



THE (UN) KNOWING FAITH
An Inquiry Facilitated by Ruth B Purtilo and Simon W Davison

“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen” – Hebrews 11.1

When we wish to deeply understand another or something outside of our experience what quality of space do we need to create in our own mind that allows us to receive and learn something new? In what ways do our knowledge and experience inhibit or enable our listening and ability to learn? How much are we willing to let go of to truly be with the other? Knowing that such engagement and openness could change the fabric of what we understand, is this act of letting go an act of faith? When we let go the content of our position, does an existential essence of faith remain that continues to support and inform?

Exploring such questions can have great relevance in engaging and understanding people of different faiths, cultures and disciplines. In this session we focus specifically on understanding the underlying and often unseen qualities enhancing dialogue and interaction with each other.

***Ruth Purtilo, PhD** has served as faculty of Harvard, Creighton and Yale Universities and been on several national and international commissions addressing health care, disability rights, and business ethics. Her career in social ethics has earned her a reputation as a leader in her field. Currently she is a member of the Harvard Divinity School Leadership Council. She presents lectures and workshops worldwide on issues that call for discernment and values-based action.*

***Simon Davison** is the Director of LOK and was the Director of the Bleddfa Centre, an educational trust in the UK supporting creativity and greater self-understanding. He has worked in the corporate sector in the USA and Europe in organizational development and as a mentor. Having lived many years in India he is knowledgeable and intimate with Indian culture and values. He has been a visiting Lecturer at Yale University Bioethics Centre and served on the board of the Saltwater Institute in Maine, US, an organization promoting ethical business practice.*

Saturday September 24, 2011

9.00 AM-12:30 PM

Harvard University Center for the Study of World Religions Common Room

42 Francis Avenue, Cambridge Massachusetts 02138