

IAMS Matters January-March 2014

Dear colleagues,

In this IAMS Matters, the bulk of information is about the approaching conferences and consultations. (Please, note that if you are organizing a conference related to mission studies, and want to spread the information on it, please e-mail mika.vahakangas@teol.lu.se in order to get it on IAMS Matters).

IAMS is organizing a European conference “Mission and Money” in April 3-6 with Nordic Institute for Missiological and Ecumenical Research hosting it in Helsinki – more info below. Please, note the extended deadline for paper proposals: January 31.

Additionally, there will be a seminar on “Religions in Conflict” in Lund on March 5.

Association for Professors in Mission organizes its conference “Transforming Teaching for Mission” in St. Paul, Minnesota, on June 19-20.

Australian Association for Mission Studies’ conference “Margins, Mission and Diversity” will be held in Adelaide on October 2-5.

Thus, this year looks wonderfully active with conferences and workshops around the globe – of which only a fraction have sent information here. The postcolonial networks organizes a conference “Postcolonial Church: Theology, Identity and Mission” in Limuru, Kenya, on May 28-30; University of the Western Cape, Cape Town, a conference on the effects of African instituted and Pentecostal churches on ecumenism on May 30 to mention a couple of other missiologically interesting conferences.

With warm greetings and wishes of an academically satisfying year 2014,

Mika Vähäkangas, IAMS President

European Missiological Conference, Spring 2014

Venue: Cultural Center Sofia, Kallvikintie 28, 00980 Helsinki, Finland (<http://www.sofia.fi/en>)

Dates: 3.-6. April 2014

EXTENDED DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS OF ABSTRACTS: JANUARY, 31ST 2014

CONFERENCE THEME:

MISSION AND MONEY: MISSION IN THE CONTEXT OF GLOBAL INEQUALITIES

Dear colleagues,

We have already accepted about 30 paper proposals to what promises to be a very interesting conference on the theme of "Mission and Money". However, we still have room for some more papers so we have decided to extend the deadline for paper proposals until January 31st. If you have not yet submitted an abstract for the conference please feel free to do so (See below for the original call for papers). Abstracts should be submitted either to the conference email: mm.2014@teol.lu.se or uploaded directly on the conference website (which requires registration): <http://www.teol.lu.se/forskning/konferenser-och-symposier/2014-mission-and-money/>. If you wish to participate in a specific panel please mention this in your proposal.

More information about the conference, the venue, registration and subsidies can be found on the conference website.

CONFIRMED KEYNOTE SPEAKERS SO FAR:

- **Dr. Jonathan Bonk** (OMSC, New Haven, US)
 - o "Ethics of Mission and Economics"
- **Prof. Felix Wilfred** (Trinity College, Dublin, Madras, India)
 - o "Global Inequalities in a Postcolonial Perspective"
- **Prof. Isabel A. Phiri** (Associate General Secretary of the World Council of Churches)
 - o "Dignity of the Church in the face of Poverty and Gender"
- **Prof. Ulrich Duchrow** (Heidelberg, Germany)
 - o "Interreligious Liberation Theologies, Mission and Just Relations"
- **Prof. Gerrie ter Haar** (Hague, Netherlands)
 - o "The Role of Churches and Development"
- **Prof. Dr. Magne Supphellen** (Bergen, Norway)
 - o "Prosperity and Gospel"
- **Prof. Veli-Matti Kärkkäinen** (Pasadena, US)
 - o "A Theological-Missiological Reflection on Money and Mobility in the Globalizing World"
- **Evi Voulgaraki-Pissina** (Thessaloniki, Greece)
 - o "The Mission of the Church amidst Social and Economic Crisis"

CONFIRMED PANELS SO FAR:

- **Migrant Churches & Money: Economic and Religious Winners or Losers?**

Chair: **Daniel Frei**

- *Mission, Aid and Development in Africa: Beyond the Western Paradigm for Social Transformation*

Chair: **Stan Chu Ilo**

- *Faithbased NGOs and Economic Development*

Chair: **Päivi Hasu**

- *Indian Christianities, Integral Mission and Economies*

Chair: **Jyri Komulainen**

- *Missions, Economies and Biblical Hermeneutics*

Chair: **Ulrich Duchrow**

- *"Refuse to Die in Poverty!" - The Socio-Economic Relevance of the Prosperity Gospel in Africa*

Chair: **Andreas Heuser**

- *Exploring Economies of the Spirit - Discourses of Wealth and Money in Charismatic Christianity in Eastern Africa*

Chair: **Martin Lindhardt**

The theme for our 2014 conference is 'Mission in the Context of Inequalities'. The program includes annual regional meetings of the various European missiological societies. We invite papers submissions relating to the conference theme of 'Mission in the Context of Inequalities'. What we have in mind is not simply the economic dimension of missions let alone fundraising but the more fundamental question of the relation between economic power, development & shifting economies, and Christian mission. Possible themes and questions include, but are not limited to:

- Money, economics, and Christian missions
- Has Christian missions been a friend of the poor or a friend of poverty?
- How do unequal economic abilities affect Christian missions and partnership in mission?
- New economies and reverse missions
- The relationship between the transformation achieved by Christian missions and the goal of economic development

Lund Annual Mission Studies Seminar 2014

Religions in Conflict

Conflicts today evolve around the globe on both national and local levels. While conflicts are necessary components in all political and economic development, conflicts at times escalate into violence. The question is what role religions play in the emerging number of conflicts across the world? Could they be a means for peace-building in contexts of war? Or are religions and religious belonging fertile grounds for conflicts?

These are some of the questions this seminar explores when discussing the diverse roles played by religions in conflicts and how they relate to matters of peace, war as well as identity in our contemporary world.

March 5, 13.15-18 Room 118, CTR

13.30 Isak Svensson | Uppsala University

Religious dimensions of armed conflicts

14.15 Elisabeth Gerle | Uppsala University

Religions in conflict - or Religion as the cause of conflict?

14.45 Sara Gehlin | Lund University

The making of Ecumenical Theology - A possible contribution to international peacebuilding?

15.45 Hans Olsson | Lund University

Churches on fire - Christian growth and the role of religious belonging in contemporary Zanzibar

16.15 Henni Alava | Helsinki University

'There is confusion.' Thinking about churches and politics in post-conflict Northern Uganda

16.45 Panel discussion & open discussion

APM Association of Professors of Mission

Meeting Announcement and Call for Papers

2014 Annual Meeting

June 19–20, University of Northwestern, St.
Paul, Minnesota

Transforming Teaching for Mission: Educational Theory and Practice

CALL FOR PAPERS

Deadline: February 15, 2014

The Association of Professors of Mission extends an open call for paper presentation proposals for its annual meeting. Anyone interested in presenting at APM should submit a proposal title with a 150-200 word abstract and a 30 word bio to Ben Hartley at bhartley@eastern.edu. Please see paper submission guidelines and dates below.

INTRODUCING THE 2014 CONFERENCE THEME

After the APM's establishment in 1952, the first theme addressed at the 1954 gathering of the Association of Professors of Mission was described simply as "syllabus sharing" and involved an informal discussion of teaching issues as missiologists. In the sixty years since that first gathering there have been a number of annual meetings which have had a similarly broadly-encompassing topic for consideration.

The 2014 Annual Meeting of the APM will again explore this topic with a particular focus on how the teaching of missiology engages with educational theorists and teaching methods which include but also extend beyond missiology's cognate fields of history, biblical studies, anthropology, and theology.

The teaching of missiology has benefited from a number of different movements and individuals from related fields which have constructed and critiqued educational theory. The "scholarship of teaching and learning" has grown considerably in the past two decades and now includes its own professional society (The International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning) and a number of academic journals. The Society for Intercultural Training, Education, and Research (SIETAR) shares similar goals to the APM, and some missiologists contribute to this professional society. The method of "shared inquiry" in the discussion of classic texts made popular by the Great Books Foundation also merits further investigation as missiologists discern together which texts are most generative for the teaching of key themes in mission. Among individual contributors to educational theory, Ivan Illich (1926-2002) stands out as perhaps the most controversial critic of missionary practice, but his writings on the philosophy of education most famously articulated in *Deschooling Society* (1971) continue to be influential. Other leaders in adult education such as Paulo Freire, Parker Palmer, Susan Daloz Parks, and Ted Ward have likewise made important contributions in educational theory and practice and have, in different ways, transformed the teaching of mission.

Our conference on June 19-20 at The University of Northwestern in St. Paul, Minnesota will explore the connections between the above areas of inquiry as well as the history and current practice of mission education in colleges and universities, seminaries, churches, and other venues. All participants in this year's conference are invited to bring (or have electronic access to) at least one syllabus for informal "roundtable" sharing of teaching practices organized around particular types of classes (mission theology, online mission education, intro to mission, evangelism, history of world Christianity, anthropology for mission, etc.)

CALL FOR CONFERENCE PRESENTATION PROPOSALS

The Association of Professors of Mission extends an open call for paper presentation proposals for its annual meeting at the University of Northwestern on June 19-20 2014 in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Deadline: February 15, 2014

Anyone interested in presenting at APM should submit a proposal title with a 150-200 word abstract and a 30 word bio to Ben Hartley at bhartley@eastern.edu by February 15, 2014. Papers accepted for the conference may be made available (with permission) to the members on-line as *The Proceedings of the Association of Professors of Mission, 2014*.

While papers may focus on any topic of missiological relevance, preference will be given to those that focus on the conference theme "**Transforming Teaching for Mission: Educational Theory and Practice.**" Presentations will be loosely grouped around the following sub-themes; these sub-themes, however, are by no means an exhaustive list of the possible topics which may pertain to our theme. *In keeping with the conference theme presenters are encouraged to employ creative and interactive teaching methods in the presentation of their topics.*

- **Educational Theory for Mission Education.** What educational theories, practices, or movements in related fields are most helpful as interlocutors in mission education? What makes such theories especially suited to (or problematic for) the work of mission education? What quantitative or qualitative research methods are most useful for evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of various instructional innovations in mission education?
- **Theological and Historical Perspectives on Mission Education.** What theological metaphors or models for excellent teaching and learning are most generative for thinking about educational theory and practice in the field of missiology? What historical, biblical, or theological factors seem to be contributing to the changes one observes in mission education in our postmodern and postcolonial context? How have developments in other academic disciplines (such as the growing popularity of world history, anthropology of Christianity, or postcolonial studies) influenced how we teach mission?
- **Curricular and Instructional Innovations for Mission Education.** What changes in one's own teaching or in an institution's curriculum have been most effective for promoting excellence in teaching and learning in mission studies? Why have these changes been effective? What case studies or other instructional methods best promote teaching and learning? How have wider curricular changes such as the continued growth in online education affected (negatively or positively) the teaching of mission in a particular institution?
- **Anthropological Considerations for Mission Education.** How do different cultural

contexts and related constructs (e.g. conceptions of the self, face, power-distance, etc.) affect teaching and learning for mission? What strategies are most effective in working with such differences in any given teaching context or in a multicultural classroom? How might the APM as a professional society better serve mission educators outside of North America?

- **Other subjects.** Topics of particular interest to APM contributors but not directly related to the conference theme may still be submitted and will be considered by the conference organizers.

PANEL PROPOSALS

The APM encourages persons to submit self-organized thematic panel proposals on any subject to bring colleagues together to discuss current research and to advance a particular area of interest. Interested panel convener(s) should contact Ben Hartley at bhartley@eastern.edu as soon as possible and no later than February 15, 2014 with a brief description of the proposed panel. APM will provide additional information about panel schedules and assist with meeting arrangements and online panel promotion.

SUBMISSION AND PRESENTATION REQUIREMENTS

Paper abstract and panel proposal deadline:	February 15, 2014
Notification of accepted papers and panel proposals:	February 28, 2014
Submission of completed papers and confirmation of meeting attendance:	June 2, 2014

For the purposes of online publication of presentations, submitted papers may be up to 5,000 words in length including notes and references (about 20 double-spaced pages) and should conform to the style guide of the journal *Missiology: An International Review*, available at: <http://asmweb.org/assets/pdf/Style-Guide-2011.pdf>. The full text of all papers approved for the conference will be made available to the members of APM online as *The Proceedings of the Association of Professors of Mission, 2014*.

Presentations at the meeting will be limited to 15 to 20 minutes (about 5-7 pages of text if read) plus additional time for discussion depending on the number of presentations accepted.

Please direct all submissions and questions to Ben Hartley at bhartley@eastern.edu.

Call for Papers

'Margins, Mission and Diversity'

Triennial Conference of the

Australian Association for Mission Studies

@ Tabor Adelaide, Adelaide, 2-5 October, 2014

Conference Background

WCC's Commission on World Mission and Evangelism (CWME) has released a new affirmation on Mission and Evangelism which was accepted at the 10th Assembly at Busan, South Korea this year. It is entitled "Together towards life: mission and evangelism in changing landscapes".

The affirmation will provoke missiological reflection by God's people as they participate in God's mission in this post-colonial and post-Christendom world. One key area relates to mission and the margins, places of discrimination and marginalization from mainstream society. Mission has traditionally been to the margins but the time has come to consider mission from the margins also. Engaging with the margins leads to contextual, hybrid and diverse expressions of the Christian faith. The challenge is what does this mean especially for the relationship between gospel and culture as the Christian community moves forward, knowing it comes out of contexts where the struggle for dignity and justice is intense and constant.

This conference aims to explore the implications for the broad Christian community arising from mission to and from the margins, knowing that the diversity of cultural engagement that results makes it challenging for the Christian missions community and that the history of managing diversity in Christian mission in the margins has been patchy.

Call for Papers

We welcome papers that address the theme, preferably within one of the three streams, and come from the various Christian traditions. These can be addressed through either looking back (historical), evaluating the contemporary, considering futuristic responses, or exploring educational concerns. The streams are:

1) Church and Indigenous Peoples

2) Congregations and Particular Communities

- Multi-cultural church
- Responding in contexts of poverty
- Mission and generational change
- Mission in rural areas
- Contextual expressions of Christianity
- Urban mission

3) Church and Society

- Ecology and mission
- Mission in the public square
- Responding to secularism and new atheism
- Interfaith dialogue
- Church and the Digital Age

Timeline for Papers and Possible Publications

Proposals of 150-200 words are invited on any of the above themes or related aspects. Please send these to Dr Rosemary Dewerse, Director of Missiology and Postgraduate Studies Coordinator at Uniting College for Leadership and Theology in Adelaide, rosemary.dewerse@flinders.edu.au by Friday 28 March, 2014.

Notification of acceptance will be given by the middle of April.

Accepted papers will be up to 5000 words in length and submitted by 31 August, 2014 in order for them to be uploaded and read by participants prior to the conference. Presenters will then have 20 minutes to speak to their paper followed by 20 minutes of discussion during the conference itself. Writers will be expected to adhere to the Style Guide for the *Australian Journal of Mission Studies* (<http://www.missionstudies.org.au/page/ajms-style-guide/>).

Accepted papers will be considered for a book to be published by UNOH in memory of Rev Dr Ross Langmead, a key figure in AAMS since its inception and a respected Australian missiologist with a passion for mission to and with the margins in a diverse world; OR for publication in the *Australian Journal of Mission Studies*.

Conference Correspondence

Further Information about the program and registrations will be available in February 2014.

For conference enquiries, contact:

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Accompanying Intensive

Please note: an intensive combining two days of teaching from the keynote speaker for the conference, Professor Dr Anthony Gittins from the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, with the four days of the conference will be offered to postgraduate students by the Adelaide College of Divinity. If you or someone you know could be interested in this option, please contact rosemary.dewerse@flinders.edu.au for more.