

ASSOCIATION OF PRACTICAL THEOLOGY IN OCEANIA (APTO)

in association with the Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture

APTO

CONFERENCE

26-29 NOVEMBER 2015

Explorations in Practical Theology:
**Faith and the Political
in a Post-Secular Age**



AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY • CANBERRA



Association of Practical Theology in Oceania (APTO)
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www.unihouse.anu.edu.au

For details of the 2015 conference please see www.apto.asn.au

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CONFERENCE THEME:

Resurgence in religious consciousness has become a feature of contemporary public life. Such cultural shift experienced globally, is characterised as a religious-political milieu that some scholars are beginning to describe as post-secular.

The 2015 APTO conference will explore this emerging phenomenon which points to an increasing connection between the 'two cities,' the temporal-political and the faith-mystical. Key themes for the conference will include: the increasing prevalence in religions of a fundamentalist and radicalised minority; the future benefits of inter-religious dialogue; the ideal of a university; together with the value of dialogue between secular reason and notions of religious emancipation.

The conference will also explore some of the positive aspects of the return of the sacred in popular culture, such as the potential of religion to inform the universal search for values, to be an advocate for the marginalised, while at the same time challenge some of the narrow secular and materialistic assumptions of contemporary Western culture, that would confine reality to what can be seen and measured.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Towards a Practical Political Theology: a provisional typology of public faith in a post-secular age



Rev. Dr Andrew Cameron is the Director of St Mark's National Theological Centre in Barton, ACT where he teaches in theological ethics, and political and public theology. His research interest in the relationship between emotional valuation and ethical deliberation has led to various modes of public theological engagement with the Anglican Church of Australia, including chairing the Social Issues Executive of the Anglican Diocese of Sydney from 2002 to 2014.

Discerning the place for the prophetic voice and pragmatic co-operation of the Churches in the great moral questions of the Age



Professor Frank Brennan, SJ is a Jesuit priest, professor of law at Australian Catholic University and adjunct professor at the Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, the Australian National University College of Law and the National Centre for Indigenous Studies. In May 2015 he returned to Australia, having spent a year as the Gasson Professor at the Boston College Law School. An Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) for services to Aboriginal Australians, particularly as an advocate in the areas of law, social justice and reconciliation, he was the recipient of the Migration Institute of Australia's 2013 Distinguished Service to Immigration Award. His latest books are *No Small Change: The Road to Recognition for Indigenous Australia* (University of Queensland Press, 2015) and *Amplifying That Still, Small Voice* (ATF Theology, 2015).

Post Secularity and Australian Catholics



Dr Bob Dixon is the Director of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Pastoral Research Office. He has a PhD in sociology from Monash University as well as degrees in science, theology and education. He is the author of *The Catholic community in Australia* (2005) and a co-author of several books and reports including *Catholics who have stopped attending Mass* (2007) and *Woman and Man: One in Christ Jesus: Report on the Participation of Women in the Catholic Church in Australia* (1999). He is an Honorary Professor at Australian Catholic University and a member of the Boards of the Christian Research Association and of NCLS Research.

Between a Rock and a Hard Place: Public Theology in a Post-Secular Age

(via videoconference)



Professor Elaine Graham is the Grosvenor Research Professor of Practical Theology at The University of Chester, UK. Elaine is known widely for her scholarship and is often introduced as one of the world's leading figures in practical and public theology. Her latest publication is *Between a Rock and a Hard Place: Public Theology in a Post-Secular Age* (SCM Press, 2013).

Faith and the Political: Prime Minister Tony Abbott



Emeritus Professor John Warhurst AO is an Emeritus Professor of Political Science at the Australian National University and a columnist for the Canberra Times newspaper and Eureka Street magazine. He has taught and published widely on religion and politics in Australia. In 2010, when Kevin Rudd was Prime Minister, he was a Research Fellow at the Museum of Australian Democracy on a project entitled "The Faith of Australian Prime Ministers".

Sociality: More than One, Every One



Dr Terry Veling teaches at St. Paul's Theological College, Australian Catholic University, Brisbane. He also taught for many years in the United States and was a Golda Meir Fellow at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. His most recent book is titled *For You Alone: Emmanuel Levinas and the Answerable Life* (Cascade, 2014).

Further Keynote Speakers to be announced

APTO CONFERENCE 2015 – CALL FOR PAPERS

Members of the Association of Practical Theology in Oceania and the Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, together with colleagues of associated organisations are cordially invited to submit a proposal for a paper to be presented as part of the 2015 conference. Proposals are particularly welcome that directly address the conference theme from various disciplines and perspectives and that contribute to the broad work of practical theology. Papers of interest will draw upon theological and political issues within the context of Oceania, including questions relating to indigenous cultures

and spirituality, the rise of radical atheism, juxtapositioned with religious fundamentalism and the increasing discourse on post-secularity. Relevant subjects also include issues relating to dialogue between ecclesiology and the social sciences, together with questions on environmental ethics, political theology, economics, and the theology of liberation.

Abstracts to be sent to the Secretary of APTO, Zachariah Duke by 2 October 2015: secretary@apto.asn.au

For more details on submitting an abstract, please see www.apto.asn.au

Conference Fees

Registration	Amount
Full Conference Registration	AU\$230.00 per person
Single Day Attendance Registration	Thursday November 26 AU\$50.00 per person
	Friday November 27 AU\$100.00 per person
	Saturday November 28 AU\$100.00 per person
	Sunday November 29 AU\$50.00 per person
Single Session Attendance Registration	AU\$20.00 per person, per session
Conference Dinner (Saturday November 28)	AU\$50.00 per person

(please refer to Registration Form overleaf for specific inclusions)

Accommodation is available at ANU University House for **AU\$160.00 per night including breakfast**. A range of other accommodation options are available - please see www.apto.asn.au for more details.

A limited number of student and unwaged conference fees available, please contact The Secretary, Zachariah Duke, secretary@apto.asn.au

Conference Registration Form

APTO Conference • 26th – 29th November 2015

Full Name (incl. title)

Preferred Name

Postal Address

Suburb

State

Postcode

Country

Telephone

Email

Institution

Dietary Requirements (circle):

Diabetic

Gluten Intolerant

Vegetarian

Other

Will you require accommodation at ANU University House? If so, which nights? 26th 27th 28th 29th

REGISTRATION	DATES & INCLUSION	AMOUNT	TOTAL
Full Registration	Thursday November 26 – Sunday November 29 (inclusive of morning teas, lunches, afternoon teas and full conference attendance – no breakfast, dinner or accommodation included)	AU\$230.00	
Day Registration	Thursday November 26 (inclusive of afternoon tea and conference attendance on Thursday November 26 only – no breakfast, dinner or accommodation included)	AU\$50.00	
	Friday November 27 (inclusive of morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea and conference attendance on Friday November 27 only – no breakfast, dinner or accommodation included)	AU\$100.00	
	Saturday November 28 (inclusive of morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea and conference attendance on Saturday November 28 only – no breakfast, dinner or accommodation included)	AU\$100.00	
	Sunday November 29 (inclusive of morning tea, lunch and conference attendance on Sunday November 29 only – no breakfast or accommodation included)	AU\$50.00	
Formal Conference Dinner	Saturday November 28	AU\$50.00	
Accommodation per night (including breakfast)		AU\$160.00	
GRAND TOTAL			

Contact the Treasurer at: treasurer@apto.asn.au if you are interested in attending a single session only.

PAYMENT METHODS (no cash, credit card or 'pay at the conference' payments)

BY ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER (please contact the Treasurer to make payments from a country other than Australia)

BANK Archdiocesan Development Fund (CBA)

BSB NUMBER 064 786

ACCOUNT NUMBER 519220100

ACCOUNT NAME Association of Practical Theology in Oceania

Please include tax invoice number/your surname as reference

Send Remittance Advice to: treasurer@apto.asn.au

BY CHEQUE

Copy this registration form and mail with your cheque to:

Association of Practical Theology in Oceania,

C/- The Broken Bay Institute

Attention: Zachariah Duke

PO Box 662,

PENNANT HILLS

NSW 1715 Australia

Please complete this form and forward it to:

Post: Association of Practical Theology in Oceania,

C/- The Broken Bay Institute

Attention: **Zachariah Duke** PO Box 662, PENNANT HILLS, NSW 1715 Australia

Email: treasurer@apto.asn.au

Registrations close on Friday, 13 November 2015

• Cancellations prior to this date will incur a AU\$50.00 processing fee. Cancellations after this date are non-refundable. Registration enquiries to The Secretary Zachariah Duke, secretary@apto.asn.au. A tax invoice can be provided on request and a receipt will be issued after payment is tendered.

• APTO reserves the right to alter, amend or cancel all or any of the arrangements contained in the program and is not responsible for attendees' transport or accommodation.