

FROM A LOFT



December 2004



FROM THE DIRECTOR

Greetings to you all

The end of the year seems to have come upon us suddenly (or do I say that every year?).

I trust that for all of you it has been a satisfying year and that your results will reflect a year of growing knowledge and understanding and insight.

For us at EIDTS it has been encouraging to have continued our contact with students and staff who are committed and enthusiastic in their work. It has also been encouraging to have completed our Charters and Profiles documentation and to have both of these approved and accepted.

In this edition of From A Loft you will find information on our plans for the Graduation Ceremony. We expect to have some nine students graduating in April and hope that others will be able to join us to celebrate that occasion.

You will also find information on our 2005 Residential Schools and some new courses that will be offered in the coming year. I trust that as you plan for 2005 you will consider the possibility of attending a Residential School.



May I wish you all a very happy Christmas, a good holiday, and we look forward to a continuing association in 2005.

Bruce Hansen

RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS

Theologies of the Hebrew Scriptures

Tutor Keith Carley

6.00pm Friday 28 January to

5.00pm Monday 31 January

St John's College,

Meadowbank, Auckland.

Reading Women in the Bible: From Eve to Mary Magdalene

Tutor Judith McKinlay

1.00pm Tuesday 1 February to

mid-day Friday 4 February.

Community of the Sacred Name,

Tuam Street, Christchurch.

Introduction to Pastoral Theology

Tutor Mary Caygill

Mid-day Tuesday 14 June to

5.00pm Thursday 16 June.

St John's College,

Meadowbank, Auckland.



EIDTS GRADUATION 2005

NEW COURSES

EIDTS continues to review and re-write its courses to keep abreast of developments and opportunities in the study of theology.

In recent years Keith Carley has written and tutored the Course in “Theologies of the Hebrew Scriptures”, while Mary Caygill has written and tutored “Introduction to Pastoral Theology” and Judith McKinlay has written and tutored “Reading Women in the Bible: From Eve to Mary Magdalene.”

Each of these courses will be offered in 2005 and will include a Residential School.

In 2004 John Salmon re-wrote our course in “Christian Ethics” and gave that course a “trial run”. This will now be offered in 2005.

The Rev Dr Clive Pearson, Associate Principal at the United Theological College in Sydney has been re-writing our courses in Theology. In 2003 the first course “Introduction to Theology” was offered with Bryden Black as the tutor. In 2005 the second course “Christ and Creation” will be offered with Janet Marsh as the tutor.

Peter Donovan has “updated” our course in “World Religions” and we will be using a new text book for that course. This will be offered in 2005 and includes a module looking at issues relevant to our present world situation.

Gillian Watkin is re-writing the “Christian Spirituality” course and we hope to have that available for 2005.

Other courses that have been written (or re-written) in recent years include “Ministry With Children” (Mary Petersen), “Music and Worship” (Colin Gibson), Feminist Theologies” (Kath Rushton), and Faith and Learning” (Frank Hanson).

The Graduation Ceremony will be held in the Margaret Wood Study Centre at Bishop Julius Hall, 90 Waimairi Road, Christchurch at 7.30pm on Friday 1 April 2005

Speaker: The Rev'd Dr Robyn McPhail, immediate past chairperson of EBTS.

As a distance (and “scattered”) institution there are very few opportunities for us to gather to celebrate “togetherness”.

We hope that as many as possible will make the effort to attend the graduation and to share with our tutors, Board, and graduands on this significant occasion.

The ceremony will conclude with supper and the opportunity to meet informally.

EVALUATIONS

With their 2004 results students will receive a Course Evaluation form.

We ask you to attend to this at your earliest convenience and return it to the Academic Registrar.

This information is important for our NZQA accreditation and also to assist us to review and update our course material and delivery.



BOARD NEWS



With the completion of her work as Ministry Educator of the Diocese of Christchurch Jenny Dawson has resigned from her position as an Anglican representative on our Board.

We wish Jenny well as she takes up her new role as vicar of Pauatahanui parish in Wellington and thank her for her contribution to the Board.

We are pleased that Jenny will continue as Assessor for MM210 "Leadership in Ministry.



We are sorry to farewell Erice Fairbrother from the Ecumenical Board. Erice brought a valuable contribution to our work through her role as Director of the Distance Education Formation and Training Unit within the Anglican Church.

Erice leaves us to take up the post of Missioner to Hastings and Districts within the Diocese of Waiapu.

We wish her well in her new role which will be a "pioneering" position within the Anglican Church.



At the Annual Conference of the Methodist Church of New Zealand held in Auckland in November, John Salmon was elected as President Elect of the Methodist Church.

We wish John well as he prepares to take up the position of President at the Conference in Christchurch in November 2005.



We welcome Geoff King who joins the Board as a representative of the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand to replace Robyn McPhail who has moved to Keri Keri.

Geoff is Minister of the Knox Parish in Christchurch and brings experience from both school and military chaplaincies.



With the retirement of Jenny Dawson and Erice Fairbrother the Anglican Church has now appointed Jenny Wilkins of Christchurch and Chris Honore of Kaikohe as its representatives on the Board.

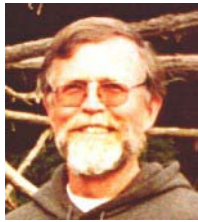


We welcome Jenny and Chris as they take up these positions.

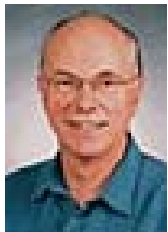
TUTORS



We are pleased to hear that Judith McKinlay's book "Reframing Her : Biblical Women in Postcolonial Focus" has been accepted for publication by the Sheffield Press and will be available within the next few weeks.



Phil Dyer has produced a further book " Echoes of Wisdom: Reflections Based on the Psalms of David". This book of reflections and meditations is published by the Tawera Press.



Our congratulations go to Douglas Pratt who was conferred with a BA in German from the Waikato University at its graduation ceremony in October. Twenty years after gaining his PhD in theology from St Andrews University Doug has now graduated in a new field of study.

CHARTERS AND PROFILES



Over the past two years the Board has been occupied in writing the documentation for the Charters and Profiles process that the Government has introduced as a basis for evaluating and funding the work of education providers.

Last year we were pleased to have our Charter approved for a term of five years. The maximum term given to private providers was seven years and we were pleased to receive this accreditation.

On 6 November this year we were advised by the Tertiary Education Commission that our Profiles documentation has now been approved and our funding for 2005 is confirmed.

Whilst we have a five year term for our Charter, the Profiles documentation has to be submitted annually and covers a "sliding" three year period.

We are pleased with the outcome of this process and

express our thanks to Graeme Nicholas who has been responsible for all the "spade-work" and has advised and guided the Board through the preparation and writing of these documents.

