Tradition & Discovery
The Polanyi Society Periodical

Preface

This issue of *TAD* recognizes the contributions of Harry Prosch who died last March. Almost since its publication, there has been speculation about Prosch's role in putting together *Meaning* from the lectures on which it was based. This discussion has been complicated by another controversy regarding how to interpret Polanyi's ideas about the objects of transnatural integration. Harry Prosch made his views quite clear in reviews, essays and in his *Michael Polanyi, A Critical Exposition*. What is included in this issue will not resolve the difficult questions. The short obituary notice I have written, with the help of Harry's friends and family, seeks simply to provide a more rounded view of Prosch's life than Polanyians know. "Harry Prosch: A Memorial Re-Appraisal of the *Meaning* Controversy," which Marty Moleski and I wrote, seeks to offer one more perspective on Prosch and Polanyi's collaboration. The interesting essays by Tony Clark ("Polanyi on Religion") and Esther L Meek ("Learning to See: The Role of Authoritative Guides in Knowing") began their lives as papers presented at recent annual meetings of the Polanyi Society. In addition to the essays, there are three reviews, including one on an important new collection of essays on Polanyi's thought.

Be sure you also take a look at the plans for the 2006 Polanyi Society meeting next November in San Diego and the call for papers at that meeting. The official business of the Society is laid out in the minutes on the November 19, 2005 meeting and the financial statement. News and Notes includes some bibliography and other items that may be of interest. If you tried recently to access the new *TAD* digital archives and had difficulty, please try again and notify me about any further problems. There was, in fact, a small glitch in the code that prevented some from downloading material but that has now been fixed.

Phil Mullins

NEWS AND NOTES

The Polanyi Society has a Travel Fund, thanks to donations from several people. While this is not yet a large fund, it is intended to help support students interested in Polanyi and/or scholars beginning work on Polanyi. Funds can be requested to attend the annual meeting of the Polanyi Society. Faculty who might know of potentially interested students or scholars should forward names and addresses to Walter Mead (wbmead@ilstu.edu).

Searchable *TAD* Digital Archives Are Open Access

The digital archives for *TAD* (accessed from a link on the Polanyi Society web page at http://www.missouriwestern.edu/orgs/polanyi/) were recently unavailable due to a glitch in the code. If you have had trouble entering the archives and/or downloading an issue of TAD, try again. The Google search engine for the Polanyi Society site (located at the bottom of the page) should now be working. You no longer need a password to download a full issue or a particular article from the table of contents in any issue from the present back to Volume 17, Numbers 1 & 2 (1990-1991).

Albert Bagood writes that in the 2005-2006 academic year he is teaching a course entitled "The Image of Man in the Philosophy of Michael Polanyi." His article, "The Complexity of A Passionate Scientific Reseacher: The Holistic Approach to St. Thomas and M. Polanyi," appeared in *Angelicum*, 81 (2004): 593-614.

Stephen Henry has recently published an article using Polanyi's philosophy as a platform for critiquiing a new medical licensing examination: Henry, Stephen G., "Playing Doctor." *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 294 no. 17 (November 2, 2005): 2138-2140.

TAD 31: 3 featured articles on *Longing to Know: The Philosophy of Knowledge for Ordinary People* by Dale Cannon and David Rutledge with a response from author Esther L. Meek. An interesting recent interview of Meek is posted on Common Grounds Online; there is also a link here to a review of the book by Scott Phillips (http://commongroundsonline.typepad.com/common_grounds_online/2005/10/by_doug_serven_.html).

Polanyi Society WWW Site

For anyone who did not see the earlier notice, the Polanyi web site now has links to 14 Polanyi articles. Also added to the site is a brief statement about "Polanyi and Intelligent Design." This addition clarifies the history of the now defunct "Michael Polanyi Center" at Baylor and provides links to other sites with more detailed information.

SPCPS Conference

The annual SPCPS Conference (formerly the *Appraisal*/ Polanyi Conference) is scheduled for April 7 and 8 at The University of Nottingham. This conference operates as a round-table seminar, providing much time for each paper. For information about fees and a schedule of presentations, contact Richard Allen (rt.allen@ntlworld.com).

Electronic Discussion List

The Polanyi Society supports an electronic discussion group that explores implications of the thought of Michael Polanyi. Anyone interested can join. To join yourself, go to the following address: **http://groups.yahoo.com/group/polanyi_list/join**. If you have difficulty, send an e-mail to Doug Masini (masini@etsu.edu) and someone will see that you are added to the list.

2006 Polanyi Society Annual Meeting

Call for Papers

This year's annual meeting of the Polanyi Society will be held in Washington, DC, November 17 and 18, 2006. Once again each of our sessions will be held as an "Additional Meeting" in conjunction with the annual meetings of the American Academy of Religion and the Society for Biblical Literature. The request to the AAR/SBL for space is pending, but as usual we anticipate having both a Friday night session from 9:00-11:00 p.m. and a Saturday morning session from 9:00-11:30 a.m.

Two sorts of proposals are especially sought this year. One of our sessions will feature a paper by Blythe Clinchy, co-author of the widely influential book, *Women's Ways of Knowing.* She will be developing an essay that explicates some of her feminist epistemology as it bears on ideas set forth by Polanyi. Dale Cannon, who initiated correspondence with Clinchy about her Polanyian interests, will serve as one respondent. We seek one or two other individuals as respondents. It would be helpful if those willing to serve as respondents would indicate something of their interest in and or/ experience with the literature in psychology, feminist studies, and/or epistemology that Clinchy's work touches upon. Ideally the respondents would represent a broad array of interests related to Clinchy's work.

The second sort of proposals are those that would fit under the broad rubric of "Polanyian Heuristic Theologies and Philosophies of Religion." There are two kinds of papers that might be offered. One might seek to clarify Polanyi's own philosophy of religion. The other would seek to build on Polanyi's thought and offer a constructive theological vision or a creative philosophical interpretation of the place and significance of religion. Based on the level of interest demonstrated in this topic, this topic might be repeated in future calls for papers with the objective of bringing together the essays generated into a book format. At the very least, *Tradition and Discovery* would be highly interested in publishing articles on this subject matter.

Review of proposals will begin April 5, but earlier submissions are appreciated. Proposals for serving as a respondent need not be longer than a paragraph. Proposals for the theology and philosophy of religion session should ideally be 300 to 500 words in length, although full-length papers may also be submitted for consideration. Send proposals (e-mail attachments preferred!) to:

Walter Gulick, wgulick@msubillings.edu
Telephone: (406) 657-2904. Fax: (406) 657-1671.

Minutes of Polanyi Society Annual Meeting of November 19, 2005

Walter Gulick called the meeting to order at 11:15 a.m.

1. Ann Scott announced that she was sending to the Polanyi Society some of the unused funds that have supported the writing of the biography. Gulick expressed thanks for the Society.

2. Election: the terms on the board of the following individuals have expired: Phil Mullins, John Puddefoot, David Rutledge. The following replacements were elected unanimously: Dale Cannon, Wally Mead, Chris Goodman.

3. Gulick reported that two proposals for new AAR units will be submitted by December 1: (a) Richard Gelwick is preparing a proposal for a Seminar on Polanyi's heuristic philosophy of religion; (b) A proposal to establish a Group assessing methodologies for studying religion (including post-critical approaches) is being submitted by Dale Cannon and Walter Gulick.

4. The group discussed the possibility of organizing a summer seminar on science and religion. This is the kind of topic that the Templeton Foundation supports.

[Subsequently it was decided to target summer 2007 when the Polanyi Reader should be ready for use.] It was also noted that the Berkeley Center for the Study of Science and Theology may offer grants to bring together philosophers, theologians and scientists.

5. Cannon gave a report on the successful Rocky Mountain Retreat and circulated the proposed outline for a Polanyi Reader.

6. Mullins reported archived issues of *TAD* back to 1991 are available on the Polanyi website, and that he and Rutledge are working to get *TAD* included in sets of electronic journals which companies known as aggregators now provide to libraries.

7. Gulick noted that scholarships are available to help young scholars attend our annual meetings. Wally Mead will take the lead in recruiting candidates and chairing an *ad hoc* committee to determine each year's recipient.

8. The IRAS annual meeting on Star Island is featuring a conference on "Emergence" in late July, 2006 and again in summer, 2007.

9. The Polanyi Society is considering hosting a summer conference in 2008 to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the publication of *Personal Knowledge*.

10. Wally Mead has arranged for the re-publication of *The Tacit Dimension* by Eerdmans. When the book is available, the Polanyi Society will see what it can do to obtain the book in bulk for its members. Mead was to ensure if possible that selections from the book would be available for use in the Polanyi Reader at no (or little) charge.

11. Possible topics for the 2006 meeting in Washington were discussed: (a) Blythe Clinchy, one of the authors of *Women's Ways of Knowing*, and much interested in Polanyi, will be asked to do a lead paper to which there would be respondents. Nancy Tuana was mentioned as a possible respondent. (b) There could be an interesting session on "Disputed Questions," for instance, intelligent design. (c) There could be a session on Polanyi and pedagogy, treating how we learn and know in the classroom and teach writing. (d) There was support for a Polanyian philosophy of religion session (if the proposed Seminar is not approved).

12. The question was raised, but not resolved, as to whether the Society should have just a single session if the AAR approves the Seminar and/or Group. With AAR now offering competing sessions on Saturday morning, there is increasing pressure on our traditional time slots. [Neither proposal for a new unit was approved by the AAR.]

Martin Moleski, Secretary

Polanyi Society
Financial Statement

September 1, 2004 – August 31, 2005

Beginning Bal. Checking	$919.60
Income-membership dues,gifts	$3500.00
Expenses	
Annual meeting (Moleski)	$200.00
TAD (30, #3)	$894.45
TAD (31, #1)	$848.76
TAD (31, #2)	$791.14
Total expenses	$2734.35
Year End Checking	$1685.25

Beginning Bal. Savings	$2080.27
Income Interest	$14.06
Gift (for travel fund)	$300.00
Expenses	-0-
Year End Savings	$2394.33

John V. Apczynski, Treasurer