Evolution and the Anthropocene: Science, religion, and the human future – Introduction by Dr. Jim Miller

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Jeff Miller: 00:25 My name is Jeff Miller. I'm as he said, co-chair of the Broader Social Impacts Committee, along with my colleague [Connie Burka 00:00:39]. And what we're going to do this afternoon is to have a presentation on, as you can see the topic there, evolution and Anthropocene science, religion, and the human future. (00:46) I'd like to say a quick word about our panelists and about our process. Our panelists are made up of members of the Broader Social Impacts Committee. Joe Watkins is a Choctaw, and is also on the staff of the National Park Service. (01:05) Mary Evelyn Tucker teaches at Yale University and focuses on both the study of world religions, as well as the relationship of religious ideas about nature and ecology. (01:18) Father Peter Ryan is on the staff of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops, with a directory on doctrine. And they will be our panelists. Each of them will take a brief time to offer their reflections or comments on the presentation of our speaker. (01:43) And our speaker today is Dr. David Sloan Wilson, who is distinguished professor at the University of Binghamton in New York, in the area of anthropology and the biological sciences. (01:58) He has numerous works, but those of particular note are Unto Others, The Evolution and the Psychology of Unselfish Behavior. He wrote with Elliott Sober. Darwin's Cathedral, Evolution, Religion, and the Nature of Society. Evolution for Everyone. I want to tell you, that was a great title, Evolution for Everyone. Which is how Darwin's theory can change the way we think about our lives. (02:29) And most recently, available now from Yale University Press is, Does Altruism Exist, Culture, Genes, and the Welfare of Others. We're delighted to have David with us, and look forward to his presentation.

Return to the web page for this video, “Evolution and the Anthropocene: Science, religion, and the human future – Introduction by Dr. Jim Miller”