shared objectives of faith-inspired and mainstream development communities to meet pressing needs surrounding decent shelter, from water and sanitation to productive employment. The project was a collaboration with the World Faiths Development Dialogue and the World Bank’s Development Dialogue on Values and Ethics.

LEADERSHIP CONSULTATION ON SCALING UP FAITH COMMUNITY IMPACT AGAINST MALARIA (December 12, 2008)

Together with the Center for Inter-faith Action on Global Poverty, the Berkley Center hosted leaders from the faith-inspired development community and from global organizations active around the issue of malaria. The goal of the Consultation was to assess the landscape of contributions by faith-based organizations to issues of malaria and to increase the effectiveness of their work. A report prepared by the Berkley Center and the World Faiths Development Dialogue served as background for the Consultation.

CONSULTATION ON FAITH-INSPIRED ORGANIZATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT IN LATIN AMERICA (January 30, 2009)

The Berkley Center, together with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and the World Faiths Development Dialogue, hosted a consultation in Antigua, Guatemala on the role of faith-inspired organizations in responding to development challenges in Latin America. The meeting brought together practitioners, religious leaders from a range of faith traditions, and academics to review major issues facing the region.
STAFF

Melody Fox Ahmed, Program and Business Manager
Melody joined the Berkley Center in June 2006. Previously she worked at the Corporate Executive Board and with the Buxton Initiative, an interfaith dialogue organization in Washington, D.C. She received her B.A. from Vanderbilt University and a M.A. in Global, International, and Comparative History from Georgetown.

Paul Beccio, Web Application Developer
Paul Beccio joined the Berkley Center in May 2007. Prior to Georgetown, Paul developed web-based applications for the Federal Aviation Administration. He has studied at the Lorenzo De’ Medici Art Institute. He also studied History at the University of Maryland as well as American Indian Studies at the University of Arizona.

Annie Hunt, Events and Projects Coordinator
Annie Hunt joined the Berkley Center in June 2008. She graduated from the University of Notre Dame in 2007 with a B.A. in the Program of Liberal Studies and the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, concentrating in courses examining the impact of religious, philosophical, and cultural influences on peace.

Chris Vukicevich, Research Analyst
Prior to joining the Center in 2007, Chris studied in Georgetown’s Department of Government and Center for German and European Studies, earning Master’s degrees in each. He conducted thesis research on the politics of biotechnology in Berlin, Germany, with the support of a German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) fellowship.

Abby Waldrip, Program Assistant
Prior to joining the Berkley Center in March 2009, Abby graduated from Brigham Young University in 2008 with a B.S. in Business Management from the Marriott School of Management, and a Minor in Communications concentrating on principles of journalism. She participated in BYU’s D.C. Seminar program, interning at the House of Representatives.
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The Berkley Center is at the heart of a campus-wide effort to build knowledge about the role of religion in world affairs and to promote interreligious understanding in the service of peace. Key collaborative partners include:

- Anthropology Department
- Catholic Studies Program
- Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service
- Government Department
- Mortara Center for International Studies
- Office of Mission and Ministry
- Prince Alwaleed bin Talal Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding
- Program for Jewish Civilization
- Sociology Department
- Theology Department
- Woodstock Theological Center