

Alphacrucis Research Roundtable 2015

The purpose of the roundtable is to facilitate discussion among academic staff and advanced research students of important topics, with input from external experts. They are deliberately less formal than a traditional university seminar, and personal reflection by speaker is encouraged. Our initial focus has been the nature and practical aspects of scholarship within a Christian worldview, but by no means restricted to this issue. Roundtables begin at 12:15pm in the Conference Room, with lunch provided, finishing by 1:45pm. For those who can stay discussion often continues at a local coffee shop. Our program currently is:

19 March 2015 – Guest Speaker: Prof Marion Maddox



Free, Compulsory and Secular: The Christian Vision that Launched Public Education

Marion is an Australian Research Council Future Fellow and Professor in the Department of Politics at Macquarie University. She holds doctorates in both political science and in theology. She recently published *Taking God to School: The End of Australia's Egalitarian Education?* Allen and Unwin 2014, following previous work on Pentecostal megachurches, and religion in Australian politics *For God and Country: Religious Dynamics in Australian Federal Politics* 2001, and *God under Howard* Allen Unwin 2005.

22 July 2015 – Guest Speaker: Prof Robert D. Woodberry

Aid That Works: Missionaries, and Economic Development

Robert Woodberry is Director of the Project on Religion and Economic Change (PREC) and an Associate Professor of political science at National University of Singapore. For 2015 he is he is Visiting Fellow in the Kellogg Institute for International Studies at University of Notre Dame USA. His research analyzes the long-term roots of education, mass printing, economic development and democracy in former colonies. Other interests include religious influences on political institutions and the economy and the international diffusion of social movements and printing.



Supported by a large grant from the Templeton Foundation he built a global, geo-spatial database of virtually all Protestant and Catholic missionary activity, education, and medical work from the mid-19th to mid-20th centuries, connected detailed measures of colonial history, climate, terrain and geography. Publications include "Sociology of Religion" (2012) with C. Smith in *The Blackwell Companion to Sociology*, "The Missionary Roots of Liberal Democracy." *American Political Science Review* (2012), "Missions and Economics" (2007), "Economic Consequences of Pentecostalism" *Society* (2006), *Researching Spiritual Capital: Promise and Pitfalls* (2003).

13 August 2015 – Guest Speaker: Dr Robert Banks



The Impact of National Holiness Movements on the International Missionary Movement

Robert studied at Moore Theological College, Kings College London and for his PhD in New Testament from the University of Cambridge. He was Professor of the Ministry of the Laity and Director of the De Pree Leadership Center at Fuller Theological Seminary in the US. On his return to Australia he became the inaugural Director of Macquarie Christian Studies Institute, and is presently an Associate of the Centre for the History of Christian Thought & Experience, at Macquarie University. He has written books on Jesus' attitude to the law, Paul's idea of community, God and work, apologetics and lifestyle, theology and film, re-envisioning theological education. He continues to teach regularly at Theological Colleges in south east Asia and has also developed links with Centre for Study of Christianity in China.

20 August 2015 – Guest Speaker: Dr Julien Ogereau

The Future of Biblical and Early Christian Studies at the University: Reflections on Research Experience in a Theological Institution (Alphacrucis), a Secular Australian University (Macquarie University), and

a German University (Humboldt- Universität zu Berlin)

Julien studied Theology and New Testament at Alphacrucis, before completing a doctorate in Ancient History at Macquarie University in 2013. His dissertation, which was published in the Mohr Siebeck WUNT II series (2014). It explored the socio-economic aspects of Paul's partnership (koinonia) with the Philippians. Since June 2014, he works as a junior researcher with the Excellence Cluster 264 Topoi at the Theology Faculty of Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, and is writing a monograph on the character and expansion of early Christianity in Macedonia.



10 September 2015 – Guest Speaker: Dr Greg Clarke

The Impact of Biblical Illiteracy on Australian Learning

Greg has been CEO of the Bible Society in Australia, drawing together six state bodies of the organisation founded 1817. Previously he was co-founder with John Dickson of the Centre for Public Christianity, Director of Macquarie Christian Studies Institute, and Director of Centre for Apologetic Scholarship and Education at New College UNSW. He holds a PhD in English Literature from University of Sydney and is the author of many books, his most recent being the award-winning *The Great Bible Swindle*.

21 October 2015 – Guest Speaker: Prof Clare Johnson

Designing and Teaching a Core Curriculum: Reflection on the Experience of University of Notre Dame and Australian Catholic University

##Note this roundtable will commence at 1.30pm, so you can go to Wednesday chapel and have a chance to eat at the missions lunch before we begin. There will be no lunch served at the roundtable##

Clare is Foundation Professor and Director of the Centre for Liturgy, Australian Catholic University. She holds Bachelor of Music (Hons) from the University of Melbourne and a Bachelor of Theology (Hons) from the Melbourne College of Divinity. She went on to complete her Master of Arts in Theology (Research) at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, before completing a Ph.D. in Liturgical Studies at the University of Notre Dame du Lac (USA). She previously taught at University of Notre Dame Australia, and the School of Theology at Australian Catholic University. Her publications include "Selling Theology to Generation Y" on the Notre Dame Core Curriculum, and many others in her specialisation of liturgy.



5 November 2015 – Guest Speakers: Prof Paul S Williams and Dr Sarah C. Williams

Marketplace Mission

Paul Williams was appointed the Director of the Marketplace Institute and the David J. Brown Family Chair of Marketplace Theology and Leadership at Regent College in August 2005. Paul brings prayerful and critical consideration, leadership expertise, and a background in economics, political philosophy and theology to the Church's missional engagement with contemporary culture. Paul has written numerous articles on Christian faith and globalization, the theology of public discipleship, marketplace mission, and workplace spirituality. At the Marketplace Institute he has pioneered the program which trains, mentors and establishes Christian entrepreneurs in marketplaces all around the world and is the visionary behind *Reframe*, an innovative new resource for marketplace discipleship.

Guest Speaker: Dr Sarah C. Williams

Christianity and Gender

Sarah Williams joined the Regent faculty in 2005. A specialist in the field of nineteenth- and twentieth-century social and cultural history, she is the author of *Religious Belief and Popular Culture* and co-author of *Redefining Christian Britain*. She has also written *The Shaming of the Strong*, a personal and theological reflection on the nature of personhood and the ethics of pre-natal testing, and *Mapping Gender* in progress. Prior to coming to Regent, Dr. Williams held research and teaching positions at the University of Birmingham; Harris Manchester College, Oxford; and Lincoln College, Oxford. She is passionate about the art of teaching and learning and she reads widely and thinks deeply about pedagogical theory and practice.

