"Ecological Civilization and Confucian Values" Mary Evelyn Tucker, Yale Forum on Religion and Ecology

Ecological Civilization is a term used in China that implies moving from an industrial society with unlimited economic growth that is polluting land, air, and water to an ecological civilization that provides a basis for the well-being and health of both people and the planet. In China, a commitment to building ecological civilization has been developing over 30 years and is in the Chinese Constitution since 2018. Such a commitment requires not only interdisciplinary cooperation in the fields of science, policy, law, economics, and technology, but also the integration of cultural and spiritual values from philosophy and religion into the educational system. In China, the tradition of Confucianism has much to offer, especially in its cosmological understanding of the unity of humans with the universe and Earth (*tienrenheyi*). We will discuss the history of Ecological Civilization and some of the ethical and spiritual contributions of Confucianism to education and action for an ecologically flourishing future.