
International Academy
of Practical Theology



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President's Newsletter, February 2010

Greetings to IAPT members:

With the New Year well underway, I am happy to bring you news of the Academy and solicit your nominations for new members for 2011.

Conference 2011

Our next biannual conference, "City of Desires, City of God," will be July 21-25, 2011 in Amsterdam. Ruard Ganzevoort is serving as host and is working in collaboration with a local planning committee. More news will be forthcoming. A conference manual has been compiled and will be updated as planning proceeds for use in future years.

Membership Nominations for 2011

I invite your nominations for new members for 2011.

Process: According to our By-Laws, members may nominate one or more persons for membership by sending me a letter of nomination, *supported and signed by another member*. Letters of nomination should (1) summarize the academic and other contributions to practical theology of the nominee and (2) include a brief *curriculum vitae* with a list of major publications and current contact information, including the nominee's mailing address, telephone and fax numbers, and email address.

Eligibility: The Academy desires members (1) who subscribe to the purposes of the Academy; (2) are researchers and scholars in the practical theological fields and related disciplines; (3) have a distinguished record of publications with regard to the foundational issues of practical theology and its subdisciplines or who have made other recognized significant contributions to practical theology; and (4) have a Ph.D., Th.D., or comparable research and scholarly degree or a certifiable demonstration of serious research and scholarly accomplishments.

Reminders: As you make nominations, I encourage you to consider underrepresented groups in terms of geographical location and gender. Generally speaking, you should nominate colleagues from institutions other than your own. I also remind you to nominate people who desire active participation. New membership only becomes effective after attending the first or second conference after nomination and requires dues payment whether or not members are able to attend a particular conference.

Publications

Work on the 2009 conference volume on Religion, Diversity, and Conflict continues. Submissions were due 15 January 2010 to Ed Foley who is serving as Conference Editor. He is joined by Series Editor Neil Pembroke, Member at Large on the Executive Committee. The book will be published by Lit-Verlag as part of its series, "International Practical Theology."

Regional Networking

We invite your help in identifying practical theologians in Africa. Many of our colleagues in Africa do not work under the banner of practical theology, but use “contextual theology” or something similar. Others who work in historic subdisciplines of practical theology, such as homiletics, religious education, liturgics, and so forth, do not necessarily refer to themselves as practical theologians. The field is also often part of theological institutes, colleges, or seminaries rather than universities. So, *if you have formal or informal contacts with practical theologians or related networks in teaching/research in the field in Africa, please send the names and contact details to Jaco Dreyer (dreyej@unisa.ac.za) by the end of March 2010*. Thank you for your help.

Finances

If you owe dues for 2010, Pam Couture will be in touch with you directly about payment.

Fundraising

Institutional contributions: If you have any ideas or suggestions for institutional fund raising, please contact Jim Poling (james.poling@garrett.edu) and Will Storrar (wstorrar@ctinquiry.org) who are leading an effort to raise funds from outside organizations for scholars with limited resources.

Member contributions: We welcome your donations at any time. There is now a link on the home page of the IAPT website for member donations to the scholarship fund to support conference participation for members without sufficient resources.

We look forward to receiving your member nominations and wish you the best in 2010!

Sincerely,

Bonnie Miller-McLemore, USA (President)

On behalf of the Executive Committee:

Jean-Guy Nadeau, Canada (Vice President)
Heather Walton, UK (Secretary)
Pam Couture, USA (Treasurer)
Jaco Dreyer, South Africa (Member at Large)
Neil Pembroke, Australia (Member at Large)
Ruard Ganzevoort, Netherlands (Program Committee Chair)