



International Research Network for the  
Study of Science & Belief in Society

**5th Annual Conference Programme**  
**1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> July 2024, Dorint Hotel Frankfurt / Oberursel (Germany)**

For programme updates, please visit our website: <https://scienceandbeliefinsociety.org/live-events/insbs-5th-annual-conference/>

<b>Day 1: Monday 1st - Workshops</b>				
<b>Room</b>	Oberursel 1	Oberursel 2	Oberursel 3	Oberursel 4
<b>Type</b>	Workshop Room 1 (90)	Workshop Room 2 (65)	Workshop Room 3 (35)	Workshop Room 4 (35)
<b>9.30-11.00am</b>	REGISTRATION/COFFEE			
<b>11.00-12.30</b>	<b>Workshop Session 1</b>			
	<b>Communications and engagement</b> Cameron Murray Deborah Cohen Nathan Bossoh Will Mason-Wilkes	<b>Open room</b>	<b>Open room</b>	<b>Using comedy to help rethink your research</b> Alexander Hall James Riley
<b>12.30-1.45pm</b>	LUNCH			
<b>1.45-3.15pm</b>	<b>Workshop Session 2</b>			
	<b>Publishing in science &amp; belief</b> Kevin L. Ladd, <i>Archive for the Psychology of Religion</i> Katherine Ong, <i>Routledge (Online)</i> Arthur Petersen, <i>Zygon: Journal of Religion and Science</i> Chair: Carissa Sharp	<b>Pedagogy</b> Rachael Shillitoe Kostas Tampakis	<b>Communications and engagement</b> Cameron Murray Deborah Cohen Nathan Bossoh Will Mason-Wilkes	<b>Open room</b>
<b>3.15-3.45pm</b>	BREAK			
<b>3.45-5.15pm</b>	<b>Workshop Session 3</b>			
	<b>Publishing in science &amp; belief</b> Arthur Petersen, <i>Zygon: Journal of Religion and Science</i> Kevin L. Ladd, <i>Archive for the Psychology of Religion</i> Chair: Carissa Sharp	<b>Pedagogy</b> Rachael Shillitoe Kostas Tampakis	<b>Networking</b> Stephen Jones	<b>Using comedy to help rethink your research</b> Alexander Hall James Riley
<b>6.30pm</b>	DINNER (Villa Gans)			



Day 2: Tuesday 2nd			
<b>Room</b>	Oberursel 1&2	Oberursel 3	Oberursel 4
<b>Type</b>	Plenaries & Parallel 1 (120)	Parallel 2 (54)	Parallel 3 (54)
<b>8.30-9.00am</b>	REGISTRATION		
<b>9.00-10.30am</b>	<b>Welcome &amp; Plenary 1</b> Conference Welcome: Fern Elsdon-Baker  <b>Panel: <i>New Directions in Social Science Scholarship on Science and Belief: From Local to Global</i></b>  Chair: Kevin Ladd		
<b>10.30-11.00am</b>	BREAK		
<b>11.00-12.30pm</b>	<b>Panel Session 1</b>		
	<b>Rethinking Conflict: Narratives and Myths</b>  Chair: Arturo Fitz Herbert  <i>Turning the Conflict Narrative on its head: an International Exploration of how Priming with the view that Science and Religion are Compatible may Influence Perception</i> Rebecca Hughes, University of Birmingham  <i>Harmony Unveiled: Navigating the Interplay of Science and Religion in Epigenetic Narratives</i> Santosh Kumar, Jawaharlal Nehru University  <i>Beyond the horizon: The limits and social functions of the myth of conflict between science and religion</i> Stephen Jones, Keele University	<b>Exploring Epistemic Trust in Scientific and Religious Epistemic Communities</b>  Organiser: Tiago Valentim Garros  Chair: Will Mason-Wilkes  <i>Epistemic communities, dependences, and trust in science and religion</i> Marcelo M. Braga Cabral, Unicamp/Free University of Amsterdam  <i>Trust/Distrust in science among evangelicals in Brazil</i> Tiago V. Garros, Brazilian Association of Christians in Science  <i>A theological inquiry into trust in science: exploring bridges and internal resources</i> Tiago de Melo Novais, UMESP/Yale	<b>Psychiatry &amp; Care</b>  Chair: Cameron Murray  <i>Science or religion: BBC Radio programmes on mental distress and psychiatry in the 1950s</i> Deborah Cohen, University of Birmingham  <i>Exploring Clinicians' Perceptions of Patients' Religious Experiences in Illness: A Qualitative Inquiry</i> Hannah Waite, The University of Aberdeen  <i>The Jesuit Engagement with Psychology in 20th Century India: A Preliminary Exploration (Online)</i> Joseph Satish Vedanayagam, Saveetha Engineering College, Chennai, India



12.30-1.30pm	LUNCH		
1.30-3.30pm	<b>Panel Session 2</b>		
	<p><b>Political Identities</b></p> <p>Chair: Tom Kaden</p> <p><i>U.S. Christian nationalism, communitarianism, and emergent forms of ecofascism</i> David E. Long &amp; Joe Henderson, Morehead State University</p> <p><i>Religious Publics, Religious Politics, and Scientific Controversies in Turkey</i> M. Alper Yalçınkaya &amp; Gülşen Seven TED University, Ankara</p> <p><i>Rise of Populism, Retreat of Reason and Increasing Religiosity in Post-globalization Sri Lanka</i> Siri Hettige, University of Colombo</p> <p><b>Forensic Science</b></p> <p><i>Privatization, Forensic Doctors and Ethical Issues around Forensic Labs: A Comparison Study between China and the West</i> Linjie Zhang, The University of Edinburgh</p>	<p><b>Nonreligion</b></p> <p>Chair: Rachael Shillitoe</p> <p><i>'A Letter from Science:' Irreligion and Religion in 19th-Century Madras</i> Barathy M.G., Ashoka University, India</p> <p><i>Narrative and Ideology in Scientific Discourse: Evolution and Atheism in Mexico (Online)</i> Juan Manuel Rodriguez Caso, National Autonomous University of Mexico</p> <p><i>Negotiating Science and Religion: Contemporary Contestations between New Atheists and their Religious Critics in Kerala, South India</i> Santhosh R and Navaneeth H, Indian Institute of Technology Madras India</p> <p><i>Atheists Thank God: Understanding the Secular Paradox in Latin American Nones</i> Carlos Nazario Mora Duro, Tübingen University</p>	<p><b>Belief &amp; Technology</b></p> <p>Chair: Caroline McCalman</p> <p><i>Religion, Rituals and Techno-Scientific Objects: Reading the Religious and Ritualistic Life of India's Space Program</i> Dipak Kr Chakraborty, Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh (India)</p> <p><i>What TMT Cannot See: Objectivity and Values in Science</i> Mallory Hrehor, University of Cambridge</p> <p><i>The Role of Modernity, Science and Technology in the Christian Discourse of Eschatology in Lokoja Metropolis</i> Gabriel Odion Obomese, The Federal University, Lokoja-Nigeria</p> <p><i>The Rule of Photographic Technology in the Encounter between Nso' Indigenous and Western Religion practices (Online)</i> Banla Noela Kinyuy, University of Bamenda Cameroon</p>
3.30-4.00pm	BREAK		
4.00-5.00pm	<b>Plenary 2</b>		
	<p><b>Panel: New Directions in Humanities Scholarship on Science and Belief: Postcolonial, Transnational, Multidisciplinary and Critical Approaches</b></p> <p>Chair: Will Mason-Wilkes Panellists: Myrna Perez Sheldon (Online), Alexander Hall, Sarah Qidwai, Alper Bilgili</p>		
6.30pm	DINNER (Villa Gans)		



Day 3: Wednesday 3rd			
<b>Room</b>	Oberursel 1&2	Oberursel 3	Oberursel 4
<b>Type</b>	Plenaries & Parallel 1	Parallel 2	Parallel 3
<b>8.30-9.00am</b>	REGISTRATION		
<b>9.00-10.30am</b>	<b>Panel Session 3</b>		
	<p><b>Illness</b></p> <p>Chair: Thoko Kamwendo</p> <p><i>African scientists' perceptions of science and spirituality in the COVID 19 pandemic era (Online)</i> Bankole Falade, London School of Economics and Political Science</p> <p><i>Examining the Relationship Between Causal Reasoning about Death and Coping Among Bereaved Family Members</i> Claire White, California State University, Northridge</p> <p><i>Combating Smallpox in Colonial Fringe Areas in India: The case of Chotanagpur and Santhal Parganas in the nineteenth century</i> Indranil Pramanik &amp; John Bosco Lourdasamy, Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Chennai</p>	<p><b>Reconciling Science and Religion in a Polarized Society: The Role of Education</b></p> <p>Organiser: Hesley Machado Silva</p> <p>Chair: Tiago Valentim Garros</p> <p><i>Harmonizing Science, Religion, and Education in Environmental Preservation: Challenges and Perspectives</i> Hesley Machado Silva, State University of Minas Gerais</p> <p><i>Evolution Teaching, Religious Moral Values and Educational Disputes in Brazil</i> Pedro Pinheiro Teixeira, Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro</p> <p><i>Science and religion: investigating dialogues and conflicts in Brazilian curricula</i> Rodrigo Cerqueira do Nascimento Borba, University of the State of Minas Gerais</p>	<p><b>Rethinking Conflict: International Perspectives</b></p> <p>Chair: Rebecca Catto</p> <p><i>Exploring Conflict Ascription in Science and Religion Discourse: A German Perspective</i> Tom Kaden, University of Bayreuth</p> <p><i>Navigating the Nexus: Public Perceptions of the Science-Religion Relationship in Kenya</i> Mark Okowa, Tom Mboya University</p> <p><i>Scientists in African Congregations: Shifting Perspectives of the Conflict Thesis between Faith and Science</i> Kevin Muriithi Ndereba, St. Paul's University</p>
<b>10.30-11.00am</b>	BREAK		
<b>11.00-1.00pm</b>	<b>Panel Session 4</b>		



	<p><b>Science and Religion, Atheism, Secularism: Entangled histories (I)</b></p> <p>Organiser: Jaume Navarro</p> <p>Chair: Alexander Hall</p> <p><i>Against Determinism: Science and Religion in Antonio Gramsci's Prison Notebooks and Science at the Crossroads</i> Neil Tarrant, University of Leeds</p> <p><i>Science and Orthodox Christianity: Perceptions of Their Relationship in Greek Orthodox Christian Journals (1980–2010) (Online)</i> Sandy Sakorrafou, NHFR, Greece</p> <p><i>Neo-Thomism and Atheism</i> Ignacio Silva, Universidad Austral</p>	<p><b>Science &amp; Identities</b></p> <p>Chair: Rebecca Hughes</p> <p><i>An exploration of the stereotypes associated with scientists and (non)-religious individuals across four countries</i> Carola Leicht, University of Kent, UK</p> <p><i>"Religious Scientist" as a Bicultural Identity</i> Carissa Sharp, University of Birmingham</p> <p><i>Caste as a Category in 'Science and Religion': New Sociologies of Science, Belief and Religion</i> Renny Thomas, Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Bhopal, India</p> <p><i>Cultivating Islamic Selves through Science?</i> Ryan Williams, University of Queensland, Australia</p>	<p><b>Spiritualities Old &amp; New</b></p> <p>Chair: Amy Unsworth</p> <p><i>Weekday Worldviews and Psychic Nights in England: Initial Project Findings</i> Adam Powell, Durham University</p> <p><i>Perceptions of science among practitioners of alternative spirituality</i> Danijela Jerotijevic, Comenius University</p> <p><i>Spirited Away: Agnes Elisabeth Guppy, the Flying Victorian Medium (Online)</i> Efram Sera-Shriar, University of Copenhagen</p> <p><i>Synthesis of Spirituality and Science: Buddhist Monks Merging Medicine and Religious Belief in Early Medieval China</i> Dong Zhao, Beijing Foreign Studies University</p>
1.00-2.00pm	LUNCH		
2.00-4.00pm	<b>Panel Session 5</b>		
	<p><b>Science and Religion, Atheism, Secularism: Entangled histories (II)</b></p> <p>Organiser: Jaume Navarro</p> <p>Chair: James Riley</p> <p><i>The idea of Life, attacks on religion and the politics of the insurgent early in the 20th century</i> Robert Bud, Emeritus Keeper, The Science Museum, London</p> <p><i>Tracing the Popularization of Anthropogenesis in Polish Science Magazines</i></p>	<p><b>Health &amp; Medicine</b></p> <p>Chair: Carola Leicht</p> <p><i>Morality, Molecules and Medical Transcendentalism: Reflections on a "two-eyed seeing" approach to biomedical research</i> Cameron Murray, McMaster University</p> <p><i>Gerotranscendence and the secularization of society</i> Renate Ysseldyk, Carleton University</p> <p><i>Unani medical system and its association with religion in Deccan 19th century India</i></p>	<p><b>Nature &amp; (Dis)enchantment</b></p> <p>Chair: Shoko Watanabe</p> <p><i>Perceptions about religious institutions and conceptions about the natural world shape worldviews in Argentina</i> Arturo Fitz Herbert, Universidad Austral</p> <p><i>Religious Origins of the Modern Urban Water Management in Princely Travancore, Colonial India c. 17-20 cent. CE</i> Mahendranath Sudhindranath &amp; John Bosco Lourdasamy, Indian Institute of Technology Madras, India</p>



	<p>Katarzyna Jarosz, University of Logistics in Wrocław</p> <p><i>The modern "St. Basils": Militant religious astronomers in the Greek state (1920-1990)</i> Kostas Tampakis, National Hellenic Foundation</p> <p><i>Haldeman-Julius and his "Little Blue Books" series</i> James C. Ungureanu, Stony Brooke School, NY</p>	<p>Sai Krishna Vardhaman, Indian Institute Of Technology Madras (IIT MADRAS)</p> <p><i>Ardas(Prayer) and Allopathy: A Study of Gurdwara Bangla Sahib (Online)</i> Kulbir Kaur, Shyama Prasad Mukherji College, University of Delhi</p>	<p><i>Finding Meaning in the Heavens Above: The Crown's "Moondust" on Science and Religion</i> Anthony K Nairn, York University</p> <p><i>From Science and Humanism to Science as Religion: the emerging representation of science as a worldview in BBC blue-chip documentaries</i> Will Mason-Wilkes, University of Birmingham, Alexander Hall, McMaster University</p>
<b>4.00-4.30pm</b>	BREAK		
<b>4.30-5.30pm</b>	<p><b>Plenary 3</b></p> <p><b>Panel: <i>The Intersections between Sociology and Psychology in Science &amp; Belief</i></b></p> <p>Chairs: Carissa Sharp &amp; Stephen Jones</p> <p>Panellists: Arturo Fitz Herbert, Miguel Farias, Michael Price, Shiri Noy</p>		
<b>6.30pm</b>	CONFERENCE DINNER (Villa Gans)		

<b>Day 4: Thursday 4th</b>			
Room	Oberursel 1&2	Oberursel 3	Oberursel 4
Type	Plenaries & Parallel 1	Parallel 2	Parallel 3
<b>9.00-9.30am</b>	REGISTRATION		
<b>9.30-11.00am</b>	<p><b>Panel Session 6</b></p>		
	<p><b>Mental Health</b></p> <p>Chair: Cameron Mackey</p> <p><i>Epistemology of African Religion and Mental Health in South Africa</i></p>	<p><b>Pedagogy, Science &amp; Belief</b></p> <p>Chair: Will Mason-Wilkes</p> <p><i>Teaching Miracles in History Courses: A comparative study (Online)</i></p>	<p><b>Childbirth &amp; Infancy</b></p> <p>Chair: Rachael Shillitoe</p> <p><i>Representation of Childbirth in Nigerian Yoruba Nollywood Movies</i></p>





	<p>Uwem Samuel, University of Kwazulu-Natal</p> <p><i>From self-transcendence to self-enhancement: is mindfulness a religion for unbelievers?</i> Miguel Farias, Coventry University</p> <p><i>Indigenous Student mental health services, and Sangomas in South Africa universities</i> Umoh Adetola Elizabeth, University of Kwazulu-Natal</p>	<p>Chafik Graiguer, ENS-Moulay Ismail University, Meknes, Morocco</p> <p><i>Moral Emotions' Role in Christian University Students' Perceptions of Science</i> Erin I. Smith (non-attending co-authors: M. Elizabeth Lewis Hall, Nicole Chang), California Baptist University</p> <p><i>Science and Religion in the classroom: narratives about conflict and independence in High School textbooks</i> María Sol Barbera, Universidad Austral</p>	<p>Raheemat Adeniran, Lagos State University</p> <p><i>Impact of Cultural Beliefs on Infant and Maternal Welfare in the Bamenda Plateau: 1922-1961</i> Lueong Nina Prazil Lienjeh, University of Bamenda</p> <p><i>Maternity Shoot Spectacles on Social Media and the Violation of Yorùbá Pregnancy Taboos</i> Ganiyat Tijani-Adenle, Lagos State University, Nigeria</p>
<p><b>11.00-11.30am</b></p>	<p>BREAK</p>		
<p><b>11.30-1.00pm</b></p>	<p><b>Panel Session 7</b></p>		
	<p><b>Death</b></p> <p>Chair: Shiri Noy</p> <p><i>It still feels a bit weird, a cemetery is a place of grieving": School Teachers' Handling of Death-Focused Activities</i> Alandeom W. Oliveira, State University of New York at Albany</p> <p><i>Scientific and Supernatural Reasoning about Illness and Death During COVID-19</i> Hannah Lunkenheimer, University of Texas at Austin</p> <p><i>Children in Tana Toraja Reason Consistently About Death Despite Conflicting Accounts</i> Melanie Nyhof, Carthage College</p>	<p><b>STEM Education</b></p> <p>Chair: Stephen Jones</p> <p><i>Women, Science, and Religious Beliefs: Exploring Women's participation in STEMM Education in a phallogocentric Nigeria</i> Irene Ene Unazi, Federal University Lokoja, Kogi State Nigeria</p> <p><i>Secular biology graduate teaching assistant perceptions of the relationship between religion and evolution</i> Baylee Edwards, Arizona State University</p> <p><i>Latin American youth, the future of work and career expectations in STEM and Academia: the role of attitudes towards science and religion ( Online)</i> Reynaldo Rivera, Universidad Austral</p>	<p><b>New Historical Approaches</b></p> <p>Chair: Alexander Hall</p> <p><i>The limits and uses of the history of science for contemporary engagement: the case of Reijer Hooykaas</i> Jelmer Heeren, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam</p> <p><i>De-Orientalizing Discourses: Co-operation, Engagement, and Connections in the History of Science</i> Zaheeda P. Alibhai, University of Ottawa</p> <p><i>For an Experience-Based Study of the Relationship Between Science and Belief. The Case of Fin de Siècle Transmutational Alchemy</i> Leonardo Anatrini, Università degli Studi di Firenze</p>



1.00-2.00pm	LUNCH		
2.00-3.30pm	<b>Panel Session 8</b>		
	<p><b>Scientific Knowledge &amp; Belief</b></p> <p>Chair: Cameron Murray</p> <p><i>What kind of world is it?: Primal world beliefs, religious orientation, and scientific attitudes</i> Ronald Wright, Southern Nazarene University</p> <p><i>How Marxism helped to hypnotize the nation. Science, ideology and scientific esotericism in (post)Soviet Ukraine</i> Maria Roginska, Institute of Sociology, University of the National Education Commission in Krakow</p>	<p><b>Interdisciplinarity &amp; Collaboration</b></p> <p>Chair: Carissa Sharp</p> <p><i>Calling all interdisciplinary internationals: I need you</i> Caroline McCalman, University of Birmingham</p> <p><i>The other side of the coin: Theologians, psychologists, and collaboration</i> Shoko Watanabe, University of Birmingham</p> <p><i>How (not to) build a discipline around the Social Study of Science and Religion</i> Thoko Kamwendo, Durham University</p>	<p><b>Print Media</b></p> <p>Chair: James Riley</p> <p><i>Extra, Extra: Read all about it! An Analysis of Science and Religion Articles In Ghanaian Print Media</i> Vivian Dzokoto, Virginia Commonwealth University</p> <p><i>Binaries, Boundaries, and Belief: The Place of Science and Religion American National Newspaper Coverage of the Culture Wars</i> Rebecca Catto, Kent State University</p>
3.30-4.00pm	BREAK		
4.00-5.00pm	<b>Plenary 4</b>		
	<p><b>Panel: <i>Emerging Themes in Science &amp; Belief</i></b></p> <p>Chair: Alexander Hall Panellists: Elaine Howard Ecklund, Cristine Legare (Online), Fern Elsdon-Baker (Online)</p>		
6.00pm	BBQ		

