

DoSER in Motion at the 2018 AAAS Annual Meeting



DoSER Newsletter, Spring 2018

Fostering dialogue between scientific and religious communities since 1995

DIRECTOR'S NOTE



From SXSW to the March for Science, the AAAS Dialogue on Science, Ethics, and Religion (DoSER) has been busy fostering dialogue between scientific, religious, and other diverse communities. It was wonderful to see many of you at the 2018 AAAS Annual Meeting, where a standing-room-only crowd gathered to hear a scientist, an ethicist, and a religious leader discuss different facets and impacts of gene editing and human identity. (More details below.) Scientists are eagerly participating in DoSER's "Engaging Scientists" workshops, which are hosted at science society meetings and on the campuses of research universities. At the workshops, participants constructively engage with real-world scenarios and questions they may encounter from students and the public at the intersection of faith and science. Many scientists are eager to grow

their skills, knowledge, and sensitivity for productive dialogue about science with a largely religious public, and most of the Engaging Scientist workshops have been filled to capacity.

One of DoSER's goals is to grow a network to connect scientists and science communicators with faith communities and organizations who are interested in constructive dialogue and engagement on science and society topics. To that end, DoSER created an online network that connects experts with public science engagement opportunities (currently in beta). Email us at doser@aaas.org for information on how to register on the network as a science ambassador or community representative.

—Jennifer Wiseman, Director, AAAS DoSER

[Register for the Engaging Scientists Network »](#)

DOSER IN MOTION AT THE 2018 AAAS ANNUAL MEETING IN AUSTIN



"Gene Editing and Human Identity: Promising Advances and Ethical Challenges," a DoSER symposium at the 2018 AAAS Annual Meeting, grappled with the legal, ethical, and cultural dimensions of gene editing and CRISPR technology. It featured presentations and an informative discussion between Gang Bao,

professor of bioengineering at Rice University; Marcy Darnovsky, Executive Director of the Center for Genetics and Society; Father Nicanor Austriaco, professor of biology and bioethics at Providence College; and Christopher Scott, Dalton Tomlin Chair of Medical Ethics and Health Policy at Baylor College of Medicine.

[Read more about the symposium »](#)



DoSER participated in other events throughout the AAAS Annual Meeting. On Saturday and Sunday, DoSER's Rob O'Malley had one-on-one conversations with students at the Family Science Days' Meet a Scientist booth. The team also presented a Force for Science Toolkit: "Science

Engagement with Religious Publics," discussing examples and strategies for fostering positive science engagement with religious communities.

[Contact DoSER for more information about the Force for Science Toolkit »](#)

ADDITIONAL DOSER EVENTS



On April 14, 2018, "science enthusiasts gathered on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. and at 230 satellite rallies in towns and cities across the globe [to] endorse scientific evidence and celebrate its discoveries. On the Mall, AAAS held a series of 'teach-ins' where marchers were coached on how to

advocate for science in their communities." Speakers provided tips on how to effectively communicate with diverse audiences such as Congressional representatives, family and friends, and strangers. "Curtis Baxter, program associate in AAAS DoSER, encouraged science advocates to communicate with religious and faith communities...noting that people with strong religious networks are more likely to be civically active."

[Read more about the March for Science »](#)



Jennifer Wiseman, astronomer, and Lucas Mix, Episcopal Priest and Associate at Harvard University, explored discoveries found by modern telescopes and the theological interpretations of life emerging in an ancient universe at session organized by DoSER at the SXSW Conference in Austin, TX, on March 12, 2018.

ENGAGING SCIENTISTS



The AAAS Dialogue on Science, Ethics and Religion (DoSER) Program is pleased to announce partnerships with six institutions across the U.S. — Stanford University, Texas State University, Vanderbilt University, Indiana University, the University of Maryland-Baltimore County, and Howard University — as part of the 'Engaging

Scientists in the Science and Religion Dialogue' project.

[Read more »](#)

OTHER AAAS HAPPENINGS

[Concerns About the Economic and Social Impacts of AI and the Future of Work:](#)

May 2, 2018, 4:00 — 5:00 pm ET, Washington, DC

The AAAS Colloquium will review the impacts of artificial intelligence (AI) on the economy, concerns about AI in relation to job replacement and "overpowering human control," and the implications for education.

[New Paradigms for Global Health: Building Capacity through Science and Technology Partnerships:](#)

May 4, 2018, 11:30 am — 12:30 pm ET, Washington, DC

The 2018 Annual AAAS-Hitachi Lecture on Science and Society will offer a practitioner's perspective on new ways of integrating and advancing global health science, security, and assistance.

INVEST IN DIALOGUE

Did you know that supporting DoSER's vital work of facilitating conversations between scientists and religious communities is as easy as clicking the link below? Your investment will help us expand our dialogues into exciting new areas. Email us at doser@aaas.org to learn more.

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For more information about this event, contact doser@aaas.org