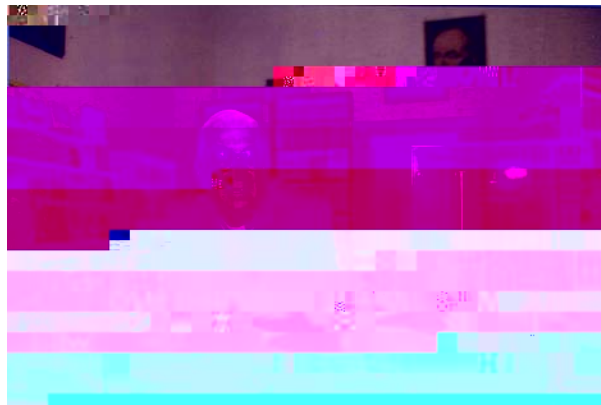


THE DANCE OF THE FERTILE UNIVERSE: CHANCE AND DESTINY EMBRACE

The first annual Reverend George V. Coyne, S.J. Lecture in Astronomy and Astrophysics to be presented by Father Coyne on Wednesday, April 26, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. in Monaghan Ballroom.



The universe we live in is full of a vast variety of objects: gas, galaxies, frogs, us. What is the best scientific understanding of how they came to be? Are they related to one another? If we order them from the simplest: quarks, protons, to the most complex: the human brain, is there a unified explanation of their coming to be. A tentative answer is found in their emergence as chance and destiny danced away in a fertile expanding universe. Does God have something to do with it?

Father Coyne is the Director of the Vatican Observatory.