UTS 2023 Research Day Winners: Michael Mickler and Savjola Konja

Thomas G. Walsh April 22, 2023



## 2023 Research Day: UTS Faculty and Students Recognized for Recent Scholarship in Religion, Science, Peace, and Diplomacy

On Saturday, April 22, Unification Theological Seminary recognized the winners of the Research Day competition, in which current seminary students, as well as faculty, were invited to prepare an academic poster or visual description of a research project that they were currently pursuing.

Following a warm welcome by Steven Boyd, Dean of Enrollment Management and Student Life, UTS Provost Dr. Thomas Ward highlighted the work of key figures who have made valuable contributions to the Unification community and beyond, representing UTS as a home of thought.

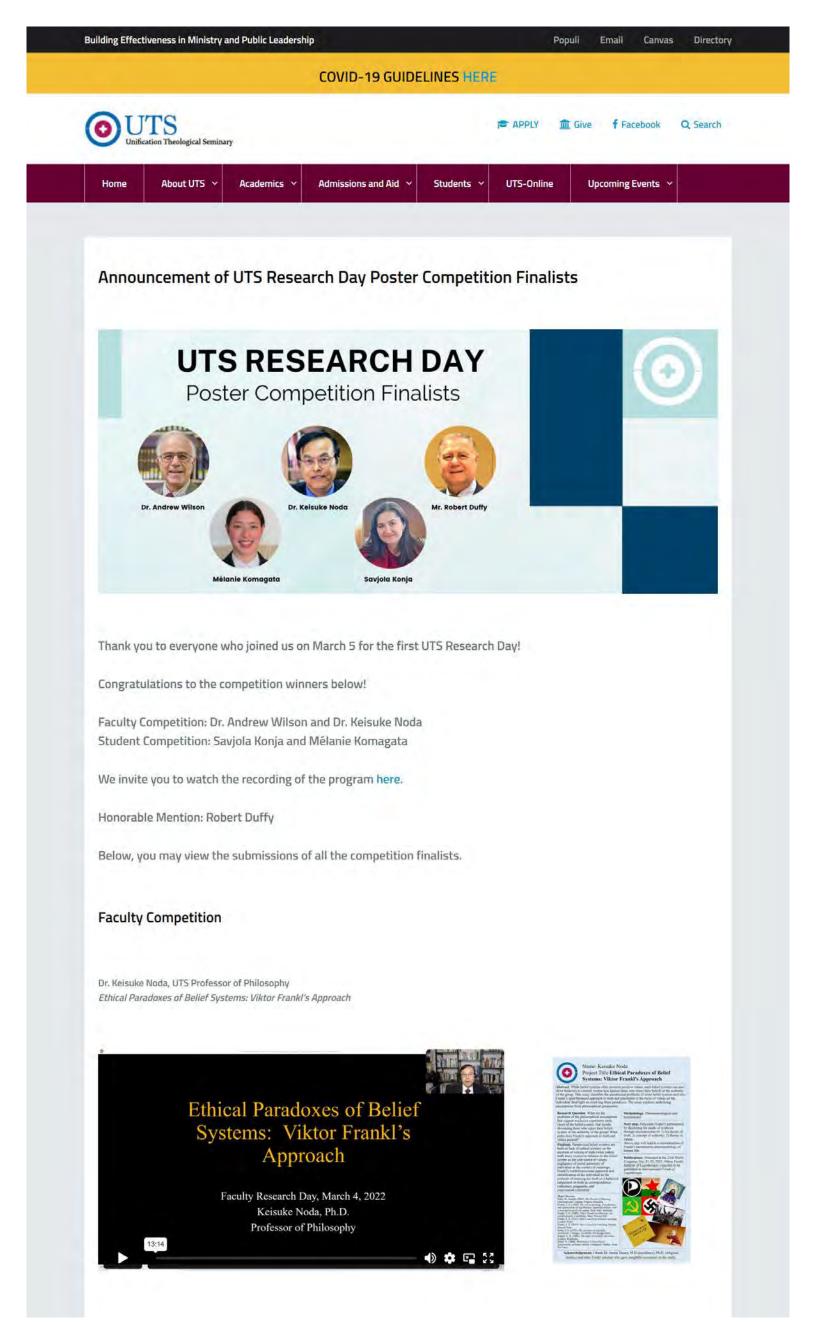
The judges of the competition included Dr. James Fleming, Charles A. Dana Professor of Science, Technology, and Society, Emeritus, at Colby College; Professor William Lay, attorney and Former Director of the School of Public and International Affairs at the University of Bridgeport; Mrs. Lynn Walsh, UTS Adjunct Lecturer; and Dr. Thomas Walsh, UTS President.

Dr. Fleming gave the keynote address introducing the work of James Croll, the 19th Century selfeducated scientist who pioneered research and a theory of Climate change, which Fleming has studied extensively. Dr. Fleming combined his compelling analysis of James Croll's contribution to scientific thought with a personal reflection on the ways in which today's scholars can find ways to collaborate with scholars of the past, and in particular, with those who have been liberated and blessed.

Professor William Lay introduced the faculty finalists and announced Dr. Michael Mickler, UTS Distinguished Professor of Historical Studies, as the winner of the faculty competition.

Professor Lynn Walsh introduced the student finalists and announced Savjola Konja, a student in the Master of Arts in Religious Studies Program, as the winner of the student competition.

You can watch the full event here, and view the finalists' posters and summary presentations here.



Dr. Andrew Wilson, UTS Professor of Scriptural Studies True Parents' Efforts for Religious Unity





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## **Student Competition**

Robert Duffy, Student in the Master of Arts in Religious Studies Program "Whiteness" and Critical Race Theory in Modern Life

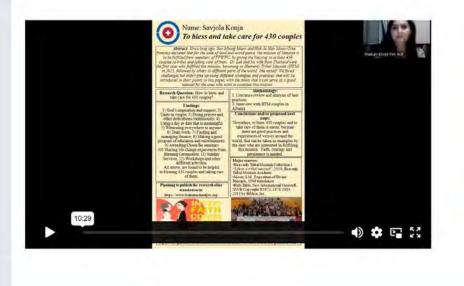


Mélanie Komagata, Student in the Master of Arts in Religious Studies Program A Solution to the Korean Question: A Neutral Reunified Korea





Savjola Konja, Student in the Master of Arts in Religious Studies Program To Bless and Take Care for 430 Couples



To bless and take care for 430 coupl

## Judges



Dr. Christine Hempowicz.

- UTS Alumna and Student Body Vice
- President (1986) and Current UTS Trustee.

 Former University of Bridgeport Director of Sponsored Research
 Faculty Research Day Co-Chair at the

University of Bridgeport

- UTS Adjunct Faculty for Research Methods
- Published in Springer's Technological Developments in Networking, Education and Automation.

 Contributor to the National Council of University Research Administrators (NCURA) NCURA Magazine.

 Editor of UB Breakthroughs, highlighting scholarly research at the University of Bridgeport



Prof. William D. Lay

- Columbia University J.D. and Senior Editor
   of the Columbia Law Review
- Former Senior Associate of Skadden Arps
- Former Associate Fried Frank

 Former Law Clerk of New York Court of Appeal Judge Joseph Bellacosa

 Director of the School of Public & International Affairs and Chair of Criminal Justice & Human Security Programs at the University of Bridgeport

UTS Adjunct Associate Professor of Law
and Governance

 Published by E-International Relations;
 East Asia; Harvard Asia Quarterly; Columbia Law Review.



Dr. James R. Fleming

UTS 1982 Alum and Student Body
 President

Charles A. Dana Professor of Science,
 Technology, and Society, Emeritus, at Colby
 College

 Visiting Scholar and/or Professor at Harvard, Yale, Columbia, MIT, Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum, and Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars

 Served on two National Academy of Sciences study panels, provided testimony to the U.S. Congress, and was a contributing author for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

 Series editor of Palgrave Studies in the History of Science and Technology

 Author of books and articles on history of science and the human dimensions of climate change published by MIT, Chicago, Columbia, Oxford, Johns Hopkins, and other university presses.

 Current research project is on the "Deocene" (or age of God) as both preceding and coextensive with the "Anthropocene" (or age of Man)

