



## Plenary Session Information

Room: Gym

**11:20am–12:20pm – Plenary Session 1**

### **“Climate Change in the Space Between the Garden and the Machine”**

- Dr John R Wood, Emeritus Professor at The King’s University in Edmonton, President of the American Scientific Affiliation Executive Council

Delivering this year’s keynote lecture is Dr. John Wood, who is the Emeritus Professor at The King’s University in Edmonton and Executive Director Emeritus for the American Scientific Affiliation (ASA).

Founded in 1941, the ASA is scholarly and professional group of Christians in the social and natural sciences. The CSCA (Canadian Scientific and Christian Affiliation) is a sister organization of ASA celebrating it’s 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year.

John completed his BA in Biology at North Park University, Chicago; MSc-Biology at Central Washington University, and his PhD is from the University of California, Berkeley, in Stream Ecology and Insect Behaviour.

His current research includes the ecological understanding of physical death. John’s field research has been on the population ecology and behavior of urban-dwelling White-tailed Jackrabbits, and he recently published a 25 year study of these urban hares in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. Together with psychologist, Dr. Heather Looy, he has explored Western exceptionalism and our cultural blind spot toward accepting food insects as a normal part of the human diet.

Before moving to Canada in 1989 John taught for 6 years at Simpson College, a Christian and Missionary Alliance institution in California. Although retired he continues to teach and provide guest lectures and field trips in physical geography, environmental chemistry of lakes and streams and insects and human society.

His professional service was in undergraduate program development and program reviews of biology and environmental science programs in Canada and the United States. He was a national reviewer for ECO Canada, the national accreditation agency for environmental science and environmental studies programs. John is also the past Academic Dean for the Au Sable Institute of Environmental Studies.

### **1:00–2:00pm – Author Meets Critics**

#### **“Will & Love: Shakespeare and the Motion of the Soul”**

- Moderator: Dr. Kyle Jantzen, Dean of Arts & Science, Professor of History, Interim Chair of Ambrose Arts
- Panelists: Dr. Darren Dyck (English), Dr. Jonathan Goossen (English), Dr. Jon Coutts (Theology)

“Author Meets Critics” is annual tradition at the Ambrose Research Conference which showcases and explores a recent publication from someone on the Ambrose faculty. This year’s focus is the new book by Dr. Darren Dyck entitled *Will & Love: Shakespeare and the Motion of the Soul*, which will be published by Cascade this year. Given the focus of the book, responses will come from colleagues who teach in the disciplines of English literature and Christian theology.

### **3:20–4:20pm – Plenary Session 2**

#### **“A Panel Discussion with Ambrose Faculty on the Topic of Climate Change Across the Disciplines”**

- Moderator: Dr. Beth Stovell, Professor of Old Testament, Chair of General Theological Studies
- Panelists: Derek Cook (Canadian Poverty Institute), Dr. Stephen Jeans (Science), Dr. Murray MacTavish (Business), Dr. Sherry Martens (Education)

This session will feature a discussion panel of Ambrose faculty representing many of the diverse disciplines represented at Ambrose including the Arts, Business, Education, Poverty Studies, and Theology. The discussion will centre on two questions:

1. How do issues associated with climate change inform and affect each faculty’s discipline and research?
2. How do these issues connect with their teaching?