

Science and Theology Student Essay Contest

On Saturday, February 1, 2020, Knox Theological Seminary will host **The Past and Future of Christianity and Science**, a symposium exploring the relationship—past, present, and future—between Christianity and science. Symposium speakers will discuss contemporary topics, including human gene editing, neuroscience, and ecology, as well as theological and ethical questions these topics raise.

In conjunction with the symposium, Knox is holding a student essay contest, with awards offered for the top three essays. The essay is to offer a thoughtful Christian response to a future scientific development that is likely to create a theological, ethical, and/or pastoral issue. Students are encouraged to consider probable developments discussed during the symposium, but may also consider other possible, near future scientific topics such as the search for life on other planets, research into human genetic/evolutionary history, or other extensions of current research programs in the sciences. An excellent essay will likely require additional research of one's chosen topic.

Students are encouraged to attend the symposium at Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church on February 1. Video of the symposium will also be made available at knoxseminary.edu, allowing students who are unable to attend the symposium in person to participate.

DETAILS

- Eligibility for awards is limited to students of Knox Theological Seminary, including any registering for the symposium for academic credit.
- **The best essay will win an award of \$500. \$300 will be awarded for second place, and \$150 for third place.** (Winners are determined by readers from Knox faculty and staff, and will be announced on April 1, 2020.)
- Judgement will be based upon overall quality of the essay, consistency with the contest guidelines, pastoral concern, and demonstrated connection to at least some symposium contents.
- There is no entry fee.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Choose *one* expected future scientific development of the type discussed in the symposium and
 - explain its significance and implications for the Christian church, concentrating one on practical, pastoral, or theological questions and problems.
 - anticipate some inappropriate responses to this development you believe are likely to occur within the church
 - describe an appropriate pastoral or theological response, especially referring to resources suggested by the symposium presentations.
- Essays are to be 1,500-2,000 words in length and follow standard academic guidelines.
- Essays are to be submitted by email to sean.talbot@knoxseminary.edu by March 2, 2020.