

The Catholic Church as Global Actor

MAY 4 - 5, 2006

How is the Roman Catholic Church's role or place in the modern world like or unlike that of other traditions? What difference does it make, if any, that the Roman Catholic Church is the largest and most transnationally institutionalized of the world's religious traditions? These questions will be addressed comparatively and from a variety of disciplinary perspectives (sociology, political science, women's studies, and religious studies). The conference will open with an evening lecture, followed by a series of papers the following morning, and conversation between respondents and invited discussants in the afternoon. The entire conference is free and open to the university and general public.

Thursday, May 4 – UCSB Corwin Pavilion

8:00 p.m. Keynote Address: "The Catholic Church as Global Actor"
Thomas J. Reese, S.J., Visiting Scholar, Santa Clara University

Friday, May 5 – 6020 Humanities and Social Sciences Building, UCSB

Morning Session: Presentations by Guest Speakers and Discussion with Audience

9:00 a.m. Welcome

9:10 a.m. "The Catholic Church in International Affairs Today"
Eric O. Hanson, Patrick A. Donahue, S.J. Professor,
Department of Political Science, Santa Clara University

10:00 a.m. Break

10:10 a.m. "Women, Reproductive Rights and the Catholic Church as a Global Actor"
Rosemary Radford Ruether, Visiting Professor, Women's Studies in Religion,
Claremont Graduate University

11:00 a.m. Break

11:10 a.m. "Imagined communion: national virtue, virtual nationality and virtuous nations"
Donald Paul Sullins, Department of Sociology, The Catholic University of America

12:00 a.m. Lunch

Afternoon Session: Discussion between Guest Speakers, Faculty, and Audience

1:00 p.m. Themes & Issues: A Response to Sessions
Ann Taves, Cordano Professor of Catholic Studies, UC Santa Barbara

1:15 p.m. Discussion
Wade Clark Roof, Catherine L. Albanese, Juan Campo, Ken McGuire,
Mark Juergensmeyer, Richard Hecht, Sheila Briggs, Kathleen Bruhn,
plus all guest speakers.

3:00 p.m. Event Concludes

