



IAMS MATTERS JANUARY 2020

Dear IAMS members and friends,

New Years' greetings to all of you, and I pray that 2020 is off to a good start for you, your loved ones, and the institutions you serve.

Along with other members of the Executive Committee of IAMS and our local partners, we look forward to seeing you at our quadrennial IAMS Assembly, which will take place **July 9-14, 2020**, in Sydney, Australia. Many of you have submitted proposals for papers to give at the Assembly, (in total we have received around 290 papers!) where we are being welcomed by the Australian Association of Mission Studies and our host institution, Morling College. Thanks for your interest!

Last month I joined our Vice President, Bokyoung Park, and Secretary, Aron Engberg, in Sydney. There we met at Morling with Darrell Jackson, who is serving as chair of the local organizing committee, as well as Darren Cronshaw, the representative of Oceania for the IAMS Executive Committee. Other IAMS members met us, along with officials from Morling. Plans are moving ahead smoothly, and we look forward to opening the registration process on **Jan 27th 2020**. Registration will be done at the main conference website <https://www.iams2020.com/> which will be hosted by our partner Christian Fellowship Tours. We are currently in the process of finalizing the conference webpage.

I wanted to alert you that several of those with whom we are working are facing difficulties due to the unprecedented fires that, as you likely know, are facing southeastern Australia. We ask you to join us in prayer for safety and wisdom facing these calamities.

You should know that our Assembly itself, its venues in Sydney and the destinations planned for our excursions, have not yet been affected in any significant way.

We look forward to seeing you in Sydney in July 2020!

Respectfully,

Paul Kollman, IAMS President 2016-2020.



GENERAL INFORMATION FROM THE SECRETARIAT

- Registration for IAMS 2020 Conference will open by 27th January on <https://www.iams2020.com/>
- When registering for the conference, please note that unlike previous years accommodation is not included in registration price and booking will have to be done individually. The conference website will provide links to several nearby options in different pricing ranges.
- Like previous years, IAMS will provide scholarships for scholars presenting papers who would be unable to participate unless subsidized. Please note your intention to apply for scholarship when registering for the conference.
- As 2020 begins, please remember to pay your membership fees if you have not yet done so. A paid-up membership is required in order to present a paper at the conference, and also makes sure that you do not miss any of the issues of Mission Studies. You can pay your fees on the homepage: <http://missionstudies.org/index.php/payments/>
- Please make sure your contact information in our database is correct: <https://missionstudies.org/db/login.asp> Sometimes we receive messages from members that they are missing issues of Mission Studies. One of the main reasons for this is simply that the address that we have is outdated.
- If you have any information that you think might be of interest to IAMS members please email me at iams@missionstudies.org.
- Finally, if you haven't yet done so, sign up on our Facebook page in order to get updates on what happens within IAMS <https://www.facebook.com/International-Association-for-Mission-Studies-IAMS-345324249216792/>

Sincerely,

Aron Engberg

IAMS General Secretary

OTHER MATTERS

Materializing the Bible

Materializing the Bible (<https://www.materializingthebible.com/>) is a digital scholarship project that examines themes of religious tourism and pilgrimage from an anthropological perspective. The project was founded in July 2015 by Dr. James Bielo (Assistant Professor, Dept. of Anthropology, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, USA) in collaboration with undergraduate research assistants, and integrates four types of digital scholarship: archive; essay/exhibit/digital narrative; teaching resource; and gateway/clearinghouse. We engage these four types of digital work through multiple interactive features. (1) Religious tourism sites are identified, briefly described, and hyperlinked to either an official webpage or web address with useful information. An additional page focuses on non-extant and proposed attractions. (2) A “Map” portal uses Google technology to display the attractions on a global geo-political map. (3) A “Tours” portal explores individual attractions, combining fieldwork photography and/or video; publicity materials (e.g., promotional videos); archival scans; hyperlinks to relevant data and/or scholarship; and, narrative description. (4) An index for a physical archive of project materials is maintained, including visitor materials and related religious ephemera dating from the early 1800s to the present. Selected archival materials are digitized for viewing and download, arranged by textual genre: attraction maps, brochures, guidebooks, postcards, and news stories. (5) Finally, a “Scholarship” section includes an interdisciplinary bibliography of scholarly publications that address specific attractions and discussion questions written for university courses.

Materializing the Bible currently catalogues 491 attractions in 44 nations: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bosnia, Brazil, Canada, China, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, England, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Mexico, New Zealand, the Netherlands, Northern Ireland, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Scotland, Slovakia, South Africa, South Korea, Switzerland, Taiwan, Ukraine, United States, and Wales. We are continually seeking to discover new attractions, in particular attractions located in the global South. If IAMS readers would like to contact the project team, we would be grateful to learn about new attractions. Please send an email to Dr. James Bielo (bielojs@miamioh.edu) and/or follow us on Twitter (@MaterializingB).

PhD Research Fellowship at VID Specialized University, Norway

At VID, we have an available PhD Research Fellowship in “Migration, Religion and Coexistence”. We hope for some good applicants. Could you spread the word in the IAMS network? Application deadline **15. February 2020**

Link to the call: <https://www.jobbnorge.no/en/available-jobs/job/178426/phd-research-fellowship-in-migration-religion-and-coexistence>

Multireligious identities 17th-18th March 2020, Lund, Sweden

Conference in memory of Prof Aasulv Lande

Location: LUX, Helgonavägen 3, Lund, Sweden

Borders between religions have always been porous in terms of ideas, rituals, communities and individuals. Multireligious identities form in the encounters and in the overlapping areas between religions. Prof Aasulv Lande served as a missionary in Japan and got deeply involved in encountering Buddhism. Much of his research and life took place in the areas of contact between Christianity and other religions, most notably Buddhism. In this conference, we want to explore and discuss the phenomenon of multireligious identities.

Program

Tuesday Venue: C121

- 13:15 Opening the conference by Mika Vähäkangas
- 13:30 Stephen B. Bevans: Pachamamma Christianity – The Pan-Amazonian Synod and Indigenous Religious Identity
- 14:30 Kajsa Ahlstrand: A Bit Christian, a Bit Buddhist
- 15:15 Coffee break
- 15:45 Patrik Fridlund: My Religious Identity – an Unfinished Project
- 16:30 You Bin: Scriptural Reasoning in China – beyond the Abrahamic Religions
- 17:15 Panel with the presenters
- 18:00 Dinner and event to commemorate the life and work of Prof Aasulv Lande (**venue: C212**)

Wednesday Venue: C121

- 9:15 Raquel Bouso: Religious Identities under Construction: Performing Selves through Art
- 10:00 Sybille Fritsch-Oppermann: Multireligious Identities as Expressed in Arts in the East and the West
- 10:45 Discussion on multireligious identities and arts
- 11:15 Coffee break
- 11:45 Concluding session
- 12:30 Lunch (self-cost)
- 13:30 Nordic Institute for Missiological and Ecumenical Research (NIME) annual general meeting (**venue: B240**)
- 15:15 NIME PhD seminar (venue: B240; until ca. 18 followed by an eftersits)

Organisers and funders: Centre for Theology and Religious studies/Lund University, Institute of Contextual Theology/Lund, Lund Mission Society, Kungl. Humanistiska Vetenskapssamfundet i Lund

The conference is free of charge but you need to register by e-mailing agneta.carlberg@icloud.com. Inform also about possible allergies and other dietary restrictions.

International Journal of Sino-Western Studies

This semi-annual English-Chinese bilingual journal, based in Helsinki, has been published simultaneously in print version and electronic version online in June and December each year since December 2011. Till now 16 volumes have been published. The basic situations are as follows:

Editorial Content: The content of this journal enriches the database of Chinese theological literature, since theology is not an academic discipline in Chinese national education system, although more and more scholars are interested in the study of Christian theology, few of them have received systematic and comprehensive education and training on theology. In addition to the reviews and academic reports, the five columns of this journal has covered Systematic theology, Practical theology, Biblical Study, Church history, Comparative religions, and China studies. In this way, this journal has been very important in promoting the discipline of Chinese Christianity in international academia, and in the emerging Sino-Western Studying topics and active fields in the literature.

International Editorial Conventions: The journal follows international editorial conventions.

Text English: The journal has published full text in English and information in English. When part of the text are published in Chinese, they always has an English version for the titles, abstracts, key terms and author information.

Peer Review: The journal has the peer-review process for all articles, and inclusion of Funding Acknowledgements are also indicated when they exist.

Electronic Journals: This journal has also been published electronically in addition to the print version. All contents of this journal is open access to be downloaded free of charge through website.

Index: This journal has been indexed by Clarivate's ESCI, SCOPUS (Elsevier), ATLA, R&TA, EBSCO, etc.

Welcome to submit, to download (free of charge), to cite, and to introduce our journal. You are also welcome to link our website www.SinoWesternStudies.com to your related academic websites.