I am happy to say that I will be the last speaker of this Symposium.

On behalf of all the speakers, thank you all for coming to hear us.

On behalf of Paul Gailey and myself, thank you for confirming the wisdom of the ongoing collaboration between the Fetzer Institute and the CSSR.

On behalf of Chris Kelley, Annabella Pitkin, Katie Gerbner, Fiona Baigrie, Alisa Frohman, Laura Bothwell, Zoe Pastorfield-Li, Ossian Foley and Iman Ahmed - my implacable colleagues at the Center for the Study of Science and Religion who actually put this event together with the help of many Columbia personnel - thank you all for being so patient, cooperative, so curious, and so numerous.

On behalf of the CSSR itself, thank you for your many emails and friendly comments. If any of our guests would like to be on our mailing list for future events, and receive a complimentary copy of our latest CSSR newsletter, you need only send an email to us at cssr@columbia.edu.

On behalf of Columbia University, thank you for lending your presence to an event that certainly broadens our University’s definitions of both science and religion. In that context of expansive definitional interdependence, let me take a moment to point out a few facts about the rotunda we are in.

Look at the caps on the four corner pillars and you will see LAW, MEDICINE, PHILOSOPHY and THEOLOGY, the medieval university’s Core Curriculum. Look above and behind the podium on the rail near the dome, and you will see four statues of standing men. These are figures representing, left to right as you view them, Euripides, Demosthenes, Sophocles and – Julius Caesar. We could not ask for a better representation of the Western notion of our place in nature: men representing the magical power of theatre, the political power of rhetoric, and the analytic power of philosophy; all their works culminating in service to a man representing the simple power of conquest.

But you may have noticed a balancing figure as you walked in, a bust of Athena, the female principle of Wisdom, who clouds the minds of men.

Sitting here today between these four stony men and that one heavenly, snake-draped woman of mystery, I think we may safely know we have been in productive and novel conversation not only with each other, but with them all.