

2025 Philosophy of Religion programme for Tyndale Fellowship Conference

Tyndale Fellowship Lecture: Monday 30 June, 20:00-21:30

First name and surname	Institution/location	Title	Abstract
Brandon Rickabaugh	Palm Beach Atlantic University, USA	Technologically Formed in Christ? The Rise of AI Intimacy and Spiritual Formation Technologies	We are witnessing the rapid emergence and popularity of “spirit tech” and the broader intimacy economy: AI-driven systems like <i>Replika</i> , <i>Wysa</i> , and <i>Sibyl AI</i> , marketed as therapists, soulmates, and spiritual advisors/pastors providing transformative religious experiences. This paper challenges the widespread assumption that such AI systems are merely tools. Drawing on recent work in consciousness studies, computer science, and the history and philosophy of technology, I argue that the design and deployment of AI intimacy and spirit-tech technologies are inherently, systematically depersonalizing in a way that renders spiritual formation in the Way of Jesus unintelligible and ultimately unlivable. Only a return to the traditional Christian ontology of the human person as a bodily-soul can adequately diagnose and treat this growing technological deformation. In application, the overall framework offers a promising understanding of the faith–science dialogue, grounded in the history and philosophy of science and technological development.

Monday 30 June 2025

Timings 16.00-18.30	First name and surname	Institution/location e.g. St Andrew's, UK or VU Amsterdam, Netherlands	Confirmed paper title
16:00-16:35	Timothy Mosteller	California Baptist University, USA	Complete Happiness and Complete Persons in the Intermediate State and the Resurrection
16:35-17:10	Andrew Mercantini	Palm Beach Atlantic University, USA	God in Space
17:15-17:55	Richard Worsley	Liverpool, UK	Can Modern Miracles Authenticate Divine Revelation?
17:55-18:30	Christopher Oldfield	Faraday Institute, UK	The Problem of Evil and the Goodness of God

Tuesday 1 July 2025

Timings 10.00-12.30	First name and surname	Institution/location e.g. St Andrew's, UK or VU Amsterdam, Netherlands	Confirmed paper title
10:00-10:35	Lizibeth Fischer	Wycliffe Hall, Oxford	Faith and Doubt: A Dubious Contrast?
10:35-11:10	Matthew Hart	University of Liverpool, UK	Hell and Debilitating Terror
11:15-11:55	Ian Davies	University of Birmingham, UK	Should Traducianists Be Panpsychists?
11:55-12:30	Phillip Quinn	University of Oxford, UK	God's Purpose in History
17.00-18.30			
17:00-17:35	Joshua Layton-Wood	University of Oxford, UK	The Practice of Classical Theism
17:45-18:20	Harry Bunting	University of Ulster, N. Ireland	Atonement: The Ethical Foundations

Wednesday 2 July 2025

Timings 10.00-12.30	First name and surname	Institution/location e.g. St Andrew's, UK or VU Amsterdam, Netherlands	Confirmed paper title
10:00-10:35	Dawn Sutherland	Liberty University, USA	From Babel to AI: Technology, Human Dignity, and Theological Ethics
10:35-11:10	Angus Menuge	Concordia University (WI), USA	Powers of the Soul Beyond AI
11:15-11:55	Walter Stepanenko	University of York, USA	What Should Evangelicals Say About Theory and Practice? (online)