

e-newsletter - february 2011

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ANZATS / ANZSTS Conference 2011**'Found in Translation': Mark Strauss the main speaker**

PROFESSOR MARK STRAUSS has accepted the invitation of the organising committee to be the main speaker at the ANZATS / ANZSTS Conference in July 2011. Its theme, 'Found in Translation: Bible, worship, mission', marks the 400th anniversary of the English translation of the scriptures authorised by King James I of England.



Theological Society, the Institute for Biblical Research, and the Society of Biblical Literature.

Archbishop Mark Coleridge to give plenary

The conference will also be enriched by the delivery, on the Monday, of a plenary lecture by Dr Mark Coleridge, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Canberra and well-known Australian theologian. Dr Coleridge, who has been active in the new translations of Roman Catholic liturgical texts, will address the intersection between the scriptures and liturgical translation. □

Fuller details, Call for Papers - page 4

Dr Strauss (PhD, Aberdeen) has been Professor of New Testament at Bethel Seminary San Diego since 1993. Before this appointment, Professor Strauss taught at Biola University, Christian Heritage College, and Talbot School of Theology. He is the Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Bible Translation for the *New International Version* (NIV). As well as his Conference plenary sessions, Dr Strauss will give a public lecture on the Monday evening co-sponsored by the Bible Society, on 'The Myth of Literal Accuracy'.

Dr Strauss is the author of various books, both academic and more popular, including, *The Davidic Messiah in Luke-Acts*; *Distorting Scripture? The Challenge of Bible Translation and Gender Accuracy*; and *How to Choose a Translation for All Its Worth* (with Gordon Fee, 2007). He was also co-editor and contributor to *The Challenge of Bible Translation. Communicating God's Word to the World* (Zondervan, 2003). He is presently revising the commentary on Mark's Gospel for the *Expositor's Bible Commentary*. His professional associations include the *Evangelical*

NZ authors' book offer from Ashgate:

ANZATS members are offered 20% discount off the new book, *God of Salvation*, from Otago faculty Ivor Davidson and Murray Rae, until the end of April.

The book explores the relationship between the nature of salvation and the character of the God who saves. What difference might it make to start with the identity of God as encountered in the gospel, then view everything else in the light of that? The authors offer fresh appraisals of major theological themes - creation, history and purpose, the divine attributes, atonement, election, justification and faith, salvation outside the church and eschatological fellowship with God. Interested?

- Click on www.ashgate.com/isbn/9780754666196
- Press the Add to Basket button.
- At checkout, enter the discount code H11EFA20 in the 'Promotional Code' box, in the basket Step 1.
- Press the Update Basket button and you will see the discount applied to this title in your basket. □

Your secretary writes ...

Welcome to another ANZATS Newsletter! As always, please share it round with your faculty and students (especially those undertaking research degrees).

As Australian readers especially will be aware, major floods over summer have inundated huge areas of Victoria, NSW, Tasmania, Western Australia and especially south-east Queensland, including Brisbane, followed by Queensland's northern areas being devastated by Cyclone Yasi.

I contacted Queensland colleges to assure them of prayer and support. *Alphacrucis'* Brisbane campus was flooded, and is in "the process of rectification". *Queensland Theological College*, based in Emmanuel College, St Lucia, was also affected, but not too badly. I know that many graduates, students and staff have been active in giving tangible support to those affected. Regional Victoria has been my major personal concern: we have seen some 80 towns badly affected, many twice, and a few flooded on three separate occasions. How will these events affect our theological reflection, teaching and learning in the coming year?

ANZATS opposes the closure of the Australian Learning & Teaching Council (ALTC)

ALTC is the body which made the grant that enabled the *Uncovering Theology* project in 2008-2009, and its successor, *Transformational Learning in Theological Education* currently being managed by Dr Les Ball. And the 'Threshold Learning Outcomes' project, in which the Council of Deans in Theology has been active, is another of its initiatives.

As one of its cost-cutting measures to pay for the flood and cyclone damage, the Australian Government announced that it will cease to fund ALTC after this year. Beyond from our particular 'interest' in it due to its support of these projects, ANZATS Council believes that the 'carrot' rather than stick approach ALTC has taken to improving learning in higher education has had major positive impact. I thus wrote to the Prime Minister, Treasurer, Minister of Education, and their Opposition equivalents, asking that its \$22 million net funding be restored: a copy is enclosed with this Newsletter.

2011 Conference: 'Found in Translation'

THE 2011 ANZATS / ANZSTS CONFERENCE takes place at Wesley College, Newtown NSW from **July 3 - 6th 2011**, and the **Call for Papers** is included in this Newsletter.

As usual, **two student scholarships** are available, covering registration plus \$500 towards travel and accommodation - application forms are included with this Newsletter and are available on the ANZATS website, 'Conferences'.

One 'tradition' at ANZATS / ANZSTS Conferences is **book launches**. If you know of a book which it would be appropriate to have sent on its way at the 2011 Conference, please let its Convenor, Professor Diane Speed, know.

ANZATS / ANZSTS merge proposal

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS of ANZATS and ANZSTS will take place during the Conference. In recent years it the necessary business has been kept to 20 minutes at most, allowing time for updates on projects related to theological

education. This tradition is planned to continue with a report from Les Ball on the *Transformational Learning in Theology* ALTC-funded project - but there will also be a significant item of business, a proposal for ANZATS to take over ANZSTS. And you are probably asking - why?



ANZATS operates as an association of institutions whereas ANZSTS is a society of persons. With the increase in journals, conferences and communication possibilities in recent years, the main function of ANZSTS has been to publish *Colloquium*. Though both bodies jointly arrange the annual conference, for many years they have effectively been undertaken by the local ANZATS chapter (whether New Zealand or an Australian state).

At its 2009 AGM, ANZATS adopted a new Constitution in which individual membership was clarified, and the association was subsequently incorporated, thus providing legal protection to its officers (the main motivation for the changes). Aware of these developments, the ANZSTS Executive (currently based in New Zealand) approached ANZATS with a proposal to merge into ANZATS - a step not anticipated when the Constitution was updated!

After some careful consideration, including its editorial, financial and distribution aspects, the ANZATS Executive, supported by the Council, is recommending to the ANZATS AGM that this offer be accepted. (The ANZSTS Executive is recommending the same step for its AGM.) If this is agreed to, ANZSTS members will be transferred to ANZATS as individual members, while the current ANZSTS editors (Tim Meadowcroft and Nicola Hoggan-Creegan) will continue to take editorial responsibility for *Colloquium* until the end of 2013, so that effective transition arrangements can be made without rush.

Changes in Australian Higher Education

THE NEW TERTIARY EDUCATION QUALITY AND STANDARDS AGENCY (TEQSA) commenced operation on 1st January, after preparation work in 2009 by AUQA and the Commonwealth Department of Education. It will bring together the registration, accreditation, quality assurance and overseas student function into the one body, a key outcome of the Bradley Commission: this outcome largely follows recommendations made in submissions from ANZATS, the *Council of Deans of Theology*, consortia and colleges.

In February 2010, TEQSA published a 'Draft Provider Standards' paper, and a revised version in December, for which response is called for by 17th February. I circulated a draft ANZATS paper to Council members to prepare me for a lively and well-attended workshop on 7th February. A copy of ANZATS's response is included with this Newsletter: I encourage at least one person at each college to keep tabs on this unfolding issue, crucial for all of our futures.

I am increasingly aware of the need to understand and contribute to these issues - but also of their Australian focus. I trust that New Zealand members don't feel neglected! □

Charles Sherlock, Executive Officer / Secretary / Treasurer

Change change change ... Australian theological education keeps on changing!

College moves around Melbourne

'CHANGE AND DECAY in all around I see' runs a line in that British football favourite 'Abide with me' - but hopefully the recent many changes in Melbourne-based theological education will prove to be changes without decay!

The *Australian Lutheran College* has joined the *Melbourne College of Divinity* as another of its Recognized Teaching Institutions. The MCD admission visit took place in conjunction with ALC's Cycle 1 AUQA audit, in October 2011 (chaired by Charles Sherlock): the Report is available from www.aqua.edu.au. As a consequence of accepting ALC, the MCD has introduced Bachelor of Ministry and Master of Christian Education degrees, and significantly revised its diploma offerings.

The *Bible College of Victoria* has changed its name to the *Melbourne School of Theology*, and moved to a new location in Wantirna, in Melbourne's eastern suburbs. The new building, formerly used by *Nutrimetrics* as a combination warehouse and training centre, has some 300 parking places! A much larger space, it brings together the Lilydale English-language campus and the Box Hill Chinese Language Department, and their respective libraries. A dedicated area for research students is situated in the midst of faculty offices. One significant change is that MST will no longer include residential facilities.

Tabor College Victoria has also been on the move, from its (leased) Ringwood location to share facilities with the *Churches of Christ Theological College* in Mulgrave. CCTC was purpose built when its predecessor, the 'College of the Bible', had its site resumed to make way for the Monash Freeway: this included an additional floor to allow for future expansion - which has now happened, but perhaps in a way not envisaged at the time!

Ridley Melbourne Mission & Ministry College has now settled in to its smaller Parkville campus, following the successful sale of its Walker Street titles. But Ridley Bookshop closes its doors in March, a sad effect of online book-selling and students not purchasing books as they once did.

Significant changes for the consortia

MUCH AUSTRALIAN THEOLOGICAL education has taken place through consortia of colleges over the years, especially since the 1970s - but the scene is changing. The Brisbane College of Theology de-merged in 2010, and significant changes are taking place in the other consortia.

The *Sydney College of Divinity*, following its AUQA audit in 2009, is preparing for state re-registration by the end of 2011, and national re-accreditation by the end of 2012. AUQA has just listed two SCD processes on its Good Practice Database: 'Academic Quality Assurance - moderation and monitoring', and 'Good Management for an NSAI institution', in particular its Principals' Fellowship and Registrars' network. A nested Diploma in Christian Studies, and Associate Degree of Christian

Thought and Practice, have now been added to the BTh.

From 2011, some SCD awards will be delivered at Perth Bible College and Tabor College NSW through their respective associations with SCD Member Institution Emmaus Bible College. Alphacrucis, previously registered in its own right alongside its SCD membership, has now left the SCD to stand on its own feet, with its own accredited degrees.

The *Adelaide College of Divinity*, the pioneer of theological education in Australian public universities, is undergoing significant change. Until 2011, the ACD was affiliated with Flinders University: a new consortium, the *Adelaide Theological Centre Incorporated* (ATC), is taking up this role, and becomes the Flinders University Department of Theology. The ATC brings together the Catholic Theological College and the *Uniting College for Leadership and Theology* (UCLT, combining the former Parkin-Wesley and Coolamon Colleges). The ACD and ATC are sharing the Brooklyn Park campus, including the *Adelaide Theological Library*. Janet Buchan, long-standing ACD Executive Officer, now holds the same role for ATC.

From 2011, the ACD, associated with UCLT, is providing courses from diploma to doctoral level as a Higher Education Provider (HEP) in its own right - adjunct faculty include Catholic Theological College staff who continue some teaching in ACD courses. The new arrangement has also seen the renewal and restructure of ACD undergraduate courses to provide a strong focus on integration of theory and ministry practice. The ACD is also continuing to offer VET courses as a Registered Training Organisation (RTO), in a co-operative arrangement with Tabor Adelaide.

The *Australian College of Theology*, the oldest consortium (founded 1891) has successfully gained Self-Accrediting Institution (SAI) status under National Protocol C (based on the *Higher Education Act 2003*) - the first HEP in any discipline to do so: congratulations, ACTh! An interesting consequence is that this means that discussions over the 'categories' of HEP under the new national regulatory body, the *Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Authority* (TEQSA) cannot ignore this category, one of significant interest to theological institutions outside the universities.

The *Melbourne College of Divinity*, meanwhile, whose centenary was celebrated in 2010, has applied to become Australia's first 'University of Specialisation' - one of the new categories under National Protocol D. Discussions are well under way, and it is expected that the outcome will be known later in the year. The MCD is currently the only non-university body in 'Table B', which looked like disappearing under TEQSA (Table A includes the public universities).

The unique position of the MCD and ACTh as differently-situated Self-Accrediting Institutions raises interesting questions for TEQSA as Australian higher education is re-shaped in the next couple of years. □

Charles Sherlock

2011 ANZATS / ANZSTS Conference:

July 3-6, Wesley College, Sydney

‘Found in Translation: Bible, worship, mission’

Professor Mark Strauss, Abp Mark Coleridge

2011 marks the 400th anniversary of the appearance of the **King James Bible / Authorised Version**, a highly significant event in the history of the English-speaking churches, and a highly influential factor in broader Anglophone culture from 1611 to the present.

It is thus appropriate that the 2011 ANZATS / ANZSTS conference should invite papers on research into the overarching subject of translation, as it concerns theological studies and the dissemination of Christianity. Without intending to be restrictive, the theme draws particular attention to three focal areas of translation activity: the Bible itself, Christian worship, and mission.

The Conference will begin with registration and a reception on the evening of Sunday 3rd July and conclude at the end of Wednesday 6th July. The main venue will be Wesley College in the University of Sydney.

The main speaker will be Professor Mark Strauss, Professor of New Testament, Bethel San Diego Seminary, with significant experience in scripture translation. Dr Mark Coleridge, Roman Catholic archbishop of Canberra will address a plenary session on liturgical translation.

Planning Committee (in alphabetical order, after the Convenor)

Diane Speed (Sydney College of Divinity, Convenor)

Jim Harrison (Wesley Institute)

John McClean (ACTh – Presbyterian Theological Centre)

Gerard Moore (CSU – United Theological College)

Andrew Murray (SCD – Catholic Institute of Sydney)

Brian Rosner (Moore Theological College).

The ANZATS and ANZSTS AGMs will take place during the Conference, at which a proposal to merge these two bodies will be considered. (The ANZATS Council will meet on the previous Saturday, July 2nd.)

Moore Theological College is offering a further day with Professor Strauss on the following Thursday. The *Australian Catholic Biblical Association* and the *Australian Catholic Theological Association* commence their annual conferences on the Friday.

This conjunction of conferences offers ANZATS and ANZSTS members a unique opportunity to engage in complementary approaches to issues in translation.

Fees

include the Sunday reception, all sessions, morning and afternoon tea and lunch Monday - Wednesday:

Early bird (before May 2): AUD \$225

After May 3: AUD \$265

Day Rate: AUD \$100 (\$90 - full-time research students)

plus Conference dinner (*Tuesday evening*) AUD \$75

(Accommodation is participants' responsibility: a range of local possibilities will be sent with registration details.)

Two scholarships are available for theological students studying full-time in Australia or New Zealand - see page N.

For up-to-date details, see the ANZATS website:

www.anzats.edu.au

Call for Papers - Guidelines

Proposals are invited for short papers to be presented at the Conference: the due date for receipt of proposals is **Monday 4 April 2011**.

Papers relating to the conference's theme of 'Found in Translation' are encouraged, but - as is ANZATS / ANZSTS's custom - proposals in other areas are welcome, especially to enable participants to test their current research findings (including research students). Papers will be allowed 30 minutes including question time.

Please address submissions to scd@scd.edu.au or mail to

ANZATS / ANZSTS 2011, c/- SCD,
PO Box 1882, Macquarie Centre, NSW 2113.

Proposals should be 200-250 words long and must include

- o your full name, title, institution (or location), email, phone / mobile number, and mailing address;
- o title, aim, and indication of the position being put;

- o any additional information that may help the committee weigh your submission;
- o what audio-visual equipment your presentation needs.

It is helpful if you can demonstrate how the paper fits into relevant discussion among scholars and / or within the churches, and preferably both.

Please indicate if you have an interest in creating a forum, for example to discuss a significant new book, to focus on a discrete area of specialisation, or to discuss recent trends in theological education. (This may need a double session.)

Proposals will be peer-reviewed, with responses made by June 4, 2010. Finalized abstracts of provisionally accepted papers are due June 14 (for the conference booklet).

Papers presented at the conference can be submitted for consideration of publication to *Colloquium* (the journal of ANZSTS). □