

RELIGION IN CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY

Milton A. Barlow Center
Brigham Young University
2520 L Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037

May 14-15, 2012

Co-organized by:

Chinese Academy of Social Science, China
and
Brigham Young University, United States

MONDAY, MAY 14

9 AM

Welcome and Introduction

W. Cole Durham, Jr., Susa Young Gates University Professor of Law and Director, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University, United States

9:15-10:30 AM

Session I: Religion and Culture: The Place of Religion in American and Chinese Societies

Moderator: W. Cole Durham, Jr., Susa Young Gates University Professor of Law and Director, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University, United States

Zhuo Xinping, Professor, Institute of World Religions, Chinese Academy of Social Science, China

“Charities: The Way for the Understanding of Religion in Contemporary China”

Gregory A. Smith, Senior Researcher, Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life, United States

“The Experiences of Religious Minorities in the U.S.: Muslims and Mormons”

10:30-11 AM

Break

11 AM-12:30 PM

Session II: Religion and Culture: The Place of Smaller Religious Communities

Moderator: Brett G. Scharffs, Francis R. Kirkham Professor of Law and Associate Director, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University, United States

Jan Shipps, Professor Emerita of History and Religious Studies, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, United States
“Mormonism’s Place in the American Religious Mosaic”

Chris Scheitle, Senior Research Associate, Department of Sociology, Penn State University; Adjunct Assistant Professor, College of St. Benedict, St. John’s University, United States
“Environmental Factors Affecting Levels of Spiritual Entrepreneurship across U.S. Counties”

12:30-1:30 PM

Lunch

1:30-2:30 PM

Session III: Religion and Culture: Religion, Morality, and Family

Moderator: Jan Shipps, Professor Emerita of History and Religious Studies, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, United States
“Mormonism’s Place in the American Religious Mosaic”

Zeng Chuanhui, Professor, Institute of World Religions, Chinese Academy of Social Science, China
“The Historical and Cultural Background of Religious Charity in China”

Marie Cornwall, Professor, Department of Sociology, Brigham Young University, United States; Editor, *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*
“Religion and Family as the Carriers of Culture”

2:30-3 PM

Break

3-4:15 PM

Session IV: Religion and Charity I

Moderator: Marie Cornwall, Professor, Department of Sociology, Brigham Young University, United States; Editor, *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*

Zheng Xiaoyun, Professor, Institute of World Religions, Chinese Academy of Social Science, China
“An ‘Odd Embarrassment’ and the ‘Glass Pocket’: On the ‘Chinese Dilemma’ of Religious Charitable Works”

Jonathan P. Hill, Assistant Professor of Sociology, Department of Sociology and Social Work, Calvin College, United States
“Substitution or Symbiosis? Assessing the Relationship between Religious and Secular Giving in the United States”

Stephen Klingelhofer, Senior Counsel, International Center for Not-for-Profit Law, United States
“Charities and Religion – Companions in Law in a Harmonious Society”

4:15-4:30 PM

Break

4:30-5:30 PM

Session V: Religion and Charity II

Moderator: Kathleen Flake, Associate Professor of American Religious History, The Divinity School and Graduate Department of Religion, Vanderbilt University, United States
“Uncommon Religions and the Common Good”

Yang Jian, Professor, Institute of World Religions, Chinese Academy of Social Science, China
“A Mirror of Buddhist Charities in the Mainland of China: The Charity of Nanputuo Temple, Xiamen”

Michael W. Durham, Attorney at Law, Caplin & Drysdale, United States
“U.S. Tax System and Foreign Charitable Giving”

TUESDAY, MAY 15

9-10:30 PM

Session VI: Social Science Perspectives on Religion in Society

Moderator: David Little, T.J. Dermot Dunphy Professor Emeritus of the Practice in Religion, Ethnicity, and International Conflict, Harvard Divinity School, United States

Brian J. Grim, Senior Research and Director of Cross-National Data, Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life, United States
“Rising Restrictions on Religion as Part of the Context of Arab Spring and its Aftermath”

Eileen Barker, Emeritus Professor of Sociology, London School of Economics, United Kingdom
“New Religious Movements in Contemporary Societies”

Jiexia Zhai Autry, Affiliate Research Faculty, George Mason University, and East Asia Program Officer, Institute for Global Engagement, United States
“The Case of the True Jesus Church Movement: The Emergence of Distinctive Indigenous Harmony”

10:30-11 AM

Break

11 AM-12 Noon

Session VII: Religion and the Rule of Law

Moderator:

Eileen Barker, Emeritus Professor of Sociology, London School of Economics, United Kingdom
“New Religious Movements in Contemporary Societies”

Robert A. Destro, Professor of Law, Columbus School of Law, Catholic University of America, United States
“Religion and the Rule of Law in the United States”

Brett G. Scharffs, Francis R. Kirkham Professor of Law and Associate Director, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University, United States
“Religious Majorities and Restrictions on Religion”

12 Noon-1 PM

Lunch

Speaker: Chris Seiple, President, Institute for Global Engagement, United States
“Religion, Society, and State: New Paradigms for Partnership”

1-2 PM

Session VIII: Religion and the Economy

Moderator: Robert A. Destro, Professor of Law, Columbus School of Law, Catholic University of America, United States
“Religion and the Rule of Law in the United States”

Brian S. Sorensen, Harvard Humanitarian Initiative, and Clinical Instructor at the Harvard Medical School, United States
“Religion, the Healthcare Sector, and the Economy”

W. Cole Durham, Jr., Susa Young Gates University Professor of Law and Director, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University, United States
“Religious Factors in Modern Economies”

2-2:30 PM

Break

2:30-3:30 PM

Session IX: Religion, Politics, and Social Movements

Moderator: Brian S. Sorensen, Harvard Humanitarian Initiative, and Clinical Instructor at the Harvard Medical School, United States
“Religion, the Healthcare Sector, and the Economy”

David Masci, Senior Researcher, Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life, United States

Kathleen Flake, Associate Professor of American Religious History, The Divinity School and Graduate Department of Religion, Vanderbilt University, United States
“Uncommon Religions and the Common Good”

3:30-4:30 PM

Summary/Conclusion