

Center Supports Work of Political Science Professor Jason Blakely

In February, thanks to the support of the Center for Faith and Learning, a group of faculty and students were able to read an important new book, and enjoy two lunch conversations with its author. Pepperdine Assistant Professor Jason Blakely has written *Alasdair MacIntyre, Charles Taylor, and the Demise of Naturalism: Reunifying Political Theory and Social Science*. The book critiques the ways in which political theory often relies on positivistic assumptions. In Blakely's close study of these contemporary thinkers, he shows how MacIntyre and Taylor, "present a new, revived humanism, one that insists on the creative agency of the human person against reductive, instrumental, technocratic, and scientific ways of thinking." Both thinkers also engage vital questions of religion. The conversations inspired by the book forged bonds among colleagues from various disciplines.

For more on the thought-provoking book, see: <http://undpress.nd.edu/books/P03270>

For more on Jason Blakely,
see: http://seaver.pepperdine.edu/academics/faculty/?faculty=jason_blakely