

The Galileo Effect: Searching for Facts | Conference Schedule

Welcome <i>Dr. Walter Smith Jr., PhD, WPFC Faculty</i> <i>Allison Whitney, Board President</i>		8:45 – 9:00 AM
Introduction - The Galileo Effect and Bowen Theory <i>Annette Kolski-Andreaco, LCSW, WPFC Faculty</i>		9:00 - 9:15 AM
First Interview with Catherine Rakow, MSW, LCSW <i>Interviewer: Cynthia Larkby, PhD, ACSW, WPFC Faculty Director</i>		9:15 – 9:45 AM
Discussant: Jack Butler, MSW, PhD		9:45 – 10:00 AM
Q & A		10:00 – 10:15 AM
Rest Break		10:15 – 10:30 AM
Second Interview with Catherine Rakow, MSW, LCSW <i>Interviewer: Dave Swanson, MDiv</i>		10:30 – 11:15 AM
Q & A		11:15 – 11:30 AM
Presentation by Christopher Burnett, PsyD Bowen Family Systems Theory in the Academy: A 30 Year Journey of Exploration and Discovery		11:30 – 12:15 PM
Q & A		12:15 – 12:30 PM
Lunch Break		12:30 – 1:00 PM
First Interview with Jack Butler, MSW, PhD <i>Interviewer: Carl Jensen, MDiv, WPFC Guest Faculty</i>		1:00 – 1:30 PM
Discussant: Catherine Rakow, MSW, LCSW		1:30 – 1:45 PM
Q & A		1:45 – 2:00 PM
Second Interview with Jack Butler, MSW, PhD <i>Interviewer: Heather Brown, LMFT, WPFC Board Member</i>		2:00 – 2:45 PM
Q & A		2:45 – 3:00 PM
Rest Break		3:00 – 3:15 PM
Presentation by John Rushofsky, MDiv Maintaining Self In The Midst Of Religious Anxiety		3:15 – 4:00 PM
Q & A		4:00 – 4:15 PM

THE GALILEO EFFECT: SEARCHING FOR FACTS

Presenter Bios

Keynote Speakers

Catherine Rakow, MSW, LCSW

Ms. Rakow is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh. Post-graduate studies in Bowen family systems theory were done at the Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic under the direction of Paulina McCullugh and later at the Georgetown Family Center. She joined the faculty of the Western Pennsylvania Family Center in 1987. As a faculty member, she led the organizing of a library that included collecting the references used by Dr. Bowen in his 1978 book *Family Therapy in Clinical Practice*, coordinated the Basic Seminar for several years, contributed to the first nationwide distance learning course in Bowen theory and served on the board. In 1993 she began a 22 year independent study of the early development of family systems theory reviewing original archival materials, now at the National Library of Medicine and those materials remaining within the Bowen family at Williamsburg, VA. From this effort, she published several articles in the *Family Systems Journal*, the *Family Systems Forum* and a book, *Making Sense of Human Life*, Murray Bowen's determined effort toward family systems theory, published by Routledge in 2022. Ms. Rakow practiced as a clinician at St. Francis Hospital and Mental Health Center from 1979 to 1997. She retired from her private practice in 2007.

Jack Butler, MSW, PhD

Currently in private practice at Rose Street Mental Health Care in Wichita Falls, TX. Retired from the Air Force in 1999 after 28 years of service as a Colonel & Associate Chief of Clinical Social Work for the Surgeon General at Joint Base Andrews. Spent 5 years in the postgraduate program at the Bowen Center.

Interviewers and Presenters

Cynthia Larkby, PhD, ACSW

With degrees in social work from Ohio State University and epidemiology from the Graduate School of Public Health, University of Pittsburgh, Dr. Larkby has long had a special interest in understanding how past and present family relationships influence health. As Director of a large outpatient MH/MR program serving children, adolescents and their parents, she first studied Bowen family systems theory through a course offered by the Family Therapy Institute of Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic. She subsequently attended the Georgetown Family Center's Post Graduate Program in Family Theory and Family Psychotherapy (1985-1988). A former Assistant

Professor of Psychiatry and Epidemiology at the University of Pittsburgh, Dr. Larkby conducted research on the effects of family environment, maltreatment and violence on the development of children and adolescents. She is one of six founders of WPFC where she served as the second executive director from 1991-1996, and currently serves as the Faculty Director. A licensed clinical social worker, Dr. Larkby also consults with individuals, couples, and families in her private practice.

Dave Swanson, M.Div

Dave Swanson is pastor of Pittsburgh Mennonite Church and Chair of the Spiritual Leaders Caucus of the Pennsylvania Interfaith Impact Network. In 2014 Dave graduated with a Master of Divinity degree from Duke University Divinity School, where he studied theology and ethics. In 2018, Dave began his study of relational systems and has taken the Basic Seminar of the Western Pennsylvania Family Center twice. Currently Dave is studying leadership from a systemic perspective. He also consults with individuals and couples seeking to develop greater access to self within their relational context. Studying Bowen Theory has impacted Dave's thinking at such a foundational level that it has reshaped his understanding of everything from ants to God. He continues studying systems and using the thinking because it enables him to see himself and the world more clearly and has been useful in developing and maintaining greater clarity of self in the midst of relationships and the challenges of living.

Christopher Burnett, PsyD

Chris Burnett is the Associate Professor of Human Relationship Systems in the Department of Couples and Family Therapy at Nova Southeastern University, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. He has been with the University since 1993, shortly after completing a doctorate in Psychology from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. He is a licensed Psychologist in the state of Florida, and is also currently listed as a faculty member of the WPFC. As a faculty member at NSU, he teaches in both the Masters and Doctoral programs. He teaches courses in Bowen Family Systems theory, research methods, and clinical practice, and is a faculty supervisor in the University clinic that serves members of the community at large. He has Chaired dozens of Bowen Family Systems themed dissertation research projects with his students, and has been the moderator of the "Continuous Bowen Seminar", an open seminar on Bowen theory and other related topics, for the past 14 years. He is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Florida Family Research Network, another organization dedicated to the dissemination of Bowen Family Systems theory ideas.

Carl Jensen, MDiv

Pastor Jensen is a member of the WPFC Faculty. Before retiring, he served as Executive Director of the Peninsula Pastoral Counseling Center in Newport News, Va. Previously, he was Director of Pastoral Counselor Training at Pittsburgh Pastoral Institute, having served congregations in Southwestern Pennsylvania.

He received a Master of Divinity degree from the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, a Master of Science in Education degree from Duquesne University, and a Post Masters Family

Therapy Certificate from the University of Pittsburgh. He also participated in the Western Pennsylvania Family Center Post Graduate Education Program.

Pastor Jensen has been a National Clinical Fellow of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, in which he was an Approved Supervisor before retiring. He was a Diplomate in the American Association of Pastoral Counselors until this association merged into the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education in 2019, when he became a Retired Professional Member. When serving in Pennsylvania and Virginia, he was a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist in these states.

Heather Brown, LMFT

Heather Brown is a licensed Marriage and Family therapist practicing at The Center for Relational Change in Pittsburgh, Pa. Heather invites individuals, families, and couples into thinking about systemic process. She also supervises clinicians who are working toward licensure in the center's resident program as well as clinicians who are seeking to further their systemic thinking. Heather holds a position on the board at Western Pennsylvania family center, a non-profit educational organization utilizing Bowen family systems theory. Historically Heather has taught as an adjunct professor at Seton Hill's Marriage and family therapy program. Heather also values furthering her thinking around systems of oppression, societal process and understanding oneself. She has presented her thinking around these topics at workshops, conferences and symposiums in Pittsburgh Pa. Lastly and most importantly Heather is a human who is seeking to take a position of learning and growing in this life. She attempts this through being in nature, taking photos, being in relationship to others, exploring movement and any other ways she sees an opportunity to do so.

John Rushofsky, MDiv

Ordained Roman Catholic Priest for the Diocese of Pittsburgh September 29, 1979; M. Div. 1986, Mount Saint Mary's Seminary, Emmitsburg, MD; M.S.Ed. 1991, Duquesne University. Served in various parishes, Diocese of Pittsburgh; Member of various diocesan boards and committees. Director of Clergy Personnel, Diocese of Pittsburgh, 2000-2008. Established two new parishes by merging four previous parishes: 1993 and 2020. Extensive study of Bowen Family Systems Theory through Western Pennsylvania Family Center 1994-present. Board Member, Western Pennsylvania Family Center 1996-2006; Faculty Member, Western Pennsylvania Family Center 2005-present.