

mission MATTERS

Issue #4 November 2012



Who is the missiology stream?

Currently Rosemary Dewerse, Steve Taylor and Andrew Dutney, with a growing network of adjunct lecturers and contributing practitioners. In 2012 these included Michelle Cook, Ian Coats and Sean Gilbert. Nichola Shaw provides administrative expertise.

What is missiology?

Missiology is the study of the nature, purposes and acts of God the Trinity and their implications for the being, character and calling of the Church in the world. Missiology includes the study of theological method, social and cultural analysis, systematic theology, church history, apologetics, public theology, theology of mission and evangelism.

On the move

In July Dr Rosemary Dewerse stepped into the Director's role as Steve Taylor stepped into the College Principal role as Andrew Dutney became President of the Uniting Church for the next three years! For 2013 we have a growing line-up of adjunct and visiting lecturers from several cultures and a range of backgrounds and life experiences preparing to contribute to our courses.

Check out the June issue of Mission Matters for more info on Rosemary.

Spirit-ed Missiology for a Global Church

This year's overseas expertise came from Dr Kirsteen Kim from Leeds University, UK, in July, a specialist in mission and pneumatology. Students gathered for a week's intensive and have done thoughtful assignment work in response.

Covenanting

We continue our commitment to covenanting with our local Aboriginal nations, including involvement with the Covenanting Committee. In July this year a panel of Aboriginal leaders contributed to two morning sessions of Spirit-ed Missiology, a mutually significant experience for all. Rosemary is about to convene with Denise Champion a group preparing resources for cultural sensitivity training. There are plans to involve Aboriginal leaders in classes during 2013, and in February candidates will have the opportunity to be part of a three-day cultural immersion, which we hope will become an annual event.

Journal of Ministry Practice

A dream of Steve's, the journal is now in the drafting stages. John Swinton, who spoke so helpfully at the February 2012 Presbytery and Synod gathering, is keen to be engaged in the project with his students. The first issue will draw on reflections made by our students – a number of whom are involved in the Master of Ministry (missional) – and is designed to be an accessible resource for the wider church. Keep an eye out for it!

Out and about - Steve

Technically, Steve was supposed to be on sabbatical in the first semester, but he got himself a new role...Sabbatical will happen over summer and into March. He has, however, had an article in *Australian Leadership*, completed two book projects – chapters on indigenous communion practices, and sustainability in fresh expressions – taught on another Mission Shaped Ministry course, spoken at the Uniting World Retreat, Summer Spirit and CampFIRE in Perth, Catholic Education, Grace Network, the Magerey Lectures for Churches of Christ (SA), and Refresh weekends in Eyre Peninsula, Robe and Laura.

Out and About - Rosemary

Rosemary has an article in *Australian Leadership* coming up, is at the printing stage of an illustrated book on seven early Maori Christians, is writing a paper on Atuatanga (Maori knowing of God), and will be readying her PhD for publication over summer. She has preached, led the Missions Interlink Retreat, become the Oceania Rep on the exec of the International Association of Mission Studies, joined the AAMS 2014 conference planning team, and gotten to know quite a few people – thank you all for initiating contact!

Out and About - Andrew

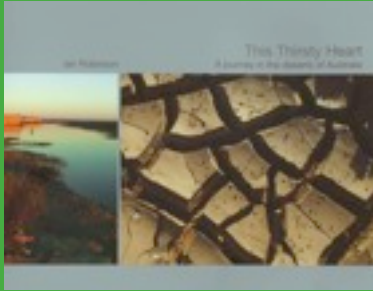
Too numerous to mention! – both here and overseas.

Mission Really Matters is produced by the missiology stream of Uniting College for Leadership & Theology to spark conversation, share resources and promote training.

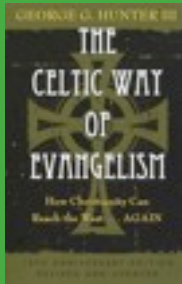
To join the e-mailing list or for further information please contact Nichola Shaw nichola.shaw@flinders.edu.au or phone 08 8416 8427

Reading

Ian Robinson, *This Thirsty Heart: A Journey in the Deserts of Australia*, MACSIS, 2010. A beautiful book that takes a reflective journey through the Australian desert, 'following the explorers and the Aboriginal custodians into a transforming place'.



George G. Hunter III, *The Celtic Way of Evangelism: How Christianity Can Reach the West...Again* (10th Anniversary edition), Abingdon, 2010. Be inspired by the faith-filled, imaginative, courageous and prayerful example of the ancient Celts, early experts in Missional Church.



Serving

Africa connection: We have just hosted Dr Zuze Banda from the University of South Africa. He sits in David Bosch's chair there and is keen to partner with us in writing and research projects, as well as draw on our expertise for postgrad examination. A gracious and wise man, we look forward to possibilities with him and his team.



Learning in 2013

Aboriginal Immersion: 3 days for candidates at Camp Coorong exploring indigenous culture and history and the wisdom needed for our ongoing journey together. February 7-10. Facilitated by Tracy Spencer and Denise Champion.

Heritage, Theology and Polity of the Uniting Church in Australia with Andrew Dutney. 11-15 February, 9-5pm. Unit code MINS3338/THEO2315

Reading Cultures Semester 1. Sean Gilbert and Rosemary give tools for reading cultures – our own and others – so that our ministry might be more discerning, sensitive, and effective. Unit code MINS1502/THEO1305

Multicultural leadership, worship and mission: 8-12 July – 9am-3pm each day. Rosemary and friends will tackle the questions of intercultural engagement with a view to creating a genuinely empowering church home for everyone. Unit code MINS2316/THEO2520

Mission Then, Mission Now: Semester 2. Rosemary and Jo Fulton will take a tour through world church history lighting on particular times and places, asking how people were attempting to be salt and light in their communities then, and what lessons can we learn for being and doing church now. Unit code MINS2318

Guided Readings in Missiology

Sense Making Faith: Steve and friends will be leading this course at Corner Church. The five senses will be engaged in reading scripture and thinking through the implications of embodied reading for church, mission, and leadership today. 9 weeks from 22 April - 17 June. Interested? Contact the college for more info.

The Church on Main Street: A conference with Dr Chris Baker, a lecturer in public and urban theology from the UK, 24-26 September 2013. Can be attended for credit. Contact Dean Eland for more info: djeland@bigpond.com Ph 0419 112 603.

These can all be taken for audit or credit through the Adelaide College of Divinity (ACD). Enquire re fees and FEE-HELP college.divinity@flinders.edu.au 08 8416 8464

Come and join in the Missional Masters Cohort – this group of engaged and creative mission practitioners continue their journey into imagining the future of the church. Talk to Rosemary about Post-Graduate options.

Resourcing

Your small group could host a VET level unit in Equipping, or Engaging in Culturally Appropriate Mission (focus on faith-sharing) available through the Adelaide College of Divinity. Contact Nichola Shaw at nichola.shaw@flinders.edu.au

Your church could host a Bachelor of Ministry topic. In 2013 the missiology stream would like to experiment with running a Bachelor of Ministry topic in a local church. We're looking for a local host, that would network with other local churches. If you'd like to think more about this, contact Steve Taylor



Participate in the missionshaped ministry course, exploring fresh expressions and the mixed economy approach to mission for your community.

For more, see <http://www.missionshapedministry.org.au/>