On Thursday, September 10, 2020, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (MST), on ASU Live (https://asunow.asu.edu/asulive), directors of four academic centers at Arizona State University will participate in a livestream conversation with Rabbi Jonathan Sacks from London. An international religious leader, philosopher, award-winning author, and respected moral teacher, Rabbi Sacks will discuss the timely social and political implications of his latest book, Morality: Restoring the Common Good in Divided Times. He will be in conversation with ASU Professors John Carlson (Director of the Center for the Study of Religion and Conflict), Paul Carrese (Director of the School of Civic and Economic Thought and Leadership), Paul Davies (Director of Beyond: Center for Fundamental Concepts in Science), and Hava Tirosh-Samuelson (Director of the Center for Jewish Studies). The conversation will be moderated by Pauline Davies, Professor of Practice in the Hugh Downs School of Human Communication.

This is a crucial conversation at a critical time. While lamenting the cultural and political forces that have divided Britain, America, and the wider world, Rabbi Sacks presents a remarkable vision of hope for the future. Engagement of top scholars at ASU with one of the world’s leading public intellectuals is a special opportunity for our university, community, and beyond. This will be the inaugural event of “Conversations on Religion, Ethics and Science” or “CORES,” led by ASU Professor Barry Ritchie. CORES is made possible through the support of a grant from the John Templeton Foundation. The opinions expressed in this program are those of the participants and do not necessarily reflect the views of the John Templeton Foundation.

Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks, MBE, is an international religious leader, philosopher, award-winning author and respected moral teacher. He has served as the Chief Rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregations of the British Commonwealth from 1991 until 2013 and as a member of the House of Lords since 2009. He was educated at Cambridge, Oxford, King’s College London, and the University of London, where he received his Ph.D. in 1982. Rabbi Sacks has been a visiting professor at universities in Britain, the United States, and Israel. He is a frequent and respected contributor to radio, television and the press in Britain and around the world, and is the author of over thirty books, including Not in God’s Name: Confronting Religious Violence, The Great Partnership: God, Science and the Search for Meaning, and The Dignity of Difference: How to Avoid the Clash of Civilizations. Rabbi Sacks was awarded the prestigious Templeton Prize in 2016 in recognition of his work in affirming life’s spiritual meaning. For more information, please see www.rabbisacks.org.