

Does God exist?



TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2010

7:00 PM - 9:30 PM

UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA

ALUMNI AUDITORIUM, UNIVERSITY CENTRE

PROGRAM AGENDA

- 7:00 PM Program Commencement
- 7:05 PM Greetings from the Moderator
- 7:10 PM First speech by Rev. Dr. John R. Montgomery
- 7:30 PM Second speech by Mr. Xander Miller
- 7:50 PM Third Speech by Mr. Ansar Raza
- 8:10 PM Question and Answer session
- 8:45 PM Closing Remarks
- 9:00 PM Refreshments

-Please note, the program is subject to change-



ISLAM

Mr. Ansar Raza is a prolific writer and speaker. He joined Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at in 1982, when he was 24, followed by his wife and parents. He is working as a missionary and research scholar in Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at Canada. He has represented Ahmadiyya community in different universities and other forums. He also appears on "Radio Ahmadiyya" every Sunday from 10-12 pm at 530-am channel answering live questions by a large number of audience. His special fields of interest are 'comparative study of religions' and languages.



CHRISTIANITY

Rev. Dr. John R. Montgomery is a prolific speaker and describes himself as an "unfinished Christian". His belief is that Christianity is a pilgrimage that calls us to follow Jesus in continuously new ways of thinking and spiritual practice. His theology is "progressive" meaning that he is always open to having his understanding of truth and love broadened. He takes the Bible "seriously but not literally", and that he believes scriptures need to be continually reinterpreted in the contemporary context in which we find ourselves, a basic reformation principle semper reformatum or always reforming.



ATHEISM

Xander Miller is freethought and skepticism activist. He is a founding member of CFI Ottawa and the Ottawa Skeptics, and a board member of the Humanist Association of Ottawa which is celebrating its 41th anniversary this year. Xander Miller originally graduated from Carleton in 2003 with a degree in Philosophy and a minor in Japanese. He then went on to spend the next four years teaching English in Japan. He was inspired to return to Canada and become an activist by the works of the 'new atheists', particularly the works of the philosopher Daniel C. Dennett. Xander Miller also draws inspiration from the growing popularity of skeptical organizations like James Randi Educational Foundation. Xander Miller recently completed a degree in Cognitive Science with High Honours at Carleton. His thesis was on naturalistic ethics. Xander Miller can be heard weekly on The Reality Check: Canada's premier skeptical podcast.

Understanding, Tolerance, Peace.



MODERATOR

Naomi Goldenberg is Professor of Religious Studies at the University of Ottawa. She specializes in the sub-fields of psychology of religion and women and religion. She is the author of Changing of the Gods: Feminism and the End of Traditional Religions, The End of God, and Resurrecting the Body: Feminism, Religion and Psychoanalysis. Currently, during her sabbatical year, she is at work on a book about the category of religion as it relates to concepts of gender and the formation of states.

Atheist Community of University of Ottawa
Ahmadiyya Muslim Students' Association
United Church of Canada

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