



CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Thursday, June 4th

- 6:00–8:00 PM: Event Registration, Cocktails & Small Bites
Featuring Opening Remarks from Atlas Society CEO Jennifer Grossman

Friday, June 5th

- 8:00–9:00 AM: Breakfast
- 8:50 AM: Welcome & Introduction to the scholars - Abbie Perry & Jennifer Grossman
- 9:00–10:00 AM: Richard Salsman, Ph.D., Stephen Hicks, Ph.D., Rob Tracinski, Antonella Marty, and David Kelley, Ph.D., moderated by Jennifer Grossman: *Quickfire counters: Smashing the myths of the collectivist*
- 10:00–10:15 AM: Break
- 10:15–11:00 AM: Kaizen Asiedu: *A Minority of One: The Cost and Reward of Thinking for Yourself*
 - *It has never been harder to think for yourself. Every algorithm, every institution, every feed is engineered to influence you. Dissent no longer happens in a room. It happens in public, in real time, direct to your phone, judged by millions of strangers who will never meet you. The cost of mental sovereignty has never been higher. Neither has the reward. A single person thinking clearly can now reach more minds in an afternoon than any leader in history reached in a lifetime. You can live, fully, as the person you actually are. And the rarer that becomes, the more the world rewards you for it. This talk is about what it takes to be a minority of one, and why it is the only position worth holding.*
- 11:00 AM–11:15 AM: Break
- 11:15 AM–12:00 PM: James Jameson fireside chat with Atlas Society CEO, Jennifer Grossman: *Capitalist at Large: A Lifetime of Entrepreneurship on a Global Stage*

- 12:00–1:00 PM: Lunch by the pool, featuring lunch with the scholars
- 1:00–1:45 PM: Speed Networking
 - 1:00 PM–1:45 PM: Donor session - A conversation with Stephen Hicks, Ph.D.
- 2:00 PM- 2:45 PM: Breakout Sessions
 - Breakout session #1 - Rob Tracinski: ***Survival Through Thick and Thin***
 - *Ayn Rand's ethics are based on the needs of survival. But "mere" survival or bare subsistence may seem like too "thin" a basis for the full richness of human life. How do we arrive at a "thicker" idea of survival? How can the needs of survival give rise to spiritual and intellectual values?*
 - Breakout Session #2 - Henry Posner III: ***Atlas Shrugged-how fiction inspired reality on railways worldwide***
 - *In the early years of Henry Posner III's railway career he finished reading Atlas Shrugged by lantern light while cleaning up a coal train derailment on Conrail's Detroit Division. That experience both inspired and translated to his work over the last four decades, ranging from the successful revival of the Iowa Interstate Railroad to the failed resurrection of the national railroad of Guatemala. While his railway service includes work on the front lines, more significant for this conference is his work at the policy level and as an educator. The center of his talk will be how Atlas Shrugged was visionary in highlighting the flaws of regulation as it stood in the 1940s; how deregulation saved the industry by focusing on markets in the 1980s; and why your European train vacation may not necessarily translate to the USA*
 - Breakout Session #3: Antonella Marty: ***Ayn Rand y la religión en el siglo XXI***
 - *En esta sesión se conversará y debatirá el rol de la religión dentro de la política actual, analizando cómo permea distintos tintes ideológicos, desde izquierdas a derechas, tomando como referencia el material y la obra de Ayn Rand, explorando su relevancia en el contexto actual.*
- 2:45 PM - 3:00 PM: Break
- 3:00 PM-3:45 PM: Breakouts
 - Breakout session #1 - Timothy Sandefur: ***Navigating by Fixed Stars: The Moral Trajectory of Star Trek***
 - Breakout Session #2 - *to be announced*
- 3:45 PM - Break for the day/ book signing with scholars
- 4:30 PM: Buses pick up students for excursions
 - Volleyball and water fun at Mission Beach (TAS provided shuttle departs at 4:30 PM)
 - Sunset Cliffs Golden Hour Photo Opportunity (TAS provided shuttle departs at 4:30 PM)
- 5:45 PM: Buses take donors to Dinner Cruise
- 6:00 PM – 9:30 PM: Donor Dinner Cruise with Heather Mac Donald, ***When Race Trumps Merit: How the Pursuit of Equity Sacrifices Excellence, Destroys Beauty and Threatens Lives.***

- 8:00 PM: Buses pick up students and return to Hotel
- 9:30 PM: Buses pick up donors from the cruise

Saturday, June 6th

- 8:30 AM –9:30 AM: Breakfast *with mentorship roundtable opportunities beginning at 9:00 AM*
- 9:25 AM - Welcome
- 9:30 AM-10:15 AM: Richard Salsman, Ph.D.: *The Validity and Morality of “America First”*
 - *The ethics of egoism, applied to national affairs, justifies prioritizing one’s nation over others, which is not necessarily in conflict with others unless they pose a genuine existential threat. “First” does not mean solitary. Contrary to critics’ claims, egoistic national policies do not include nationalism, nativism, populism, protectionism, or imperialism. America’s current policies embody a tragic hybrid of “first” (egoistic) and “last” (sacrificial) principles, so it’s crucial to disentangle good from bad.*
- 10:15 AM–10:30 AM: Break
- 10:30 AM - 11:15 AM:
 - Breakout #1: Topher Field: *Good People Break Bad Laws: Civil Disobedience in The Modern Age*
 - *There is only one thing that limits government power, and that is when the people reach the limit of their obedience and have both the means, and the will, to say ‘enough’. Drawing from his own experience as a “wanted man” in Melbourne, AU during the Covid-19 lockdowns, Topher Field surveys examples from ancient Greece to the US civil rights movement to his own personal experiences, bringing an inspiring and uplifting message of courage, hope, and the vital role of civil disobedience in the modern age.*
 - Breakout #2: Stephen Hicks, Ph.D.: *Primitivism and Polarization — and the Power of Philosophy*
- 11:15 AM -11:30 AM: Break
- 11:30 - 12:15 PM:
 - Breakout #1 - Michael Shermer: **“Truth: What it is, How to Find it, Why it Still Matters”**
 - *In this talk based on his latest book, Skeptic magazine publisher Dr. Michael Shermer will defend the philosophy of universal realism, moral realism, and the commitment to objective moral values as discovered by reason and science.*
 - Breakout #2 - *Richard Salsman, Ph.D. & Matthew Zwolinski, Ph.D. debate Universal Basic Income*
 - Donor Session: Rob Tracinski
- 12:15 PM-1:15 PM: Lunch featuring Mentorship Roundtables
- 1:15 PM - 2:00 PM: Gad Saad: *Suicidal Empathy and Parasitic Mind*

- 2:00 PM - 2:15 PM: Break
- 2:15 PM - 3:00 PM: *Stephen Hicks, Ph.D. : “Fascist!” and “Nazi!” — Hyperbole vs. History*
- 3:00 PM-3:15 PM: Closing remarks by Jay Lapeyre
- 3:15 PM -5:30 PM: Break before Dinner
- 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM: Reception
- 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM: Formal Dinner featuring Keynote, Gregg Hurwitz
- 8:30 PM - 11:00 PM: Afterparty w/Karaoke