

**CTSA Convention, Atlanta, GA
June 9–12, 2022**

TOPIC SESSION/CONSULTATION: LONERGAN CONSULTATION

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM:

Brian Bajzek (Convener)
Nicholas Olkovich
Kevin M. Vander Schel

CONVENTION THEME: “Thinking Catholic Interreligiously”

SESSION DESCRIPTION:

In response to the 2022 CTSA convention theme, “Thinking Catholic Interreligiously,” we invite proposals that examine intersections between Lonergan's work and diverse theological, ethical, historical, practical, and interdisciplinary perspectives.

The interconnectedness of contemporary living demands the development of intercultural and interreligious solidarity. Just as no human being has ever existed as a monad “with neither windows nor doors,” no faith tradition exists in a vacuum. The global realities of twenty-first century living raise challenges, opportunities, and questions regarding what it means to think theologically in a time of unprecedented encounter and exchange. Catholic theologians’ horizons must be informed by *both* the integration and application of their own tradition’s beliefs and insights, *and* by attentive, intelligent, reasonable, responsible, and loving engagement with the views, values, and needs of members of other faiths. Lonergan's writings in philosophy and theology can help shed light on how growth in such authenticity is often stunted or distorted, as well as provide resources for constructing alternatives that promote integral human development and cross-cultural/interfaith collaboration.

We welcome proposals that engage these trends and concerns, as well as papers that interact with the broader convention theme. Possible topic areas include:

- connections between Lonergan’s thought, theology of religions, and comparative theology
- Lonergan’s analysis of religious conversion and its relationship to belief, faith, and religious experience
- the role of mutual self-mediation in interreligious dialogue
- otherness and its impact upon dialogue and solidarity, especially in light of recent writings on a “fourth stage of meaning” in Lonergan’s thought
- the problems of bias and misinformation, especially as these foster populist and/or exclusionary stances regarding religion, culture, race, etc.

- the role of grace in interreligious dialogue and intercultural exchange
- connections between Lonergan's thought and the documents of the Second Vatican Council (particularly *Nostra Aetate* and *Dignitatis Humanae*)
- *Fratelli Tutti* and its implications for theologians seeking to develop a "not numerous center" in the face of increased polarization
- the role of cosmopolis, world-cultural humanity, and interfaith solidarity in fostering an "integral scale of values"
- the relevance of secularization and sacralization to contemporary conversations concerning religion, agnosticism, and atheism

INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN YOUR PROPOSAL:

- Your paper proposal should be not more than 250 words.
- You should also include a 100 word précis that will be posted on the CTSA website should your paper be accepted.
- Please provide the name and institution of all participants (convener, moderator, presenters), and contact information, including e-mail.
- Indicate whether you will be requiring A/V equipment.

ELIGIBILITY FOR SUBMITTING PAPER PROPOSALS

- CTSA guidelines require that those making proposals ordinarily be associate or full members in good standing with their dues paid up. Anyone with an associate or full membership application on file can also submit a proposal if they expect to be accepted for membership in the upcoming June convention.
- No member may present a paper/respond to a paper/participate on a panel more than once at a given convention. An exception is made for members of under-represented groups. Presentations made to the Women's Consultation on Constructive Theology are included in this rubric.

Deadline: September 1, 2021. Please submit proposals to: Brian Bajzek (brianbajzek@gmail.com); Nicholas Olkovich (nolkovich@stmarkscollege.ca); Kevin M. Vander Schel (vanderschel@gonzaga.edu)

You will be notified by e-mail whether your paper has been accepted by September 14, 2021.