

Lampeter Interfaith Colloquium – 7-8th July 2020

Tuesday, 7 th July 2020			
10.30AM	11AM	Welcome and Introductions	
11AM	12.30PM	Session 1	<p>Decolonising Inter-Religious Studies: Global Thoughts on Engaging Debates Prof Paul Hedges, Dr Fu Yu, & Dr Emmanuel Nathan</p> <p>Emmanuel Nathan is Senior Lecturer in Biblical Studies and Comparative Theology at the Faculty of Theology and Philosophy, Australian Catholic University. He is the author of <i>Re-membering the New Covenant at Corinth</i>, and was named the inaugural Monsignor Professor Denis Edwards Visiting Scholar to the <i>Laudato Si'</i> Research Institute at Campion Hall, University of Oxford. Engaged in interfaith and ecumenical dialogue, he is a member of the Australian Council of Christians and Jews and of the Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission.</p> <p>Paul Hedges is Associate Professor in Interreligious Studies at SRP, RSIS, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. He has taught for universities on three continents, worked as a trainer or consultant with various NGOs, faith groups, and governments, and has published over a dozen books and seventy academic papers. Forthcoming books include <i>Understanding Religion: Theories and Methods for Studying Religiously Diverse Societies</i> (California University Press, 2021), and <i>Religious Hatred: Prejudice, Islamophobia, and Antisemitism in Global Context</i> (Bloomsbury, 2021). He is co-editor of <i>Interreligious Studies and Intercultural Theology</i> and editor-in-chief of <i>Interreligious Relations</i>.</p> <p>Fu Yu (familiarily known in English as Amy) is an associate professor of English at Zhejiang University City College, China. She received her Ph.D. in religion from Zhejiang University in late 2016. She is the director of the Center for Regional Studies and the head of the Business English dept. at ZUCC; an editorial board member of <i>Reading Religion</i>, a publication of the American Academy of Religion. From 2014.8 to 2016.1, She was a visiting scholar at Harvard Divinity School. She has translated several books in the field of religion. Her new book is <i>Dao De Jing: A Process Perspective</i> (Process Century Press, 2019). Her articles have appeared in peer-reviewed journals such as <i>Religious Studies</i> (China), <i>Journal of Ecumenical Studies</i> (U.S.), <i>Studies in World Christianity</i> (U.K., forthcoming), etc. Her research interest includes the cultural interaction</p>

			between China and the West, in particular 17th century Jesuit missionary enterprise in Asia.
12.30PM	1.30PM	Virtual Lunch	
1.30PM	2.30PM	Session 2	<p>Balancing the personal and the political in interfaith engagement Dr Jennifer Eggert</p> <p>Dr Jennifer Eggert is the Head of Research and Development at the Humanitarian Academy for Development in Birmingham, a charitable organisation aimed at developing the skills and learning of professionals in the international development and humanitarian sectors. Dr Eggert has worked across many fields including civic education, intercultural dialogue, community engagement, and conflict transformation.</p>
2.30PM	3PM	Break	
3PM	4PM	Session 3	<p>War, Violence, and Interfaith Study Prof Bettina Schmidt</p> <p>Professor Schmidt is a distinguished scholar in the field of the Anthropology of Religion, with research interests including Afro-Caribbean and Latin American religions, religion and identity, and aspects of religious ritual. Working at the University of Wales Trinity St David, Prof Schmidt is the current President of the British Association for the Study of Religions and the Director of the Alister Hardy Religious Experience Research Centre.</p>
4PM	4.30PM	CH Session	<p>Chin Kung Multicultural Educational Foundation Presentation Ven. Shengmiao</p> <p>Venerable Shengmiao is director of the Academy of Sinology at the University of Wales Trinity St David, and world-renowned Buddhist teacher and leader. Having travelled across the globe with the Chin Kung Multicultural Educational Foundation, Ven Shengmiao offers his wisdom and insight to the Sinology students on the Lampeter campus.</p>

Wednesday 8th July 2020			
9.30AM	10AM	Welcome and Introductions	
10AM	11AM	Session 4	<p>Race, Caste, and Religion Dr Anderson Jeremiah</p> <p>Dr Anderson Jeremiah is a Lecturer in Contemporary Christianity at Lancaster University. His research focuses on the socio-cultural implications of the shift of Christianity to the global south, as well as Christian Theology in Asia, Postcolonial Approaches to Theology, Dalit Studies, the encounter between Christianity and other Religions, and Inter-Faith Understanding. Dr Jeremiah is also a regular speaker on matters of public theology and part of the Richardson Institute for Peace Studies at Lancaster.</p>
11AM	11.30AM	Break	
11.30AM	12.30PM	Session 5	<p>Lack of Proportion is Distortion: Correcting the Lack of Religious and Interreligious Engagement in Global Citizenship Education Rev. Mike Waltner</p> <p>The Rev. Mike Waltner is currently Programme Manager of the King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue. Beyond this role at KAICIID, the Rev. Waltner is a specialist in interfaith relations, religious outreach and communications, and pioneering collaborative multi-faith programmes across the world. He has worked previously with the Interfaith Centre of New York, the International Press Institute, and the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society.</p>
12.30PM	1.30PM	Virtual Lunch	

1.30PM	2.30PM	Session 6	<p>Messy Monoliths: Interfaith in an age of 'woke' faithful identities</p> <p>Dr Amanullah De Sony</p> <p>Dr De Sony is the new Head of the Study of Religions Department at University College Cork. In his research work, Dr De Sony connects the study of Islam to the key themes of gender, ethnicity, race, and pluralism, with a particular focus in his published work on matters of gender, sexuality, and masculinity and their relation to classical and contemporary Islamic practice. In addition, his work has engaged with interfaith and multifaith social contexts around the notion of monotheism.</p>
2.30PM	3PM	Break	
3PM	4.30PM	KESS Projects Session	<p>Mental Health in Religious Communities Environmental Concerns in Religious Perspective</p> <p>Four UTWSD PhD students, funded through the Knowledge Exchange Skills Scholarship of the European Social Fund, present their research projects – dealing with mental health and environmental concerns in the Christian and Islamic religious traditions, as well as the connections between them.</p> <p>Richard Stanton, Jamilla Hekmoun, Joanna Herbert-James, Tanja Mancinelli</p>