

FRIDAY 15TH MARCH: A CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVE ON LAB CULTURE

3:30 pm **Registration in Magdalen College's Old Kitchen Bar with coffee & tea**

4:00 pm - **A critique of lab culture** - Stephen Blundell (Professor, Condensed Matter Physics)

5:00 pm - **Panel of Christians in the sciences, medicine and engineering** including **Ard Louis**, (Professor, Theoretical Physics), **Stephen Blundell** (Professor, Condensed Matter Physics), and additional panelists to be confirmed

The following events are joint with all streams at New College.

6:00 pm **Prayer in Magdalen College Auditorium**

6:30 pm **Walking together from Magdalen College to New College**

6:40 pm **Drinks in the New College Bar**

7:30 pm **Dinner in the New College Dining Hall**

SATURDAY 16TH MARCH: A FOCUS ON AI & HUMILITY IN HEALTHCARE

9:00 am **Registration in Magdalen College's Old Kitchen Bar with coffee & tea**

9:05 am **Prayer at Magdalen College Chapel**

9:30 am **A Christian perspective on Generative AI** - Lionel Tarassenko (Professor, Electrical Engineering, President, Ruben College) Chaired by Marta Wojciechowska (Postdoc, Digital Pathology)

Large Language Models (LLMs) such as ChatGPT are the best-known examples of Generative AI. One of the leading figures in the Artificial Intelligence (AI) world, a committed atheist, recently said in a public lecture in Oxford that LLMs understood language and hallucinated just like human beings. The Chair of MIT's Media Lab, in contrast, has gone on the record as saying that every human being is made in the image of God, an attribute that cannot be built into AI.

In his talk, Lionel Tarassenko will explain the basic principles of LLMs and then show how their properties may be analysed to reach conclusions, from a Christian perspective, about the differences between generative AI and human beings.

11:00 am **Coffee & tea in the Old Kitchen Bar**

11:30 am **Theological Reflection on AI** - Joshua Hordern (Professor, Christian Ethics)

11:45 pm **Panel discussion on AI** including **Joshua Hordern** (Professor, Christian Ethics), **Lionel Tarassenko** (Professor, Electrical Engineering, President, Reuben College), and **Jeremy Basset** (Founder & CEO, Super Benji). Chaired by Kezia Gaitskell, Consultant & Honorary Senior Clinical Lecturer, Pathology

1:00 pm **Lunch in the Old Kitchen Bar**

2:00 pm **Humility in Healthcare** - Paul Johnson (Professor, Paediatric Surgery)

The public image of healthcare professionals is one of compassion, kindness, and self-effacing servanthood. Indeed, the National Health Service was built on this premise. Sadly, the reality today can be very different, with hospitals and clinical departments frequently divided by professional rivalry, competition for patients, and ruthless personal ambition. Paul will explore this paradox and remind us that Christians working in Healthcare are called to be counter-cultural and transformative, demonstrating Christ-like humility in clinical care, research, and healthcare leadership roles.

2:25 pm **Living as a Christian in the academic world** - Carolyn Taylor (Professor, Oncology, Consultant Clinical Oncologist)

Christians in academic medical science face particular joys and challenges. There can be ups and downs in conducting research, gaining and maintaining funding, and working with others. How can we live for Christ in the academic world? Carolyn will consider some aims and priorities, and think about how to keep our eyes fixed on what matters most.

2:50 pm **Discussion** - chaired by John Gallacher (Professor, Psychology, Director, Dementias Platform UK)

3:30 pm **Closing**

NATURAL SCIENCES STREAM

Including all disciplines that are part of MPLS Division (Mathematical, Physical, Life Sciences) at the University of Oxford as well as the Medical Sciences.

Friday 15th March (3:30pm to 9:00pm) and Saturday 16th March (9:00am to 3:30pm)

Venue: Summer Common Room, Magdalen College, Oxford

Senior convener: Ard Louis (Professor, Theoretical Physics)

Convener: Samantha (Sam) O'Sullivan (DPhil, Physics)

How can postgraduates, postdocs, and academics at the University of Oxford and Oxford Brookes approach their academic disciplines as Christians? What does it mean to respond to a Christian vocation and to honour God in university life?

Developing a Christian Mind: Seeking Wisdom examines these questions in five disciplinary streams: Humanities, Medical Sciences, Natural Sciences, Philosophy and Theology, and Social Sciences. Oxford academics and postgraduates speak and lead discussion for each stream. Past attendees are encouraged to come, listen to new talks, and take part in discussion with new attendees.

<https://dcmoxford.org/march>

DCM OXFORD

DEVELOPING A CHRISTIAN MIND AT OXFORD