

VOX

The University of Divinity Magazine

Issue 5, April 2017

1910

The *Melbourne College of Divinity Act* passed
The Bachelor of Divinity and Doctor of Divinity established

1956

The Act amended for the first time
The Master of Theology established

1972

The Act amended for the second time
The Bachelor of Theology established
The Roman Catholic Church joins
The collegiate structure created

1978

The Act amended for the third time
The Uniting Church in Australia recognised

1990

The Act amended for a fourth time
Authority granted to create further degrees and awards

2005

The Act amended for a fifth time
Contemporary governance structures adopted, including a Council and Academic Board

2016

The Act amended for a sixth time
The institution's title changed to the University of Divinity

The University of Divinity Act 1910

On 1 January 2017 revisions to the Victorian Parliament's enabling legislation for the University came into effect. Formerly known as the *Melbourne College of Divinity Act 1910*, the revised *University of Divinity Act 1910* makes four key changes:

- formalising the change of legal title to the University of Divinity
- changing the title of its senior officers (President to Chancellor, Dean to Vice-Chancellor)
- changing the title of "recognised teaching institutions" to "Colleges"
- adding a new preamble describing the University's history.

The changes reflect the working practice of the University over the last five years. Staff, students and alumni will have experienced almost no difference. Nevertheless, the commencement of the revised Act concludes a five-year period of transition that began with the attainment of University status in 2011.

The revisions to the Act were presented to Parliament as Government business. This generosity continued a longstanding tradition dating back to 1910, when the authority to confer degrees required an Act of Parliament. After passage by the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council, with the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor present in the public gallery for the debates, the *Melbourne College of Divinity Act Amendment Bill* received the Royal Assent on 2 November and was proclaimed on 13 December 2016.

This is only the sixth time in the institution's history that its legislation has been amended. The Act was first passed in 1910 to establish a College of Divinity governed by a group of churches to offer degrees in divinity. This fundamental purpose that has not changed, although its application has broadened well beyond the original vision of our founders to include an extraordinary variety of ministries, professions and research projects in Australia and internationally.



THE ACT IS AVAILABLE ONLINE:

http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/vic/consol_act/uoda1910296/



The Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor at the Victorian Parliament for the Legislative Assembly's debate on the Bill.

From the Vice-Chancellor

This issue of *Vox* showcases several major changes which have taken place at the University of Divinity in the past six months. Our governing Act has been revised by the Victorian Parliament, new strategic initiatives have come to fruition, and major changes have been agreed to the names and Course Outcomes of our Masters' degrees.

Meanwhile we have held two magnificent graduation ceremonies celebrating our students and their achievements. The publication of Australian student evaluation data for 2016 has highlighted the University of Divinity's place as a leader in the Australian University sector in terms of student outcomes and student satisfaction (see <http://www.qilt.edu.au/>).

Amidst these achievements and improvements, the life of scholarship - learning and teaching, research, engagement - continues at each of our Colleges. Over the last two months I have been privileged to visit each College to meet with staff, to talk about the University's vision and strategy, and to listen to the challenges and opportunities each College encounters.

It has been a fascinating journey. Our staff and students continue the University's work of more than a century, educating leaders for church and society and passing on the rich tradition of Christian wisdom to future generations and new contexts. Our Colleges are also engaging in a wide range of activities to address the issues of the contemporary world. These activities include:

- how do we instil our Graduate Attributes in each student?
- how do we contextualise theology for Australian society, especially in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities?
- how do we make the best use of proven teaching methods and new learning technologies?
- how can we serve the needs of faith-based agencies in health, education, community service, aged care, counselling and more?
- how can we support and mentor new generations of theological researchers?

With the journey of becoming a University now complete, and our focus fully turned to delivering our vision and strategy, I invite you to consider how you might participate in the University's life, whether as a student, staff member, alumni, or supporter, and by encouraging others to participate in the transformative experience of theological scholarship.

Professor Peter Sherlock
Vice-Chancellor

Vox: The University of Divinity Magazine

Issue 5, April 2017
ISSN 2204-9339 (Print)
Published by Office of the Vice-Chancellor
University of Divinity, 21 Highbury Grove, Kew, Victoria, 3101
Editorial responsibility Peter Sherlock
Copy editing and layout Meg Nelson
Printed by Bambra Press, Port Melbourne
Compilation and Text © University of Divinity 2017
University of Divinity
ABN 95 290 912 141
CRICOS 01037A
Website: <http://www.divinity.edu.au/university-of-divinity/vox/>
Vox is available in print and electronic pdf formats

CONTENTS

The <i>University of Divinity Act 1910</i>	1
From the Vice-Chancellor	2
Changes to Masters Degrees	3
Chancellor awarded AO in Australia Day honours	4
Indigenous engagement through international collaboration	5
Wendy Mayer appointed Professor	6
Why what good people say can have unintended consequences for the Church	7
Adelaide Graduation 2016	8
Melbourne Graduation 2017	10
Give it a try and see what happens	11
University academic staff receives Australian Research Council grand funding	14
International theological partnerships affirm Christian Orthodoxy	15
Princeton Scholar to lead SAC unit	15
The Centre for Research in Religion and Social Policy	16
The Legacy of War: Ecojustice perspectives on Australia's involvement in the Middle East	17
Research Publications	18
In Memoriam: Sr Dr Janette Gray RSM	22
From the Libraries	24
News and Events	25
New staff at Stirling Theological College	25
New staff at Jesuit College of Spirituality	25
Reimagining Home Conference	25
ANZATS Conference 2017	25
Looking towards a Church fully reconciled	26
End of Life Choices: public conversation	27
A pioneering feminist looks ahead	28
Key Dates 2017	28



Changes to Masters Degrees

“The changes will apply to all new students commencing study at Masters level in 2018, and to all continuing students who do not complete their Masters degrees by the end of 2017.”

Each year the University conducts a review of a group of awards to ensure they continue to be of high quality and are meeting the needs of students, employers, and stakeholders. In 2016 the University’s Masters degrees were reviewed, with a major report accepted by the Academic Board in November.

As a result of this review, three major changes are being introduced on 1 September 2017. These changes will affect all students currently enrolled in Masters degrees, alumni who have graduated with a Master of Theological Studies, and all students commencing a Masters from 2018.

Award names are being changed to reflect simply and directly the content of awards. Previously, many awards were called “Master of Arts (Specialisation)”. This is being amended for clarity to “Master of Specialisation”. More significantly the present Master of Theological Studies, or MTS, an award only available to students with a BTheol or equivalent, is being renamed the Master of Theology (Coursework), or MTh. Similarly, the present Master of Arts (Theology), or MA(Theol), a first degree in theology for students with a degree in another discipline, is being renamed the Master of Theological Studies, or MTS. These changes are to align UD award names with international practice, to ensure graduate qualifications are easily recognised.

Course outcomes have been rewritten for all awards, to align with the University’s Course Policy. These course outcomes state the skills and capacities a graduate will achieve on successful completion of the award.

Courses of study are being changed for several awards, to ensure that all possible pathways students may take within an award lead to the course outcomes and, where applicable, any professional accreditation or community recognition.

How will this affect students?

The changes will apply to all new students commencing study at Masters level in 2018, and to all continuing students who do not complete their Masters degrees by the end of 2017. The University Academic Board and Council scrutinised the recommended changes and agreed that, in all cases, the outcomes for continuing students would be the same or better under the new arrangements as under those which formerly applied. This includes improved recognition of awards, and clearer pathways for achieving course outcomes.

(above) The Chancellor signing graduation testamurs.

CHANCELLOR AWARDED AO IN AUSTRALIA DAY HONOURS 2017

The University of Divinity congratulates the Chancellor, Dr Graeme Leslie Blackman, whose outstanding contribution to theological education has been recognised with an AO in the Australia Day honours 2017.

Dr Blackman has been awarded an Officer (AO) in the General Division of the Order of Australia for distinguished service to the pharmaceutical industry, to scientific research and policy development, to theological education and the Anglican Church of Australia, and to aged care.



Dr Graeme Blackman AO.
Photo by Earl Carter.

How will this affect alumni with an MTS?

Graduates who received the Master of Theological Studies (MTS) from the University of Divinity (or, prior to 2012, the Melbourne College of Divinity), are entitled to apply to exchange their degree certificates and academic documents for the new Master of Theology (Coursework) or MTh. There is no charge for this service, however, this offer is only available for MTS graduates who apply prior to 30 September 2017 and who return their existing degree certificates and academic documents. New certificates and documents will be issued to successful applicants in early December. An application form is available on the University's website at <https://www.divinity.edu.au/study/masters-degrees/>.

Further assistance needed?

Please contact your College's Coursework Coordinator. Copies of the formal Regulations governing the new awards are available from the University's website at <https://www.divinity.edu.au/study/masters-degrees/>.

Summary of Masters Degrees name changes from 1 September 2017

Masters Degree Name (OLD)	Masters Degree Name (NEW)
Master of Philosophy	Master of Philosophy
Master of Theology	Master of Theology (Research)
Master of Education and Theology	Master of Education and Theology
Master of Arts (Biblical Studies)	Master of Biblical Studies
Master of Arts (Church History)	Master of Church History
Master of Arts (Pastoral Care)	Master of Pastoral Care
Master of Arts (Philosophy)	Master of Philosophical Studies
Master of Arts (Social Justice)	Master of Social Justice
Master of Arts (Spirituality)	Master of Spirituality
Master of Arts (Spiritual Direction)	Master of Spiritual Direction
Master of Arts (Theology)	Master of Theological Studies
Master of Divinity	Master of Divinity
Master of Theological Studies	Master of Theology (Coursework)

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Indigenous engagement through international collaboration

*Professor Mark Brett
Chair, Indigenous Engagement Committee*

Units at Whitley College

BN8002W Introducing the New Testament Narrative

Points: 15

Level: Postgraduate Foundational
Discipline: New Testament

Building upon the foundations of the narrative of the Old Testament, this unit examines the New Testament texts and traditions describing the continued work of the Creator to redeem the creation and people of God in the ministry, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, as recorded and lived out in the earliest communities of followers.

CT8002W Indigenous Theologies and Methods

Points: 15

Level: Postgraduate Foundational
Discipline: CT

This unit will investigate unique Indigenous theological contributions to the meaning of Christian faith and life. Utilising a thematic approach grounded in Indigenous epistemologies, the intersection of one's experience with the Creator, the nature of the spiritual, the Gospel story, redemption and redeemer will be explored in contrast with customary Western theological methods.

DA8002W Indigenous Practical Theology Symposium

Points: 15 (two parts, 7.5 points each)

Level: Postgraduate Foundational
Discipline: DA - Mission and Ministry

This unit aims to introduce students to a range of issues facing indigenous peoples in various parts of the world, and to a variety of ideas and points of view in response to these issues. Students will be introduced to skills, ideas and techniques that equip them for cross-cultural work.

While the majority of Aboriginal and Islander people identify as Christian, very few participate in teaching theology in the tertiary sector. Those who have earned degrees in theology have had to battle an educational culture that is in most respects antagonistic to their own, so the University of Divinity is working on new initiatives to open the way for greater participation throughout the life of the university – in its teaching, research, employment and engagement.

A key goal will be to provide culturally appropriate pathways for Aboriginal people through degree programs that focus on Indigenous experience. Working with Pastor Ray Minniecon, a highly regarded champion of theological education, Whitley College has invited three of the faculty from the North American Indigenous Institute for Theological Studies (NAIITS) to deliver intensive units of study in July this year.

The Director of NAIITS, Professor Terry LeBlanc, will also deliver a public lecture on Sunday 2 July within the Australian Association for Mission Studies conference.

NAIITS offers programs of study that provide a “cultural match,” and they will be working with Aboriginal and Islander elders in opening up a broadly Indigenous approach to theological education, offering coursework at Masters level as a bridge into higher degrees.

Also in July, the University of Divinity Indigenous Engagement Committee is organising a consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander bodies from around Australia. This process will be led by our project officer, Naomi Wolfe, an Aboriginal academic with expertise in theology as well as significant experience in supporting Indigenous students in the tertiary sector. We will be seeking advice on the most appropriate support for Aboriginal and Islander students into the future.

For enquiries about these units, please contact Dorothy Morgan, Registrar, Whitley College.

E: registrar@whitley.unimelb.edu.au

T: 03 9340 8100

<http://www.whitley.unimelb.edu.au/>



Wendy Mayer appointed Professor of the University of Divinity

“Members of the Council have expressed their delight at her appointment as the first Professor of the University from Australian Lutheran College. It is particularly appropriate that Professor Mayer, only the third woman to become a Professor of the University, was awarded the title on International Women’s Day.”

Congratulations to Professor Wendy Mayer, appointed a Professor of the University of Divinity by the University Council on 8 March 2017. Professor Mayer was recently appointed as the Associate Dean for Research at Australian Lutheran College, Adelaide, and brings an outstanding record in theological scholarship to the University.

In announcing the appointment the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Peter Sherlock, said “Professor Mayer is an internationally recognised scholar in early Christianity, especially the preaching of John Chrysostom. I am delighted that the University will benefit from her acclaimed research and her commitment to research training, mentoring and public engagement in a wide range of areas.

“Members of the Council have expressed their delight at her appointment as the first Professor of the University from Australian Lutheran College. It is particularly appropriate that Professor Mayer, only the third woman to become a Professor of the University, was awarded the title on International Women’s Day.

“On behalf of the University, I congratulate Professor Mayer and Australian Lutheran College, and look forward to her contribution to the University, wider community, and theological scholarship in the years ahead.”

The citation for the appointment follows.

Professor Wendy Mayer is an internationally acclaimed expert in early Christian studies, widely praised for her scholarship on the preacher John Chrysostom. She is author, editor or co-author of a dozen monographs and over seventy journal articles, and has been recipient of numerous Australian Research Council fellowships and grants. Professor Mayer’s most recent research has stimulated new scholarly directions in the history of medicine and she is a member of the founding Board of Directors of the international Working Group for Religion, Medicine, Disability and Health in Late Antiquity. She has rendered significant service to the academy, church and community as a distinguished visiting academic, research mentor for early career academics, consultant and member of ecumenical dialogues, and as a leader and participant in grassroots community empowerment programs.

Why what good people say can have unintended consequences for the Church

Opening Lecture at Australian Lutheran College

*Office of the Principal
Australian Lutheran College*

*A recording of Professor Mayer's
lecture is available for viewing
on ALC's website. Go to:
[http://www.alc.edu.au/news-
and-events/public-lectures/
opening-lectures/](http://www.alc.edu.au/news-and-events/public-lectures/opening-lectures/)*

A large audience consisting of invited guests and members of the wider church community, together with students and staff, attended the lecture given by Professor Wendy Mayer, Associate Dean for Research on 27 February, which marked the opening of a new academic year at Australian Lutheran College.

Professor Mayer, who is recognised internationally for her research on early Christian preaching and the life and works of John Chrysostom, presented findings from current cognitive and neuroscience research in her lecture titled, 'Preaching schism: Why what good people say can have unintended consequences for the Church.'

Her presentation focused on the areas of moral psychology and cognitive linguistics to explain why people radicalise (how good people end up doing bad things for their own good reasons and why good intentions can produce the opposite result, e.g. splitting the church).

"The science of moral cognition offers helpful explanations for what has previously been inexplicable on logical or rational ground", said Professor Mayer. "Most especially why a religious group that places emphasis on progressive values finds it difficult to talk to and understand the internal logic of a religious group that places emphasis on conservative values and vice versa. The fact that the position of both groups is, from their own point of view and in reality, perfectly moral, makes the disconnect more understandable."

Professor Mayer also highlighted findings that indicate that the language we use when arguing or talking about religion is most important. This includes the language that we use to express our beliefs through teaching and preaching. Essentially, it is worth remembering that, "language matters, and it matters a lot!" This is because the words we use can trigger moral judgments and emotions (like anger or disgust) in our listeners' brains. This happens without anyone's awareness.

Those who attended the lecture, were reminded by Professor Mayer that while research can often be challenging and confronting, it can also help us to look at ourselves, our identity and our behaviour in new ways and lead us in unexpected directions. This applies to us not only as individuals, but also as a Church. For a Church that is intentional about living and growing, and being relevant in the contemporary world, research is essential.



Adelaide Graduation 2016

*“There is a new creation:
everything old has passed away;
see, everything has become new”*

Guests and family members gathered to celebrate the graduation of 67 students, with 21 attending from Colleges across the University of Divinity, at the Adelaide Graduation ceremony held at Immanuel College Chapel on Friday 2 December 2016. Graduates attending included undergraduate and postgraduate students from Australian Lutheran College, Catherine Booth College, Pilgrim Theological College and Yarra Theological Union.

Rosemarie Joyce, from Yarra Theological Union, was awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. Dr Joyce’s thesis examines the understanding of authority and the practice of obedience by a selected group of women religious in Australia. A synopsis of how theologians understand obedience along with what the law states, is presented, along with the voices of the women themselves. They detail the change from living in a hierarchical structure to today’s communitarian based model.

Dr Daniel Carl Mueller (Australian Lutheran College), a fifth-year ordination candidate in the School of Pastoral Theology, was named as a Vice-Chancellor’s Scholar for 2016. Dr Mueller’s citation commends him for his academic achievements as well as his contribution to the College community throughout excellent leadership within the student body.



Reverend Associate Professor Michael Kelly CSsR.
Photo courtesy of Yarra Theological Union.

The University of Divinity Chancellor, Dr Graeme Blackman, presided and the graduation address was delivered by the Reverend Associate Professor Michael Kelly, Chair of the Academic Board. In his address to graduands Associate Professor Kelly spoke on the text from Second Corinthians “there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new” (2 Cor 5:17), encouraging graduates to see their journey to graduation as “a day of celebration of what has happened, but also a commitment to lifelong education as you continue to engage with diverse views, contexts and traditions that both enrich and challenge our personal and collective perspectives.”

Associate Professor Kelly reflected on the ‘commencement’ or enhanced continuation of each graduates’ service to the wider community and the importance of bringing their theology to bear on the different life situations as they are encountered. Associate Professor Kelly concluded by offering the graduates a three-word slogan to serve as a reminder in the journey beyond the classroom “make a difference”:



Reverend Associate Professor Michael Kelly CSsR delivers the Adelaide Graduation Address 2016.

“Make a difference to both Australian society and your own national communities through critical engagement with a pluralist society as we dialogue with others from the strengths and sources of our Christian theological traditions. This engagement can happen in a variety of ways. It happens through the witness and integrity of lives lived according to the values of the Scriptures. It happens through our preaching, teaching, research and writing. As you graduate and commence new dimensions in your lives may you make a difference by seeking the transformation of our society into a more tolerant, compassionate and companionable community.

Make a difference by your continuing engagement in theological conversation with the sources of our faith.

Make a difference through your openness to the grace of God who alone can make us a new creation.

Make a difference by your commitment to ecumenical dialogue and the reconciliation of the Christian churches.

Make a difference by hearing the call to the mission of reconciliation with the indigenous people of this land.”

*To read the full Graduation Address visit:
<https://www.divinity.edu.au/>*



(Above) Bishop Mark Whitfield of the Lutheran Church of New Zealand, played the organ for the ceremony.



(Bottom right) Dr Rosemarie Joyce receives her doctorate from the Chancellor.

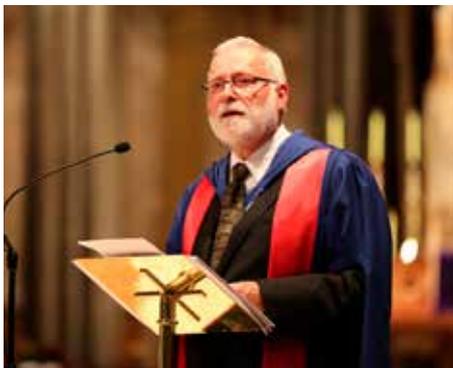


Adelaide Graduation photos by Meg Nelson, University of Divinity.



Melbourne Graduation 2017

“It is a particular pleasure tonight to celebrate our first graduate from Morling College, which joined the University in 2012 and offers our higher degrees by research.”



On Friday 24 March 2017 a 1000-strong crowd of students, teachers, family, friends and supporters filled St Patrick’s Cathedral to celebrate the academic achievements of 377 University of Divinity graduates, with 182 receiving their awards at the ceremony.

Graduation ceremonies at the University of Divinity celebrate the academic excellence of our student, honour our collegiate structure and reveal the richness of the many Christian traditions which shape our identity. This year the ceremony was held in the presence of Archbishop Denis Hart (Archbishop of the Catholic Diocese of Melbourne), and we were delighted to also welcome Archbishop Philip Freier (Archbishop of the Anglican Diocese of Melbourne and Primate of Australia), His Grace Bishop Suriel (Bishop of the Coptic Orthodox Church) and Reverend Sharon Hollis (Moderator of the Uniting Church Synod of Victoria and Tasmania). The presence of the heads of churches demonstrates the significant value placed on the education received at the University of Divinity in our partner churches and organisations.

As befits a University of Divinity, the first part of the ceremony includes prayer, song, and a reading from scripture. The St Athanasius College Choir also performed during (and prior to) the ceremony, presenting a journey through the traditions of the Coptic Church leading up to the Resurrection of our Lord.

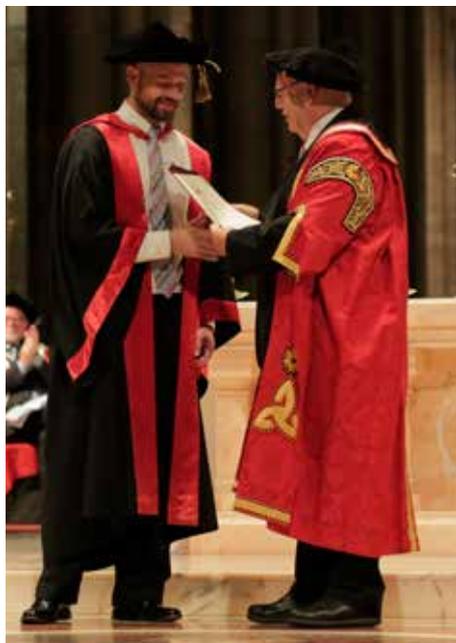


Chancellor Graeme Blackman noted during his welcome that “it is a particular pleasure tonight to celebrate our first graduate from Morling College, which joined the University in 2012 and offers our higher degrees by research.” This ceremony was the first in which not only all eleven colleges of the University were represented, but with graduates from all colleges receiving their award in person at the ceremony.

Doctoral degrees were awarded to Matthew John Andrew (Morling College), Katherine Joy Bensted (Australian Lutheran College), Margaret Anne Campbell (Pilgrim Theological College), Titus Seun Olorunnisola (Yarra Theological Union), Randall Gregory Prior (Pilgrim Theological College), Zoran Vargovic (Stirling Theological College), Graeme George Pender (Catholic Theological College), and Simon Richard Wayte (Catholic Theological College). Ten Vice-Chancellor’s Scholars 2017 were named for demonstrating excellence in one or more of the University’s Graduate Attributes: Matthew John Andrew (Morling College), Chia

To read the full
Graduation Address visit:
<https://www.divinity.edu.au/>

Chee Keong Mark (Yarra Theological Union), Lynne Maree Dux (Stirling Theological College), Peter Abdel-Sayed Habib Hanna (St Athanasius Coptic Orthodox Theological College), Amanda Louise Hart (Catherine Booth College), Kyungghwa Kim (Catholic Theological College), Jacob Paulo Legarda (Trinity College Theological School), Richard Xuesong Li (Whitley College), Lima Tura (Pilgrim Theological College), and Yu Li Hsin Lisa (Jesuit College of Spirituality).



(Above) Matthew Andrew (Morling College) receives his doctoral award from the Chancellor
Photo by Reed Graduations.

(Right) Heads of Churches in attendance.
Photo by Bassem Morgan.

(Page 10, page header) The procession into
St Patrick's Cathedral at the Melbourne
Graduation.
Photo by Bassem Morgan.

(Page 10, top left) Reverend Dr Alan Niven
delivers the Melbourne Graduation Address
2017.
Photo by Bassem Morgan.

(Page 10, bottom left) The St Athanasius
College Choir performed traditional coptic
hymns prior to and during the ceremony.
Photo by Bassem Morgan.

The graduation address was delivered by Reverend Dr Alan Niven, reflecting on his own journey in theological education. Dr Niven—who not only delivered the address, but was also a graduand and a supervisor of a doctoral candidate—spoke about the vitality of theological education in the church and how discerning a vocation is a theological exercise. He said “Our work or service, when reflected upon theologically and integrated with our faith: changes us; shapes us; sparks our humanity and prompts our humility; teaches us how to love; fills our teaching or conversation with wisdom, and our study of sacred texts with relevance; and inclines us to prayer when our helplessness in the face of human pain overwhelms us.” Dr Niven encouraged graduates to consider the parable of the Good Samaritan, particularly the Samaritan and the Innkeeper - both helpers, “the former by heroic happen-stance the latter by delegation”. Dr Niven presented a service-oriented view of the text presenting individual and systemic implications, presenting a comparison with modern day community services, disability and hospice care. Dr Niven quoted Ruben Ximmerman’s *‘Puzzling the Parables’*:

“... that the Samaritan story depicts an uncommon association of figures, a surprising collective, an unprecedented model of mutual trust and consequent service. In an exceptional partnership, the Samaritan and the innkeeper enter into a relationship involving personal vulnerability and loss on the one hand and mutual trust and cooperation on the other. **It is from this risky, fragile and exceptional association that goodness flows to the benefit of the disadvantaged. ... Jesus’ parable depicts an exceptional association of dubious characters as the means through which to get a momentary glimpse of the embodied reign of God.**”

Dr Niven concluded his address by inviting graduates to consider their graduation as offering “a moment of grace as you step into a new vocational awareness... Go well in your serving, with whomever you serve, wherever it takes you.”





Give it a try and see what happens

The following is an abridged version of Michael Smith SJ's Farewell Address, given at Jesuit College of Spirituality, 4 February 2017

At the beginning of 2016 our new Head of College, Deborah Kent, organised a celebration for me during which she presented me with an award which read, "In recognition of Reverend Dr Michael Smith, Founder and First Dean, 1999-2015". I was amazed to see the word founder etched in the crystal because it was not, until then, a part of my self-understanding. However, as I thought about it, I began to see that perhaps the title "founder" was appropriate. Thank you Deb for that insight into my identity, vocation and mission! Of course, I did not found Jesuit College of Spirituality (JCS) on my own. From the start it has been a collaborative effort involving many people.

I remember asking the Irish Tertian Master, "How do I know if these inspirations really are from God?" "Ah," he answered, "Give them a try and see what happens!" It was good advice.

So, how did this enterprise begin? What was the founding inspiration for our College? In August 1993 I completed the two-year Master of Arts in Pastoral Counseling at Loyola University Chicago. In October of that year I moved to Northern Ireland to make my Tertianship, the final year of a Jesuit's formation. Tertianship includes making the full Spiritual Exercises—the 30-day silent, individually-direct retreat—which our group of nine Tertians did at Drumalis, a retreat centre owned and managed by the Sisters of the Cross and Passion in Larne, Northern Ireland.

On the morning of the repose day between the Third and Fourth Weeks of the Exercises, I was alone in the common area of Drumalis where I had an inspiration: "When I return to Melbourne I will begin to offer a Masters of Arts in Applied Spirituality." Later, during the long retreat I made another decision: to pursue doctoral studies. I remember asking the Irish Tertian Master, "How do I know if these inspirations really are from God?" "Ah," he answered, "Give them a try and see what happens!" It was good advice.

Soon after I returned to Melbourne in mid-1994 I wrote up a proposal for a 'Masters in Applied Spirituality'. I showed it to various people but there was not much interest. Five years passed and the 'Masters in Applied Spirituality' proposal languished in my filing cabinet until a crucial moment occurred in 1999 in what is now the Office of the Vice Chancellor of the University of Divinity. I attended a meeting chaired by the then Dean of the Melbourne College of Divinity, the Reverend Dr Harold Pidwell. The group was charged with exploring the possibility of setting up a Christian Spirituality Centre to foster the academic study of spirituality. The Reverend Dr Paul Chandler O. Carm, was there, and so was Professor Maryanne Confoy RSC, Professor Austin Cooper OMI, Professor Brendan Byrne SJ, the late Fr Ross Collings OCD and others.



Image courtesy of Jesuit College of Spirituality

The University of Divinity is now the leading higher education provider in Australia of graduate courses for the formation of spiritual directors.

JCS has also pioneered the provision of graduate awards in leadership and supervision at the University.



Province Socius Fr Robin Koning joined the Jesuit College of Spirituality CEO Deborah Kent for the blessing and opening of their new Parkville premises on 6 March 2017.

Image courtesy of Jesuit College of Spirituality

As I listened to the conversation, I tentatively raised my hand and asked, “What about the study of spiritual direction? Could that be offered through the Christian Spirituality Centre?” The group seemed to spin around as one and fix their collective gaze on me. Clearly the possibility of studying spiritual direction hadn’t been considered. It was Harold who said, “Well, why don’t you write up a proposal?” I did. In fact I had prepared it five years earlier. Now was the *kairos*. Now was the right time to retrieve it from my filing cabinet.

Maryanne Confoy, the Reverend Dr Peter Cantwell OFM and I then met over a number of months and we fleshed out the curriculum for the Master of Arts in Spiritual Direction. In 2000 the University of Divinity became the first tertiary institution in the country to offer the MA(SD) when we enrolled our first cohort of eight students. In our faith-learning community we integrated rigorous academic learning with personal formation and supervised practice.

Another such moment occurred in 2006 when, at the recommendation of the Reverend Dr Charles Sherlock, who at that time was the Registrar of the MCD, we became a Recognised Teaching Institution (RTI) of the Melbourne College of Divinity and later a college of the University of Divinity. Charles assured me that becoming an RTI would not involve much more administrative and compliance work than I was already doing. What happened was that the Master of Arts in Spiritual Direction course flourished and the numbers of students grew. The University of Divinity now offers formation courses for spiritual directors in three of its eleven colleges — Jesuit College of Spirituality, Whitley Theological College and the Yarra Theological Union. The University of Divinity is now the leading higher education provider in Australia of graduate courses for the formation of spiritual directors. JCS has also pioneered the provision of graduate awards in leadership and supervision at the University.

Having helped to found Jesuit College of Spirituality, and having been closely involved in the design and implementation of the awards and the units of study that JCS offers, I feel deeply attached to the College and its ministry of formation and higher education. It is critical for the College to be governed and managed well so that it can flourish and be taken in new directions. Here I would like to publicly thank Deborah Kent in her role as Head of College and CEO. I am amazed at what she has been able to achieve in just one year. I am also grateful to Peter Johnstone OAM, the Chair of the JCS Council, for the expertise in governance that he has brought to the College.

Today we welcome Dr Maggie Kappelhoff, our new Academic Dean, who brings expertise, particularly in online education, that will be vital to our future. I also thank Anne Pate, our Coursework Coordinator, whose attention to detail and deep learning in Ignatian spirituality I value deeply. I also thank our Registrar, Katica Buccheri who, with Deborah, makes a formidable team and keeps the College ticking over. With these talented people in place, and with our new home in Parkville up and running, I find myself free to move to the next stage of my life.

On 9 December 2016 I got a phone call from our Provincial, Fr Brian McCoy, informing me of his decision to mission me to the International Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) Office in Rome where I will take up the role of International Educational Coordinator. I am pleased to have this opportunity as I believe it is one that will utilise the best of who I am and

my gifts. I see providing quality education to refugees as a key means of promoting social justice. JRS currently has 140,000 pupils in its primary and secondary schools in refugee camps and plans to increase the number to 240,000 by 2020.

Finally, I want to thank the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Peter Sherlock, for his leadership and vision. Over the last 40 years we have become used to talking in theology about social sin. That is, sin that extends beyond the personal to human-made structures that cause people to suffer. We are also talking now about social or corporate grace. I see the University of Divinity as a corporate grace that leads to human flourishing. My hope and prayer is that the University of Divinity will continue to grow and develop. I also hope that what I have learned at the University in my 21 years will help me to better serve refugees. My desire is that when my time as International Education Coordinator for JRS is over, that I might come back and continue teaching with JCS.

University academic staff receives Australian Research Council grant funding

*Office of the Master
Catholic Theological College*



The Australian Research Council (ARC) has awarded \$266,000 for a research project on the first Archbishop of Melbourne: A Baroque Archbishop in Colonial Australia: James Goold (1812–1886). An Irishman educated in Italy, Goold imported a library and late Italian Baroque paintings to convey the intensity of European religious experience.

The project will investigate Goold as cultural patron of Melbourne through his significant art collection, personal library and commissioning of St Patrick's Cathedral. This is a joint three-year project of the University of Melbourne and the University of Divinity. The lead researchers are Professor Jaynie Anderson (Art Historian), Mr Shane Carmody (University of Melbourne Library) and Reverend Dr Max Vodola (Head of Catholic Theological College's Church History Department).

It is anticipated that new publications will emerge from the research as well as conferences and an exhibition that will all examine, in various ways, the translation of European culture to colonial Australia. Reverend Dr Vodola is the first staff member of the University of Divinity to have been successful in applying for an ARC grant.

(above) Reverend Dr Max Vodola. Image sourced from <http://www.missionarysisters.org.au/>

(right) St Patrick's Cathedral Melbourne was commissioned by Archbishop James Alipius Goold. Image sourced from <https://www.bigstockphoto.com/>





International theological partnerships affirm Christian Orthodoxy

*Maggie Trainor
St Athanasius College*

Key representatives from St Athanasius College (SAC Australia); St Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary (SVOTS USA), Sankt Ignatios Theological Academy (Sweden), and the Amsterdam Centre for Orthodox Theology at the Vrije Universiteit (ACOT - The Netherlands), gathered in Amsterdam from 27–28 March to address areas of mutual concern and to explore areas of cooperation.

The participants included His Grace Bishop Suriel, Chancellor and Dean of SAC; the Very Reverend Dr John Behr, Dean of SVOTS and the Metropolitan Kallistos (Ware) Chair in Orthodox Theology at VU; the Reverend Dr Ioan Lena, Lecturer at ACOT; Fr Michael Bakker, Director of ACOT; and Olle Westberg, Chancellor of Sankt Ignatios Theological Academy; and Michael Hjälml, Dean of Sankt Ignatios Theological Academy.

Bishop Suriel said the two day workshop, held in good faith, was extremely productive with a focus on realising the importance of working together for future progress of our institutions.

“It was privilege to be able to be able to contribute to an educational and theological think tank where ideas and strategic priorities are beginning to emerge with a focus on the best interests of our students, and of course, the preservation of our precious Orthodox faith,” Bishop Suriel said. Dean of SVOTS, the Very Reverend Dr John Behr added that: “The meeting was unique in that all four of our respective institutions include Eastern and Oriental Orthodox Christians in their student bodies, faculty and/or governance structures. I would hope that this commonality among us will allow us to develop academic resources that will continue to highlight the source of the historic divide between Chalcedonian and non-Chalcedonian Christians, and to add to the knowledge of it.”



(above) Fr George Parsenios.
Image courtesy of St Athanasius College.

*For enquiries about this intensive presented by an expert in New Testament studies, please contact Reverend Dr Peter Dobson, Director of Academic Administration.
E: pdobson@sac.edu.au
T: 03 8872 8452
<http://www.sac.edu.au/>*

Princeton scholar to lead SAC Unit

Princeton scholar Fr George Parsenios PhD will lead SAC's mid year intensive unit: **Paul and his Churches**. Based in the USA, Fr Parsenios currently serves as Associate Professor of New Testament at Princeton Theological Seminary and as Professor at St Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary. The distinguished academic will teach a new biblical unit on the teachings and ministry of St Paul to both postgraduate and undergraduate students.



The Centre for Research in Religion and Social Policy

*Professor John McDowell
Director of Research*

“Together we empower our learning community to address the issues of the contemporary world through critical engagement with Christian theological traditions.”

Are you interested in becoming involved with the Centre? Visit the website where you can find information about how to become a member as well as information about upcoming events and blogs.

<http://www.centrerasp.org>

Several cultural commentators have claimed that higher education is in “crisis”. What they understand by this predicament often varies, but one thing that frequently emerges is that universities in the English speaking world in particular are suffering an identity crisis. They do not seem to know what they are for, or how they relate to their local or even global societies. Quality measurements expressed in tables of university rankings redefine many universities’ missions: to score more points on the board and thereby competitively climb the rankings table.

According to an older translation of Proverbs 29:18 “Where there is no vision, the people perish”. The writer asserts that without being bound by the Law of God which provides flourishing, the society becomes not only diminished but disordered. Something of that vision is articulated in Augustine’s reflections on the rules for Christian reading of the scriptures in *De Doctrina Christiana*. Reading well requires a series of skills, and these skills are developed from within the Christian traditions and communities past and present. But the fruit of bible reading, he insists, is love. In other words, it is in lives shaped by the dynamic incorporation into God’s gift of the love that the life of God creatively and redemptively shares with God’s creatures. It has been with some delight that I have come to work for a university that articulates its mission as follows: “Together we empower our learning community to address the issues of the contemporary world through critical engagement with Christian theological traditions.” The creation and the consequent launch of the Centre for Research in Religion and Social Policy, the first research centre of the University of Divinity, comes at an opportune time with the shrinking of the business of care for persons in the public space, as care itself becomes increasingly privatised. While issues of the good life, what diminishes it, and what kind of reparative justice is required, take on new forms from context to context they remain live ones. The Centre is well-placed to begin the arduous journey of attempting to raise consciousness of such matters within the public sphere of the universities and beyond, and of doing so from critical engagement with the rich resources for healing that emerge irreducibly from the Christian traditions themselves. It will need to do that in a culture for which traditions such as those of Christianity are increasingly held, at best, in polite disregard or, at worst, in passionate disdain. The networks and partnerships the Centre will develop will be crucial to its success, where by ‘success’ the measure will be the ability to converse beyond the confines of the University seminar room and even beyond the ears of the Christian communities themselves.

The Legacy of War: ecojustice perspectives on Australia's involvement in the Middle East

Gabrielle McMullen AM
Chair, Centre for Research in Religion
and Social Policy Committee

On the afternoon of Thursday, 20 April I had the privilege of introducing a seminar at Whitley College co-hosted by the Centre for Research in Religion and Social Policy. Some thirty people gathered for the forum which was entitled *The Legacy of War: Ecojustice Perspectives on Australia's Involvement in the Middle East*. In the opening remarks, I introduced participants to the Centre:

“The University of Divinity’s new and its first research centre, the Centre for Research in Religion and Social Policy has been given the graphic acronym of RASP – the ‘rasp’ imagery fits well with the Centre’s aim of bringing the University’s specialisation of theology into ‘dialogue’ with contemporary issues. It is doing this through stimulating research and engagement activity across the University and by building external partnerships.



“The Centre’s interim Director, Reverend Dr Gordon Preece, has worked with the RASP committee to develop a particular focus and thematic areas for the Centre in its initial period. Under the overall focus of Flourishing in a Fragile World, RASP is pursuing projects related to ecology, economics and wellbeing, including the *Ecological Aspects of War: Religious Perspectives from Australia* project from which this seminar emerged. The project’s key researchers are Dr Anne Elvey and Associate Professor Keith Dyer – Dr Elvey is also a foundation RASP member.”



Significantly, the *Ecological Aspects of War* project had its genesis in the question, “What if theologians and scholars of religion were to address thinking about war and peace through the lens of the wellbeing of the entire Earth community?”. Initiated through a University of Divinity small grant, the project is bearing fruit, with its researchers having held a successful conference in 2015, the *Ecological Aspects of War*, and also generated two major publications, a Bloomsbury T&T Clark book entitled *Ecological Aspects of War: Engagements with Biblical* and a forthcoming ATF Press volume. The project has transitioned smoothly from its initial ‘home’, the Yarra Institute for Religion and Social Policy, to the Institute’s successor, the Centre for Research in Religion and Social Policy. Further, it has won in-kind support from both Trinity College Theological School and Whitley College and this is particularly pleasing, given that the new Centre, as a University-sponsored initiative, is seeking to engage widely with researchers across its member Colleges.

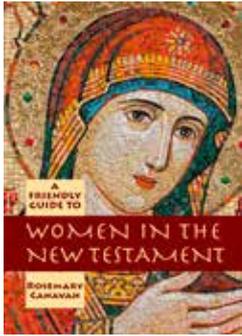


Members of the Centre for Research in Religion and Social Policy gathered on 03 April for a reception to hear about the 2017 plans.

The highly engaging seminar was facilitated by Emeritus Professor Joe Camilleri, former Chair of International Relations and founding Director of the Centre for Dialogue at La Trobe University. Presentations were made by Dr Anne Elvey on ‘Ecojustice Principles and the War in Afghanistan’ and Dr Deborah Storie on ‘Perspectives on Australia’s Involvement in Afghanistan’. In particular, Dr Storie highlighted that realising a better future called for the development of a “moral imagination”. Professor Camilleri offered a short response and then opened the forum up to lively audience participation. Associate Professor Dyer closed the seminar with a vote of thanks.

I felt proud of RASP’s association with the *The Legacy of War* seminar and look forward to many other such occasions which RASP will host.

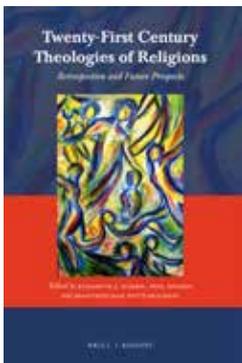
Research Publications



Rosemary Canavan,
A Friendly Guide to Women in the New Testament
(Mulgrave: Garratt Publishing, 2017).
ISBN 9781626982147

This Friendly Guide introduces the reader to the multitude of women in the New Testament. All take their place in the story of Jesus and the development of the Jesus movement after the resurrection. They are mothers, daughters, sisters and wives living in the first century with all of its limitations on their participation in public life. Yet they are present, remembered and influential from Jesus' birth, through his public ministry to his passion and death, and as first witnesses to the resurrection. This volume celebrates their contribution and hopes to inspire women and men today in their faithful service.

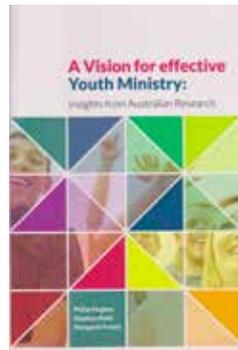
Dr Rosemary Canavan
Catholic Theological College



Elizabeth J. Harris, Paul Hedges and Shanthikumar Hettiarachchi (eds),
Twenty-First Century Theologies of Religions Retrospection and Future Prospects
(Leiden/Boston: Brill/Rodopi, 2016)
ISBN 9789004322462

Within Christian theology, debates on the theology of religions have intensified over the last thirty or so years. This volume surveys the field and maps future directions in this expanding and important area of research. Both established experts and new voices address typological debates, comparative theology, multiple religious belonging or identity, and how dialogue between different religious traditions affects our understanding of these issues. Different perspectives and traditions are represented, and, while focusing upon debates in Christian theology, voices and perspectives from a range of religious traditions are also included. This volume is an essential tool for research students and established scholars working within the theology of religions and interreligious studies.

Dr Shanthikumar Hettiarachchi
Honorary Research Associate



Philip Hughes, Stephen Reid and Margaret Fraser,
A Vision for Effective Youth Ministry: Insights from Australian Research
(Melbourne: Christian Research Association, 2017).
ISBN 9781875223824

This book has arisen out of Australian research into youth ministry, from visiting youth groups and talking with youth leaders and the youth themselves. It offers a vision for the development of youth ministry, recognising the diversity of youth and the backgrounds from which they come. It explores how to build a youth ministry team and the qualities needed in the team. It discusses issues of training, payment, and support for youth leaders and building bridges with parents, church and school. Based on the research, it identifies the following factors as important in making a difference in developing youth ministry:

- A vision for developing the spirit of young people;
- A commitment by the whole church to youth ministry;
- A youth ministry team with strong relationships with God, each other, the youth, parents, the church and the wider society; and
- A diversity of activities: both age-specific and intergenerational, for fun, friends, inquiry and developing the spirit.



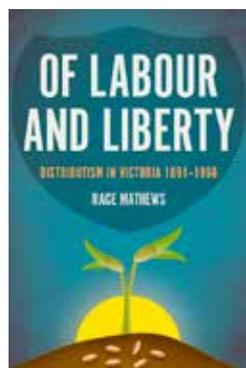
Philip Hughes (contributing ed.),
Charting the Faith of Australians: Thirty Years in the Christian Research Association
(Melbourne: Christian Research Association, 2017).
ISBN 9781875223848

The last 50 years have seen more rapid change than at any time in human history. Changes in technology have changed every aspect of life: from contraception to computation, from communication to community formation. These changes have affected the ways in which Christians have sought meaning in their lives, from the fulfilment of duty to the maximisation of subjective wellbeing. They have affected deeply the role that religion has played in life with the focus moving from the preservation of tradition to personal spirituality.

This book tells the story of these changes and how the Christian Research Association has charted them through the examination of census and survey data and through interviews with thousands of individuals. It explores these changes in youth culture and rural culture,

the impact of migration and the rise of the Pentecostal and charismatic movements. It suggests ways in which churches and schools might respond to these changes.

*Reverend Dr Philip Hughes
Honorary Research Fellow*



Race Mathews, *Of Labour and Liberty: Distributism in Victoria 1891-1966* (Clayton: Monash University Publishing, 2017). ISBN 9781925495331

What will the future of work, social freedom and employment look like? In an era of increased job insecurity and social

dislocation, is it possible to reshape economics along democratic lines in a way that genuinely serves the interests of the community? *Of Labour and Liberty* arises from Race Mathews's half a century and more of political and public policy involvement. It responds to evidence of a precipitous decline in active citizenship, resulting from a loss of confidence in politics, politicians, parties and parliamentary democracy; the rise of 'lying for hire' lobbyism; increasing concentration of capital in the hands of a wealthy few; and corporate wrong-doing and criminality.

It also questions whether political democracy can survive indefinitely in the absence of economic democracy – of labour hiring capital rather than capital labour. It highlights the potential of the social teachings of the Catholic Church and the now largely forgotten Distributist political philosophy and program that originated from them as a means of bringing about a more equal, just and genuinely democratic social order. It describes and evaluates Australian attempts to give effect to Distributism, with special reference to Victoria. And with an optimistic view to future possibilities it documents the support and advocacy of Pope Francis, and ownership by some 83,000 workers of the Mondragon co-operatives in Spain.

*Dr Race Mathews
Honorary Research Fellow*

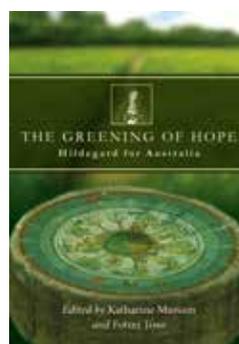


Angela Hesson, Matthew Martin and Charles Zika (eds), *Love: Art of Emotion 1400-1800* (Melbourne: National Gallery of Victoria, 2017) ISBN 9781925432329

This volume is published in conjunction with the ARC Centre of Excellence for the

History of Emotions, to coincide with an exhibition of the same title held at the National Gallery of Victoria. The essays gathered in this volume explore the manner in which visual and material culture from 1400 to 1800 developed the complex theme of love and gave it enumerable new emotional forms. While popular conceptions of love often focus on romance, this book explores through many depictions of love in paintings, sculpture, prints and drawings, as well as a selection of non-representational and functional objects, the emotion's varied manifestations across the realms of human experience and exchange, including familial relationships, religious devotion, friendship, altruism, patriotism, narcissism, materialism and nostalgia.

*Dr Matthew Martin
Honorary Research Associate*



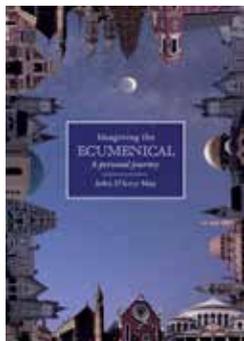
Katharine Massam and Fotini Tosso (eds), *The Greening of Hope: Hildegard for Australia*, (Melbourne: MorningStar, 2016). ISBN 9780994470737

Melbourne's Festival of Hildegard in October 2012 honoured Hildegard of Bingen (1098-1179) for her extraordinarily diverse achievements as a writer, healer, musician, prophet and administrator. Over three days, one hundred and twenty people attended not only public lectures and an academic seminar stream but also dramatic re-enactments of scenes from Hildegard's life, workshops on chant, embroidery, manuscript conservation, productive gardening, dance, art, and a labyrinth built of eucalyptus and bracysschome daisies.

The festival grew from the twin convictions that Hildegard's life and thought resonate in many settings, and that the work required to interpret her in this quite different, Australian context yields enduring wisdom. Held as her name was added to the list of thirty-six theologians who are credited with 'universal significance' as doctors of the church, the Melbourne Festival of Hildegard demonstrated Hildegard's power to communicate across the ecumenical conversation within and beyond the church.

This volume brings together the papers that were presented at the festival. They reflect the depth and diversity of both the occasion itself as well as leading research into Hildegard's life and work. They remind us of Hildegard's gifts and her confidence, shared by participants in the festival, that the greening of hope goes on.

*Associate Professor Katharine Massam
Pilgrim Theological College*

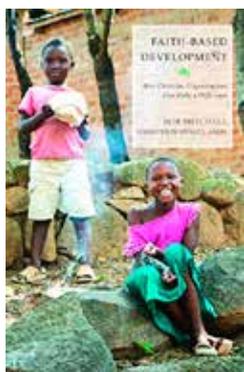


John D'Arcy May, *Imagining the Ecumenical: A personal journey*
(Melbourne: MorningStar, 2017).
ISBN 9780994470768

Beginning and ending at home in Australia, John May tells the story of his journey from unquestioning

Catholicism through Christian ecumenism to the developing relations between the world's religions. He brings into sharp focus the questions raised for theology by interreligious relations and the challenge such questions raise: are we capable of truly imagining the ecumenical in all its implications for our religious convictions and the future of the world?

Dr John D'Arcy May
Honorary Research Fellow



Bob Mitchell, *Faith-based Development: How Christian Organizations Can Make a Difference*
(Maryknoll NY: Orbis Books, 2017).
ISBN 9781626982147

International development work is a largely secular discipline that has historically

distanced itself from faith concerns; even many faith-based NGOs have sought to minimize the relationship between their religious convictions and their work. Secular groups often see faith-based agencies as “irritating marginal players” in the global development scene. This book argues that the effectiveness of these types of organisations often derives from their sense of religious mission, and that this values base should be strengthened and reclaimed. Church and parachurch organisations have long been major players in international development work. Drawing on extensive qualitative evidence the book maps the unique strengths of faith-based approaches to development. The author argues that when governors of faith-based NGOs are intentional about the role of faith in their work organisations can become more accountable, effective, and resistant to organisational drift.

Reverend Dr Bob Mitchell
Honorary Research Associate



Francis J. Moloney, *Johannine Studies 1975-2017: Wissenschaftliche Untersuchungen zum Neuen Testament 372* (Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2017)
ISBN 9783161551086

Responding to the request of Professor Ruben Zimmermann, University of Mainz, and

Professor Jörg Frey, University of Zürich and the General Editor of the WUNT series, Professor Moloney has gathered studies on the Gospel of John that date from his earliest published essay (1975) to a series of studies that are published in this volume for the first time (2017). Professor Moloney has edited and retouched all the studies to form a unified text and style-sheet. After an introductory essay mapping the personal and scholarly journey of Professor Moloney, the book has three sections: the Johannine world, Johannine Theology, and studies of the Johannine text. As well as the original contribution made by each single study, the book as a whole reflects almost half a century of Johannine scholarship. It contains full indices of authors, citations, and themes.

Reverend Professor Francis J. Moloney
Catholic Theological College



Dinh Anh Nhue Nguyen, *Gesù il saggio di Dio e la Sapienza divina. Indagine biblico-teologica introduttiva per ripensare la cristologia sapienziale nei vangeli sinottici* [*Jesus the Sage of God and Divine Wisdom: An Introductory Biblical-theological Inquiry to Rethink the Wisdom Christology in the Synoptic Gospels*]

(Rome: Casa Editrice Miscellanea Francescana, 2017).
ISBN 9788887931648

The book investigates the figure of Jesus as the Sage of God and as Divine Wisdom in the synoptic gospels as well as the relationship between these two themes, which are arguably inseparable in the synoptic tradition. The two are seldom studied together (particularly in Italian scholarship) and this meticulous study, with its rich bibliographical documentation, offers systematic reflections on various aspects of Jesus the Sage of God and Divine Wisdom, as well as detailed exegetical analysis of the most important biblical passages in this regard.

The volume's introductory chapter studies the figure of the sage in the biblical and Jewish wisdom tradition, the expectation of a necessarily "wise" Messiah in Israel, and the development of the literary-theological figure of personified Wisdom, which reaches its pinnacle of thought in the biblical and extra-biblical writings around the time of Jesus. Further investigation is structured in two parts, both in relation to the synoptics: words and deeds of Jesus showing him to be the Sage of God; and testimonies and allusions to Jesus being Divine Wisdom. The final chapter synthesises the research findings and reflects on the possible historical and theological "evolution" from Jesus as "the Sage of God" to Jesus as "Divine Wisdom."

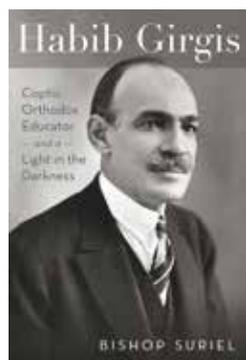
Reverend Dr Dinh Anh Nhue Nguyen
Honorary Research Associate



Muriel Porter, *The New Scapegoats: The Clergy Victims of the Anglican Church Sexual Abuse Crisis*
 (Melbourne: MorningStar, 2017)
 ISBN 9780987619358

In response to its public shaming over child sexual abuse allegations, the Anglican Church of Australia has adopted draconian measures to regulate its clergy as a means of rebuilding its shattered reputation by appearing tough on every aspect of their lives. Its insistence on harsh puritanical standards of sexual behaviour has exposed Anglican clergy, innocent of any abusive behaviour, to demeaning punishments that in some cases have resulted in their deposition from Holy Orders. *The New Scapegoats* explores this hidden outcome through case studies, a comparison with the situation in the Church of England, and an examination of several theological aspects: the impact the new rules are having on the concept of the priesthood of all believers; sexual purity; forgiveness; and scapegoating.

Dr Muriel Porter
Honorary Research Fellow



Bishop Suriel, *Habib Girgis: Coptic Orthodox Educator and a Light in the Darkness*
 (New York: SVS Press-SAC Press, 2017)
 ISBN 0890881415667

This is the first comprehensive work published on the life of Habib Girgis. By the mid-nineteenth century,

the Coptic Orthodox Church was in a state of deep vulnerability that tore at the very fabric of Coptic identity. In response, Girgis dedicated his life to advancing religious and theological education.

This book follows Girgis' six-decade-long career as an educator, reformer, dean of a theological college, and pioneer of the Sunday School Movement in Egypt—including his publications and a cache of newly discovered texts from the Coptic Orthodox Archives in Cairo. It traces his agenda for educational reform in the Coptic Church from youth to old age, as well as his work among the villagers of Upper Egypt. It details his struggle to implement his vision of a Coptic identity forged through education, and in the face of a hostile milieu.

The pain and strength of Girgis are seen most clearly near the end of his career, when he said, "Despite efforts that sapped my health and crushed my strength, I did not surrender for one day to anyone who resisted or envied me.... Birds peck only at ripe fruits. I thank God Almighty that, through his grace, despair never penetrated my soul for even one day, but in fact I constantly smile at the resistances.... It is imperative that we do not fail in doing good, for we shall reap the harvest in due time, if we do not weary." Habib Girgis remains a pioneer of Coptic religious and theological education—a Copt whose vision and legacy continue to shape his community to this very day.

Bishop Suriel
St Athanasius College



Yohanna Nessim Youssef ed. trans. (2017) *The Rite of Consecration of the Myron. Ephemerides Liturgicae, vol. 131. p.80-91.*

The article treats of the veneration of Saint John the Baptist in Egypt. While for Lower Egypt an overview of known attestations is offered,

for Upper Egypt an unpublished text relating to John the Baptist is provided which is illustrative of the local tradition. A detailed description of the manuscript is given, followed by a parallel Sahidic-Greek text. This is accompanied by an English translation and indications of necessary corrections to the Greek. The article concludes with reflections on the significance of emerging factors

Associate Professor Youhanna Nessim Youssef
St Athanasius College

In Memoriam: Sr Dr Janette Gray RSM

Words of Remembrance Memorial Eucharist

Ursula Grayne Chapel, Fitzroy
6 January 2017

Dr Kathleen Williams
Yarra Theological Union

(As the chief eulogy for Jan was given at her funeral on Tuesday my words will be few; at this memorial Eucharist I will not attempt to try to cover her whole life, but rather mention some significant aspects, then offer some brief reflections on Jan's life from my own experience with her as Sister of Mercy, friend and particularly as theologian. Each of you is here because you know, respect, care for, love Jan Gray, each in your own unique way and each of you has your own stories that you may wish to share and to hear after the Eucharist.)

Sister Doctor Janette Gray – Jan, to us – would have celebrated her 65th birthday on 1 February; she was also looking forward to celebrating this year the 40th anniversary of her Religious Profession as a Sister of Mercy. What a great shock and what deep sadness it was to us that she died so suddenly and apparently with little warning, on Christmas eve, before this year of celebration began; yet we believe that for Jan that day was her birth into the fullness of life, and into jubilee eternal.

It is so hard to think of Jan as dead; she had such passion for *life* and for all that enriched life: theatre, opera, music, poetry, art, history, and perhaps most of all theology, engaged her deeply, as did whatever was happening in the lives of people, those she knew and loved, but also all who were affected for better or worse by the state of our world, and of our church. She loved passionately, struggled passionately, quested and questioned passionately.

People who attended lectures, took part in Retreats or were present at talks given by Jan often expressed their amazement – and delight – at the way in which she drew so creatively on so many sources to make a point. It was not just that the illustrations she used were attractive, amusing, eye-catching, sometimes deliberately puzzling – they were all of that and more – but they seemed so *right*. I believe Jan's capacity to do this was no accident, but rather the consequence of the relationship between her profound engagement with God and her ongoing commitment to the theological search for understanding of God and of the gift of divine revelation for our life. Sister Pat Fox, her formation director at the time, recalls that on the occasion of her final profession Jan described the doing of the BTheol, which she had just completed at Melbourne College of Divinity, as “opening to me the very rich storehouses of our Catholic tradition”. Jan never stopped rifling those storehouses, searching out their meaning and purpose, bringing them into dialogue with contemporary scholarship to ensure their relevance for the people of our time.



Sr Dr Janette Gray RSM.
Photo courtesy of Pilgrim Theological College.

Education, of herself and others mattered greatly to Jan. She received a BA Dip Ed, from Macquarie University, New South Wales, and subsequently taught at Mercedes, St Aloysius, and Tenison colleges in South Australia. Her first love was history, and she had the opportunity to include the teaching of history to students in those colleges. After completing her BTheol, she received an MTheol from the Melbourne College of Divinity. Her supervisors and examiners recognised the unique value of the thesis she wrote for the MTheol and she was requested to publish it. The result was her first book, *Neither Escaping Nor Exploiting Sex: Women's Celibacy* (1995), in which she explored the sexuality of celibate women and how their personal challenges established ideas about

Tributes from Pilgrim Theological College and Yarra Theological Union

The Pilgrim community is deeply saddened by the death of Sr Dr Janette Gray RSM on 24 December 2016.

Jan was an inspiring colleague whose work as a theologian and educator flowed wholeheartedly from the integrity of her life. Over 15 years, first at the United Faculty of Theology and then in the context of Pilgrim Theological College, Jan taught popular and life-changing subjects in systematic theology and Christian anthropology. We were all enriched by her creativity as a teacher and administrator, her instinctive kindness and generosity in leadership, her pastoral insight, and the humility and brilliance that marked her scholarship. We are indebted to her, and will miss her greatly.

Pilgrim Theological College

With a heavy heart, we are sad to announce the sudden death of Sr Dr Janette Gray RSM who passed away on the 24th of December, 2016.

We offer our heartfelt condolences to the Mercy sisters, her family and the entire YTU community. Janette, your good works will forever linger in our memories. May you find a place with our father Abraham.

Rest in peace!!!

Yarra Theological Union

human relationships and ecological awareness. (It is interesting to note that Jan was alert to ecological concerns well before they became popular - 22 years ago!) That book became a best-seller. Jan then completed the PhD in Theology at the University of Cambridge, UK. Over the years she held the positions of Senior Lecturer in Theology at the University of Notre Dame, WA, 1999-2003; Faculty Member of Jesuit Theological College, Parkville, Melbourne 2004-2014; Principal of Jesuit Theological College (2012-2014); and Lecturer and Supervisor at the United Faculty of Theology, Pilgrim Theological College, and Yarra Theological Union, latterly University of Divinity Melbourne.

The Christian theologian, and the systematic theologian in particular has the responsibility of searching out meaning, of trying to get ever closer to understanding the great mysteries revealed to us in and by Jesus Christ in and by our world. Getting ever closer to understanding is the most we can ever hope for, and doing that requires deep engagement with our tradition, deep engagement in the lives of people now, deep engagement with our world. Jan was a good theologian, as her colleagues who knew her well know; she engaged deeply, and I am one of many who will greatly miss the opportunities to search for meaning with her.

There are some lines from “The Dry Salvages”, the final quartet in T.S. Eliot’s poem The Four Quartets that speak quite powerfully to me of our life’s quest which Jan lived so passionately:

With the drawing of this love / and the voice of this calling / we shall not cease from exploration / and the end of all our exploring / will be to arrive where we started / and know the place for the first time.

With the drawing of this love and the voice of this calling. I’ve no doubt that Jan’s life and her unceasing efforts to explore, to understand, were an ongoing response to the drawing of God’s love, to the voice of God’s calling.

Jan has now arrived where she started, with the God who loved her into life, and who in the full sense she now knows ‘for the first time’. One of the courses Jan loved to teach was a course on the Trinity. She always knew that in trying to teach the Trinity she was trying to express the ineffable: only God can really understand God. But it matters to us to try to understand the God we love and so she found what she could in art, poetry, literature, music etc., etc. to help her help the students to approach an understanding of God as Trinity. The morning she died when I tried without success to pray for her – I just could not think of her as dead – I found myself thinking about her teaching of the Trinity. She always played down her efforts, and her achievements, and now that she was face to face with God, I imagined seeing her self-deprecating grin and hearing her say in relation to trying to teach the Trinity: “See how far off I was!”

Despite our loss, we rejoice with her that she now knows and enjoys the God whom she sought with her whole heart and mind; we rejoice with her that her year of jubilee has become eternal joy.

From the Libraries

Kerrie Burn
Chair of the Library Committee

Library Hub – Access to New Resources

The University of Divinity Library Hub (<http://www.divinity.edu.au/library>) is now in its second year of operation having been launched in February 2016. The Library Hub provides access to an extensive range of online resources, including databases, e-journals and e-books. These resources are available to all members of the University. This includes all currently enrolled students and members of staff, including all honorary researchers. Maintaining and growing the Library Hub is one of the key 2017 deliverables of Goal 15 in the University's Strategic Plan, the goal that relates specifically to the provision of Library resources.

In 2017 *Thesaurus Linguae Graeca* (TLG) was added to the Library Hub. This database is a digital library of literary texts written in Greek from Homer (8th century BCE) to the fall of Constantinople (1453 CE). TLG is a valuable new resource which will facilitate the research of many students, academics and scholars from across the University.

Raheen Bookcases move to Mannix Library

Over the summer four historically significant bookcases were relocated to the Mannix Library in East Melbourne. These large timber bookcases were originally located in the library at Raheen, an Italianate mansion in Kew built in the 1870s. Raheen was the official residence of several Archbishops of Melbourne from 1917-81, most notably Archbishop Daniel Mannix, after whom the Mannix Library is named. Subsequent owners of Raheen, the Pratt family, donated the bookcases to the Archdiocese of Melbourne in 1986. Prior to their most recent move they had been housed at Corpus Christi College, initially in Clayton and then in Carlton.

Because of their size relocating the bookcases was a major logistical exercise! After they were moved into the Mannix Library, repair and restoration work was undertaken to help return the bookcases to their former glory. These magnificent pieces of furniture can now be appreciated by all who visit the library. One bookcase is being used to house the library's current Reserve collection. Two bookcases have been placed back to back and house the library's *Corpus Christianorum* collection. This collection includes critical editions of predominantly Latin and Greek texts by Christian authors from late antiquity until the end of the Middle Ages. The final bookcase is located in the Library manager's office and is being used to house several of the library's special collections. This includes a 162 volume set of Jacques-Paul Migne's *Patrologiae cursus completus. Series Graeca*, published in the mid-late 1800s.

Special Collection: the library of Archbishop James Alpius Goold

Mannix Library has recently established a "Goold" special collection. This collection includes works identified as previously belonging to the personal library of the first Catholic Archbishop of Melbourne. This project is part of the library's contribution to the collaborative research project funded by the Australian Research Council, *A Baroque Archbishop in Colonial Australia: James Goold (1812-1886)*. Many of Goold's books that are held by the Mannix Library were previously unidentified. As they are now being identified and catalogued provenance information is being included in catalogue records uploaded to Libraries Australia. Some items contain the Archbishop's insignia or personal signature. There is also a digitised version of an inventory of his library collection from the late 1860s.



University of Divinity ID Card

In February 2017 the first University of Divinity ID card printer was installed at Catholic Theological College and all CTC staff and students have now been issued with their new cards.

Over the course of 2017 the new ID cards will be rolled out across the whole of the University.

Establishing a single University-wide ID card which can be used in all libraries is another deliverable from Goal 15 of the University's Strategic Plan. The new cards are co-branded with both the University logo and that of the home College of the card holder.

News and Events

New staff at Stirling Theological College

It was with great pleasure that the Stirling Theological College Board announced that Angela Sawyer has been appointed as 'Lecturer in Old Testament and Dean of Students' at Stirling Theological College. Angela is completing a Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Divinity in the area of Second Isaiah and Post-Christian culture with completion due by the end of 2016 under the supervision of Professor Mark Brett and Dr Merryl Blair. She brings a wonderful combination of experiences in teaching at the secondary and tertiary levels, academic administration, student support, pastoral care and church leadership. Angela joined the existing faculty, alongside Dr Merryl Blair, in the area of Biblical Studies (classroom and online) and is also involved in the Catalyst program (see <http://www.catalyst.edu.au/>) as a Lecturer and Dean of Students. She commenced in early December 2016.

New staff at Jesuit College of Spirituality

Dr Maggie Kappelhoff is the new Academic Dean and Research Coordinator at Jesuit College of Spirituality. Maggie holds a Diploma Social Work (Canada), BTh (Tabor), BTh (Hons) (St Marks, CSU) and a PhD (St Marks, CSU). Her PhD thesis is entitled "The Marks of the Church as 'Gift' and 'Task': A Paradigm for the Twenty-First-Century Church" and considers the transcendent and dynamic nature of the four creedal marks of 'one, holy, catholic, and apostolic' and their relevance for ecumenical dialogue. Maggie is primarily trained and experienced in social work and theology in which she has held positions that include counsellor, chaplain, pastor, Dean of Students, and lecturer. Her new role as Academic Dean at Jesuit College of Spirituality provides her a focused theological education and curriculum development opportunity to apply her passion to help students engage academically for the purpose of informing contextual Christian vocation and living. Working with JCS offers the further benefit of integrating Ignatian spirituality as a foundational element offering a more holistic approach to overall student development.

Reimagining Home: Australian Association for Mission Studies Conference

The Australian Association for Mission Studies Conference will be held at Whitley College from 2-5 July 2017. Conference themes will include Indigenous experience, migration, intercultural mission, ecology and more. Keynote addresses will be given by Terry LeBlanc (Director of Indigenous programs in North America), Seforosa Carroll (Fijian theologian, UnitingWorld-Pacific), Gemma Cruz (Filipina theologian, Australian Catholic University) and Dudley Woodberry (Professor of Islamic Studies from Fuller Seminary, California). For more details and conference registration visit: <http://whitley.unimelb.edu.au/reimagininghome>

ANZATS Conference 2017: Kinship and Family



The Australian and New Zealand Association of Theological Schools Ltd (ANZATS) comprises the university theology programmes and the theological colleges and seminaries of the Christian churches in Australia and New Zealand, together with individual members of the Association. This year's annual ANZATS conference will be from 9-12 July 2017, held at Australian Lutheran College, hosted in partnership with other local theological colleges and the University of Divinity. Keynote addresses will be given by Dr Lynn Cohick, Wheaton College and Dr Stephen Barton, University of Durham. For more details and conference registration visit: <https://www.regonline.com/2017anzatsconference>

Looking towards a CHURCH FULLY RECONCILED

Exploring the work of ARCIC II



UNIVERSITY
OF DIVINITY

50 YEARS OF ARCIC

The Anglican - Roman Catholic International Commission was established by Archbishop of Canterbury Michael Ramsey and Pope Paul VI in 1967. After the final report of ARCIC I in 1981, a further five agreed statements have been issued by ARCIC II. These are accompanied by commentaries in its final report, which was presented to Pope Francis and Archbishop Welby in October 2016.

On 31 May the University of Divinity will host a series of events, presented in collaboration with the Australian Anglican-Roman Catholic Conversation (AustARC), Catholic Theological College, Trinity College Theological School and Yarra Theological Union, to review and explore the work of ARCIC over the last 50 years.



1:30PM | COLLOQUIUM

An academic symposium on the work of ARCIC II.

Speakers:

Denis Stanley | Bradley Billings
Frances Baker | Dorothy Lee
Lindsay Urwin | Terry Curtin

Location | Old Warden's Lodge



5:00PM | BOOK LAUNCH

Archbishop Philip Freier (Anglican Archbishop of Melbourne) will formally launch ARCIC II's final report:

Looking towards a Church fully reconciled
Speaker: Charles Sherlock (co-editor & ARCIC member)

Location | Old Warden's Lodge



7:30PM | KNOX LECTURE

Catholic Theological College's Cardinal Knox Public Lecture by **Denis Edwards** who will review the significance of the documents in the light of ecumenical progress since Vatican II, and propose future priorities for theology, dialogue, church leadership and local pastoral activity.

Location | The Gateway Lecture Theatre

WEDNESDAY 31 MAY 2017

VENUE

Trinity College | Royal Parade, Parkville

MORE INFO AT

www.divinity.edu.au

RSVP FOR COLLOQUIUM AND BOOK LAUNCH (BY 26 MAY) TO Meg Nelson | mnelson@divinity.edu.au

RSVP FOR KNOX LECTURE (BY 26 MAY) TO Jill Doncovio | jill.doncovio@ctc.edu.au

The Centre for Research in Religion and Social Policy presents its inaugural Annual Public Forum

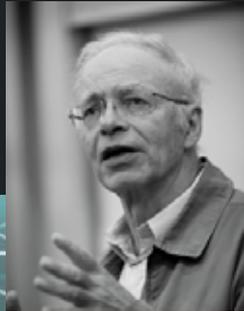
END OF LIFE CHOICES

Voluntary Euthanasia & Assisted Suicide in Victoria

a **CONVERSATION** between world-renowned bioethicists

PROFESSORS PETER SINGER & MARGARET SOMERVILLE

Princeton University &
The University of Melbourne



University of Notre Dame,
Sydney & formerly McGill
University, Montreal

Date | Thursday 29 June
Time | 5.45-7.45pm
Venue | Collins St Baptist Church | Melbourne
Register | <https://www.divinity.edu.au/news-events/2017/04/27/rasp-debate/>
by 27 June

In August the Victorian Labor government proposes to introduce legislation enabling Voluntary Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide in Victoria. This is a very significant issue deserving considered public discussion, the kind of opportunity that RASP (www.centrerasp.org) exists to promote.



A pioneering feminist looks ahead: University of Divinity colloquium hosts Elaine Wainwright, RSM

Bryan Cones
Trinity College Theological School

Twenty students, staff and faculty of the University of Divinity gathered on Saturday 15 October 2016 at Pilgrim Theological College with feminist biblical scholar Sr Elaine Wainwright RSM to discuss her journey to a feminist consciousness and its effects on both her scholarship and leadership in the academy. Organised by Australian Collaborators in Feminist Theology, the colloquium brought together scholars from across disciplines, denominations, and generations to celebrate the first expressions of biblical and theological feminism and discuss next steps in participants' current contexts and work. Trinity College Theological School's Reverend Associate Professor Stephen Burns facilitated questions from the group, while Trinity's Reverend Dr Robyn Whitaker and Sr Maryanne Confoy of Pilgrim offered responses.

Key Dates 2017

Research Day (Staff and HDR Students)
Wednesday 7 June

Study Week
5 June – 9 June

Examination Week
12 June – 16 June

Results published
Friday 14 July

Semester 2
31 July – 3 November

Semester 2 Census Date
Tuesday 22 August

Non-teaching period
25 September – 6 October

Teaching Day (Staff)
Wednesday 8 November

Study Week
6 November – 10 November

Examination Week
13 November – 17 November

Graduation (Adelaide)
Friday 1 December

Results published
Friday 15 December

Wainwright, a Roman Catholic and Sister of Mercy, described her own coming to a feminist consciousness as a journey from the first scholarly book she read about the Bible, Peter Ellis's *Men and Message of the Old Testament*, to Phyllis Trible's groundbreaking *God and the Rhetoric of Sexuality*. Noting that she was interested in connecting biblical studies to social justice when she first pursued an advanced degree, Wainwright acknowledged that, until she read Trible, "I didn't think women's concerns was in the area of 'real issues'"—an opinion that quickly changed.

Wainwright's studies soon led her abroad, and included time in Chicago, where she joined some of the first gatherings of the WomenChurch movement in that context. Highlighting the ecumenical nature of the early feminist endeavors, Wainwright also drew attention to the shared authority and relational aspects of feminist consciousness—"women working together"—then and now. "A key aspect of leadership among women was subtlety and inclusivity," she said of her own experience in leadership roles. "It was together that I think we shaped feminist consciousness across the churches."

In conversation with colloquium members who raised questions about the durability of feminist terminology and method, Wainwright argued that the current moment called for a "multidimensional hermeneutics" that accounts not only for the many layers of identity that accompany gender but also the needs of more-than-human members of the world around us, which for her requires an "extraordinary shift in consciousness" with serious ethical implications. "We can't just be focused on the human community now," Wainwright said, noting that she is always noticing the presence of the rest of the ecological system in biblical texts. "I realise how incredibly human centered we are."

Organisers Katharine Massam and Cathryn McKinney of Pilgrim Theological College highlighted the importance of gathering for "collaborative academic engagement" on these topics as they plan a "festival of feminist ideas" for next winter. The group are also preparing a collection of essays on disagreement in theological academy, tentatively titled *With All Due Respect: The Challenge of Theological Disagreement*.

