



The Anglican Communion Science Commission

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1. The Science Commission was formed in the autumn of 2021 and the list of members can be found on the Anglican Communion Website here: <https://www.anglicancommunion.org/community/commissions/anglican-communion-science-commission.aspx>
2. We are delighted to have brought together a distinguished group of senior bishops and scientists from across the Anglican Communion. The Commission has so far met virtually on two occasions on 3rd December, 2021 and 15th July, 2022. Two further meetings are planned in September and December 2022.
3. At each meeting we have received two presentations from a scientist and a bishop, each speaking about their area of expertise as well as conducting the business of the Commission.
4. Our first two meetings were building towards the Lambeth Conference and the key science and faith thread. Bishop Steven has written a full account of this here: <https://www.anglicancommunion.org/community/commissions/anglican-communion-science-commission.aspx>
5. The Science Commission was responsible for two seminars at the Lambeth Conference. The first was led by four members of the Commission and looked at the work of the Commission and the Call. The second was led by the ECLAS project and looked at practical ways of encouraging science and faith to work together. Audio recordings were made of both sessions. The seminars had good attendance (55 and 35 people respectively). The Commission also held an evening reception for Provincial Lead Bishops attended by 35 people. More than half the Provinces now have Lead Bishops on Science and we registered interest from some other Provinces during the Conference.

6. Bishop Steven presented the Lambeth Call on Science and Faith to the Lambeth Conference on behalf of the Science Commission. Professor Andrew Briggs was also able to be present for the Call session and for the two weekends of the Conference. The formal written feedback from the Call session reflected the real, positive energy in the room and in the Conference as a whole about the Call and the Commission.
7. Progress on our application to the John Templeton Foundation for a major grant to fund the Anglican Communion Science Project has been slower than anticipated. However we received the news in December that we have been awarded a start up grant which will enable us to have a small team in place from April 2023 in Oxford and in Kenya. The grant will be sufficient to fund three regional gatherings for Provincial Lead Bishops in 2023, to resource the meetings of the Commission and to draw together the main funding application. Professor Andrew Briggs was able to travel to Kenya in July to meet with a network of interested scientists centred on St. Paul's University, Limuru with a view to exploring a Global South centre for the team alongside the University of Oxford.
8. We have analysed the feedback from the Seminars and Call Sessions at the Lambeth Conference. The Lambeth Call on Science has been revised in the light of the feedback and agreed by the Science Commission.
9. In September and October we held two consultations for Provincial Lead Bishops. These built on the momentum from Lambeth, continued our work of listening, and tested the possibility of holding regional face to face meetings for the Provincial Lead Bishops in 2023.
10. Archbishop Thabo stood down as Co-Chair at the end of 2022. We are very grateful to the Archbishop for his support of the Commission. We are in the process of identifying a new Co-Chair from the Global South.
11. We are very thankful for the skill and engagement of Rachel Parry and Canon Stephen Spencer of the Anglican Communion office for their facilitation of our work.
12. A representative of the Commission, if so invited, is willing to travel to Ghana for the ACC and present the report and answer any further questions.

The Rt. Revd. Dr. Steven Croft, Bishop of Oxford

Professor Andrew Briggs