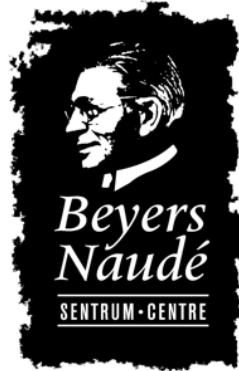


BEYERS NAUDÉ CENTRE FOR PUBLIC THEOLOGY



ANNUAL REPORT 2012



FAKULTEIT TEOLOGIE
FACULTY *of* THEOLOGY
sol iustitiae illustra nos

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MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR PROF NICO KOOPMAN

It is wonderful to table a report like this. This report reflects the vast range of high quality activities of the Beyers Naudé Centre for Public Theology (BNC) during 2012. All these activities were carried out in the context of a centre that does not operate with even one single fulltime staff member. A sincere word of gratitude, therefore, right at the start to all who are involved with the centre and who contribute to the success story of the BNC. They include faculty staff members, especially Ms Helette van der Westhuizen, Rev Liena Hoffmann, Ms Marieke Brand, Prof Dirkie Smit, Dr Len Hansen, Prof Robert Vosloo, Dr Murray Coetzee, Ms Veronica Schmidt and Mr Howard Ruiters. We also thank the BNC researchers, our local and international partners, our funders, and also the encouraging members of the Management Committee of the BNC.

The various activities of the BNC reflect the vision and mission of the BNC. At a recent strategic planning session it was confirmed that the BNC fulfills a role of:

- facilitation of intra-, inter-, and trans-disciplinary research and discussions on a variety of public themes;
- mediation of conflicting positions on contentious public issues;
- enabling and empowerment of faith communities with regard to their role in public life
- advancing discussion and dialogue with individuals and institutions of public opinion-formation and policy-making in various spheres of life;
- impacting upon and contributing to the transformation of public life.

We continue to believe that through these programmes and activities some local and international impact had been made with regard to above-mentioned roles. One example of this impact was the fact that the BNC had been requested by church leaders in the Western Cape to lead the process of drafting a policy document regarding church and government cooperation. This document was drafted at the request of the Western Cape premier, and it was tabled by the BNC director to a joint meeting of the Western Cape Church leaders and the Western Cape cabinet in 2012. It was unanimously adopted as the guiding document for church and government cooperation in the Western Cape.

The work of the BNC also continues to impact upon the core academic activities of the faculty, namely research, community interaction and teaching and learning.

The Unit for Law & Religion will be officially launched soon. The Academic Planning Committee of the US has indicated that approval for the establishment of units within existing centres like the BNC need only be given by the Management Committee of the Centre. Cooperation with the dean of the Faculty of Law cooperates enthusiastically with the Unit.

We lastly mention some staff developments:

We mourn the death of colleague Dr Gerrit Brand. He was heading the faith and science programme of the BNC.

The faculty manager, Rev Liena Hoffman, is now heading the finances of the BNC.

Ms Helette van der Westhuizen had been appointed in a fulltime position in the broader faculty.

Ms Veronica Schmidt is serving as administrative person in the BNC on an ad hoc basis. Some more permanent arrangements are currently discussed, namely the possibility of appointing an administrative person for the various centres of the faculty.

FUNERAL: ILSÉ HEDWIG NAUDÉ – 1913 - 2011



Ilse Naudé, wife of Beyers Naudé, died of a heart attack on Thursday 28 December 2011. She was 98. Her funeral took place at the DR Church Aasvoëlkop in Northcliff, Johannesburg, on Saturday 7 January 2012. Murray Coetzee attended the funeral on behalf of the BNC.

Bogemelde begrafnis is deur my bygewoon as verteenwoordiger van die BN Sentrum en graag berig ek soos volg daaroor:

Dit was vir my 'n voorreg om hierdie besondere begrafnis by te woon – beide in my persoonlike hoedanigheid maar dan veral namens die BNS.

Dr André Bartlett het my genooi om by hom en sy gade in die pastorie van die Ned Geref Gemeente van Aasvoëlkop tuis te gaan. Hulle het my tuis laat voel en aan huis kon ek verskeie persone ontmoet met wie ek gesprekke gevoer het, nie net oor Oom Bey en Tannie Ilse nie, maar ook oor die BNS se werksaamhede.

Dr Bartlett het die verrigtinge op 'n voortreflike wyse hanteer en Miga 6:8 as teks vir die rede gebruik. Sy boodskap het die besondere karaktereenskappe van Tannie Ilse beklemtoon ten opsigte van haar lewe as toegewyde gelowige, as huweliksmaat en moeder en stryder vir die Koninkryk van God en Sy geregtigheid. Tannie Ilse het voor haar afsterwe versoek dat die huldeblyke op haar begrafnis beperk moet word tot een of twee persone. Haar oudste seun, Johann Naudé, het 'n treffende huldeblyk gelewer waarmee een en elk teenwoordig hulself kon vereenselwig. Haar jongste seun, Herman Naudé, het almal teenwoordig bedank vir hul ondersteuning in 'n tyd van hartseer en droefheid. Hy het die instansies wat op een of ander wyse hul meelewing betoon het, bedank en ook spesiale melding gemaak van die BNS.

Na afloop van die diens is al die teenwoordiges genooi om verversings te geniet in die kerkzaal. By hierdie geleentheid kon ek die meelewing van beide myself en die BNS met al die Naudé-kindere betoon en, soos deur Nico Koopman versoek, 'n toekomstige afspraak reël met Lisel Naudé in die Kaap. Dit was ook moontlik vir my om met Johann reëlings te tref om die outeursregte van die Ilse Naudé-versameling te verkry.

Ek was bevoorreg dat Horst Kleinschmidt my aan verskeie persone voorgestel het wat by die Christelike Instituut (CI) of by die persoonlike lewe van Oom Bey en Tannie Ilse betrokke was. Onder die persone was daar ook etlike besoekers van Nederland. Hulle was deur die bank aangenaam verras en dankbaar oor die werk wat in die BNS gedoen word en het hulle bereidwilligheid getoon om onderhoude toe te staan en/of dokumente in verband met die CI en Oom Bey aan die BNS te skenk.

By hierdie geleentheid het Horst my ook voorgestel aan personeellede van die Kagiso Trust. Hulle het ook hul waardering uitgespreek oor die werk en hul persoonlike bande met die BNS en het die vertrouwe uitgespreek dat hierdie bande in die toekoms versterk mag word.

*Murray Coetzee
10 Januarie 2012*

PARTNERSHIPS

FREE UNIVERSITY, AMSTERDAM AND MKAR UNIVERSITY, NIGERIA

This trilateral partnership between the Free University, Amsterdam (IRTI), Mkar University, Nigeria and Stellenbosch University, South Africa (Beyers Naudé Centre) has existed since 2007.

A collection of papers from the joint project on *Religions and the Common Good in Pluralistic Societies* were published as a supplement to the NGTT 2012(53). Joseph Antyo, Godwin Akper, Martien Brinkman, Eddy van der Borgh and Jan Nieder-Heitmann were the editors.

EVANGELICAL ACADEMIES: ARNOLDSHAIN & BAD BOLL, GERMANY

This informal partnership with the Evangelical Academies focuses on the overhead theme of *Gender Equality*.

Future collaboration will be determined by the ongoing interest from the parties and the availability of ad hoc funds.

KERK IN ACTIE, THE NETHERLANDS

SKLAS CONFERENCE: BERGKROON, WELLINGTON

This was indeed another very successful conference which is part of the collaboration of the Beyers Naudé Centre for Public Theology, the *Sinodale Komissie vir Leer en Aktuele Sake* (SKLAS) of the Cape Synod of the Uniting Reformed Church, and the main sponsor of the programme, Kerk in Actie.

The annual Congregations and Public Life conference took place at the Bergkroon Resort near Wellington in the Western Cape from 27 – 29 February 2012. The theme was *Reformed Congregations and Democracy*. Two members (i.e. pastors, church council members, youth or women) from each of the 31 presbyteries of the Cape Regional Synod were invited to attend the conference.

The programme consisted of the following topics:

- *Understanding democracy* - Prof Amanda Gouws, professor of political science at Stellenbosch University;
- *Church, democracy and party politics* - Rev Courtney Sampson, Western Cape head of the Independent Electoral Commission;
- *The state of democracy in Africa* - Rev Derrick Marco;
- *Democracy and economic liberation* - Rev Peter Grove, assessor of the Cape Regional Synod of URCSA;
- *Christocracy and democracy in South Africa today* - Prof Nico Koopman;
- *Democracy and homosexual citizens and believers* - Rev Judith Kotze, Rev Michelle Boonzaaier and Mr Abé Petersen of Integrating and Affirmative Ministries (I AM);
- *Democracy and social decay* - Rev Stephen Pedro;
- *Democracy and The Confession of Belhar, 1986* - panel discussion: Rev Lucas Plaatjie, moderator of the Cape Regional Synod of URCSA, dr Mary-Anne Plaatjies Van Huffel,

Assessor of the General Synod of URCSA, and dr Charles Flaendorp, chairperson of the Curatorium of the Cape Synod of URCSA .

The programme was concluded with an information session led by Rev Peter Grove on the *Belhar Theological Forum*, a body to be established with the clear objective of developing leadership in URCSA.



The conference was well received and participants commented positively:

- *Very good relevant topics to the context of our country;*
- *The programme was impressive and well-organized;*
- *A conference that really added value to the discourse of how democracy impacted on the lives of our congregations.*

Delegates were challenged to take responsibility for organizing smaller conferences in their respective presbyteries, thereby stimulating further discussion of the theme.

VISIT TO OFFICES OF KERK IN ACTIE

Prof Nico Koopman paid a visit to the offices of Kerk in Actie in Utrecht on 2 November 2012 to report on the progress of the project, and to discuss possibilities for future collaboration and funding. A new proposal was submitted with the following foci for 2013 to 2015:

2013: Law and democracy (Heidelberg Catechism 450 years old in 2013)

2014: Social solidarity

2015: Freedom and responsibility (preparing for 500 years Reformation celebrations in 2017)

VISIT TO SANTPOORT CONGREGATION

Ms Hannie Luiten, fellow worker at Kerk in Actie, organised a visit by Prof Nico Koopman to Santpoort-Noord Dorpskerk, one of the congregations who support the activities of the Beyers Naudé Centre. Prof Koopman led the morning service and gave a presentation on the BNC afterwards. Rev Henk Reefhuis reported on the visit in the church newsletter:

Bij de diensten -I.

De oogstdankdienst was een feest met verschillende dimensies: oogstdankdienst, kinderdienst, werelddiakonaat, wereldwinkel. Tanja, Fancisca en Eline schikten de gaven die u royaal meebracht elegant op de tafel met de hoorn van overvloed. Toen prof Koopman de kerkruimte kwam verkennen voelde hij de sfeer van rust en harmonie, zoals hij na aandachtig rondwandelen zei. Ik was al om kwart voor negen in de kerk met onze gastvoorganger van het Beyers Naudé Centrum in Stellenbosch, Zuid-Afrika. De vraag van Coba 'Koffie, thee, waar kan ik u blij mee maken?' ervoer hij meteen als een complete bevestiging van wat we in de kerk aan het doen zijn. Intussen waren organist Jasper en cantor Antje er ook al om Nkosi sikelel' en het lied uit de bundel Hoop voor alle volken te oefenen: Waar twee of drie te samen zijn. Voor de zekerheid had ik tolk Ingrid Glorie (collega-docent Nederlands van Els en ook drie jaar in Stellenbosch gewerkt) gevraagd om het Afrikaans en Engels van de spreker in het Nederlands te vertalen. Dat had ze geheel belangeloos gedaan, zodat iedereen in de kerk de voorbereide en vertaalde preek in handen kon hebben. (En ook hij voegde natuurlijk vrijelijk sprekend allerlei toe, zoals uw ondergetekende dienstwillige voorganger dat ook gewend is te doen.) De meeste mensen konden het Afrikaans met zijn vir en baije goed verstaan, ook na de dienst, zo bleek bij de powerpointpresentatie. Ingrid bediende de computer. Pas aan het eind, toen Koopman wat sneller, dus in gewoon conversatietempo sprak over de vele soorten van werkzaamheden van het BNC, bleek dat een tolk toch niet overbodig zou zijn geweest zonder de aantekeningen op het projectiescherm. Kern van de preek was, dat de opstanding van Christus niet alleen door het geloof alleen wordt gekend maar door de hoop alleen in al zijn dynamiek wordt ervaren en gevierd. Hoop is een onmisbaar in een werelddeel waar ondanks de toenemende welvaart van honderdduizenden nog miljoenen in hopeloze armoede leven. Over het realistische karakter van die hoop sprak hij, dat het geen dagdromerij of wishful thinking is maar oog heeft voor de tragiek van mensenlevens. Een realistische hoop die getuige is van de tegenwoordigheid van Gods Geest in ons menselijk leven. Hoop, die responsief is, ingaat op de vraag naar wat er nodig is en antwoord geeft. Zoals ook wij in Santpoort vragen naar het werk van het BNC en antwoorden: Hoop-in-Actie zoals prof Russel Botman, de rector magnificus van Stellenbosch dat had genoemd. En die hoop is ook 'resilient', zoals Koopman in het Engels omschreef, 'veerkrachtig' werd dat heel treffend in de Nederlandse vertaling! Zoals hij de Braziliaanse theoloog Rubem Alves citerend zei: "Geloof is om de melodie van het nieuwe, toekomstige opstandingsleven te horen. Hoop is om hierop te dansen." Kom, hopende Nederlanders en hopende Afrikanen, laten we dansend tezamen de toekomst tegemoet gaan. Laten we luisteren naar de melodie van het opstandingsleven. Laten we dansen op deze melodie.' Daarop zongen we Nkosi sikelel'iAfrica, twee keer, 'Heer, zegen Afrika' - en het ging prima, het zong, het danste. De voorbeden werden heel poëtisch verzorgd door Hetty Vink en Margot Lobbezoo van de ZWO-commissie die de dienst mede voorbereidde. De eerste collecte was (gewoon volgens het collecterooster!) voor het Beyers Naudé Centrum. Het kwam natuurlijk prachtig uit, dat prof Koopman dit weekend in Nederland was. Hoeveel wij voor hem en zijn werk mogen geven - en ik hoop dat we het gestelde doel van € 3000,- royaal halen - het mooiste had hij met ons te delen: de zegen van Aäron. Zoals hij die zegening inleidde en ons elkaar de hand liet reiken, dat liet niemand onberoerd. Aan het einde van de dienst kwamen de kinderen onder leiding van Martine Roomer terug van hun nevendienst met in hun handen een aantrekkelijk opgemaakt schaalpje fruitig snoepgoed - ook dat is oogstdankdienst!

This visit indicated the need for closer contact between the BNC and congregations who support the BNC through Kerk in Actie. In future we will try to link at least one visit per annum to other trips by the director of the BNC.

SOUTH-SOUTH COLLABORATION: ESCOLA SUPERIOR DE TEOLOGIA, BRAZIL

Since 2009 research collaboration has developed between the Faculty of Theology, Stellenbosch University and the Teologjada Faculdades Escola Superior de Teologia (EST), Brazil. In the light of similarities and challenges between the two countries, focus areas for theological reflections were identified: *Democracy, Citizenship and Inter-culturality*. Since 2009 several seminars have been held to reflect on these themes.

SEMINAR: DEMOCRACY, CITIZENSHIP AND INTER-CULTURALITY

The 2012 seminar was presented in two parts: the first part on *Democracy, Citizenship and Inter-culturality* was hosted at the Faculty of Theology, Stellenbosch (19– 20 March 2012), and colleagues



from the University of the Western Cape also took part. The seminar was then continued at UNISA, Pretoria (22 – March 2012). Colleagues from the University of South-Africa (UNISA), University of Kwa-Zulu-Natal (UKZN), University of Pretoria (UP) and the University of the Free State (UOFS) participated. Each participant received the opportunity to deliver his/her research paper, followed by two responses on each paper, concluding with a round-table conversation on the possibilities which may be explored into the future.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE: RELIGION AND SOCIETY: CONTEMPORARY CHALLENGES

An international conference was hosted by EST in Brazil from 10 – 14 September 2012 on the theme: *Religion and society: Contemporary challenges*. Prof Nico Koopman was invited to deliver a keynote address. He was joined by other colleagues from the South-South collaboration, Drs Anita Cloete, Xolile Simon (Stellenbosch University) and Miranda Pillay (UWC), and colleagues from UNISA and UKZN. The International Office of Stellenbosch University sponsored one return flight ticket.

The research group on *Democracy, Citizenship and Inter-culturality* also held a seminar where they continued their discussions with colleagues from Brazil. Dr Miranda Pillay presented a paper on HIV/Aids.

It was decided that the final papers on the theme of *Democracy, Citizenship and Inter-culturality* will be presented at a seminar at UKZN in 2013. This collaboration will be concluded with a publication of the papers which were presented during the duration of the project.

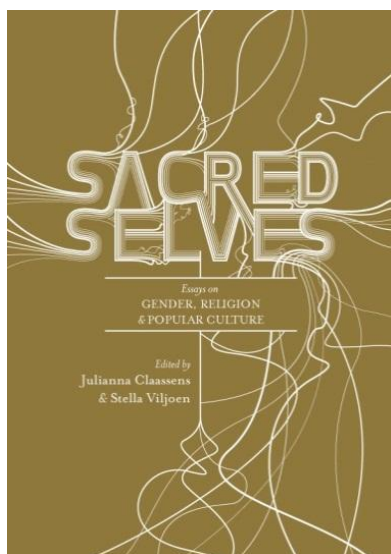
CIRCLE OF CONCERNED AFRICAN WOMEN THEOLOGIANS



CONFERENCE: GENDER AND EDUCATION

The Stellenbosch chapter of the Circle of Concerned African Women Theologians, in collaboration with the chapter of the University of the Western Cape (UWC), presented a conference on the theme *Gender and Education* on 4 May 2012 at the Faculty of Theology. During this conference the ways in which themes regarding gender justice are addressed in the classroom, church setting, university context, or in society at large were considered. It was a very successful conference with a total of ten papers and lively discussions. The possibility of a publication on the conference proceedings will be investigated by the chapter of UWC under the guidance of Dr Miranda Pillay.

PUBLICATION: SACRED SELVES



Another highlight in the existence of the Stellenbosch chapter was the launch of the first publication of the joint writing project of the Stellenbosch Chapter on 22 August 2012: **Sacred Selves – Essays on Gender, Religion and Popular Culture**, edited by **Julianna Claassens and Stella Viljoen**. With the primary goal of cultivating scholars by honing writing and critical thinking skills, the Circle engages in writing projects such as this one in order to raise awareness about such actual concerns.

What makes this volume unique is the truly interdisciplinary nature of the project: the Circle was widened to include scholars from visual culture and media studies who are not theologians, but are interested in the impact of religion on gender construction and society.

A second distinguishing feature of this collection is that all contributors live in Africa – most in South Africa. This positions our analyses of gender and religion (even where we are examining international instances of popular culture) within the instability of the contemporary African and South African milieu.

The publication was received with great accolade:

Although I am unfortunately not able to make it to this important moment in the Circle's history on account of other commitments, please allow me to congratulate the Stellenbosch Circle chapter, and in particular the editors, for such a sterling achievement. Sisters, on behalf of all the Southern African Circle sisters, I would like to thank you all, for this great achievement and for putting all of us, and the Circle as a whole on the map. You are proving to us that depending on each individual commitment, we can each one of us make the Circle happen in our various locations. Well done! - Prof Madipoane Masenya, on behalf of all the Sisters in the Southern African region

Sacred Selves is intellectually stimulating, culturally sophisticated, analytically perceptive and politically and theologically challenging – a simply wonderful, and absolutely necessary book. - Dr Allan Boesak

This book is a path breaking contribution to feminist literature ... bringing together, in a fascinating way, gender, religion and popular culture. As an instrument of consciousness raising this book is highly successful and deserving of an international audience. - Prof Amanda Gouws

MOLUKS THEOLOGISCH BERAAD, THE NETHERLANDS

The Moluks Theologisch Beraad hosted a conference from 31 October – 1 November 2012 in Houten on the theme: *We cannot build the future for our church leaders, but we can build our church leaders for the future*. The conference was attended by lecturers from the Moluccan Theological Council, the Free University of Amsterdam, the Institute of Social Studies in The Hague and Moluccan Dutch students from the University of Applied Sciences Windesheim. A delegation of nine lecturers and post-doctoral students from Stellenbosch took part in the programme: Profs Nico Koopman, Dirkie Smit, Ian Nell, Jeremy Punt, Drs Xolile Simon, Funlola Olojede, Retief Muller, Mary-Anne Plaatjies Van Huffel and Rev Dawid Mouton.

GLOBAL NETWORK FOR PUBLIC THEOLOGY

The meeting of the Global Network for Public Theology (GNPT) is a triennial event. The next meeting is scheduled for 2 – 6 September 2013 at the University of Chester on the theme *The Word and the World: Public Theology in an age of global media*. GNPT's 2013 meeting will consider the relationship between the media and global public theology. In particular, the conference will explore the extent to which media, information and communication technologies have become a new, largely autonomous, 'public' sphere with global reach and an increasingly influential (and not necessarily benign) role to play in mediating religious and spiritual concerns and representing religion to a wider public.

OTHER CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA IN WHICH THE BNC TOOK PART

SYMPOSIUM ON MEDIA: 1 MARCH 2012

Symposium in Stellenbosch in collaboration with the University of Bamberg, Germany and the department of Journalism, Stellenbosch University

Theme: *Public theology and public media? Analytical perspectives.*

Coordinator: Dr Gerrit Brand

CYM EDUCATIONAL CAMP: 26 – 29 APRIL 2012

A youth camp was hosted in Queenstown by the URCSA CYM Presbyteries in partnership with the BNC, URCSA Cape Synod and the EFSA Institute. More than 500 youth leaders attended the conference.

Topic: *Democracy, justice and youth in South Africa*

Themes: *Leadership, Communication Skills, Homosexuality, HIV/AIDS, Poverty, Unemployment, Faith and Youth Formation, Spiritual Growth and Unity.*



WINTER SCHOOL: 5 – 7 JUNE 2012

The Faculty of Theology and two of the centres, Ekklesia and the Beyers Naudé Centre for Public Theology, in collaboration with Communitas, hosted the first Winter School from 5–7 June 2012 with the theme *My Story – Our Story – Thé Story*. The vision of the winter school is continuing theological education and formation of pastors and other spiritual leaders; strengthening of the relationship between different churches and between the Faculty and different churches, and discussion of relevant theological and ministerial issues.

The keynote speakers were

- Fr Peter-John Pearson, vicar-general of the Catholic Archdiocese of Cape Town and Director of the Catholic Bishops' Parliamentary Liaison Office (*My Story*);
- Dr Frank Chikane, President of the Apostolic Faith Mission of South Africa and previous Director of the Presidency of South Africa (*Our Story*);
- Prof Stephan Joubert, Professor Extraordinary in New Testament at Pretoria University and editor of e-church (*Thé Story*).

The Winter School was well received and attended by 150 delegates, mainly church pastors, academics and students.

The faculty plans to host this event annually. We ultimately hope that the Winter School will enhance the building of social cohesion in our pluralistic and diversified South African society, with its history of division and enmity, and its quest and dream of a new life together of unity, reconciliation and justice.



Dr Frank Chikane

SYMPOSIUM ON CULTURE: 10 AUGUST 2012

Symposium in Stellenbosch in collaboration with the Free University, Amsterdam, the Netherlands
Theme: *Cultural diversity and human dignity*
Coordinator: Dr Gerrit Brand

SIMPOSIUM ON LAW AND RELIGION: SEPTEMBER 2012

Symposium in Stellenbosch, presented by the Unit for Religion and Law, BNC
Theme: *The Anglican Covenant: Where next?*
Guest Speaker: Mark Hill, Barrister, Temple, UK
Coordinators: Prof Pieter Coertzen, Dr Mary-Anne Platjies Van Huffel

NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE, PARTNERSHIP WITH PTHU: 29 – 30 OCTOBER 2012

Consultation in Groningen, the Netherlands
Theme: *Human Dignity – Crossing Borders, Conflicting Loyalties*
Participants: Profs Nico Koopman, Dirkie Smit, Ian Nell, Jeremy Punt, Robert Vosloo, Julie Claassens, Drs Xolile Simon, Christo Thesnaar, Mary-Anne Platjies Van Huffel, Funlola Olojede, Retief Muller.

CONFERENCE: INTELLECTUAL TRADITIONS: 30 NOVEMBER – 1 DECEMBER 2012

An academic conference on Coloured identity and history was held in collaboration with colleagues from the University of Pretoria (UP) and the University of South Africa (UNISA). The theme of the conference, *Towards Histories of South African Intellectual Traditions - the Histories and Life Trajectories of Coloured Intellectuals*, coincides with the BNC's mandate to investigate topical issues and to provide an open forum for discussion.

The term Coloured has always been controversial, especially when it bears so much history. Today some people accept the term, others actively promote or reject it. There are also many others who view it with indifference.

The conference was well attended and received high publicity in the media. Participants included well-known personalities like Prof Richard van der Ross, former rector of the University of the Western Cape, Prof Debra Meyer, former Afrikaans weather reporter and biochemist, Mr Henry Jeffreys, former editor of *Die Burger* and founding editor of *New Age*, Rev. Basil Manning, President of the United Congregational Church of South Africa, Prof Mogobe Ramose of the University of South Africa, an expert on African Philosophy, and the award-winning theologian Prof Dirkie Smit of Stellenbosch University.

A publication on the conference proceedings is currently being prepared by Prof Hein Willemse of the University of Pretoria.



Prof Hein Willemse

PUBLIC LECTURES

ISRAEL-PALESTINE – 15 FEBRUARY 2012

In collaboration with Kairos Southern Africa and the Centre for Christian Spirituality

Topic: *Israel-Palestine – is there a way out?*

Speakers: Marthie Momberg and Christel Erasmus, two female theologians who recently visited the region, gave their moving personal accounts

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY – 20 MARCH 2012

In collaboration with the Division for Community Interaction and the Frederik van Zyl Slabbert Institute

Topic: *Human Rights in South Africa under attack?*

Speaker: Prof Sandy Liebenberg, holder of the HF Oppenheimer Chair in Human Rights Law in the Faculty of Law, Stellenbosch University

CHURCH AND AGAPOCRACY – 27 MARCH 2012

Topic: *Church and Agapocracy: The Rule of Love*

Speaker: Prof Bram van de Beek of the Free University in Amsterdam and Extraordinary Professor, Stellenbosch University

BEYERS NAUDÉ 97TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS – 10 MAY 2012



Topic: *The Time for Pious Words is Over – Beyers Naudé – Decision, Conscience and Courage in the Struggle for Justice*

Speaker: Dr Allan Boesak

Dr Allan Boesak

MEDIA – 1 AUGUST 2012

Topic: *Tool, Competitor or Uncharted Territory? The Church Facing the Media in Late Modern Societies*

Speaker: Prof Günter Thomas, Ruhr-University in Bochum, Germany

RECONCILIATION – 27 AUGUST 2012

Topic: *The Death of Gaddafi - a theological reflection on unspeakable shame*

Speaker: Prof David Tombs, Assistant Professor in Conflict Resolution and Reconciliation, Trinity College, Dublin

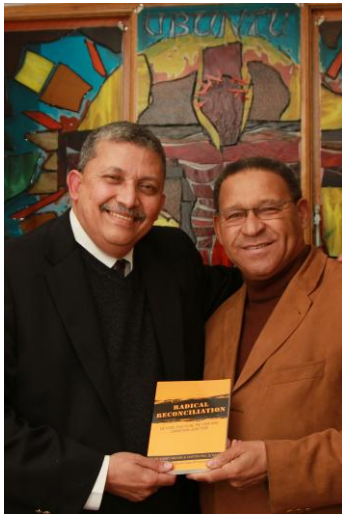
JAMES BUYS MEMORIAL LECTURE – 9 SEPTEMBER 2012

In collaboration with URCSA Presbytery of Wynberg

Topic: *In need of prophetic criticism: Honouring the theological legacy of James Buys*

Speaker: Gert van Maanen

BOOK LAUNCHES/AWARDS



26 JULY 2012

RADICAL RECONCILIATION. Beyond Political Pietism and Christian Quietism

Allan Aubrey Boesak and Curtiss Paul DeYoung
Foreword by Archbishop Desmond Mpilo Tutu
ORBIS BOOKS

A CALL FOR RECONCILIATION BY TWO VETERANS OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS STRUGGLE ON TWO CONTINENTS

Everyone supports “reconciliation.” But too often calls for reconciliation fall short of uprooting the roots of injustice, and thus fail to accomplish the work required. Such initiatives usually favour the rich and powerful while depriving the powerless of justice and dignity. The result, according to Allan Boesak and Curtiss Paul DeYoung, is “political pietism.” And when Christians refuse to name this situation for what it is, they are practicing a form of “Christian quietism.”

True reconciliation, these authors argue, is truly radical. Together they offer a vision of reconciliation and social justice grounded in the biblical story and their own experience of social engagement. After examining the meaning of reconciliation in the biblical context, they examine Jesus’ role as a radical reconciler and prophet of social justice. They go on to examine the role of reconciliation in religious communities and in the wider society, including the challenging model of Bishop Desmond Tutu and his contributions to Truth and Reconciliation in South Africa.

Allan Aubrey Boesak was a leading figure in the church struggle against apartheid in South Africa. He is a former Extraordinary Professor of Public Theology at Stellenbosch University.

Curtiss Paul DeYoung is professor of Reconciliation Studies at Bethel University in St. Paul, MN. His many books include *Living Faith: How Faith Inspires Social Justice*, and (co-editor) *The People’s Bible*.

VISITORS

MOREHOUSE COLLEGE – 30 May 2012

Staff and students from Morehouse College, USA met with staff members of the BNC and the Faculty of Theology to discuss faculty and student exchanges between the two institutions. The delegation from Morehouse College was accompanied by Dr Melvinia Turner King, Interim Executive Director of the Leadership Center at Morehouse College.

WABASH COLLEGE IN INDIANA, UNITED STATES – 18 OCTOBER 2012

The Wabash Pastoral Leadership Program is a two-year leadership initiative for 17 younger pastors focused on developing their skills in community leadership. In October 2012 they undertook a study tour to South Africa to learn about the significant impact religious leaders have had on community and civic life in South Africa. They visited the BNC, and had the opportunity to taste potjiekos, which was prepared as part of the Faculty’s annual *potjiekos* competition.

BEYERS NAUDÉ ARCHIVE

Dr Murray Coetzee, post-doctoral research fellow at the Faculty of Theology, is spearheading the Beyers Naudé Archive (BNA). Since March 2011 the BNA has gained momentum and the archive now comprises of the following collections:

The Ilse Naudé collection consists of approximately 3 500 sermons and speeches from the 1930's to the 1990's which have been systemised, categorised and duplicated, and have been bounded in 35 volumes. This collection has been incorporated in the BNA database and is available for research. The original documents are housed in the DRC archive for safe-keeping.

The Pro-Veritate collection. The BNA is thankful to report that, with the help of various donors, it now houses one of the few complete collections. These publications have been categorised, duplicated and bounded in 15 volumes. It has been incorporated in the BNA database and is available for research purposes. The original copies are stored in safe-keeping in the BNA.

The Anonymous Christian Institute (CI) collection. This is a comprehensive collection consisting of the following: the history, planning and constitution; monthly newsletters; director's reports; bible studies; general administration of the head office as well as that of the regional offices consisting of agendas, minutes, reports, financial statements of all the structures of the CI, namely the Board of Directors, Executive Committee, Management Committee as well as the Annual General Meetings; correspondence by and to BN and the CI; criticism on BN and the CI; documents pertaining to the commission chaired by ministers Kruger, Schlebusch and le Grange into the CI and other organisations; a duplicate copy of the file which was kept by the apartheid government on BN; the banning of BN and others as well as the discontinuation of the CI. The collection also includes documents about related matters like Sharpeville; Cottesloe; SA Council of Churches; Soweto uprising. This collection has been systemised, categorised and incorporated in the BNA database and is available for research purposes.

A comprehensive database which includes the abovementioned documents and publications has been developed and will be updated as archiving progresses and more documents and books are incorporated in the BNA. In order to facilitate research for local and international students, a website will be set up and linked to the BNA.

Interviews: One of the BNA projects is the conducting of interviews with people who were closely involved with Beyers Naudé and the Christian Institute (CI) in order to obtain an oral history. Firstly the necessary research had to be conducted in order to ascertain who to interview and whether they would be willing and available. Thereafter an "interview guideline" together with relevant questions was set up in order to facilitate the interviews. The necessary technology also had to be prepared and set up on the hard drive of a computer.

The opportunity to conduct the first of these interviews presented itself with Cedric Mason, who was in Cape Town and agreed to be interviewed on Thursday 22 March 2012. This interview was conducted by Murray Coetzee at the home of Horst Kleinschmidt.

Cedric Mason expressed the wish to visit the BNA and meet up with old colleagues who were also involved with Beyers Naudé and the CI. Thus on Friday 23 March 2012 a number of invited guests from various denominations and universities were invited to listen to Cedric speaking about the new Kairos document.

All the guests were introduced and shown the BNA, also the various collections. There was an overwhelmingly positive reaction by all those present, and a few people expressed the wish to either do research at the BNA or further their studies focussing on Beyers Naudé.

The next phase of the archiving process will involve the following five projects:

- archiving of documents that were donated,
- establishing a database connected to the BNC web portal,
- continuation of the interviews,
- preparing material for future publications, and
- digitalisation of original documents.

PUBLICATIONS

BEYERS NAUDÉ CENTRE SERIES ON PUBLIC THEOLOGY

1. Vol. I *The Legacy of Beyers Naudé*. (LD Hansen (ed.), Sun Press, 2005).
2. Vol. II *Oom Bey for the Future. Engaging the Witness of Beyers Naudé*. (LD Hansen & RR Vosloo (eds.), Sun Press, 2006).
3. Vol. III *Christian in Public. Aims, Methodologies and Issues in Public Theology*. (LD Hansen (ed.), Sun Press, 2007).
4. Special edition: *Geloof en Openbare Lewe. Versamelde Opstelle II*. DJ Smit (NN Koopman (ed.), Sun Press, 2008).
5. Vol. IV *Globalisation. The politics of empire, justice and the life of faith*. (AA Boesak & LD Hansen (eds.), Sun Press, 2009).
6. Vol. V. *Globalisation II. Global crisis, global challenge, global faith. An ongoing response to the Accra Confession*. (AA Boesak & LD Hansen (eds.) Sun Press, 2010).

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

1. "The Barmen/Belhar Consultation, University of Stellenbosch, 18-19 October 2004." Supplement *NGTT* 47 (1 & 2), 2006 (compiled and edited – LD Hansen).
2. Collection of articles in honour of Prof DJ Smit's 55th birthday. Supplement *NGTT* 48 (1 & 2), June 2007 (compiled and edited – LD Hansen).

JOINT PUBLISHING PROJECTS

1. "Human dignity – article of faith or empty formula?" Volume 7, *Scriptura* 2007. In collaboration with the Protestantse Theologische Universiteit, Kampen, the Netherlands. F de Lange, NN Koopman, LD Hansen (eds.).
2. *The Humanisation of Globalisation – South African and German Perspectives*. (CC Le Bruyns and G Ulshöfer (eds.), Haag und Herchen, 2008). Papers from the Beyers Naudé Centre for Public Theology and the German Academies of Bad Boll and Arnoldshain's joint project on *The Humanization of Globalization*.
3. In collaboration with the Department of Systematic Theology and Ecclesiology, Stellenbosch University: *Essays on Being Reformed. Collected Essays III*. DJ Smit (RR Vosloo (ed.), Sun Press, 2009).
4. *Religions and the Common Good in Pluralistic Societies*. *NGTT* 2012(53). Supplementum 2. Joseph Antyo, Godwin Akper, Martien Brinkman, Eddy van der Borgh, Jan Nieder-Heitmann (eds.) A collection of papers from the joint project on *Religion and the Common Good in Pluralistic Societies* with IRTI (Free University Amsterdam), Mkar University (Nigeria), and Beyers Naudé Centre for Public Theology.

CURRENT PUBLISHING PROJECTS

7. In collaboration with the Department of Systematic Theology and Ecclesiology, Stellenbosch University: *Opstelle oor Gereformeerde vandag. Versamelde Opstelle IV*. DJ Smit. In process. To be published during first semester, 2012.
8. Vol. VI in the Beyers Naudé Centre Series: *Vreesloos Gehoorsaam. 'n Keur uit Beyers Naudé se preke van 1939-1997*. (M Coetzee, LD Hansen & RR Vosloo (eds). Sun Press. 2013).

STAFF

STAFF MEMBERS OF THE CENTRE

Director – Prof Nico Koopman
Chair of the Centre Management Board – Prof Dirkie Smit
Programme coordinator – Ms Helette van der Westhuizen
Financial administrator – Ms Liëna Hoffman
Administrative support – Ms Marieke Brand
Chair of Publications – Dr Len Hansen
Chair of Responsible Citizenship – Prof Nico Koopman and Dr Anita Cloete
Chair of Human Dignity and Human Rights – Prof Julie Claassens
Chair of Faith and Social Identity – Dr Christo Thesnaar
Chair of Faith and Science – Dr Gerrit Brand
Chair of Justice, Peace and the Integrity of creation – Prof Nico Koopman and Dr Ockie Grundling
Chair of Archive – Dr Murray Coetzee
Chair of Unit for Religion and Law – Prof Pieter Coertzen

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EXTRAORDINARY PROFESSORS OF THE DISCIPLINE GROUP SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY AND ECCLESIOLOGY WITH A FOCUS ON PUBLIC THEOLOGY

Prof Will Storrar (Director, Center of Theological Inquiry, Princeton, New Jersey, USA)
Prof Wentzel van Huyssteen (Princeton Theological Seminary, New Jersey, USA)
Prof Heinrich Bedford-Strohm (Director of the Dietrich Bonhoeffer Research Centre for Public Theology, University of Bamberg, Germany)
Prof Frits de Lange (Professor of Ethics, Protestant University, The Netherlands)
Prof Bram van de Beek (Free University, Amsterdam)
Prof John De Gruchy (University of Cape Town)
Prof Denise Ackermann (University of the Western Cape)
Prof Piet Naudé (Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University)
Prof Jerry Pillay (Associate-professor, Stellenbosch University)

FINANCES

Please refer to the appendices for the financial report for the period January 2012 – December 2012.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nico Koopman". The letters are cursive and fluid, with the first name "Nico" and last name "Koopman" clearly legible.

Prof Nico Koopman
Director: Beyers Naudé Centre for Public Theology
Faculty of Theology
Stellenbosch University

9 May 2012