

**BC CENTER ON WEALTH AND PHILANTHROPY DIRECTOR PAUL SCHERVISH  
INVITED TO SPEAK AT PHILANTHROPY SYMPOSIUM ORGANIZED BY  
U.S. AMBASSADOR TO IRELAND TOM FOLEY**

CHESTNUT HILL, MA (February 2008) - Sociology Prof. Paul G. Schervish, director of the Boston College Center on Wealth and Philanthropy, was invited to speak at a recent "Dialogue on Philanthropy" organized by United States Ambassador to Ireland Thomas C. Foley.

Designed to promote philanthropy in Ireland, the event, hosted by Ambassador Foley in Dublin, encompassed both representatives from Irish organizations and American philanthropists, discussing and sharing ideas on how best the country can approach a philanthropic model.

The symposium focused on promoting the spirit of giving, policies that encourage philanthropy and developing philanthropy infrastructures.

Schervish discussed the motives that drive philanthropy; other topics were scheduled to include tax policies and regulation, resetting the definition of generosity and other cultural challenges, vehicles for transferring wealth, the role of foundations and community trusts, as well as of wealth, tax and legal advisors, and the role of development at privately supported institutions.



Among participants slated to appear were Pat Carey, T.D., Minister of State at the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs; Jackie Harrison of Philanthropy Ireland; Kingsley Aikens of the Ireland Funds; Roger Cheever of Harvard University; Sheila Nordon of Irish Charities Tax Research; Mark Cunningham of the Bank of Ireland; Robert Edgar of New York Community Trust; Tina Roche of The Community Foundation for Ireland; Rebecca Rimel of Pew Trusts and Mary Apied of Trinity Foundation, among others.

The Center on Wealth and Philanthropy at Boston College is a multidisciplinary research center specializing in the study of spirituality, wealth, philanthropy, and other aspects of cultural life in an age of affluence. Founded in 1970, CWP is a recognized authority on the relation between economic wherewithal and philanthropy, the motivations for charitable involvement, and the underlying meaning and practice of care.

In addition to directing the Center, Schervish has published in the areas of philanthropy, the sociology of money, the sociology of wealth, labor markets, unemployment, biographical narrative, and the sociology of religion. He also serves regularly as a speaker and consultant on how to surface and analyze the moral biographies of wealth holders, on the motivations for charitable giving, on the demographic patterns of wealth and charitable giving, and on the spirituality of financial life. Schervish was appointed a Fulbright Scholar for the 2000-2001 academic year at University College Cork in Ireland in the area of research on philanthropy.