



- **Davidovits** : I think we should start by asking you how you would define science and how you would define faith.

- **Davidovits** : A definition of faith that

However, science has very strict controls of reproducibility and peer evaluation that greatly inhibit questionable activity. If such controls were not in place, there might be just as much fraud in science as there is on Wall Street.

- . . . : Are there any scientific disciplines that you see as being incompatible with faith?

- . . . : Well, yes and no. It depends how we define faith. I have divided faith into three categories. One is faith that is incompatible, contradictory to science, such as faith in miracles. There is faith that is basically tangential to science. It is not in the domain of science; faith in human goodness, for example and then there is faith that motivates science. So, these are the three different types of faith that I have concocted. Perhaps you will tell me after the talk whether what I have concocted makes sense.

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people to think about and address issues of fundamental and deep importance. I think such activities are rare at other institutions.

- : Just to end on the issue of collegiality, how do you see working with scientists of other stripes? You're a chemist, right?

- : Yes, I am a chemist. Traditionally scientists in different disciplines have stayed separated. They have separate associations, separate conferences, separate journals, separate funding agencies and so on. They don't have much to do with each other. But things are changing. For example, physical chemistry, which I do, could be in the departments of geology or physics. There has been an attempt to remove the barriers between sciences, but it is no more successful than removing barriers, say, in philosophy. The continental philosophers and the analytical philosophers don't say much to each other, and I am sure the same is true for historians. But the science funding agencies are pushing toward interdisciplinary interactions.

They realize that in order to be effective, chemists need the tools of physics and physicists need the tools of chemistry and so on. We see more and more interdisciplinary activities all across the sciences.

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