
Programme on Sex, Intimacy, and Love

*Session I: Creating a Framework for Healthy Sexuality**

*Sponsored by
The Orthodox Christian Association of Medicine, Psychology, and Religion
And
The Institute of Medicine, Psychology, and Religion*

November 3 – 4, 2006

Maliotis Cultural Center
Hellenic College & Holy Cross School of Theology
Brookline, MA

Creating a Framework for Healthy Sexuality

How do the disciplines of medicine, psychology, and religion enhance our holistic understanding of sex, intimacy, and love?

How is sexuality compatible with spiritual life?

Is sexual renunciation the truest path to life lived in holiness?

Programme Objectives

This conference will:

- create an open dialogue to support an inclusive exchange to address the needs and understandings of the Orthodox Christian community;
- explore a practical vision of sexuality; how can sexuality harmonize with spirituality?
- Provide new insights regarding problems created in modern society's idealization of a highly detached sexuality in conjunction with spiritual principles.
- Investigate understandings of sex as it relates to all aspects of our being.
- Engage various authoritative voices of the Church and provide lively exchange on Orthodox Christian perspectives on sex, marriage, and gender issues.
- Address steps toward creating a healthy, holistic, and God-honoring sexual life.

For more information please email info@inmpr.org, or mail to:
Spring 2006 Conference
The Institute of Medicine, Psychology, and Religion
PO Box 380958 Cambridge, MA 02238

* This programme constitutes a three-year research initiative; sessions II and III will address Intimacy and Love respectively.

Thursday

6:00 PM Invited Speakers' Dinner

Friday

8:00 AM *Annual OCAMPR Meeting*

9:15 *Welcome*

Reverend Nicholas Triantafilou, President
Hellenic College & Holy Cross School of Theology

Reverend Nicholas Graff, President
Orthodox Christian Association of Medicine, Psychology,
and Religion

9:30

KEYNOTE ADDRESS:

Creating a Framework for Healthy Sexuality

Multi-Media Presentation

John T. Chirban, Ph.D., Th.D.

Harvard Medical School and Hellenic College

10:30 – 11:00

Coffee Break

11:00 – 12:10 PM

Disciplinary Perspectives

“Developmental Foundations of Human Sexuality”

Yula Pontikas, Ph.D.

Johns Hopkins Hospital

“Psychological Considerations for a Sexual Framework”

Megan Brightwell, Ph.D.

St. Mary of Egypt Counselling Services

“Sex and the Holy”

John Behr, D. Phil.

St. Vladimir's Seminary

12:15 – 1:00

Discussion Groups

Group 1: A – E --

Tim Patitsas, Ph. D.

Holy Cross School of Theology

Group 2: F - K --

Valerie Karras, Ph. D.

Southern Methodist University

Group 3: L – P --

Rev. Phillip Zymaris, Ph. D.

Holy Cross School of Theology

Group 4: Q – Z --

Cynthia Kostas, M.B.A., M.T.S.

Holy Cross School of Theology

- 1:00 – 2:00 *Lunch* *Refectory*
- 2:00 ***Psychodrama – “There’s a New Family in Town and Why Is Demetri Always So Excited”***
Rev. Nicholas Graff
- 3:00 ***Concurrent Presentations***
Presentations in Response to Call for Papers
- 5:00 *Great Vespers*
- 6:00 *Dinner*
- 7:00 ***Different Kinds of Love: Their Origins and Forms – Excerpts from Alexander the Great***
Dr. John T. Chirban, facilitator

Saturday

- 9:30 AM ***“Gender: Theology and Modern Life”***
Dr. Valerie Karras
Dr. Tim Patitsas
- 11:15 *Coffee Break*
- 11:45 ***“Understanding Homosexuality”***
Dr. John T. Chirban, facilitator
George Plagianos, Representative of AXIOS
Orthodox Christian National Gay and Lesbian Organization
Rev. George Morelli, Ph.D., Antiochian Archdiocese
- 1:00 – 2:00 *Lunch*
- 2:00 – 3:30 ***“Marriage and Sexuality”***
Fr. John Behr
Cynthia Kostas
Fr. Phillip Zymaris
- 3:30 – 4:30 ***Faculty Panel and Summation***
Dr. John Behr
Dr. Megan Brightwell
Dr. John T. Chirban
Fr. Nicholas Graff, facilitator
Dr. Valerie Karras
Ms. Cynthia Kostas
Fr. George Morelli
Dr. Tim Patitsas
Dr. Yula Pontikas
Dr. Phillip Zymaris