

BEYERS NAUDÉ CENTRE FOR PUBLIC THEOLOGY



ANNUAL REPORT 2015



FAKULTEIT TEOLOGIE
FACULTY *of* THEOLOGY
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MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

PROF NICO KOOPMAN



The Beyers Naudé Centre's vision and mission as a centre within an academic setting is determined by many of the challenges resulting from South Africa's apartheid past, and the Centre engages with new justice quests resulting from the transition to a more democratic society amidst the fact that society is still haunted by the past. The past year was no different and engagement again included a wide variety of topics and groups of people.

The highlight of 2015 was no doubt the celebration of Beyers Naudé's 100th birthday on 10 May 2015, marked by three events held in different venues across South Africa and the launch of a publication (*Cultivating seeds of Hope*), a selection of interviews with family and friends of Oom Bey.

Other activities of the Centre included discussion opportunities such as the annual SKLAS Conferences (Synodical Commission for Doctrine and Current Affairs of the Uniting Reformed Church in Southern Africa) which focus upon the broader theme of Congregations and Public Life. The theme for 2015 was Congregations, Freedom and Responsibility. Two well attended Courageous Conversations events were held, to continue the aim of facilitating spaces and opportunities for theological engagement around current issues of public concern. In 2015, "Rhodes must fall" and "Xenophobia" came under the spotlight.

The Centre moved into its new home at the end of 2015 amidst much excitement. The new multi-purpose space houses the archive collections; BNC publications and other books available for research, office space, a lounge and working space for researchers. And to top it all, a beautiful view of the Stellenbosch mountains! Another highlight was the appointment of the Centre's first permanent employee. Ms Marita Snyman was appointed as Programme Co-ordinator and Administrator on the 1st of September. She started with organizing her first conference (in the Northern Cape) and developing the new Beyers Naudé website. Her capable presence will enhance the work of the Centre.

The BNC is indeed continuing to be a Centre that serves the vision of Stellenbosch University to make a transformative and renewing social impact through our research-informed and research-informing activities. We express appreciation to all our partners and alliances in local and global contexts.

In verbondenheid.



Nico Koopman

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF BEYERS NAUDÉ ON THE CENTENARY OF HIS BIRTH

The 10th of May 2015 marked the 100th anniversary of the birth of Beyers Naudé, South African cleric and stalwart of the struggle against apartheid. For decades ostracised by his own church and the Afrikaner community, Naudé remained committed to the cause of liberation in the country. In 2004, 10 years into the new dispensation, he was vindicated before his death and today his legacy still inspires the work of the Beyers Naudé Centre for Public Theology.



<p>The Beyers Naudé Centre for Public Theology cordially invite you to the</p> <p>100th COMMEMORATION OF THE LIFE OF BEYERS NAUDÉ</p> <p>Tuesday 5 May 2015, 09h30 – 13h00</p> <p>Faculty of Theology, Stellenbosch University, 171 Dorp Street, Stellenbosch</p> <p>09h30 Opening and word of welcome 09h45 Contributions by participants of the oral history program 11h15 Refreshments 11h45 Book launch and presentation 12h30 Om Bey and the Future 13h00 Light lunch to be served</p> <p>RSVP before 29 April 2015 Helette van der Westhuizen Tel: 021 808 9560 E-mail: hvdwest@sun.ac.za Please indicate special dietary requirements</p>	<p>Die Beyers Naudé Sentrum vir Publieke Teologie nooi u hartlik na die</p> <p>100ste HERDENKING VAN DIE LEWE VAN BEYERS NAUDÉ</p> <p>Dinsdag 5 Mei 2015: 09h30 – 13h00</p> <p>Fakulteit Teologie, Universiteit Stellenbosch, Dorpstraat 171, Stellenbosch</p> <p>09h30 Opener en verwelkoming 09h45 Bydraes deur deelnemers aan die mondelinge geskiedenisprogram 11h15 Verversings 11h45 Boekbenedigting en oorhandiging 12h30 Om Bey en die Toekoms 13h00 Ligte middagete word bedien</p> <p>RSVP voor 29 April 2015 Helette van der Westhuizen Tel: 021 808 9560 E-pos: hvdwest@sun.ac.za Dui asseblief spesiale dieetverreistes aan</p>
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In conjunction with other institutions, the Centre commemorated the life of this exceptional man on three occasions during the week of 10 May:

- On 5 May a one-day event was held at Naudé’s alma mater, the Faculty of Theology at Stellenbosch University.
- On 10 May a special commemoration service took place at the Alexandra congregation of the United Reformed Church in Southern Africa, the last congregation where Naudé served as minister when his banishment was lifted in the 1980s.
- On 11 May a one-day conference on his life was held at Unisa.

These events coincided with the launch of a publication, *Cultivating Seeds of Hope. Conversations on the Life and works of Beyers Naudé*, which offers a collection of 40 interviews with the four children of Beyers Naudé and his wife, Ilse, as well as colleagues and friends. Some of these friendships go back to the 1960s and include the likes of Barney Pityana, Frank Chikane, Allan Boesak, Desmond Tutu and Albert Nolan. Contributors to the volume spoke at the commemorative events during the week of celebrations.



Speakers and guests of honour at the commemoration event at Stellenbosch

PARTNERSHIPS

KERK IN ACTIE, THE NETHERLANDS

It is now more than a decade that through the partnership with Kerk in Actie in the Netherlands, SKLAS (Sinodale Kommissie vir Leer en Aktuele Sake) of the Cape Synod, and the Beyers Naudé Centre for Public Theology present conferences that reflect upon the broader theme of Congregations and Public. We attempt to explore and develop the potential of congregational practices like preaching, worshipping, singing, celebration of Holy Communion, celebration of baptism, prayer, public witness, diaconia, pastoral care, catechesis, meetings, fundraising and budgeting for the renewal of all walks of life. The walks of life include life in singleness and marriage, family and friendship; life in church; life at work; life in broader society, i.e. political life, economic life, ecological life, civil society with all its institutions as well as public discourses and public opinion formation.

SKLAS CONFERENCE: CONGREGATIONS, FREEDOM AND RESPONSIBILITY

In 2015 the focus was upon the theme of *Congregations, Freedom and Responsibility*. We addressed questions like the following:

How free are we after 21 years of democratic freedom? What light does Christian faith shed upon our understanding of notions like freedom and responsibility? How do we take responsibility for each other within our churches? What implications do the notions of freedom and responsibility have for the spirituality and morality of church leaders?

The conference was again structured as a one day conference hosted in three regions of the Cape Synod: one in the Western Cape (18 February 2015), one in the Southern Cape (6 March 2015), and one in the Eastern Cape (21 April 2015). Attendees were predominantly members of URCSA, but also members of other churches e.g. the Dutch Reformed Church, the Anglican Church, Rynse Kerk and Volkskerk.

It was special to have Ms Hanna Wapenaar, Dutch co-worker of Kerk in Actie working at the Ujamaa Centre in Pietermaritzburg for Contextual Theology, joining the Eastern Cape Conference in Port Elizabeth, and sharing her views after the day's discussions.

The programme included the following topics and speakers:

- *After 21 Years - How free are we?* Mr Johann Maarman, former senior assistant editor of Die Burger and currently columns editor.
- *Christians' understanding of freedom and responsibility?* The BNC was honoured to invite Prof Heinrich Bedford-Strohm, Professor Extraordinary, Faculty of Theology, Stellenbosch University (SU); bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria, Germany; and Prof Wolfgang Huber, Honorary Professor, Faculty of Theology, SU; Extraordinary Professor in

Heidelberg and Humboldt University in Berlin, Germany along to the Western Cape SKLAS conference to address this topic. Prof Nico Koopman led the discussion on this topic in the Southern and Eastern Cape.

- Panel discussions in each of the centres pondered the question: *How do we (URCSA) take responsibility of each other?*
- *The spirituality and morality of church leaders.* Dr DP Carelse, actuary URCSA Cape Synod and pastor, URCSA De Doorns.

The BNC is grateful for the ongoing support and financial assistance of Kerk in Actie who made it possible to host these conferences.



SKLAS conference in Port Elizabeth

VISIT TO OFFICES OF KERK IN ACTIE

On the morning of 22 October 2015, Prof Dirkie Smit represented Prof Nico Koopman (and the BNC) in a meeting with Ms Sietske Renting from Kerk in Actie (KiA). It was a very friendly and productive meeting. He explained the way that the KiA funds were being used during the regional consultations, the intentions behind the meetings, their ecclesial composition, representation and geographical spread, as well as their empowering strategies. They also discussed more ecumenical endeavours and further ways of collaboration, which would also serve the motivation of the KiA for giving this substantial support in future, without going into any detail. Ms Renting planned to visit South Africa and the BNC again early in 2016.

DIRO RESOURCES

The DIRO Mining Company of the Northern Cape, owned by former premier of the Northern Cape Dr Manne Dipico and Mr Anthony Rooiland, contributed R1 million to the BNC in 2014. Despite big decreases in the iron ore price and difficult days for mines, they decided to make a R1 million contribution for 2015 as well. We are very thankful for this development. Their contribution will strengthen the work of the Centre immensely. It also comes at the right time, a time when overseas funding is waning. It is also remarkable that this is the first time that business people, and specifically local business people, contributed financially to the work of the BNC.

The first instalment of the sponsorship enabled the following projects: the Archive collections were expanded, a conference was hosted in the Northern Cape; Theology students attended a conference at the Faculty of Theology in the Free State, and pastors from various congregations in the country joined a training session.



Mr Anthony Rooiland, Prof Nico Koopman and Dr Manne Dipico

DAY WORKSHOP WITH UMALUSI PASTORS

The Umalusi pastors approached the BNC with the need for skills for community development. Many of them have no matric, and also do not have formal theological training.

More than 240 faith leaders from different faith communities attended the workshop on 28 March 2015. Prof Nico Koopman focused on ethical formation (habitat, habits and actions), and Dr Clint le Bruyns gave a theoretical orientation and practice-oriented suggestions for community development by local churches.

We hope to continue with and expand this project.

SKAKELTOER

Sola-Gratia, the student body of the Faculty of Theology at the University of the Free State, invited the Theology student bodies of Stellenbosch and Pretoria to a conference in celebrating the faculty's 35th year of existence. A group of 20 students from Stellenbosch travelled by bus to attend the event from 23 – 26 August 2015 in Bloemfontein. Relations were strengthened and friendships flourished in celebration of this milestone.

DAY CONFERENCE: URCSA FLORIANVILLE, KIMBERLEY

The first Ecumenical Conference presented by the BNC in the Northern Cape took place on 13 November 2015 at URCSA Florianville, Kimberley. The conference was well attended. Delegates expressed their appreciation of being challenged and lively discussions took place. The programme included the following speakers and topics:

- Mr Henry Jeffreys, former editor of New Age and Die Burger: *Our hopes and despairs after 21 years?*
- Prof Nico Koopman, Vice-Rector: Social Impact, Transformation and Personnel (Acting), Stellenbosch University and director of the Beyers Naudé Centre for Public Theology: *Trinitarian hope and public life?*
- A panel discussion concluded the day's events with the topic: *Stories of hope amidst challenges and despair*



Panel discussion in URC Florianville congregation church hall

SOUTH-SOUTH COLLABORATION

FACULDADES ESCOLA SUPERIOR DE TEOLOGIA, BRAZIL

The South to South partnership between the Beyers Naudé Centre and colleagues from various Brazilian theological institutions continues to develop since 2007 when the partnership between South Africa, Brazil and India was proposed during the Global Network for Public Theology Consultation in Princeton. A number of video conference calls took place in 2015 and early 2016 between the primary drivers of the project (Prof Rudolf von Sinner from Faculdades Est and Prof Koopman, Prof Vosloo and Dr Forster from the BNC). Originally the Brazilian colleagues applied for some funding for a project that would run from December 2014-2017 that would allow for conference and travel expenses for collaboration. A portion of the funds was approved and paid out, making some travel possible in 2016. The challenges in the Brazilian economy have curtailed the budget somewhat and the project leaders are in conversation to reshape the project accordingly.

The specific aim of this project is to facilitate collaboration that brings together theological insights from each other's contexts to work on shared, and differing, understandings of public theologies. An earlier publication was successfully completed, however the feeling was that it still represented two differing contextual positions that at times juxtaposed one another. The intention of this collaboration is to work more closely together for a shared, nuanced and textured understanding of some of the issues and concerns that we face in our respective, and shared, global and local contexts.

Some of the Brazilian colleagues visited South Africa in late 2015 to participate in the Bonhoeffer Consultation. The request was that the BNC would reciprocate by sending a delegation of South African colleagues to the Faculdades Est conference in Brazil in September 2016.

Prof von Sinner will also be attending the GNPT meetings in Stellenbosch in 2016 and hopes to bring some senior students and colleagues. The hope is that the collaborative engagement will allow for some seminar sessions in the days before or after the GNPT where South African and Brazilian counterparts can present papers on agreed topics. The important considerations for BNC are to identify participants in this project for 2016, to discuss the possibility of hosting the Brazilian colleagues around the time of the GNPT, and to discuss the possibility of sending a delegation to Brazil in September for the Faculdades EST conference.

CIRCLE OF CONCERNED AFRICAN WOMEN THEOLOGIAN'S

The Circle of Concerned African Women Theologians was established in 1989 in Accra, Ghana. The Circle had several objectives but the key aims were research, writing and publishing on women's issues in the realm of religion and culture. The Stellenbosch University and University of the Western Cape chapters of the Circle celebrated Prof Denise Ackerman's 80th birthday with a day conference in her honor on 13 March 2015 at the University of the Western Cape. The theme of this one day

conference was *Surprised (anew) by the Mystery of Hope*. Prof Francine Cardman, Rev Janine Williams, Prof Musa Dube, Prof Dirkie Smit, Prof Karin Sporre spoke at the conference and a panel reflected on some of the Socio-Ethical-Theological challenges explored by Denise Ackermann. The panellists were Dr Lilian Siwila, Prof Julie Claasens and Prof Sadiyya Shaikh.

Following the success of the first writing workshop in October 2014, a follow-up event was held on 17 April 2015 at the Faculty of Theology, Stellenbosch University. Organised by Manitza Kotze of the UWC chapter, the aim was to further develop skills in academic writing and create a space of encouragement and support to members working on a specific article or other piece of writing. The programme included a short workshop on academic article writing by the SU's Writing Centre, a presentation on optimising Microsoft Word usage, as well as following up on presentations given at the previous workshop.

MOLUKS THEOLOGISCH BERAAD, THE NETHERLANDS

From 21 to 23 October 2015 Professors Koopman and Smit were to attend the Annual Meeting organised by the Moluccan Theological Council (MTC) in the Netherlands, together with the Protestant Church in the Netherlands and the Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam, in Houten. The BNC has been a partner in this annual collaboration from the start. Many colleagues and postgraduate students from the Stellenbosch Faculty have been active in this process over the years (including Daniel Louw, Karlie August, Ian Nell, Xolile Simon, Christo Thesnaar and several others who participated regularly and often), while Hendrik Bosman, Elna Mouton, Nico Koopman and Dirkie Smit have served as advisers and board members for the MTC. During this year's meeting, a volume of essays celebrating this collaboration and reflecting on the past conferences was launched, edited by L Miedema & S Ririhena, *The Calling of the Church. Liber Amicorum for the Moluccan Theological Council* (published by Sun Media, with the help of Len Hansen). The theme for this year was *The Ministry of the Church in Diverse Contexts*, and Nico Koopman was a key-note speaker, with Dirkie Smit also on the program in several capacities.

Due to student unrest on the Stellenbosch University campus, Prof Koopman had to withdraw from attending at the last minute.

Prof Smit therefore also took over his responsibilities during the consultation of the Moluccan Theological Council, and spoke on behalf of Prof Koopman (explaining and discussing the developing situation in South Africa, and also dealing with his original theme) in addition to delivering his own contributions on all three days of the meeting. The MTC has since then requested that these presentations should be provided in writing in order to be submitted for possible inclusion in a new book project, as a result of that meeting.

During the afternoon of 23 October 2015 Prof Smit again represented Prof Koopman as Dean of the Faculty and Director of BNC during the official celebrations at the Vrije Universiteit in honour of Prof Martien Brinkman who was retiring.

They were also invited to officially take part in the procession and the activities of Prof Brinkman's final public lecture at the VU.

GLOBAL NETWORK FOR PUBLIC THEOLOGY

Planning for the fourth triennial consultation on *Democracy and social justice in glocal contexts* to be held in Stellenbosch from 24 to 26 October 2016, started gaining momentum toward the end of 2015, with the call for papers sent out in December. The reasoning behind the conference theme is the 40th commemoration of the Soweto uprising in 1976; the 20th birthday of the South African Constitution and asking where we are now in 2016.

OTHER CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA IN WHICH THE BNC TOOK PART

PANEL DISCUSSION AT ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL, CAPE TOWN

The BNC hosted a panel discussion on the evening of 25 February 2015 at the St George's Cathedral as part of the Summer school with Humboldt University, Stellenbosch University, University of the Western Cape and the University of Kwa-Zulu Natal on the theme of *International Perspectives on Religion, Law and Justice*. Panelists were Prof Will Storrar (CTI), Prof Cilliers Breytenbach (Humboldt University) and Father Michael Weeder (St Georges' Cathedral).

SYMPOSIUM: 69 DAYS AND ICONS OF THE STRUGGLE

The BNC and the ATKV co-hosted a symposium in honour of Rev Chris Wessels, putting the spotlight on untold stories of a forgotten South African generation of the anti-apartheid struggle. The personal experience of his long journey in faith according to his Moravian upbringing in Genadendal reveals fascinating dimensions of the roots, visions and destiny of that upbringing. He became a minister of religion and was later forcibly removed from his parish in Port Elizabeth. What



kept him alive in those difficult times is passionately described in his autobiography, which was also launched at the symposium on 20 March 2015. Father Michael Weeder delivered a response to Rev Chris Wessels' narrative, followed by a panel discussion with Prof Nico Koopman, Prof Charlyn Dyers, Rev Brian Abrahams and Prof Karel August as participants.

Speakers at the symposium

TALKING BACK!

The Beyers Naudé Centre for Public Theology, in collaboration with Inclusive and Affirming ministries (IAM) and the Centre for Christian Spirituality, hosted a one day Think-tank entitled: *'Talking back': exploring LGBTIQ identity and Queer perspectives*. The Think tank took place on 20 May 2015 at the Faculty and was attended by 100 people. The program consisted of single speaker input sessions, panel discussions, open floor discussions and a film encounter and created a dynamic collaborative space for exploring the intersection of gender, sexuality, health and theology in line with the Human Dignity focus of the Faculty of Theology. The program concluded with a screening of the 2013 film *Pride* at the Pulp Film Society at the Neelsie in Stellenbosch. The Think Tank was followed by a two day workshop for approximately 40 LGBTIQ/Queer clergy from various denominations to engage on issues of identity and spirituality.

WINTER SCHOOL

The annual Winter School, organised by the Faculty in conjunction with the BNC, Ekklesia and Communitas, has become a regular event on the calendar of church pastors, students and academics from schools of religion.

This year the Winter School took place from 2- 4 June 2015 on the theme *Changing the World? An invitation to faithful discipleship and responsible citizenship*. The keynote speakers were Prof Barney Pityana, Prof Amanda Gouws and Dr Coenie Burger. There were also many parallel sessions joining the theme.



Speakers at the Winter School

SEMINAR ON THE THEMES FROM THE TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION COMMISSION'S (TRC) RE-ENACTMENT CONSULTATION

The goal of the TRC Faith hearing consultation was to alert the faith communities of the importance of the process of reconciliation and nation building and to propose that it will once again appear on the main agenda of all the faith groupings in South Africa. It was also hoped that this event would contribute to the development of responsible and realistic reconciliation strategies for the faith communities, as well as to make practical suggestions on how to address the challenges of reconciliation and nation building within South Africa. In this regard the goal of this seminar was to attend to these goals and to discuss the way forward. The seminar discussion took place on 21 August 2015 at the Faculty of Theology, Stellenbosch University in the form of a think-tank/ round table discussion. It was structured as a space for creative thinking, discussion and responsible outcomes. The focus was, therefore, not to listen to seminar papers but specifically to listen, reflect and engage in debates with one another on the identified themes in order to contribute in a constructive way. The seminar formed part of a continuous religious discourse on reconciliation led by the BNC.

FIRST ANNUAL RUSSEL BOTMAN MEMORIAL LECTURE

The first annual Russel Botman Memorial lecture was presented by the Faculty of Theology, the BNC and the curatoria of the DRC and URCSA on 19 October 2015. The keynote address was delivered by Prof Dirkie Smit, distinguished professor within the discipline group Systematic Theology and Ecclesiology. The title of his lecture was: *"Making History for the Coming Generation" – On the Theological Logic of Russel Botman's Commitment to Transformation.*



Prof Dirkie Smit at the Russel Botman Memorial lecture

Prof Mary-Anne Plaatjies van Huffel responded on behalf of the Uniting Reformed Church in Southern Africa (URCSA). (Prof Nico Koopman, due to respond on behalf of Stellenbosch University, unfortunately had to withdraw from the programme due to student unrest).

CONFERENCE: BONHOEFFER AND THE GLOBAL SOUTH

From 30 September until 2 October 2015 the Bonhoeffer Unit within the Beyers Naudé Centre for Public Theology at the Faculty of Theology hosted a consultation on the theme *Bonhoeffer and the Global South: Reception and Contemporary and Future Challenges*.

The consultation focused on the reception of the life and work of the German theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer in Southern Africa and Latin America, as well as on the possible promise of his theology to deal with some of the contemporary and future challenges within these contexts. Speakers included Prof John de Gruchy, Prof Walter Altmann, Prof Rudolf von Sinner, Dr Carlos Caldas, Prof Nico Koopman, Prof Robert Vosloo, Dr Carel Anthonissen, Dr Robert Steiner, Dr Michael Phiri and Ms Karola Radler.

The conference was enhanced by an exhibition on Bonhoeffer's life and work curated by Dr Murray Coetzee, Ms Marita Snyman and Ms Heila Maré (Library: Faculty of Theology).

OTHER EVENTS

Members of staff of the BNC also took part in the following events:

NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE:

PARTNERSHIP WITH PROTESTANT THEOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY (PTHU)

The Consultation's theme was *Compassion? Global Ethics, Human Dignity and the Compassionate God* and took place from 6-7 May 2015 at the Faculty of Theology. Prof Juliana Claassens delivered a paper on *Cultivating Compassion?: Abigail's Story (1 Samuel 25) as Space for Teaching Concern for Others*.

SEMINAR: SCIENCE AND THEOLOGY

Together with the BNC, the discipline group of Systematic Theology and Ethics hosted a seminar on *Science and Theology* on 22 September 2015. The intersection of theology and the natural sciences is a topic of great interest and contention in contemporary theological discourse. There is a great deal that theologians can contribute towards the understanding of complex issues related to phenomena and discoveries in the natural sciences. Naturally, such developments also impact upon the content and method of contemporary theologies.

Three leading specialists in the field of theology and science took part in the seminar: Prof Dirk Evers (Halle-Wittenberg, Germany), Prof Niels Henrik Gregersen (University of Copenhagen, Denmark) and Prof Wentzel J. van Huyssteen (Stellenbosch University).

SEMINAR: WESTERN EMPIRES, CHRISTIANITY AND THE INEQUALITIES BETWEEN THE WEST AND THE REST

Prof Allan Boesak and a group of staff and students of the Christian Theological Seminary of Indianapolis (CTSI) visited the Faculty of Theology on 12 August 2015. Prof Sampie Terblanche presented a guest lecture on "*Western Empires, Christianity and the Inequalities between the West and the Rest*", with responses by Prof Matt Boulton (CTSI) and Prof Nico Koopman.

COURAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS

The purpose of the 'courageous conversations' is to facilitate spaces and opportunities for theological engagement around current issues of public concern. In 2015 we had two such conversations that were arranged in partnership between the Beyers Naudé Centre and the Theological Student Committee of the Faculty of Theology at Stellenbosch. In both instances the 'conversations' were shaped by the input of various experts and socially engaged speakers related to the topic at hand. This was followed by a moderated conversation in which the attendees at the respective conversations could ask questions, offer their insights, and help to shape a deeper and more nuanced understanding of some of the theological and social issues under consideration.

STATUES - #RHODES MUST FALL: 24 APRIL 2015

The first conversation was hosted at the time of the emergence of the #RhodesMustFall movement on the University of Cape Town's campus. The issue under consideration at that time was the presence of colonial era statues at universities and in other public spaces around the country. This grassroots activist movement garnered a lot of attention in the traditional and social media and came to shape discourses around colonialism, justice, race and inequality in the months following. In our conversation at Stellenbosch we invited a number of knowledgeable speakers on the topics of symbolising, history and the telling of histories, as well as persons who hold different positions on the presence of the statues on the Stellenbosch University, and Faculty of Theology, campus. It was a lively and insightful engagement. The speakers were: Prof Nico Koopman, Prof Louis Jonker, Dr Retief Müller, Dr Natie Philander, Father Austen Jackson and Dr Hannes Theron.

XENOPHOBIA: 8 MAY 2015

The second conversation took place in early May 2015 in the wake of a spate of xenophobic attacks across South Africa. This sudden and violent action within South Africa solicited concern around notions of social and political identity, theological concepts such as hospitality, justice and care, and sparked significant debate on the intersections of notions of economics, inequality and human dignity. The panelists addressed topics such as the supposed causes of the xenophobic attacks, the

experiences of foreign students and staff at Stellenbosch during this period, and some suggestions towards what a response could be from the perspective of the Churches and the theological academy. The speakers at this event were: Prof Amanda Gouws, Prof Nico Koopman, Prof Ian Nell, Dr Nathan Chiroma, Dr Dion Forster and Dr Henry Mbaya.

LOOKING AHEAD

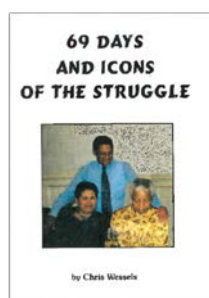
These events were a great success in terms of facilitating theological engagement and thinking deeply and critically about topical issues of public concern. It was decided to schedule regular 'Courageous Conversations' for 2016. A number of events have been planned and they will take on two primary forms. We will continue with the lunch time conversations on topical issues hosted in partnership between the Beyers Naudé Centre and the Theological Student Committee. A number of higher profile events are also planned throughout the year at which specialists will be invited to address various topics and conversation and engagement will be facilitated that is intended for a wider audience.

BOOK LAUNCHES

20 March 2015

69 Days and Icons of the struggle

Chris Wessels



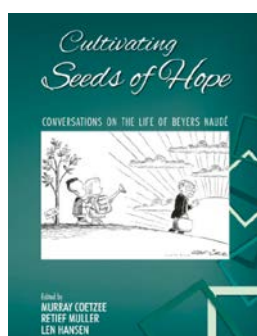
In essence it tells the story of a forgotten comrade who suffered more than 69 days for justice and freedom in our land. It is about the personal experience of a man's long journey in faith according to his Moravian upbringing in Genadendal and elsewhere.

5 May 2015

Cultivating Seeds of Hope. Conversations on the Life and works of Beyers Naudé

Murray Coetzee, Retief Müller and Len Hansen

Sun Press



This publication is a collection of 40 oral testimonies about Beyers Naudé, but also about the apartheid era in general and about the role that Christianity played in that period. In addition to an abundance of insights on Beyers Naudé by those who knew him best, it offers perspectives on the movements and entities that Naudé associated himself with; for example, the Christian Institute, the South African Council of Churches and the people involved in both. Stories

unfold – of faith and suffering, as well as betrayal, all against the background of an overtly racist apartheid state and by implication against a capitalist system with class divisions that degraded human beings and denied their human dignity.

13 August 2015

South African Women's Apartheid and Post-Apartheid Struggles: 1980-2014

Gertrude Fester

Scholar's Press



Through tracing the history of women's political agency and resistance, this investigation avers that women profoundly contributed to the New SA. Motherhood was the legitimate space granted to them by liberation movements, but women transformed motherhood into empowering public roles, affirming demands for citizenship. These aforementioned ANC-supporting structures later broadened out into strategic alliances in order to

maximize women's intervention as negotiations loomed. This illustrates the shifting nature of women's resistance, what forms they took and how they pragmatically and strategically changed over time. Subsequently the Women's Alliance was formed and thereafter an even broader structure, the Women's National Coalition.

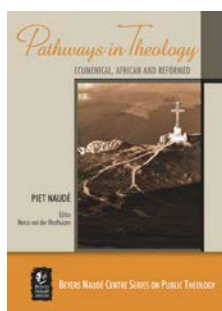
This narrative of women's struggles asserts that despite patriarchy relegating women's issues as secondary, women's focused struggles united diverse women to effective intervention. This culminated in the gender-sensitive constitution.

17 August 2015

Pathways in Theology: Ecumenical, African and Reformed

Piet Naudé, Editor Henco van der Westhuizen

Sun Press



This volume exhibits the engaging and challenging work of public and ecumenical theologian Piet Naudé. The collection of 26 essays, written over three decades, constitutes an important contribution to public theology by critically and creatively evaluating diverse pathways through the landscape of Ecumenical, African, and Reformed theologies.

BEYERS NAUDÉ ARCHIVE

Summary of progress with the archiving and interpretation of documents with regard to Beyers Naudé, the Christian Institute and other dissidents.

1. ARCHIVING

The following collections have been archived and made available for research purposes:

1.1 THE ILSE NAUDÉ COLLECTION

Sermons and speeches delivered by Beyers Naudé from the 1930's to the 1990's (approximately 1 400).

1.2 THE *PRO-VERITATE* COLLECTION

A complete collection of *Pro-Veritate* is housed in the Archive.

1.3 THE CHRISTIAN INSTITUTE (CI) COLLECTION

This is a comprehensive collection of documents concerning the CI and related matters.

1.4 COLLECTION OF FILES (TWO) HELD BY THE SECURITY POLICE ON BEYERS NAUDÉ AND THE SOUTH AFRICAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

1.5 THE ETIENNE DE VILLIERS COLLECTION

General information as well as publications of the World Council of Churches (international and national).

1.6 THE ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

The above mentioned project has been completed with the publication of "*Cultivating Seeds of Hope. Conversations on the Life and works of Beyers Naudé*".

This publication was launched during May 2015 in commemoration of the hundred year celebrations of Beyers Naudé.

2. NEW COLLECTIONS TO BE ARCHIVED

Being attended to at present:

2.1 BERNARD LATEGAN COLLECTION

2.2 RUSSEL BOTMAN COLLECTION

2.3 BEN MARAIS COLLECTION

2.4 DAVID BOTHA COLLECTION

2.5 WILLIE JONKER COLLECTION

2.6 JOHN DE GRUCHY COLLECTION

3 DIGITISATION PROJECT

- The planning of the project was completed successfully;
- A scanner was purchased for the BNC Archive;
- Student-assistants have been trained and are in the process of the digitisation of the Ilse Naudé collection consisting of sermons and speeches delivered by Beyers Naudé from the 1930's to the 1990's (approximately 1 300).

4 BNC ARCHIVE DATABASE

A database of collections and publications has been developed. At present this database is being updated as archiving progresses and more documents and books are incorporated in the BNC archive. This will be an on-going project.

5 NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL VISITORS AS WELL AS RESEARCHERS

Students as well as national and international researchers and interested individuals visit the Archive on a regular basis; they all receive the required guidance and information.

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. Vol. IV *Globalisation. The politics of empire, justice and the life of faith*. (AA Boesak & LD Hansen (eds.), Sun Press, 2009).
5. 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).
6. Vol. VI *Vreesloos Gehoorzaam. 'n Keur uit Beyers Naudé se preke van 1939-1997*. (Coetzee, M, Hansen, LD & Vosloo, RR (eds) Sun Press, 2013).
7. Vol VII *A Theological Odyssey: My Life in Writing*. John De Gruchy (BNC Series on Public Theology).
8. Vol. VIII *Pathways in Theology, Ecumenical, African and Reformed*. Piet Naudé (Van der Westhuizen, H (ed.) Sun Press, 2015).
9. Vol. IX *Hermeneutics and Social Transformation*. Bernard Lategan (Sun Press, 2015).

DIRKIE SMIT COLLECTION

1. Vol. I Essays in Public Theology. Smit, DJ (Conradie, EM (ed.), Sun Press, 2007).
2. Vol. II Geloof en Openbare Lewe. Versamelde Opstelle. Smit, DJ (Koopman, NN (ed.), Sun Press, 2008).
3. Vol III Essays on Being Reformed. Smit, DJ (Vosloo, RR (ed.), Sun Press, 2009).
4. Vol IV Opstelle oor Gereformeerde-wees Vandag. Smit, DJ (Hansen, LD (ed.), Sun Press, 2013).
5. Vol V Remembering Theologians – Doing Theology. Smit, DJ (Vosloo, RR (ed.), Sun Press, 2013).

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 honor of Prof. DJ Smit's 55th birthday. Supplement *NGTT* 48 (1 & 2), June 2007 (compiled and edited – LD Hansen).
3. Special Collection: South Africa 20 years after apartheid. Editors Len Hansen & Nico Koopman. *International Journal for Public Theology* 9(4) 2014.
4. *The Calling of the Church: Liber Amicorum for the Moluccan Theological Council*. Editors: Lützen P. Miedema and Simon Ririhena.
5. Cultivating seeds of hope, Conversations on the life of Beyers Naudé. (Coetzee, M, Muller, M & Hansen, LD (eds.) Sun Press, 2015).

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*
6. *Religions and the Common Good in Pluralistic Societies*. *NGTT* 2012(53). Supplementum 2. Joseph Antyo, Godwin Akper, Martien Brinkman, Eddy van der Borght, 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.
7. Joint publishing project with the Department of Systematic Theology and Ecclesiology: *Reformed Churches and the Struggle for Justice in South Africa: Remembering 1960-1990*. Conference proceedings under editorship of Robert Vosloo and Mary-Anne Plaatjies van Huffel. Sun Press, 2013.

8. In collaboration with the Department of Systematic Theology and Ecclesiology, Stellenbosch University: *Opstelle oor Gereformeerdwees vandag. Versamelde Opstelle IV*. DJ Smit. Sun Press, 2013.
9. *Prophet of the South: Essays in honour of Allan Aubrey Boesak*. Editors: Prince Dibeela, Puleng Lenka-Bula & Vuyani Vellem. Sun Press, 2014.

PUBLICATIONS IN PROGRESS

1. *Coloured / coloured / "Coloured" / Coloured: The histories and life trajectories of intellectuals classified Coloured*. Guest editor: Prof Hein Willemse.
2. *Gestaltes van die Kerk. Dirk J. Smit Versamelde Opstelle. Vol. 6*. Guest editor: Prof Nico Koopman.
3. *South African faith communities and reconciliation in a post-TRC context*. Editors: Prof Christo Thesnaar and Dr Len Hansen.

BNC ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

NEW BEYERS NAUDÉ CENTRE

At the end of 2015 it was with thankfulness that the BNC could start moving into a newly developed centre. This centre consists of:

- A functional office space;
- The necessary facilities to house the Beyers Naudé Archive as well as a growing library;
- Research stations;
- Space for meetings as well as smaller functions.

PROJECT TEAM MEETING

The BNC held the first Project team meeting on 2 November 2015. This meeting, chaired by Prof Robert Vosloo, will meet bi-annually to reflect on the various projects.

STAFF

STAFF MEMBERS OF THE CENTRE

Chair of the Centre Management Board – Prof Dirkie Smit

Director – Prof Nico Koopman

Programme co-ordinator – Ms Marita Snyman

Marketing and liaison – Ms Helette van der Westhuizen

Financial administrator – Ms Escois Benjamin

Publications – Dr Len Hansen

Responsible Citizenship – Dr Dion Forster

Human Dignity and Human Rights – Prof Julie Claassens

Faith and Social Identity – Prof Christo Thesnaar

Faith and Science – Dr Gys Loubser

Justice, Peace and the Integrity of creation – Prof Nico Koopman

Archive – Dr Murray Coetzee

Unit for Religion and Law – Prof Pieter Coertzen and Prof Mary-Anne Plaatjies van Huffel

Bonhoeffer Unit – Prof Robert Vosloo

Barth Research project – Mr Khegan Delpport

RESEARCHERS OF THE CENTRE

Prof Pieter Coertzen
Dr Dion Forster
Dr Chris Jones
Prof Mary-Anne Plaatjies Van Huffel
Prof Xolile Simon
Prof Prof Robert Vosloo
Dr Leslie van Rooi
Dr Wilhelm Verwoerd

FINANCES

Please refer to the appendix for the financial report for the period January 2015 – December 2015.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nico Koopman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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

BNC consolidated financial statement

	R 1 544	R 35	Total	
Budget	Actual Period: 1 Jan 2015 - 31 December 2015			
Kerk in Actie	270 000.00	258 180.00	-	258 180.00
Book sales	10 000.00	742.46	13 719.54	14 462.00
URCSA	10 000.00	-	-	-
Interest income	-	11 417.79	53 020.35	64 438.14
DIRO Maganese (PTY)Ltd	1 000 000.00	-	250 000.00	250 000.00
Faculty	268 000.00	-	-	-
FT 12% admin fee from R1544	-	-	-	-
TOTAL INCOME	1 558 000.00	270 340.25	316 739.89	587 080.14

Cost of admin officer	240 000.00	2 022.20	39 737.76	41 759.96
Consultant	169 000.00			-
Cost of assistant			15 322.60	15 322.60
Office expenses	22 700.00	383.00	18 998.79	19 381.79
Stationery & Printing		845.00		845.00
Sundry Expenses		5 849.34		5 849.34
Internet	-	4 222.40		4 222.40
Furniture and Equipment			59 583.93	59 583.93
FT 12% admin levy on External funds	152 400.00	126.22	30 000.00	30 126.22
Conferences	615 500.00	200 236.70	379 391.37	579 628.07
Public Lectures and Special Events	20 000.00	15 127.28	16 255.00	31 382.28
Publications	130 000.00	6 500.00	91 003.38	97 503.38
Editing		10 544.40	12 097.20	22 641.60
Gereformeerd wees vandag		375.00		375.00
Remembering theologians		2 840.00		2 840.00
Boek aankope			599.77	599.77
Projects	155 000.00			
Archive fund	250 000.00			
TOTAL EXPENSES	1 754 600.00	224 395.40	650 292.83	874 688.23

surplus/shortfall for the year		45 944.85	-333 552.94	-287 608.09
Opening balance	255 000.00	136 322.37	783 714.03	920 036.40
Closing balance 2015		182 267.22	450 161.09	632 428.31

PP Murray
 Director: Financial Services

10 March 2016
 Date:

Notas:

