IAMS Matters April-June 2015

Dear colleagues,

First of all, I want to remind you all of the approaching paper abstract deadline 31st August 2015 for Seoul Assembly. The paper abstracts are handed in by uploading them on the conference website http://www.teol.lu.se/forskning/konferenser-och-symposier/iams-2016/. Once on the website, click “registration page” on the left. Then, “register a new participant” – this will be a preliminary registration needed for being able to upload, and it is not binding and does not involve any payments. Under “speaker”, click “Submit abstracts or delete them”. You will be able to change your abstract to a new version until the deadline. If you have problems with uploading, contact Valentin Kozhuharov valentin.kozhuharov@yahoo.co.uk. If you have a clear picture in which paper session/study group you would wish your abstract to be placed, mention that in the abstract. The abstracts will be scrutinized by the academic committee consisting of study group conveners and a couple of executive committee members. For more information on the call of papers and the procedure, see the conference website (address mentioned above) or IAMS homepage.

New and old friends of IAMS are contributing towards subsidies, and we are glad and thankful for that. Note that subsidies are allocated to IAMS members presenting a paper from economically less privileged countries. So, in order to be eligible, submit an abstract. If you know a colleague interested in joining us in Seoul, encourage her to apply for membership and submit an abstract. Membership applications can be submitted (via IAMS homepage) at the same time as an abstract is uploaded – for submitting an abstract you need not be a member.

A new IAMS study group has been created on “Theology of Mission”, which will meet for the first time at the IAMS Assembly in Seoul in 2016. Theology of mission attends to the use of Christian doctrine in mission studies, to the systematic development of theologies that support or inform mission practice in different contexts, and to the ways that mission studies might shape expressions in other Christian theological disciplines. The conveners are: Stephen B. Bevans, SVD, Louis J. Luzbetak, SVD, Professor of Mission and Culture, Catholic Theological Union, Chicago, and Kirsteen Kim, Professor of Theology and World Christianity, Leeds Trinity University, UK, who is the contact person. (k.kim@leedstrinity.ac.uk). At the IAMS conference in Seoul, papers which address any of the above themes are welcome. In addition, the new group will dedicate one session to discussion of the new World Council of Churches’ document, Together Towards Life: Mission and Evangelism in Changing Landscapes (2013). Studies of this document and/or other recent statements of mission theology such as Evangelii Gaudium (The Joy of the Gospel; Pope Francis, 2013) and the Cape Town Commitment (Lausanne Movement, 2011) are encouraged.

Mission Studies is now available to all IAMS members also in an electronic version through the IAMS website. You reach that service by clicking “Login member database” top right of the homepage. Then, top right again, “Members’ login”. After that, fill in your e-mail address and you will receive a 1-hour single-use password in your e-mail in a few
seconds. Use it to log in. Once logged in, click top middle "Journal On Line" and you will end up to Mission Studies Online.

As usual, there are also a couple of announcements on a conference and open positions.

Yours,

Mika

---

**PhD Positions - Leeds**

Leeds Trinity University is offering more PhD studentships this year. See [http://www.jobs.ac.uk/job/ALE945/phd-studentships/](http://www.jobs.ac.uk/job/ALE945/phd-studentships/). Applications are not limited to the topics or supervisors mentioned. Strong applications in the field of mission studies will be considered. Our research degrees are awarded by the University of Leeds.

---

**African Lived Christianity – Faith, Ritual and Power**

**CONFERENCE @ Lund University, CTR**  
16 – 18 March 2016

The thematic focus of this conference is on the lived experiences of African Christianity, on how religion and religious experience are part of the understanding and explanation of social reality in Africa. By taking this thematic focus, we wish to overcome the dividing lines in the study of African Christianity between theology and the social sciences. We seek to engage with an emerging literature that combines the analysis of religious experience and faith with an analysis of how African Christianity feeds into constellations of power hierarchies and social relationships of dependency, reciprocity and mutuality. One of the aims is to build interpretative bridges between African enchanted worldviews and Western academic interpretations and to add to an emerging dialogue between anthropology and theology.

**Confirmed plenary speakers:** Elias Bongmba (Rice University); Naomi Haynes (Edinburgh University); Isabel Mukonyora (West Kentucky University); Niels Kastfelt (Copenhagen University); Galia Sabar (Tel Aviv University); Päivi Hasu (Helsinki University); Tomas Sundnes Drønen (Stavanger School of Mission and Theology) and local scholars.

**We welcome paper proposals** by the 15 November 2015. Registration and paper abstract uploads will be available from 21 May 2015. By 5 December 2015 information on paper acceptance will be sent out. Full written papers (of maximum 8,000 words) are expected to be circulated in advance at the latest by 9 March 2016.

**Registration** on the conference website. No conference fee but the participants take care of their travel, meals and accommodation.

The Cambridge Centre for Christianity Worldwide is seeking a Director for 24 months to maintain and develop its work.

The Centre contributes to the teaching and research of the University of Cambridge and the Theological Federation in a number of fields, specifically promoting the study of and engagement in mission and the church worldwide. Its library and archive have recently moved to purpose-designed premises in Westminster College and are open to the public. It runs an Encounter scheme providing intercultural placements for young adults. The Centre’s work is overseen by the Henry Martyn Trust. The successful applicant will be sympathetic to the values and ethos of the Trust.

The Acting Director will

- Lecture in Mission Studies in the Cambridge Theological Federation (CTF)
- Provide supervision in Divinity Faculty of Cambridge University.
- Represent the Centre and develop relationships with partners; work with Trustees on development strategy
- Line manage the Centre’s four part-time staff and support the Encounter scheme.
- Organise Centre seminars, lectures and Wisdom in Mission consultation.

The successful applicant will

- Hold a PhD in World Christianity/missiology or related subjects (or be near completion)
- Have relevant teaching experience
- Demonstrate a Christian commitment and a desire to contribute to the formation of Christian ministers
- Possess competent management skills
• Share the vision in the founding objects and purposes of The Henry Martyn Trust to advance the CCCW’s contribution to the study of and engagement in Christianity Worldwide.

• Work well with CCCW staff and Trustees, as well as colleagues in the CTF and Divinity Faculty.

• Maintain the profile of CCCW locally and internationally and take development strategies forward.

• Have the right to work in the UK.

Applications will include a letter, a full CV, one piece of published work and the addresses of two referees. These will be sent to Mrs Polly Keen, CCCW, Westminster College, Madingley Road, Cambridge, CB3 0AA, marked “Confidential”, or email: pk262@cam.ac.uk

Applicants will ask referees to submit their letters of reference directly to Ms Polly Keen by the closing date.

Short-listed applicants will be asked to give a ten minute presentation suitable for a part of a BA course, ‘Mission Theology in Global Context.’

The closing date for applications is 26th May 2015.

Interviews will take place during the week beginning 1st June 2015

Those interested in the post are encouraged to contact the director, Emma Wild-Wood, to discuss the nature of the post or for further information. Tel. +44(0)1223 330641. Email: ew273@cam.ac.uk.