

# Higher Purpose Forum: Andrew Wilson & Alision Wakelin - Science and Religion from Viewpoint of Principle

James Edgerly  
April 16, 2024



Exploring  
important  
questions  
together

## Presentation & Discussion Series Unity of Science, Spirituality & Religion Series

Next Tuesday

April 23 @ 7:00 PM EST via ZOOM

(Registration Required)

Co-Hosted with

HJ International Graduate School (formerly UTS)



**HJ International**  
GRADUATE SCHOOL for  
PEACE and PUBLIC LEADERSHIP

## “Evolutionary Creationism” A New Perspective on Purpose & Human Origins

**Presenter:**

**Dr. Andrew Wilson**

Professor of Scriptural Studies  
HJI Graduate School

**Respondent :**

**Alision Wakelin**

Assistant Teaching Professor of Physics & Astronomy  
Widener University

[ZOOM Registration Link](#)

Next Tuesday (April 23) the Higher Purpose Forum (HPF) will hold its fourth session in our series titled: **“The Unity of Science, Spirituality and Religion.”**

A previous presenter in this HPF series described himself as a *“theistic evolutionist”*. Dr. Andrew Wilson will argue for his position as an *“evolutionary creationist”*. He holds that God created the universe, and that the process of creation unfolded in a manner that *appears* to be evolution. In fact, creation came into being for a divine purpose. Accordingly, understanding “purpose” is the key to distinguishing evolutionism from creationism.

Dr. Wilson will explain the “anthropic principle” in the creation of the universe and the succession of life forms described by evolutionary biology, understood as stages of growth. In both astronomy and biology, these stages can be understood as unfolding processes towards the realization of the purpose of creation, which is human beings, the children of God.

We encourage you to join us for this important meeting. We are continuing our exploration into understanding human origins as a basis advancing the unity of science, spirituality and religion.

Sincerely,  
James Edgerly  
Director, [Higher Purpose Forum](#)



## Presenter

### Dr. Andrew Wilson

Dr. Wilson's scholarly books and papers cover diverse topics ranging from religion and peace to character education to the theory of the spirit world. Wilson's efforts on behalf of inter-religious harmony led him to write *World Scripture: A Comparative Anthology of Sacred Texts*, which has become a standard work of interfaith scholarship and a resource for interfaith worship. He contributed his interfaith scholarship to writing a second volume of *World Scripture* that includes a broad selection of Rev. Sun Myung Moon's words, adopted as one of the eight official textbooks of Unificationism.



Dr. Wilson joined the faculty of UTS in 1985. He is Professor of Scriptural Studies and Director of Scriptural Research. He earned his Bachelor's degree from Harvard University, a Masters in Theology from the Harvard Divinity School, a PhD from Harvard University, and a Doctorate in Religious Education from the Unification Theological Seminary.

## Respondent

### Alison Wakelin

Assitant Teaching Professor of Physics and Astronomy,  
Widener University

## **NEW** Registration Link

[zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUlfu6qrzsrG9N26O2eAW2kFTeNhff0yV\\_j](https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUlfu6qrzsrG9N26O2eAW2kFTeNhff0yV_j)

## Upcoming HPF Meetings

**Tues. May 7**

### **Unity of Science, Religion & Spirituality**

Title: *The Principle's Perspective on Science according to Wollf Wonbon*

Presenter: Dr. Andrew Wilson, HJI Professor of Scriptural Studies

**Tues. May 21**

### **Unity of Science, Spirituality & Religion**

Presenter: Alison Wakelin, Assitant Teaching Professor of Physics and Astronomy, Widener University

**Tues. June 4**

### **Justice and Economic Democracy**

Title: *Understanding the Catholic View on Social Justice*

Presenter: Michael Greaney, Secretary of the Center for Economic & Social Justice

Respondent: Dr. Thomas J. Walsh, President HJ International Graduate School of Peace and Public Leadership.



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