



Theological Education in the Anglican Communion

Resources Bulletin

July 2022

Theological Education at the Lambeth Conference

Stephen Spencer

Theological education will be at the heart of the Lambeth Conference. This is because every day of the conference will begin with study of the Bible, in particular the first letter of Peter, through expositions and bible study groups. This study will also influence the subsequent talks and discussions through the day, because the topics each day follow on from that day's passage from 1 Peter. If the bishops decide to make calls to the wider church these will also in this way emerge out of their study of the letter. There is a profound sense in which the bishops and their spouses will stand under scripture and be educated by it as they live, pray, worship, talk and reflect together. It will be fascinating to see how God's Spirit leads and guides this learning and reflection during and after the conference.



Furthermore many of the talks and presentations will offer insight from those with expert knowledge on a range of topics, such as Mission and Evangelism, Safe Church, Communion, Reconciliation, the Environment, Sustainable Development, Christian Unity, Interfaith Relations, Science and Faith, and Discipleship. The conference will be an educational feast for the bishops and their spouses! The last of these, on Discipleship, will also speak to the future of theological education. This is because to be a disciple is literally to be a learner or pupil and it is possible that as the bishops consider again the nature of discipleship they will call for renewal and transformation in the delivery of theological learning across the Anglican Communion.

There will also be two seminars devoted to theological education, one focused on Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the other on sub-Saharan Africa. Colleges, seminaries and programmes in these regions face especially sharp challenges and there is a pressing need for bishops to engage with the issues. These seminars will provide them with an opportunity to do so. As TEAC staff, Paulo Ueti, Muthuraj Swamy and I will be supporting these seminars and the conference as a whole helping to ensure it is a rich educational experience that addresses the challenges and opportunities for theological education across the Anglican Communion.

The Migration Crisis and the Role of Theological Education

TEAC Consultation and Webinar in Guatemala 26-29 May

Ten theological educators from Anglican churches across Central and South America gathered in Guatemala City for a key consultation on the migration crisis and how churches and their seminaries and training programmes can respond. The Global Partnership Office for Latin America (TEC) and one person from Latin Ministries (TEC) offered their contribution to the discussion. Hosted by TEAC, the consultation will be feeding insights into seminars at the forthcoming Lambeth Conference. The group in Guatemala were joined online by around 50 other participants for the first session, a webinar that heard from Loida Sardinias from Colombia and Gabriela Merayo from Argentina. They reminded everyone that there are now over 280 million migrants in the world, with 20% of this total moving within Latin America and many up to the US border. Many become victims of exploitation, xenophobia and racism and there have been over 100,000 disappearances in Mexico and Central America. The consultation also heard how migration is at the core of the Bible, from Abraham and the Exodus through the defining episode of the Exile for the people of Israel. Elizabeth Cook from Costa Rica pointed out that the Bible had been written *by* migrants *for* migrants, and that migrants today are therefore brothers and sisters in need of respect, dignity and support. Neli Miranda from Guatemala reminded the consultation that missionary activity is the mother of theology and therefore theological education needs to be located within the realities of the crisis. As John Mackay put it many years ago, it "must be done on the road rather than on the balcony". A set of video clips of the consultation will be released shortly, as an introductory resource on the topic, and the papers will be published online in three languages by TEAC in due course.

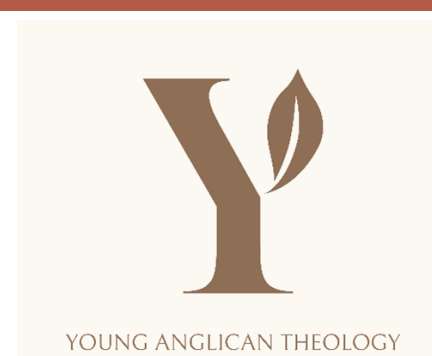
Young Anglican Theologians update

We are a gathering of young people (aged 18-40) across the Anglican Communion that seeks to connect, encourage, and empower young Anglicans with a passion for theology. You don't need to be an 'official' theologian (ordained, academically qualified or experienced) to join in.

Through online seminars and our online blog, we want to:

- encourage young Anglicans to find their own voice
- make theology more accessible and inclusive
- encourage young Anglicans to use their gifts in writing, speaking, and the arts to contribute to the life of the whole church

If you'd like to know more about our current publication cycle or submit your work, please head to our [Submissions](#) page for more information. We work in partnership with the [Anglican Communion Youth Network](#).



News from St Augustine's Foundation

Stephen Lyons

The St Augustine's Foundation is an Anglican Communion fund that has, at its heart, a desire to support the deepening and development of theological education across the Communion. It does so by offering financial assistance to both institutions and individuals.

The Foundation's **Innovation Fund** supports institutions (theological colleges, dioceses and provinces) in innovative theological educational projects offering grants for either one-year (up to a maximum of £15,000) or over two years (up to a maximum of £20,000). The closing date for applications to the Innovation Fund is September 15th each year with the outcome known by the end of the following October.

The Scholarship and Fellowship awards are for individuals. The Foundation offers a limited number of each of these annually. **Scholarships** to support applicants undertaking doctoral studies and can be up to a maximum of £50,000 over the three year study period; **Fellowships** to offer a one-off maximum of £2,500 towards projects such as funding of professional development for a church leader in the Majority World; funding of a theologian/theological educator from one Province to spend time teaching at a TEI in another Province; a contribution towards the funding for a licensed minister (lay or ordained) undertaking a specific course of study with a defined outcome or output; funding towards study leave with clearly defined outcomes; or a period of focussed work consultancy, a mentoring project; or to aid writing a publication.

The closing date for Scholarship or Fellowship applications is **December 1st** each year with the outcome known by the end of May the following year.

Fuller details of these awards and the work of the Foundation can be found on the [website](#). Also on the website are details of the kind of initiatives previous grants have been awarded for and access to the relevant application forms. For further information or enquiries beyond the website: staugustinef@gmail.com

Colleges link across the Communion

Canon Anne Tomlinson

On Saturday 28 May, students from the Scottish Episcopal Institute (SEI) took part in a two-hour webinar on the environment with their fellow students from Centro de Estudos Anglicanos (CEA), Porto Alegre, Brazil. This was the first joint gathering of students since a companion partnership was formed between the two theological institutes two years ago. Up to now contact has taken the form of shared newsletters, photographs and prayers.

Coming together around our common concern for creation, we heard from Luri Lima from the north of Brazil who spoke passionately about the wisdom and work of indigenous people – especially women and the elderly – in the region of the Amazon rainforest, who seek to protect this area of amazing biodiversity from the multiple depredations inflicted upon it by neo-capitalist greed; and of the martyrdom suffered by those who seek to work with them in their defence of their homelands. Luri's input was followed by that from Prof. Alberto (Beto) Carabajal who spoke searchingly of the link between liberation spirituality and liturgy, the former being prior to the latter; and of the need for political engagement.

The two presentations were for us in Scotland an experience of conscientization, opening our eyes to the reality of the situation in Brazil, both humbling us and challenging us to action.

Eilidh Proudfoot then introduced the SEI students' presentations: Dr Valerie Cameron on the Scottish Episcopal Church's environmental work through the Provincial Environment Group; Ferdinand von Prondzynski on the Church's work in liturgy and creation care; and Roberta Ritson on living sustainably. Roberta gave a demonstration of a meal cooked from locally foraged food, underlining the power of small steps on the road to simpler and sustainable living. This caught the imaginations of all present and brought the afternoon /evening to a lovely close 'around the table' in prayer and thanksgiving.

SEI Ueti and Lucia da Ponte, CEA Co-ordinator, for her work in setting up the webinar; Prof. Paulo Swamy and the Revd Canon Dr Stephen Spencer from the TEAC Anglican Communion Office for their support and offered so practical help; and Dr Felipe Buttelli, IECLB for the simultaneous translation he infers so magnificently throughout the webinar.

www.sei.scot

Note from Stephen Spencer: If other colleges would like to form companionship links across the Anglican Communion please get in touch.

The Mirfield Liturgical Institute

Post-Graduate Diploma and MA pathways in Worship & Liturgy
(from the University of Durham, UK)

This programme is for any theological educators or students who want to improve their skills and understanding of worship and liturgy. It is an exciting new programme leading to a post-graduate qualification which is tailored to practise and theology, answering the questions worship poses today.

Drawing on an international and ecumenical team of specialists, it will be delivered through distance learning, mostly on-line, but with an optional summer-school based in Mirfield, UK, home of the Mirfield Liturgical Institute, an integral part of The College of the Resurrection. The college has a long tradition of teaching liturgy dating back to the 1890s and the largest liturgical library in England and many other resources for teaching liturgy and worship including striking liturgical spaces.

For further information, please contact:
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TEAC Resources Bulletin

Available in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese

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South Asia in the Spotlight
Being Anglican – Learning from our History
Stewards of Creation – A hope-filled ecology
A Seminary Serving the Local Church
Education for Discipleship in a COVID World
Studying Anglican Doctrine
Reading the Bible in Context
Education for Discipleship
Introducing TEAC

Available at <https://www.anglicancommunion.org/theology/theological-education.aspx>

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