Conference Schedule

Annual Meeting of the Colloquium on Violence and Religion
July 7-10, 2021
Purdue University
(Online in Australia, Asia, Europe, South Africa, and the Americas)

Wednesday, July 7, 2021 (Day 1)

9:00-2:00pm **COV&R Executive Board Meeting**

2:00-2:30pm **Welcoming Addresses**
Welcome to Purdue University
David Reingold, Dean, College of Liberal Arts (CLA), Purdue University
Welcome to School of Interdisciplinary Studies (SIS), Purdue University
Venetria Patton, Head, SIS, Purdue University
Welcome to Conference of COV&R 2021 at Purdue University
Sandor Goodhart, Co-host, former President of COV&R, Purdue University
Welcome to Conference of COV&R 2021 on AI
Thomas Ryba, Co-host, Purdue University
Welcome to COV&R Organization
Martha Reineke, President, COV&R
Welcome to Conference at Purdue on AI
Sorin Adam Matei, Associate Dean of Research, CLA, Purdue University

2:30-4:00pm **Plenary Session #1: Opening Lecture**
"Taming the Desire of Sentient Machines with the Golden Rule"
Sorin Adam Matei
Professor of Communications
Purdue University
Moderator: Sandor Goodhart, Purdue University
Respondent: Rebecca Gibson, Indiana University South Bend

4:00-4:30pm **Break**

4:30-6:00pm **Concurrent Sessions #1**
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Room A: **Peirce, Girard, and Mimetic Theory**
Moderator: Jeremiah Alberg, International Christian University
Speakers
1. "The Semiotics of Hominization in Peirce and Girard," Sherwood Belangia, Independent Scholar
2. "Triangular Intentionality: Phenomenological Aspects of Mimetic Theory," Joachim Duyndam, University of Humanistic Studies, Utrecht

3. "The Book of Job and the Human Condition: A Reading of Mimetic Theory and Latin American theology, Horizons of Forgiveness, Chaos and Freedom: A possible dialogue between Ricoeur, Girard and Peirce," René Dentz, Jesuit Faculty of Philosophy and Theology of Belo Horizonte/Brazil

Room B: Book Sessions

Book Session 1 (45 minutes)

A discussion of Berry Vorstenbosch's *De overtocht: Filosofische blik op een psychose* [*The Crossing: Philosophical Look at Psychosis*] (Lontano, 2021)

Moderator: Thomas Ryba, Purdue University

Presenter: Berry Vorstenbosch

Panelists:

1. Berry Vorstenbosch, Independent Scholar, Dutch Girard Society
2. Erik Buys, Independent Scholar, Dutch Girard Society

Book Session 2 (45 Minutes)

A discussion of Mark Anspach's *The Oedipus Casebook* (Michigan State University Press, 2020)

Moderator: William Johnsen, Michigan State University

Presenter: Mark Anspach, Imitatio

Panelists

1. Mark Anspach, Imitatio
2. Sandor Goodhart, Purdue University

Room C: The Mimetic in Education, Intelligence, and Learning

Moderator: Suzanne Ross, Co-founder and CEO, unRival Network

1. "Imitation as an Essential Premise of Education," Per Grande, Western Norway University of Applied Sciences
2. "Artificial Intelligence and Literary Intelligence," Curtis Gruenler, Hope College
3. "'Dialogue' robots and machine 'learning': The mimetic trap of wishful thinking," Miriam Stuke, Universität Basel, and Thomas Stuke, Institute der PH FHNW

Room D: Book Sessions

Book Session 1 (45 Minutes)

A discussion of David Cayley's *Ivan Ilich: An Intellectual Journey* (Pennsylvania University Press, 2020)

Moderator: Sandor Goodhart, Purdue University

Presenter: David Cayley

Panelist: David Cayley, Canadian Broadcasting Company

6:30-8:00pm   Plenary Session #2: COV&R 2021 Lecture
"Autonomous Robots: The Model / Rival of the Unhuman"
Pablo Bandera
Director of Product Development
Honeybee Robotics
Moderator: Susan Wright, Independent Scholar, Theology and Peace

Respondent: Jeremiah Alberg, International Christian University

8:00-8:30pm   Break

8:30-10:00pm   Plenary Session #3:   The Girard 101 Lecture
"An Introduction to the Ideas of René Girard"
Carly Osborn
Research Strategy Officer
The University of Divinity
Introduction: Scott Cowdell, Charles Sturt University

10:00pm   Adjournment for the day

Thursday, July 8, 2021 (Day 2)

8:00-9:30am   Concurrent Sessions #2

Room A: Mimetic Theory and Literature
Moderator: Curtis Gruenler, Hope College
Speakers
1. "*Mensonge Mélodramatique*: Triangular Desire in *Sense and Sensibility,"* Matthew Taylor,
    Kinjo Gakuin University
2. "Human Freedom in Mimesis as Revealed by George Eliot," Bernadette Waterman Ward,
    University of Dallas
3. "Artifices of Desire: Mann's 'Mario and the Magician'," Andrew McKenna, Loyola University,
    Chicago

Room B: Mimetic Theory and Cultural Politics
Moderator: Nikolaus Wandinger, University of Innsbruck
Speakers
1. "Victimary Politics and COVID-19: The Mimetic and Spiritual Crisis of Modernity Manifest,"
    Joel Hodge, Australian Catholic University.
2. "Re-Viewing *Promising Young Woman*: Standing at the intersection of Mimetic Theory and
    #MeToo," Susan Wright, Independent Scholar, Theology and Peace
3. "'Sir, what is the meaning of culture?' Modern Education, Symbolic Violence, and Civil War
    in Nepal," Todd John Wallenius, Aarhus University

Room C: Mimetic Theory and Philosophy
Moderator: David Garcia-Ramos, Universidad Católica de Valencia
Speaker
1. "In the Era of *AI* and Transhumanism: Nietzsche's 'Will to Power' As A Potentially Irrational-
    Rational Psychopathology—How and Why *Amor Fati* and Girard's *MT* May Yet Prove
    To Be Its 'Horse Whisperer'." Nikolai Blaskow, Chaplain, Gippsland Grammar School,
    Victoria, Australia
2. "Is Mimesis More Fundamental than *Mitsein*?" Jashiel Resto, Purdue University
3. "The Mimetic Horizons of Time and Desire: A Phenomenological and SCI-FI Approach," Tania

Checchi G., Colegio de Saberes, Mexico City

9:30-10:00am   **Greetings and Announcements, Conference Organizers**

10:00-11:30am   **Plenary #4:**   **The Keynote Lecture**
                                        Lefteri Tsoukalas
                                  "Mimetic Theory and AI"
       Professor and Founding Director AI Systems Lab
                                 Purdue University
        Introduction: Sandor Goodhart, Purdue University
        Respondent: Mark Anspach, Imitatio

11:30-12:00pm   **Break**

12:00-1:30pm Concurrent Sessions #3

Room A: Mimetic Theory and Augmented Reality
    Moderator: Chris Allen Carter, University of Oklahoma
    Speakers
    1. "Posthuman Mimesis: Unconscious Violence in Hypermimetic Games," Nidesh Lawtoo,
        Katholieke Universiteit Leuven
    2. "Mimetic Desire and Augmented Reality in Korean Drama, *Memories of the Alhambra*,"
        Theresa Kenny, University of Dallas
    3. "Artificial Intelligence ('AI'): The Identity-Group 'Outsider,' or Similarity-Vision of Smart
        Phones with a Facial Recognition Feature," Dale A. Anderson, University of Minnesota

Room B: Mimetic Theory and Legal Systems
    Moderator: Thomas Ryba, Purdue University
    Speakers
    1. "Legal Implications of Persuasive AI Examining the Effects of Persuasive AI Designed in
        Accordance with Mimetic Theory for the EU AI Law," Georgios Stathis, Leiden University
    2. "Toward a Mimetic Theory of Private Property," Oliver Gerland, III, University of Colorado,
        Boulder
    3. "Mimetic Theory, AI, and Police Systems," Carlos Mora Benavides, Pontificia Universidad
        Javeriana

Room C: Mimetic Theory and Artificial Intelligence in Psychiatry and Theology
    Moderator: Tania Checchi, Colegio de Saberes, Mexico City
    Speakers
    1. "Mentalising, Theory of Mind, and Common Knowledge as Prerequisites for Mimesis and
        The Sacred," Dr. D. Vincent Riordan, Consultant Psychiatrist, Ireland
    2. "Nonviolent Cognition of God with Artificial Intelligence in Computational
        Metaphysics," Christopher S. Morrissey, Trinity Western University
    3. "A.I.: Apocalyptic Intelligence," Anthony W. Bartlett, Bethany Center for
        Nonviolent Theology and Spirituality

1:30-2:00pm   Break

2:00-3:30pm   Plenary #5:   A COV&R 2021 Lecture
"Desiring Machines: Machines That Are Desired and Machines That Desire"
Paul Dumouchel
Ritsumeikan University (retired)
Professeur, Departement de philosophie,
l'Université du Québec à Montréal
Introduction: Sandor Goodhart, Purdue University
Respondent: William Johnsen, Michigan State University

3:30-4:00pm   Break

4:00-5:30pm   Concurrent Sessions #4
Room A: Mimesis and Desire, Human and Robot
> **Moderator:** Curtis Gruenler, Hope College
> **Speakers**
> 1. "Desiring Machines and Doubles in Contemporary Fiction and Film," Matthew Packer, Buena Vista University
> 2. "Form v. Function, or, 'What Incentive Does a Grey Box Have to Talk to Another Grey Box?': Questions of Robot Mimetic Attraction," Rebecca Gibson, Indiana University South Bend
> 3. "Robot Love: AI and the Future of Human Intimacy," Martha J. Reineke, University of Northern Iowa

Room B: Mimetic Theory, Human Desire, and AI
> **Moderator:** David García-Ramos, Universidad Católica de Valencia
> **Speakers**
> 1. "Desire of what? Desire of having, desire of being and desire of desire in René Girard," Marco Stucchi, University of Rome
> 2 "Embodying Interdividual Psychology. Internal Family Systems as (Misrecognized) Mimetic Therapy and Spirituality," Michał Łuczewski, University of Warsaw
> 3. "Non-sacrificial Atonement and Community Formation," Carly Osborn, University of Divinity

Room C: Book Session
> **Book Panel Session**
> > A discussion of John Edwards's *James Alison and a Girardian Theology: Conversion, Theological Reflection, and Induction* (Bloomsbury, 2020).
> **Moderator:** Nikolaus Wandinger, University of Innsbruck
> **Presenter:** Grant Kaplan
> **Panelists:**
> 1. Julia Robinson Moore, University of North Carolina
> 2. James Alison, English Roman Catholic Priest and Theologian
> 3. Grant Kaplan, Saint Louis University
> 4. John Edwards, Villanova University

5:30-6:00pm   Break

6:00-7:30pm   Plenary #6: A Special Panel: A Research Group on Loving Mimesis
Moderator: Martha Reineke, University of Northern Iowa
Presenter: Julia Robinson Moore
Speakers:

"From Colonizing Mimesis to Loving Mimesis:
A Brief Theoretical Overview"
Rebecca Adams
Independent Scholar

"Legacies of American Coloniality and the
Possibilities of Racial Healing: De-constructing 'Whiteness'
Through the Lens of Mimetic Theory"
Julia Robinson Moore
Professor in Department of Religious Studies
University of North Carolina

"Women and First Nations People Besieged: Why Getting
Australia's History Right is a National Emergency"
Felicity McCallum
Lecturer in Australian Catholic University,
National Director in Australian Student Christian Movement

"Yeshua as a Mimetic Model of Loving Mimesis In a Colonizing Context"
Vern Neufeld Redekop
Professor Emeritus of Conflict Studies
Saint Paul University

7:30-8:00pm   Break

8:00-9:30pm   Concurrent Sessions #5

Room A: Mimetic Theory, Philosophy, Literature and Human Rights
Moderator: Chris Allen Carter, University of Oklahoma
Speakers
1. "Rousseau, Kant, and the Consideration of History," Jeremiah Alberg, International Christian University, Tokyo
2. "The Permanent Emergency of the Human Rights Regime," Stephen L. Gardner, The University of Tulsa
3. "History as Crisis and a Mimetic Philosophy of History," Christopher Mueller, University of Western Sydney, Australia

Room B: Book Sessions
A Book Session 1 (45 Minutes)
A discussion of Peter John Barber's *Jesus and Myth: The Gospel Account's Two Pattern*

(Wipf and Stock, 2021)
Moderator: Thomas Ryba, Purdue University
Presenter: Erik Buys
 Panelists
1. Peter John Barber, Nipawin Bible College, Saskatchewan, Canada.
2. Erik Buys, Independent Scholar, Dutch Girard Society

Room C: Book Sessions
Book Session 1 (45 Minutes)
> A discussion of Carly Osborn's *Tragic Novels: René Girard and the American Dream: Sacrifice in Suburbia* (Bloomsbury 2020)

Moderator: Michael Kirwan, Loyola Institute Trinity College Dublin
Presenter: Carly Osborn
Panelist:
1. Carly Osborn, University of Divinity
2. Martha Reineke, University of Northern Iowa

Book Session 2 (45 Minutes)
> A discussion of Joel Hodge's *Violence in the Name of God: The Militant Jihadist Response to Modernity* (Bloomsbury, 2020)

Moderator: Michael Kirwan, Loyola Institute Trinity College Dublin
Presenter: Joel Hodge
Panelist:
1. Joel Hodge, Australian Catholic University
2. Wolfgang Palaver, University of Innsbruck

9:30pm   Adjournment for the day

Friday, July 9, 2021 (Day 3)

8:00-9:00am   Business Meeting #1 (US and European)

9:00-9:30am   Break

9:30-10:00am Greetings and Announcements, Conference Organizers

10:00-11:30am   Plenary #7:   A COV&R 2021 Lecture
"The Philosophic Foundations of Mimetic Theory and Cognitive Science
(Including Artificial Intelligence)"
Jean-Pierre Dupuy
Professor Emeritus of Social and Political Philosophy
École Polytechnique, Paris, and
Professor of Political Science and of Science, Technology, and Society
Stanford University
Introduction: Sandor Goodhart, Purdue University

Respondent: Andrew McKenna, Loyola University, Chicago

11:30-12:00pm Break

12:00-1:30pm Concurrent Sessions #6

Room A: Mimetic Theory in Desire, Responsibility, and Divine Human Relationships
    Moderator: Michael Kirwan, Loyola Institute Trinity College Dublin
    Speakers
    1. "Mimetic Desire and the Human/Divine Relationship," Luke C. Barder, OP, Pastor, St. Dominic Catholic Church, Denver
    2. "Desires and Responsibilities Between Creator and Created," Nikolaus Wandinger, University of Innsbruck
    3. "Hölderlin's Sorrow Revisited," Berry Vorstenbosch, Independent Scholar, Dutch Girard Society

Room B: Agency, Destiny, and Mechanism in Mimetic Theory
    Moderator: Tania Checchi, Colegio de Saberes, Mexico City
    Speakers:
    1. "The Mimetic Invention of Agency, Natural and Artificial," Luc-Laurent Salvador, Université de Montpellier
    2. "Is the Future Written? Confronting the Force of Destiny with Slow Bullets," Mark Anspach, Imitatio
    3. "Polarization as a Non-deterministic Mechanism." William Johnsen, Michigan State University

Room C: Mimetic Theory, Robots, AI, and the Meaning of the Human
    Moderator: Matthew Packer, Buena Vista University
    Presenter: George Dunn
    Speakers
    1." Social Robots and Social Virtues: Robots as Artificial Friends and Significant Others," George A. Dunn, Zhejiang University
    2. "Robots, AI & Me. Some considerations on AI and robots as new myths telling very old stories," David García-Ramos, Universidad Católica de Valencia
    3. "Artificial Non-Intelligence: *Méconnaissance* in Ishiguro," Brian Chappell, Bard Early College

1:30-2:00pm Break

2:00-3:30pm Plenary #8:   The Raven Foundation Lecture
        "The Desire to Be like God: Addressing Temptations Coming Along with AI"
        Wolfgang Palaver
        Professor of Catholic Social Thought,
        University of Innsbruck
        President, COV&R, 2007-2011
    Introduction: Suzanne Ross, Co-Founder and CEO, unRival Network
    Respondent: Martha Reineke, University of Northern Iowa

3:30-4:00pm   Break

4:00-5:30pm   Concurrent Sessions #7

Room A: Mimetic Theory and Ancient Writing
  Moderator: Nikolaus Wandinger, University of Innsbruck
  Speakers
  1. "Does Fornari provide a way out of the Girard / Gans Impasse?" Dominic Mitchell, Independent Scholar.
  2. "The Coming of Enkidu: A Case Study in Self-Awareness, Desire, and Loss," Del Doughty, Texas A&M University
  3. "Punic Carthage: Mimetic Conflicts and Scapegoating Mechanisms--A Paradigm of Interpretation in Light of the Anthropological Theories of Girard," Marinela Blaj, Schuman Centre for European Studies,

Room B: Mimetic Theory, AI, and Pedagogy
  Moderators: Petra Steinmar-Pösel, KPH, Edith Stein
  Speakers
  1. "Must there be human teachers?" Tyler Graham, Donahue Academy
  2. "Serious Games and Positive Mimesis I," Rubén Dario Garcia Escobar, Pontificia Universidad Jaberiana
  3. "Serious Games and Positive Mimesis II," Roberto Solarte Rodriguez, Pontificia Universidad Jaberiana

Room C: Toward "Journalistic" Truth: Story and Mimesis for the 21ˢᵗ Century
  This panel will explore how contemporary journalism might recapture the objectivity of novelistic truth contained in Girard's initial insights.
  Moderator: Chelsea King, Sacred Heart University
  Presenter: Suzanne Ross, unRival Network
  Speaker
  1. "Hot Takes, Hermeneutics, and the Need to Tell the Truth," Lyle Enright, unRival Network
  2. "Girard and Montessori: Finding the Good in Acquisitive Desire," Suzanne Ross, unRival Network
  3. "Dancing with the Clowns" Father Jude C. Nnorom, CSSp, Center for Faith and Community, University of Pretoria

5:30-6:00pm   Break

6:00-7:30pm   Plenary #9:   A COV&R 2021 Lecture
               "Biological, Anthropological, and Algorithmic Mimesis"
                              Eric Gans
                       Distinguished Professor Emeritus
                   Department of French & Francophone Studies
                     University of California at Los Angeles
             Introduction: Andrew Bartlett, University of Vancouver

Respondent: Chris Fleming, University of Western Sydney

7:30-8:00pm   Break
8:00-9:30pm   Concurrent Sessions #8

Room A: Girard in the MARVEL Multiverse and Shakespeare
   Moderator: Maura Junius, Editor of Website and Social Media, Raven Foundation
   Speakers
   1. "I See a Suit of Armor around the World": *Iron Man* and Techno-Idolatry," Jason Eberl,
      Albert Gnaegi Center for Health Care Ethics, Saint Louis University
   2. "Who Are You?" René Girard, W. E. B. Du Bois, and *Black Panther,*" David Ryan Smock, Mesa
      Community College
   3. "The Myrmidon vs the Abbess: Mimetic Contagion in *Troilus and Cressida* and *Comedy of
      Errors,*" Brian Quaranta, MD, Duke University

Room B: Book Sessions
   Book Session 1 (45 Minutes)
         A discussion of Eric Wilson's *The View from Howard's Pad: Bad White Men,
         the Dual State, and the Weird Noir of James Ellroy* (Punctum Books, Forthcoming)
   Moderator: Joel Hodge, Australian Catholic University
   Presenter: Eric Wilson
   Panelists:
   1. Eric Wilson, Monash University, Australia
   2. Andrew McKenna, Loyola University, Chicago

   Book Session 2 (45 Minutes)
         A discussion of Rebecca Gibson's *Desire in the Age of Robots and AI: An
          Investigation in Science Fiction and Fact* (Palgrave, 2020)
   Moderator: Martha Reineke, University of Northern Iowa
   Presenter: Rebecca Gibson
   Panelists:
   1**.** Rebecca Gibson, Indiana University South Bend
   2. Gabrielle Kilponen, New England College

Room C: Girardian and Derridean Challenges to AI
   Moderator: Susan Wright, Independent Scholar, Theology and Peace
   Speaker
   1."Girard Does Not Compute: A Girardian Criticism of AI," Dominic Pigneri, *The Catholic
      University of America*
   2. "Nature and Artifice: Pressing (the) Disanalogies between Human Action and Robot Activity,"
      Grant Poettcker, Briercrest College and Seminary
   3. "Divine, Human and Animal Machines in the Late Lectures of Jacques Derrida," Ryan Wise,
      University of Notre Dame

9:30-10:30pm Business Meeting #2 (US, Asians, and Australians)

10:30pm   Adjournment for the day

Saturday, July 10, 2021 (Day 4)

8:00-9:30am   Concurrent Sessions #9

Room A: Girard Meets Frankenstein: Promethean Desire and AI
   Moderator: Tania Checchi, Colegio de Saberes, Mexico City
   Speakers
   1. "Imitating Human Intelligence according to Girard, Shelley, and Augustine: Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*," Teresa A. Pitts, Independent Scholar
   2. "Is Artificial Intelligence the postmodern Prometheus? Frankenstein as a misconception of AI and the fear of being desired," Daniel Felipe Niño López, Univeridad de La Salle Bogota
   3. "When Men become Gods, Who is the Winner?" John Babak Ebrahimian, Independent Scholar and Filmmaker

Room B: Girard meets SECR: A Panel on the Spirituality, Emergent Creativity, and Reconciliation Books
   A discussion of *Awakening* (Lexington, 2019) and *Transforming* (Lexington 2020), edited by Vern Neufeld Redekop and Gloria Neufeld Redekop
   Moderator: Michael Kirwan, Loyola Institute Trinity College Dublin
   Presenter: Vern Neufeld Redekop
   Panelists
   1. Vern Neufeld Redekop, Saint Paul University, Ottawa
   2. Nadia Delicata, University of Malta
   3. Petra Steinmair-Pösel, KPH, Edith Stein
   4. Patrice Brodeur, l'Université de Montréal

Room C: Social Media, Resentment, and Transcendenace
   Moderator: Jeremiah Alberg, International Christian University
   Speaker
   1. "Mimeticism, Structural Inequality, and Convergent Oligarchies: On Trump, Putin, and the '*Meconnaissation'* of the Moral Panic of 'Fake News'," Eric Wilson, Monash University, Australia
   2. "Facing the Cancel Culture with Atoning Presence in Social Media," Guilherme Ribeiro de Paula, Co-Founder, *Contemplatio*
   3. "Awkward AI: Minor Resentments and Vertical Transcendence in Human-Robot Interactions," Benjamin Barber United International College: Hong Kong Baptist University – Beijing Normal University

9:30-10:00am   Greetings and Announcements, Conference Organizers

10:00-11:30am   Plenary #10:   A COV&R 2021 Lecture
                "**The Destinies of Desire and Versions of the Virtual:**

Structures, Machines, and Desiring Machines"
Arkady Plotnitsky
Distinguished Professor of English
Purdue University
Introduction: Sandor Goodhart, Purdue University
Respondent: Nidesh Lawtoo, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

11:30-12:00pm　　　**Break**

12:00-1:30pm　　　**Plenary #11:**　**Raymund Schwager, SJ, Memorial Essay Awards**
　　　　　　　　　　Moderator:　Nikolaus Wandinger, University of Innsbruck
　　　　　　　　　　Speakers　　**TO BE ANNOUNCED**

1:30-2:00pm　　　**Break**

2:00-3:30pm　　　**Plenary #12:**　**A COV&R 2021 Lecture**
　　　　　　　　　"Scapegoating, Mimesis and the Human Future: Thinking
　　　　　　　　　with Girard and Stiegler on the Automation of Desire"
　　　　　　　　　Johann Rossouw
　　　　　　　Head, Department of Philosophy and Classics of the
　　　　　　　　　University of the Free State
　　　　　　　　Introduction: Sandor Goodhart, Purdue University
　　　　　　　　Respondent: Joachim Duyndam, University of Humanistic Studies, Utrecht

3:30-4:00pm　**Break**

4:00-5:30pm　**Concurrent Sessions #10**

Room A:　Mimetic Theory and Expanding Horizons
　　　Moderator: Thomas Ryba, Purdue University
　　　Speakers
　　　1. "The Contemplative Tourist," Helene Cristini, International University of Monaco
　　　2. "The Reception of René Girard's Works in China," Xianghui Liao, North Sichuan Medical U.
　　　3. "Artificial Intelligence is Accelerating the Human Journey to Self-Awareness," Brian
　　　　　　Loewen, Independent Scholar

Room B:　Mimetic Theory and Space Opera: Siths, Synths, and Cybernetics
　　　Moderator: Nikolaus Wandinger University of Innsbruck
　　　Speakers
　　　1. "Star Wars between Myth and Gospel," Erik Buys, Independent Scholar, Dutch Girard Society
　　　2. "Synths in Star Trek and Mimetic Theory," Maura Junius, Website/Administrator, Raven
　　　Foundation
　　　3. "Mimetic Acceleration and Capitalist Hyperintelligence," Geoff Shullenberger New York
　　　　　　University

Room C:　Book Sessions

Book Session 1 (45 minutes)
>A discussion of Anthony Bartlett's *Theology Beyond Metaphysics, Transformative Semiotics of Rene Girard.* Foreword by Scott Cowdell. Eugene, Oregon: Cascade Book, 2020.

Moderator: James Alison, English Roman Catholic Priest and Theologian
Presenter: Anthony Bartlett
Panelists:
1. Anthony Bartlett**,** Bethany Center for Nonviolent Theology and Spirituality
2. Jeremiah Alberg, International Christian University
3. Sherwood Belangia, Independent Scholar

Book Session 2 (45 minutes)
>A discussion of Luke Burgis's *Wanting: The Power of Mimetic Desire in Everyday Life* (St. Martin's Press, 2021)

Moderator: Cynthia Haven, Literary Critic
Presenter: Luke Burgis
Panelists:
1. Luke Burgis, Catholic University of America
2. Matthew Packer, Buena Vista University

5:30-6:00pm   Break

6:00-7:30pm   Plenary #13:   The Wrap-up Session
"COV&R 2021 and AI: Prospects for the Future"
Scott Cowdell
Research Professor, Charles Sturt University
Introduction: Thomas Ryba, Purdue University

7:30pm   Adjournment of COV&R 2021 Conference