

## **IAMS Matters April-June 2014**

Dear colleagues,

To begin with, greetings from the IAMS Europe conference “Mission and Money: Missions in the Context of Global Inequalities”. It was organised by the Nordic Institute for Missiological and Ecumenical Research (<http://www.missionsresearch.org/>) from 3<sup>rd</sup> until 6<sup>th</sup> April 2014. Heartfelt thanks to NIME for the work put into it, especially Dr. Mari Pöntinen who led the local hosting committee, and the NIME chairperson Dr. Jonas Adelin Jørgensen as well as NIME secretary Aron Engberg. The conference gathered over 100 participants and over 50 papers were presented. The location was the Orthodox conference centre Sofia in Helsinki, Finland.

### ***IAMS 2016***

The planning of the next IAMS global conference proceeds well. The preliminary details of the conference are as follows:

Title: Conversions and Transformations: Missiological Approaches to Religious Change

Location: Seoul, Korea

Dates: 11<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> August 2016

Confirmed plenary speakers:

Dr. Paul Choi (Mission Studies)

Prof. Christine Lienemann-Perrin (Mission Studies)

Prof. Joel Robbins (Anthropology)

Prof. Elsa Tamez (Biblical studies)

Note that in order for us to help each other to improve our paper presentations there will be a new process. In order to manage the process and the paper proposals, the executive has formed an academic committee consisting of the study group leaders as well as two executive members (Kirsteen Kim as chairperson and Valentin Kozhuharov). This process means that the call for papers will come out in good time, and the paper proposals need to be sent in earlier than for previous general assemblies. So, please, follow IAMS Matters, Mission Studies or IAMS website – the call for papers will appear in all of them.

All of the planned plenary speakers have responded positively to our invitation. They all come from four different continents and represent varying academic and cultural backgrounds. All of them are internationally highly respected scholars in their disciplines.

### ***On logging in the IAMS website***

In the light of increasing concerns about internet security and data safety, we are of a mind to change the IAMS login password requirements for the membership database in order to safeguard members' data. Given that we already have on the login page a mechanism for getting ourselves emailed with an emergency password, we propose to move to exclusive use of that system, starting May 1 2014. This will involve removing all existing passwords from the members' database.

The advantages are (a) that we will never have to remember our IAMS membership database password, and (b) that each password issued and sent to our registered email

address will be a one-time-only, one-hour-only password. We hope you will approve of this enhancement to our data safety.

Yours,

Mika

### ***Obituary***

Akhreino Savi, a member of IAMS from Nagaland, India died on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2013 after battling cancer for few months. Akhreino attended the last IAMS meeting in Toronto, Canada, where she presented a paper in the group on Biblical Studies and Mission. Akhreino was serving as a lecturer at the Shalom Bible College, Kohima, Nagaland and was pursuing her doctoral degree at the Free University, Amsterdam, Netherlands. Akhreino was a gentle soul, gifted and faithful follower of Jesus Christ, she loved to sing and was a budding poet-writer. Her sincerity and deep commitment to tasks were exemplary. In her love for our Naga cultural identity and the gospel, I saw a faithful and passionate theologian, who envisioned and hoped to translate learning to action of compassionate living in the community. In Akhreino's passing away Naga women theologians have lost a sister, who shared their dreams of a better world together.

Akhreino left behind her loving parents and doting brothers. Her colleagues, friends, students remember her with joy and thanksgiving for a gentle soul, who taught us what it was to love God wholeheartedly.

Dr. Atola Longkumer

### ***From Study Group on Religious Freedom and Persecution***

#### **Book project: Freedom of Belief and Christian Mission**

The Regnum Edinburgh 2010 Series is planning a volume on "Freedom of Belief and Christian Mission". The IAMS Study Group on Religious Freedom and Persecution is involved. The convenor, Prof. Dr. Christof Sauer has been co-opted as one of the editors. Several members of the study group are assisting with advice on the outline of the volume and are volunteering as authors.

Twenty other volumes have so far been published in this project that could become the major series on mission in our century ([www.ocms.ac.uk/regnum](http://www.ocms.ac.uk/regnum)).

Christian mission takes place in a world where there are increasing interreligious tensions, including violence and persecution. Politics, economics, religion, ethnicity and other factors play a role in these tensions. Christians too are involved in such conflicts, sometimes as those who are persecuted and sometimes as those participating in violence.

The purpose of a volume on Freedom of Belief and Christian Mission is to bring to public attention a broad overview on the history, development and perspectives on the role of mission and freedom of belief and to reflect on these issues within a context of authentic

witness in mission. There is, as far as we know, no other conceptual treatment of this issue from such a broad ecumenical perspective.

The editors are Hans Aage Gravaas, Stefanus Alliance International, Tormod Engelsviken, MF Norwegian School of Theology, Christof Sauer, IIRF - International Institute for Religious Freedom, South Africa, and Knud Jørgensen, Regnum Edinburgh Centenary Series/MF Norwegian School of Theology.

Interested IAMS members may inquire for details with: Christof @ iirf.eu

### **New address of the study group convenor:**

Prof. Dr. Christof Sauer, PO Box 1336, Sun Valley 7985 (Cape Town), Rep South Africa, Tel +27 21 783 0823, Email: [Christof@iirf.eu](mailto:Christof@iirf.eu)

### ***Australian Mission Studies Conference***

The Australian Association of Mission Studies triennial conference will be held this year, October 2-5, 2014, in Adelaide, South Australia. The theme of the conference is 'Margins, Mission and Diversity.' Anthony Gittens will be the keynote speaker. A public lecture evening will honour the life and work of Ross Langmead. The call for papers is now available. Contact [rosemary.dewerse@flinders.edu.au](mailto:rosemary.dewerse@flinders.edu.au) for more details.

### ***Colloque Sagesse biblique & mission***

Du jeudi 15 mai (17h) au samedi 17 mai 2014 (18h)

**Lieu :** Université catholique de Lille, Faculté de théologie, 60 boulevard Vauban, 59000 Lille

**Inscription :** obligatoire dans tous les cas, avant le 25 avril 2014 au près du secrétariat de la Faculté de théologie

**Droits d'inscription (\*) :** 70 € ☐ Étudiant : 20 €

*À régler par chèque à l'ordre de l'Institut Catholique de Lille*

**Renseignements & inscriptions :** Faculté de théologie, Tél. 03 20 13 41 57  
[theo@icl-lille.fr](mailto:theo@icl-lille.fr)

**Plan d'accès et liste d'hébergements :** fournis sur demande.

**(\*) Repas et hébergement à la charge des participants.**

#### **Comité scientifique :**

Catherine Vialle (Lille)

Marie-Hélène Robert (Lyon)

Jacques Matthey (Genève)

Gilles Vidal (Montpellier)

#### **Organisation et subventions :**

Association Francophone OEcuménique de Missiologie (AFOM)

Institut Catholique de Lille

Institut Protestant de théologie (IPT)

Université Catholique de Lyon

## ***Call for articles***

*Exchange* is an international peer-reviewed journal in the field of missiology, ecumenism, world Christianity and interreligious relations, published with Brill in Leiden. Established more than forty years ago as the journal of the Dutch Interuniversity Institute for Missiology and Ecumenism, *Exchange* nowadays has an editorial board of scholars from around the world and aims at creating an international forum for authors and readers interested in contemporary developments in intercultural theology, contextual forms of Christianity or Christian theology as well as inter-religious and ecumenical relations. *Exchange* has over 330 subscribers, institutional as well as individual, from Africa, Asia, Australia, North and South America and Europe, whereas 4150 full-text downloads of articles published in *Exchange* were reported in 2012. 41 Recent thematic issues included: *Churches, Christians and Modern Media*, *Jesus Traditions and Masculinities in World Christianities*, *Christian communities facing up to migration*.

*Exchange* observes a double-blind peer-review system. All articles published in *Exchange* are reviewed by two reviewers before publication.

Scholars interested in publishing in *Exchange* are invited to submit their manuscripts to the Managing Editor: Dr. Freek L. Bakker, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, Utrecht University, Utrecht, The Netherlands, e-mail: [f.l.bakker@uu.nl](mailto:f.l.bakker@uu.nl).