9:00 am **Registration in Magdalen College Old Kitchen Bar with coffee & tea**

9:30 am **A Workshop on Vocation** -David Downs (Professor, New Testament Studies)

Our academic training engages our minds and prepares us for the work of teaching, researching, and writing. Yet it is often difficult to integrate the academic life into our formation as disciples of Jesus. This workshop will offer an opportunity to reflect on questions of vocational formation for academics, as well as practical resources aimed to help us answer the question, "At this point in my Christian journey, how do I envision my call to God's mission in the world?"

11:00 am **Coffee & tea in the Old Kitchen Bar**

11.30 am **Academic Vocation in the Church and Academy Today: 'And with All of Your Mind'** - Shaun Henson (Lecturer, Science and Religion)

The works of the faithful who combine academic and ministerial functions into one vocation have been vital to the Church since its first-century foundations. The Church, quite simply, would have practically no informed theology or liturgy, and arguably no New Testament, if not for those who have been as gifted at researching, writing, and teaching as at conventional ministry skills such as preaching, presiding at the Eucharist, and pastoral care of various lay and ordained kinds. In this talk I will look at theory, at examples, at the varieties of giftedness, and at the possibilities for following an academic vocation, whether lay or ordained, in the Church and academy today.

1:00 pm **Lunch in the Old Kitchen Bar**

2:00 pm **Panel-led Discussion** - Panellists include **David Downs** (Professor, New Testament Studies), **Shaun Henson** (Lecturer, Science and Religion), and **Margaret Yee** (Emeritus Fellow & Tutor, Theology and Religion), Chaired by **Chris Wadibia** (Junior Research Fellow, Global Christianity)

3:30 pm **Coffee & tea in the Old Kitchen Bar**

4:00 pm **The Source of Christian Theology and Philosophy -** *Agape* **-** Margaret Yee (Emeritus Fellow & Tutor, Theology and Religion)

On pursuing academic studies in Christian theology and philosophy one is bound to be confronted with profound and complex questions. Exploration of a breadth of scholars in biblical, theological and philosophical thought will be required. Is it possible to become doctrinally informed, knowledgeable and inspirationally enlightened as one wrestles with perplexities re "divine-human" relations? Can the Christian concept of "Agapé", integral to one's academic enquiry, also be identified as a "vocational resource," essential to probe?

The following events are joint with all streams at New College.

6:00 pm **Prayer in Magdalen College Auditorium**

6:30 pm **Walking together from Magdalen College to New College**

6:40 pm **Drinks at New College Bar**

7:30 pm **Dinner in New College Dining Hall**

The Friday 15th ticket also includes admission on Saturday 16th to one of the following streams: Humanities Stream, Natural/Medical Sciences Stream or the Social Sciences Stream.

PHILOSOPHY AND THEOLOGY STREAM

Friday 15th March (9:00am to 9:00pm) and Saturday 16th March (you are invited to join another stream)

Venue: Old Law Library, Magdalen College, Oxford

Senior Convener: Max Baker-Hytch (Tutor, Philosophy), David Downs (Professor, New Testament Studies)

Conveners: Ning Xu (PhD, Science & Religion), Christopher Wadibia (JRF, Global Christianity), David Williams (PhD, Christian Ethics)

How can postgraduates, postdocs, and academics at the University of Oxford and Oxford Brookes approach their academic disciplines as Christians? What does it mean to respond to a Christian vocation and to honour God in university life?

Developing a Christian Mind: Seeking Wisdom examines these questions in five disciplinary streams: Humanities, Medical Sciences, Natural Sciences, Philosophy and Theology, and Social Sciences. Oxford academics and postgraduates speak and lead discussion for each stream. Past attendees are encouraged to come, listen to new talks, and take part in discussion with new attendees.

https://dcmoxford.org/march

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