

# The Kirby Laing Institute for Christian Ethics

## Newsletter

Summer 2008

### Book Colloquium

Register for the  
KLICE Book  
Colloquium  
September 3-4

### God and Government

New project,  
new  
publications

### New Doctoral Grants Awarded

Seven high  
quality candidates  
receive KLICE  
doctoral awards

### Partner with us

Become a KLICE  
Associate

We hope you enjoy this issue of the KLICE Newsletter. Please feel free to forward it to others who may wish to see it. If you would prefer not to receive further issues, simply send an email to that effect to [administrator@tyndale.cam.ac.uk](mailto:administrator@tyndale.cam.ac.uk).

### 1. September Book Colloquium

There is still time to register for the upcoming KLICE Book Colloquium held on **3-4 September 2008**. The featured book is by Brian Brock, entitled ***Singing the Ethos of God: On the Place of Christian Ethics in Scripture*** (Eerdmans, 2007). Brian Brock lectures in moral and practical theology at the University of Aberdeen and is a member of the KLICE Advisory Council. His book is praised by Professor John Webster as 'astute, robust, spiritually charged [and] theology of a high order', and by Professor Stanley Hauerwas as 'extraordinary'. We have a distinguished line-up of speakers: Dr. Brock, Professor Hans Reinders (Amsterdam), Dr. Bernd Wannewetsch (Oxford) and Professor Gordon Wenham (Trinity College, Bristol). Click [here](#) for a booking form or contact Tania Raiola on 01223 566602 or [administrator@tyndale.cam.ac.uk](mailto:administrator@tyndale.cam.ac.uk).

### 2. Theos/KLICE 'God and Government' project under way

The project entitled 'God and Government', undertaken jointly with the public theology think-tank *Theos*, is making excellent progress. The first phase is the commissioning of a book of essays on a theology of government, written by specialists but accessible to a wide audience of politicians, activists and others. The editors are Nick Spencer, Director of Studies at *Theos* and Jonathan Chaplin. Contributors include Bishop Tom Wright, Professor Julian Rivers, Clifford Longley, Nigel Wright and Philip Booth. The book title is *God and Government* and will be published by SPCK in early 2009. Significant funding from foundations has been secured for the project. The second phase will involve distributing complementary copies of the book to many Christians working in and around Parliament, linked to a series of public events. Alongside the project, Jonathan Chaplin has also written a new report for *Theos* under the title 'Talking God in Government', on the use of religious reasoning in politics. It will appear later this year. Visit the *Theos* website at <http://www.theosthinktank.org>.

### 3. Doctoral Support Programme

The objective of the KLICE doctoral grant programme is to support young scholars working in key areas of Christian ethics both by financial help and with intellectual and pastoral support. Three lively Research Seminars were held in 2007/8 at which five grantees presented their research. At one, doctoral student Stephen Backhouse discussed his paper *Red, White, Blue...and Brown: Citizens, Patriots and the Prime Minister* (Theos, 2007) (accessible via the *Theos* website). Visiting speakers included Dr. Jonathan Burnside (Bristol), who spoke on 'Biblical Law and Christian Ethics', and Professor Nigel Biggar who discussed his recent Inaugural Lecture as Regius Professor of Moral and Pastoral Theology at Oxford University. Two grantees – Andy Draycott and Sean Doherty – have completed their three-year programmes and are close to submitting their theses. Sean Doherty recently published a *Grove Booklet* entitled 'Foundations for Medical Ethics'. In 2008/9 KLICE will continue to support four existing grantees and has also selected three very able new grantees. Our seven grantees are:

**Guido De Graaff**, a third-year doctoral student at the University of Oxford working on political theology under Dr. Bernd Wannewetsch. Guido continues to serve as Conference Secretary of the Society for the Study of Christian Ethics.

**Katherine Hogg**, a first-year doctoral student currently in the process of transferring to Leeds University and working on the theology of conflict resolution. Katherine also works part-time for Christian Aid in Leeds alongside her studies.

**Joshua Hordern**, a first-year doctoral student at Edinburgh University working on political theology under Professor Oliver O'Donovan. Joshua has already exercised a range of leadership roles while an undergraduate at Oxford, in several voluntary agencies, and as a White House intern. He also works for Trinity Forum Europe.

**Anthony Kaniaru**, a first-year doctoral student at Durham University working on medical ethics under Dr. Robert Song. Anthony has a proven track record of Christian leadership in Kenya and plans to initiate much-needed research and education on medical ethics in his home country of Kenya upon his return.

**Hilary Marlow** is employed as a postdoctoral researcher by the Faraday Institute for Science and Religion, Cambridge University, under a three-year project entitled 'Hope for Creation' jointly run with KLICE. She completed her PhD in Old Testament at the University of Cambridge in 2007 and is now working on environmental theology in the Old Testament. She is a member of the Cambridge branch of 'Arocha', a Christian environmental organisation.

**Jonathan Moo** is employed as a postdoctoral researcher by the Faraday Institute for Science and Religion, Cambridge University, under a three-year project entitled 'Hope for Creation' jointly run with KLICE. He completed his PhD in New Testament at the University of Cambridge in 2008 and is now working on eschatology and the environment. He has a degree in Wildlife Management, and is due to take up a faculty position at Whitworth College in the USA in 2010.

**Jonathan Rowe**, a fourth year part-time doctoral student at the University of St Andrews. Jonathan is researching moral dilemmas and Old Testament ethics under Dr Nathan McDonald. Jonathan also lectures part time in Missiology and Ethics at the Seminario Evangelico Unido de Teologia in Madrid.

Thrice-yearly Research Seminars will continue to be held in Cambridge starting in September 2008, to which several other doctoral students working in cognate areas of Christian ethics are invited.

For further information on the doctoral grant programme, consult the [KLICE website](#). Application forms and deadlines for the 2009/10 round will be posted by October of this year.

#### **4. Tyndale Fellowship Ethics & Social Theology Study Group**

This year's meeting of the Ethics & Social Theology Study Group (EST) of the Tyndale Fellowship was held jointly with the Religion, Culture and Communication Group (RCC) under the theme 'Political Theology'. Jonathan Chaplin serves as secretary to the EST Group. He delivered the 'Tyndale Lecture' for the EST Group this year, entitled 'The Bible, the State and Religious Diversity: Theological Foundations for Principled Pluralism'.

Other speakers on the programme were:

- Calvin Smith, 'Sons of Abraham: The Politics of Christian Faith in Israel and the Palestinian Territories'
- Douglas Knight, 'The Church, the State and the Archbishop: the Fretful Audiences of Rowan Williams'
- Joshua Hordern, 'Affection and Institutions in Theo-Political Social Life'
- Jonathan Burnside, 'Passover and Asylum: the Relationship Between Narrative, Law and National Identity'
- Jeff Bailey, 'Engaged Particularity: Interfaith Scriptural Reasoning and the Politics of Small Achievements'
- David McIlroy, 'The Right Reason for Caesar to Confess Christ as Lord: O'Donovan and Arguments for a Christian State'
- Stephen Backhouse, 'A Kierkegaardian Critique of Christian Nationalism'

Information on how to access some of these presentations (and some from last year's meeting) is available on the ['Ethics & Social Theology' page](#) of the KLICE website.

For information on Tyndale Fellowship Study Groups, visit the ['Events' page](#) of the website.

## 5. Ethics in Brief

The first ten issues of *Ethics in Brief* (and most issues of the former *Whitefield Briefings*) are now accessible at no charge from our website [here](#). Recent or forthcoming issues address:

- Multiculturalism (Jonathan Chaplin, with a response by Jenny Taylor)
- Greed as idolatry (Brian Rosner)
- Knowledge and obedience in the Bible (Justin Thacker)
- Ethics of Management (Maarten Verkerk)
- Environmental ethics (Bob White)
- Ethics of Embryology (TBA)

Details of how to subscribe to *Ethics in Brief* (£15 per year for six issues) are available on the website [here](#), or from Tania Raiola (details below).

## 6. Director's Activities

In the first part of 2008 the Director has spoken for a variety of audiences.

- He gave a talk on 'Has Multiculturalism Had Its Day?' at the West Yorkshire School of Christian Studies, Leeds, in December 2007, and at the annual conference of the Association for Reformational Philosophy in the Netherlands in January 2008.
- A version of this talk appeared under the same title in *Ethics in Brief* (Spring 2008).
- He gave a paper on 'The Possibility of Christian Public Reasoning' at the annual Conference of the Society for the Study of Theology, Durham University, April 2008.
- He spoke on 'The Theology of Principled Pluralism' for an MA Research Seminar at Oak Hill College in April 2008.
- He presented a paper on 'Civil Society and Christian Social Pluralism' at a conference on 'Civil Society and Sphere Sovereignty' organised by the Kuyper Centre, Princeton Theological Seminary, April 2008.
- He convened an 'Author Meets Critics' panel at the Henry Center Symposium on Religion and Politics, Calvin College, Michigan, April 2008. The book under discussion was K D Johnson, *Theology, Political Theory and Pluralism* (Cambridge 2007). The panellists will publish a combined review article on the book in *Evangelical Review of Society and Politics*.
- He prepared a paper on 'The Political Theory of Unsustainability' for a Faraday Institute Writers' Workshop on 'The Root Causes of Unsustainability' in June 2008.

He has also recently published a range of articles.

- His inaugural lecture as Director, 'Speaking from Faith in Democracy', has been published in *Evangelical Review of Society and Politics* 2/1 (2008), 16-31.
- In February 2008 he published an article 'Law, Faith and Freedom: a critical appreciation of Archbishop Williams' Lecture', on the *Fulcrum* website. This has now been expanded into a full-length article entitled 'Legal Monism and Religious Pluralism: Rowan Williams on Law, Religion and Loyalty', due to appear shortly in *International Journal of Public Theology*.
- His chapter entitled 'State and Civil Society: the Neo-Calvinist Perspective' appeared in Jeanne Heffernan Schindler, ed., *Christianity and Civil Society: Catholic and Neo-Calvinist Perspectives* (Lanham, MD: Lexington, 2008), 67-96.
- His paper 'Representing a People: Oliver O'Donovan on Democracy and Tradition', delivered at the KLICE Book Colloquium in July 2007, has been published in *Political Theology* 9/3 (2008), 299-313, together with papers by Professor Nigel Biggar and Professor Ben Quash also delivered at the Colloquium.

Among his other activities were:

- He attended a conference on 'Religion and Secularism' at Cumberland Lodge, Windsor, January 2008, and another on the same theme organised by The Religion and Secularism Network based at Cambridge University, in June 2008.
- He served as External Examiner for a PhD on the theology of law by David McIlroy, Spurgeon's College, January 2008.
- He continued to work on editing a book entitled *God and Global Order: Religion and American Foreign Policy*.

Further information on the Director's publication is available on the [Director's page](#) of the website.

## 7. Become a 'KLICE Associate'

If you find the work of KLICE valuable and wish to partner with us in presenting a credible Christian ethical voice in public life, consider becoming a 'KLICE Associate'. Associates pay a minimum of £60 per year and receive a subscription to *Ethics in Brief*, invitations to public events, discounted conference fees, discounts on KLICE publications, access to the Tyndale House Library, and the Newsletter. For more information, visit the ['Support' page](#).

Visit the KLICE website at [www.klice.co.uk](http://www.klice.co.uk) or [www.tyndale.cam.ac.uk/klice](http://www.tyndale.cam.ac.uk/klice)

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