Welcome Back – February 2015!

We hope you have had a relaxing break over the Christmas and New Year period and are ready for the new academic year. We would like to welcome new Higher Degree students Hee Won Chang (PhD), Inise Foiaikau (MTh Hons), and Virginia Ryan (DMin). There are a number of other students still in the works and we look forward to them coming on board as well. We would also like to Welcome Dr Rhonda White to the Faculty and Professor Dokyun Ha who will arrive shortly from Korea as a visiting scholar for 2015. Both are looking forward to engaging with the Post Grad Community. Ben Myers is coordinating the Higher Degree programs in first semester and overseeing the newly renamed “Research Colloquiums”.

Research Colloquium
The first colloquium for 2015 will be held on Friday 13th February starting at 1.30pm in G4.

Research Colloquiums – Dates for First Semester

13 Feb: Jeff Aernie, Gaby Kobrossi, Chris Dalton, Kamaloni Tu’iono,
13 March: Rawaa Gebara, William Emilsen, Omer Atilla Ergi
10 April: Robert Anderson, Gerard Moore, Kwang Min Kim
15 May: Elizabeth De Reland, Ryan Green, Matt Wilcoxen, Ben Myers
Workshops from the Research Office

The following workshops are coming up from the Research Office:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Session Details &amp; Registration</th>
<th>Target Group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11th Feb 2015</td>
<td>Online</td>
<td><strong>Introduction to Endnote</strong></td>
<td>All CSU researchers, including HDR Candidates and research support staff members</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16th Feb 2015</td>
<td>Online</td>
<td><strong>HDR Candidate Welcome &amp; Induction</strong></td>
<td>HDR Candidates &amp; their Supervisors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17th Feb 2015</td>
<td>Online</td>
<td><strong>Supervisor Training - Module 1 – Induction</strong></td>
<td>CSU academic staff who wish to register as a HDR Supervisor at CSU or learn about supervising HDR candidates at CSU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18th Feb 2015</td>
<td>Online</td>
<td><strong>My Research Career, Module 1 – Introduction, research landscape, priority and time management</strong></td>
<td>All CSU researchers, including HDR Candidates and research support staff members</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19th Feb 2015</td>
<td>Online</td>
<td><strong>Introduction to Endnote (Mac)</strong></td>
<td>All CSU researchers, including HDR Candidates and research support staff members</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 Feb 2015</td>
<td>Online or at Wagga Wagga</td>
<td><strong>1 Day Research Writing Boot Camp</strong> (<a href="http://connect.csu.edu.au/bootcamp">http://connect.csu.edu.au/bootcamp</a>)</td>
<td>For everyone who wants to get an extra burst of writing productivity, alongside other friendly and focussed research writers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24th Feb 2015</td>
<td>Online</td>
<td><strong>Using Research Professional</strong></td>
<td>All CSU researchers, including HDR Candidates</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To register for any of these workshops, please go to the Research Office Website which can be found here: [https://www.csu.edu.au/research/professional-development/program-calendar](https://www.csu.edu.au/research/professional-development/program-calendar)

Rediscovering the Spiritual in God’s Creation - Conference

The Graeme Clark Research Institute, in association with the Faraday Institute for Science and Religion (Cambridge University, UK), and with the support of the Charles Strong Memorial Trust, Catholic Earthcare Australia and Catholic Education SA, is delighted to announce the international conference, *Rediscovering the Spiritual in God’s Creation*, hosted by Tabor Adelaide, 10th-13th March 2015. The location is McLaren Vale, South Australia in the heart of the wine region.

Despite a growing awareness of environmental issues, especially over the last decade, the overall situation is not improving. The ecological crisis is not just an environmental issue. Fundamentally, it is a moral,
philosophical and religious issue that needs addressing.

The conference brings together a group of leading scholars and experts in the fields of ethics, ecology and theology in order to take the current conversation in ecotheology a step further by generating a multidisciplinary perspective on the spiritual in creation, leading to fresh horizons with regard to liturgy, justice and discipleship.

The conference seeks to explore the experience of God in creation, with a view to fostering and enhancing worship, spirituality, justice and discipleship within the Christian community.

The uniqueness of the conference is its focus on ecology and spirituality, and its orientation towards practical outcomes within faith communities.

For ticket pricing and early bird rates, please see this link: http://goo.gl/HbT0Ky.

**ANZATS Conference 2015 – Call for Papers**

**Conference Theme** “A Life Worth Living: Religion and Ethics” – Sydney College of Divinity Campus

Our media bombards us with ‘sound-bites’ and ‘door-stop’ interviews about world events. Their commentary on life is shaped by spin-doctors and vested interests. The commercial world offers us endless opportunities for self-gratification, targeting our insecurities with their products. How does the church speak truth into this babble of information and hype? What difference does the gospel make in shaping the ethics of public discourse? How do we ‘revalue ‘the worth of the life we live?

The Conference Planning Committee is pleased to invite all members of ANZATS and the theological and wider academic community to submit the title of their proposed presentation at this conference, together with an abstract of 250-300 words by February 15, 2015.

This should be accompanied by contact details: Name, institutional affiliation, postal address, phone number and email address. Please address submissions to Dr Jacqui Grey jacqui.grey@ac.edu.au.

It is expected that presentations will occupy 30 minutes plus a few minutes for Q&A.

**Grounding the Sacred through Literature and the Arts Conference – Call for Papers**

Thursday 23 July – Sunday 26 July 2015 inclusive, Australian Catholic University, 25A Barker Road, Strathfield NSW 2135, Australia

The Grounding the Sacred conference asks how literature and the arts can make the sacred tangible: are they a conduit between the divine and the everyday, a means of enabling us to touch the sacred? Do the arts offer a way of structuring – earthing – our experiences of the sacred? Do they provide a common ground for people of different faiths – or maybe none – to explore the ineffable? And where does creativity sit in relation to religion and the search for meaning? Are a sense of the sacred and the means to express it essential for human flourishing?
Abstracts of 250 words are invited for 20-minute papers and presentations that address the conference theme. They may be from artists talking about their work as it expresses the sacred; from researchers seeking to explain the relationship between creativity, religion and well-being; and from interpreters bringing to light the sacred dimensions of pre-existing creative works. Abstracts should be sent to Elaine Lindsay at SLAConference@acu.edu.au by 27 February 2015, using the subject header ‘SLA 2015 abstract’. Submissions should include the author’s name, affiliation, email address, title of abstract, body of abstract, and a short biography. Acceptances should be advised by 10 April 2015.

Conference details, including registration, are updated regularly on http://www.acu.edu.au/groundingthesacred. Inquiries can also be directed to the conveners, Associate Professor Michael Griffith (Michael.griffith@acu.edu.au) and Dr Elaine Lindsay (Elaine.lindsay@acu.edu.au), Faculty of Education and Arts, Australian Catholic University. *Grounding the Sacred* is part of ACU’s 25th anniversary celebrations in 2015 and is supported by a generous grant from the Copyright Agency’s Cultural Fund.

**Student and supervisor activities**

**Chris Dalton** (PhD) has recently had two articles published:


**Cristina Lledo Gomez** (PhD) has recently had an article published:

"*From Infants to Mothers: Recovering the Call to the People of God to Become Mother Church in Lumen Gentium*, Journal of Ecclesiology Vol 11 No.1 (Jan 2015): pp.34-64. (Publisher: Brill)

**Rev Dr Clive Pearson** is currently in Princeton through to the end of March. He was awarded the William Scheide Research Fellowship by the Centre of Theological Inquiry. The particular project he is working on is the bringing to publication the proceedings of an international conference held in Stellenbosch (South Africa) on a Reformed understanding of a practical theology.

While in Princeton, Clive is in discussion with urban theologians in Philadelphia and the Hispanic/multicultural programme in the seminary there. Prior to his return to Sydney towards the end of April he will be in the United Kingdom where he will be in discussion with those in Cambridge who initiated the programme of scriptural reasoning which involves scholars and ‘ordinary folk’ from the Christian, Muslim and Jewish traditions discussing their sacred texts in the presence of the religious other. He will also meet Professor Mona Siddiqui, the author of Christians, Muslims and Jesus. She is a Muslim woman who is a leading expert on Islamic law and gender; her work on Jesus displays an impressive familiarity with Christian as well as Islamic theology. She is on the staff of the Faculty of Divinity, Edinburgh.

Clive has also been invited to deliver a lecture on theology and climate change to the Faculty of Theology in Geneva immediately prior to his flight home. Clive will then take up a research position with the Public and Contextual Theological Research Centre of Charles Sturt University.
For any queries or comments regarding the information in this newsletter or to be added or deleted from the distribution list, please feel free to contact me on joannes@nswact.uca.org.au.