PROGRAM SCHEDULE

5:00 pm Welcome Remarks
Dr. Henry M. Schwalbenberg
Director, The Graduate Program in International Political Economy and Development (IPED)
Fordham University

5:10 pm Introduction of Speaker
The Reverend Fr. Thomas Scirghi, S. J.
Jesuit Rector, Fordham University

5:15 pm Presentation of the Cassamarca Chair
His Excellency, Archbishop Bernardito Auza

5:45 pm Presentation of the Respondents
Dr. Marc Conte
Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Fordham University

Mr. Paul Wilkins
Senior Director of Government Relations, Bloom Energy

6:05 pm Questions and Answers

6:20 pm Closing Remarks

POPE FRANCIS AND THE UNITED NATIONS ON THE ENVIRONMENT

A written summary of presentations and discussions will be forwarded to Rome as input for an International Conference scheduled at the Vatican for June 2019

Wednesday, March 27, 2019
Flom Auditorium, Walsh Library,
Rose Hill Campus, Fordham University,
Bronx, New York

Sponsored by the US Branch of the Vatican Foundation Centesimus Annus Pro Pontifice and hosted by Fordham’s Graduate Program in International Political Economy and Development (IPED). We are grateful for the financial support of the Cassamarca Foundation.
Archbishop Bernardito Auza
Cassamarca Foundation Chair in Migration and Globalization
Fordham University

His Excellency Archbishop Bernardito Auza is currently Pope Francis’ representative to the United Nations. Since September 2016, he has been the inaugural holder of the Cassamarca Foundation Chair at Fordham University’s Graduate Program in International Political Economy and Development.

Archbishop Auza has been in the diplomatic service of the Holy See for over 25 years. He initially served in the Apostolic Nunciatures in Madagascar, Bulgaria and Albania before being assigned to serve in the Secretariat of State at the Vatican and then in the Permanent Observer Mission of the Holy See to the United Nations in New York.


His Excellency hails from the island of Bohol in the Philippines. He obtained his Licentiate in Philosophy and Theology and a Masters in Education from the University of Santo Tomas in Manila. He earned his Licentiate in Cannon Law and Doctorate in Sacred Theology from the Pontifical University of St. Thomas (Angelicum) in Rome.

Dr. Marc Conte

Marc N. Conte is an Associate Professor in the Economics Department at Fordham University and a research fellow at New York University. Prior to his arrival at Fordham, he was a post-doctoral research fellow at Stanford University, where he worked with the Natural Capital Project. While finishing his graduate studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara’s Bren School of Environmental Science and Management, as an advisee of Christopher Costello and a trainee in the NSF-funded IGERT Economics and Environmental Sciences program, he had a visiting position at Williams College.

Marc is an applied microeconomist who studies topics in environmental, energy, and public economics. He has explored the issue of environmental public good provision in the context of carbon offsets, charitable giving to conservation organizations, green energy programs, and payment for ecosystem services programs. He uses a variety of tools, including parametric and nonparametric econometrics, applied theory, laboratory experiments, and randomized field experiments.

Mr. Paul Wilkins

Bloom Energy delivers always-on, reliable, resilient, sustainable and cost effective electricity for customers globally. As Senior Director of Federal Government Relations for Bloom Energy, Paul works to ensure that the Federal policy and regulatory landscape keeps up with the rapidly evolving advanced energy industry. Paul’s responsibilities include working on tax and energy policy in Congress, energy resiliency planning with the federal government, FERC rules regarding distributed energy resources, and broadly promoting technology neutral, market based policies that create a level playing field.

Paul has served in leadership positions for both members of Congress and environmental non-profits. Paul started his career in Washington working as the Energy and Environmental Legislative Assistant for Senator Max Baucus. Over nearly a decade in the Senate, Paul rose to become Senator Baucus’ Legislative Director and eventually Chief of Staff. Prior to joining Bloom Paul served as the Chief Conservation officer for the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership.

For over a decade Paul has worked at the nexus of policy and technology, ensuring that federal policy enables continued American leadership in clean and advanced energy. Paul is a 2004 graduate of Fordham’s IPED program.