The conference is organized by

Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Hermann Deuser | Max Weber Center
Prof. Dr. Hans Joas | FRIAS & Max Weber Center
Prof. Dr. Matthias Jung | University of Koblenz-Landau
PD Dr. Magnus Schlette | FEST Heidelberg

A limited number of listeners can be accommodated. Anyone interested, please contact Magnus Schlette (magnus.schlette@fest-heidelberg.de).

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International Conference
Pragmatism and the Theory of Religion
February 16th – 18th, 2011 | Max Weber Center, Erfurt

In cooperation with Forschungsstätte der Evangeli-
schen Studiengemeinschaft (FEST), Heidelberg
Program

Thursday, 16th February 2012
1 p.m. | Welcome and Introduction
1:30 p.m. | Opening lecture
Robert Cummings Neville:
„Theory of religion in a pragmatic philosophical theology“
2:45 p.m. | Coffee break
3 p.m. | Pragmatism and the American tradition
Michael Raposa:
„A brief history of Theosemiotic: from Scotus through Peirce and beyond“
Marie-Luise Raters:
„Don’t worry - be happy! The intrinsic connection between religious faith and worldly happiness in William James’ theory of religion and its sources in Emerson’s Transcendentalism“
4 p.m. | Discussion; commentary and moderation: Julien Winandy
5 p.m. | Coffee break
5:30 p.m. | On the relationship between philosophical anthropology and ethics in William James’ philosophy of religion
Eilert Herms:
„Anthropological prerequisites in Williams James’ concept of religion“
Sami Pihlström:
„The problem of evil in pragmatist philosophy of religion“
6:30 p.m. | Discussion; commentary and moderation: Michaela Rehm
8 p.m. | Dinner

Friday, 17th February 2012
9 a.m. | The semiotic and pragmaticist turn of the philosophy of religion in the work of Charles S. Peirce
Hermann Deuser:
„Pragmatic or pragmatist philosophy of religion?“
Gesche Linde:
„Man’s highest developments are social‘: A semiotic approach to religion in the wake of Peirce“
10 a.m. | Discussion; commentary and moderation: Markus Kleinert
11 a.m. | A brief tour of medieval Erfurt
1 p.m. | Lunch
2 p.m. | Josiah Royce’s philosophy of religion in the context of Pragmatism
Frank Oppenheim:
„A contextualized approach to Josiah Royce’s The Problem of Christianity for the new Critical Edition“
Vincent Colapietro:
„The dissenting voices of Charles Peirce and Josiah Royce“
3 p.m. | Discussion; commentary and moderation: Claudio Viale
4 p.m. | Coffee break
4:30 p.m. | Continuation: Josiah Royce’s philosophy of religion in the context of Pragmatism
Ludwig Nagl:
„Avoiding the dichotomy of ‘either the individual or the collectivity’: Josiah Royce on community and on James’ concept of religion“
Hans Joas:
„Religious experience and its interpretation. Reflections on James and Royce“
5:30 p.m. | Discussion; commentary and moderation: Stephan Steiner
7 p.m. | Evening lecture
Wayne Proudfoot:
„Pragmatism and Naturalism in the study of religion“
9 p.m. | Dinner

Saturday, 18th February 2012
9 a.m. | Naturalism, qualitative experience and the realm of faith in John Dewey’s religious thought
Victor Kestenbaum:
„Ontological faith in Dewey’s religious idealism“
Matthias Jung:
„Qualitative experience and naturalized religion: An inner tension in Dewey’s thought?“
10 a.m. | Discussion; commentary and moderation: Donata Schoeller
11 a.m. Coffee break
11:30 a.m. | Exploration against the backdrop of classical Pragmatism
Magnus Schlette:
„... how you understand ... can only be shown by how you live’. Putnam’s Philosophy of Religion“
Christoph Seibert:
„Towards a pragmatic methodology in philosophy of religion. Perspectives of classical American pragmatism“
Christian Polke:
„Personalism and Pragmatism. The innovative competence of American Philosophy for contemporary theories of religion“
1 p.m. | Discussion; commentary and moderation: Cornelia Mügge
2 p.m. | End of conference
2 p.m. | Snack