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Inaugural Conference of Hope Ecumenical Network

Liverpool Hope University welcomed representatives from at least fifteen universities and colleges with Christian identities at the inaugural international conference of its newly founded Hope Ecumenical Network. Among them, INCHE participants from the U.K., the Netherlands, Hungary, Romania, and the USA were featured participants.



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The two day symposium of international, national, local and internal like

minds with an interest in Christian higher education (CHE), was called to foster an open, inclusive and ecumenical approach to the conference theme: "Hope for the Future of Christian Higher Education: Faith, Cooperation and Lived Experience".

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The Western university tradition grew from foundations in Christian higher education. In an increasingly secularized world, when the future of Christian higher is questioned, symposium leaders considered the potential for greater cooperation across stakeholder groups. They also discussed how the lived experience of faith within Christian higher education sits against a secularized context, where matters of faith are increasingly privatized.

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Across the two days, a range of influential speakers, theologians and leaders in Christian education shared both their faith experiences and good professional practices from personal, conceptual and reflective perspectives. The event also included visits to Liverpool's Catholic and Anglican cathedrals.

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"It was a true team effort both internally and externally with invaluable contributions from Liverpool Hope staff and our local, national and international friends and colleagues," said Dr. Anthony Anthony Ridge-Newman, Associate Professor (media and politics and digital media) within the School of Humanities at Liverpool Hope University. He co-founded the Hope Ecumenical Network with Associate Dean (International) Dr. Wendy Bignold.

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"With guests from Michigan to the Philippines and many places in between, we shared good practice, insights, rich thinking and fellowship," said Dr Ridge-Newman.

"The event was not about principles, definitions, philosophy or theology", said INCHE member Dr. Richard Gunton, Senior Lecturer at University of Winchester and Director of Faith-in-Scholarship at Thinking Faith Network. "Rather, it was a showcase of what is already happening and a space to reflect on how God's Spirit might be at work, and particularly about what might be possible in the UK. I came away greatly inspired by current initiatives, ideas and future possibilities."

Article source: *The Catholic Network (UK)* <https://www.thecatholicnetwork.co.uk/>. INCHE notes that Executive Director Shirley Roels, INCHE Board Chair Pieter Oudenaarden, and INCHE Europe coordinator Lydia Bor all attended this conference and met with many other INCHE leaders there.

EDITOR'S COMMENT

The INCHE partnership with the Society of Christian Scholars



Shirley Roels: When I became the Executive Director of our network in September 2017, one of our goals was to be a good partner with other networks that fostered Christian higher education. Worldwide, there is abundant global space and hope for such efforts; and there is room for

many collaborators who help Christian higher education flourish. We need each other.

Within the first three months of my journey, Dr. Keith Campbell, now Vice President for Program Development, Global Scholars, introduced me to the emerging Society of Christian Scholars. Although our primary participants would differ, our networks have shared Christian understandings about higher education. For INCHE members, it is useful to understand our partnership with the Society of Christian Scholars. In the paragraphs below, Keith Campbell explains how our networks differ and how we also help each other. Partnership is our network's middle name!



Keith Campbell writes:

The Society of Christian Scholars shares a lot in common with INCHE, but not everything. INCHE focuses on Christian higher education. The Society focuses on "secular" higher education. Scholars in both Christian and secular institutions often experience similar challenges. For example, both might ask, "What difference does my faith make in teaching the hard sciences" or "How should my faith influence my academic research and writing?"

But these scholars, because the philosophical underpinnings can differ significantly between Christian and secular institutions, also face quite different challenges. For example, a believing scholar in a secular institution often must navigate administrative meetings where most of their

colleagues are unbelievers; or she or he might face stronger pressure to conform to non-biblical policies.

Many Christian scholars, especially in the global south and east, serve in both Christian and secular institutions, perhaps teaching and researching full-time in one and adjuncting in the other. It is at this juncture, among many others, that INCHE and the Society are complementary.

If you, as an INCHE affiliate, or someone you know, serve in both a faith-based and a secular institution, then the Society of Christian Scholars might interest you (Society members must serve in secular institutions, even if only part time). At (www.SocietyofChristianScholars.org), you will see that The Society offers, among other things, webinars, EBSCO databases, editing services, and an online library. Furthermore, local, organic movements of the Society—movements led by local scholars—are forming worldwide, providing space for scholars to fellowship, strategize, host conferences (sometimes in partnership with INCHE), and research and write together. The Society's regional representatives are serving these movements.

If interest and time intersect, a representative from your region would love to hear from you:

- Anglophone Africa/Middle East (Prof. Osam Temple: otemple@SocietyofChristianScholars.org)
- Europe (Dr. Peter Cimala: pcimala@SocietyofChristianScholars.org)
- Latin America (Omar Montero, PhD cand.: omonte-ro@SocietyofChristianScholars.org)
- Asia (Dr. "Sam"; name withheld for security reasons. Contact Dr. Campbell at: kcampbell@SocietyofChristianScholars.org)



INCHE NETWORK NEWS

NEW MEMBERS!

Since mid-September, the INCHE Board of Directors has approved four new network members. We now embrace new institutional, affiliate, and associate members. Each of them is described below. Welcome to the International Network for Christian Higher Education!

Madras Christian College: This college in Chennai, India was founded in 1837 by missionaries from the Church of Scotland. The Christian mission of the college, says that the college "with the inspiration of the love of God offers to people of all communities, education of the whole person, which is congruous with God's revelation in Christ of the true nature of humanity and is appropriate to the needs of India and of the world." Madras Christian College identifies itself as a college of arts, sciences, and commerce for both undergraduate and graduate students. A unique feature is that this campus is the second-largest scrub jungle in Asia, actively used by departments like Botany and Zoology for their practical work. The college is first among the arts and science colleges in the state of Tamil Nadu to meet the Solar Purchase obligation by generating 50 per cent of its power needs through solar energy.



Women's Christian College-Nagercoil: This college began in the early 1800s. It was initiated by the work of British missionaries on behalf of women in India who were downtrodden at that time. Since 1973, it has been named Women's Christian College-Nagercoil and has been supported by the Church of South India. Thereafter, this college created a niche for itself by providing quality learning for the holistic development of students. The college aspires to form vibrant professionals committed to Christian values, thereby "bringing glory to Jesus Christ." For a student body of more than 2300 students, the college offers undergraduate, post-graduate, M. Phil, and Ph.D. programs with many options, particularly in the sciences. Further background about this women's college is available at [Women's Christian College-Nagercoil \(wccnagercoil.edu.in\)](http://wccnagercoil.edu.in).



Cityside Education: Cityside Education is a non-profit, non-governmental and apolitical organization in Oradea, Romania. The goal of the organization is to invest in people and contribute to the development and formation of the younger generation. Their activities consist in

creating information packages, promoting and popularizing information through pupils, students and teachers, carrying out research projects and organizing conferences, lectures and educational events for the growth and formation of city and regional residents. This organization operates in cooperation with Emanuel University of Oradea, a Christian university for Romanian speaking people. Cityside Education is welcomed as a new affiliate member.



Center for Faithful Business: The Center for Faithful Business (CFB) is a think tank on the integration of faith and business that is hosted by Seattle Pacific University. It seeks to be a trusted, compelling, and prophetic voice, calling business leaders to integrate their faith with their work and encouraging business to embrace its potential as a force for good in the world. As a think tank, CFB incorporates research, scholarship, and best practices from the academy, business, and the church to integrate Christian faith with business and wrestle with how to serve God through business. Today, CFB sponsors events, research projects, learning communities, and publishing efforts to empower people to lead businesses with integrity and shape a more just and sustainable world. They serve both undergraduates and adult professionals through faculty workshops about faith integration, gatherings on Business as Mission, continuing education for business professionals about faith and business, and research through [The Bill Pollard Faith and Business Research Fellowship](#). These fellowships bring scholars to Seattle to conduct research on faith and business using the Pollard Papers.



Calvin Symposium on Christian Worship



The Calvin Institute of Christian Worship, an INCHE member, has announced that their 2023 Symposium on Christian Worship will be hosted at Calvin University, in Grand Rapids Michigan on February 8th-10th, 2023. Sessions are both in person and online. You can learn more and register at: <https://worship.calvin.edu/event-programs/2023-calvin-symposium-on-worship/?fbclid=IwAR2QVU6q0C3VYn0nbi8T7x57JHEYRIBaROd4fvP18stQa6G0NRS12of3tll>

INCHE NETWORK NEWS

Pollard Research Fellowships: Application Deadline of January 31

Each year, the Center for Faithful Business (CFB) at Seattle Pacific University invites scholars from around the world to apply for the **Bill Pollard Faith & Business Research Fellowship**. The fellowship provides scholars and business practitioners with the opportunity for research, classroom materials development, and leadership reflection. This scholarship is done in a seminar-like setting, working, and interacting with colleagues in a cohort-based approach.

The research fellowship is anchored by [the Pollard papers](#) and other resources in SPU's [Work and Faith Collection](#), one of the largest work and faith collections of resources in the world. This distinctive collection of books and papers is open to anyone who is interested in exploring the intersection of Christian faith with economics and business; of faith, the professions, and vocation.

C. William 'Bill' Pollard is Chairman of Fairwyn Investment Company, a private investment firm. For over twenty-five years, Bill participated in the leadership of The Service-Master Company serving not once but twice as its Chief Executive Officer. He also has served as a director of several public companies and a number of charitable, religious, and educational organizations, including Wheaton College and the Billy Graham Evangelical Association. Bill is the author of several books including the best seller *The Soul of the Firm* and, most recently, *The Tides of Life*. Bill Pollard donated a vast set of papers and speeches to the Work and Faith Collection. They provide insights into his endeavor to integrate Christian values in a diverse, multinational, publicly traded company.



Fellowship applications are due January 31, 2023. Scholars will be selected by February's end. Virtual meetings in April and May prepare for a June 19—23, 2023 in-person week on campus to foster further research, daily collaboration, and time to explore Seattle, Washington, USA. Travel and lodging expenses are covered. Stipends will be paid to scholars who have a U.S. work permit.

A panel of judges will evaluate the papers and invite one scholar to return the following spring for a presentation of the research findings and a discussion with faculty and fellows in the Center for Faithful Business. Completed research papers will be made available in the [Pollard Research Fellowship Papers](#) series.

Kuyper Prize Winner: Makoto Fujimura

Makoto Fujimura has been selected as the 2023 Kuyper Prize Recipient. Fujimura is a world-renowned modern artist, author and speaker, and arts organizer. His work expounds on Kuyperian theology. He uses the art of kintsugi, the Japanese art of repairing broken pottery (often with precious metals), to take what is shattered and make it whole again; not to return the object to its original state, but to shape a more beautiful restoration of wholeness.



"It is with great excitement that we award Makoto Fujimura this distinct honor," said Wiebe Boer, president of Calvin University. "It is clear that his work is heavily inspired by Kuyperian theology and through Fujimura's work his diverse global audiences are drawn to reflect upon deeper truths about human brokenness and restoration which were central to Kuyper's theology and politics."

"Receiving the Kuyper Prize is quite an unexpected honor," said Fujimura. "I hope this recognition will lead to a renewed connection between the artist and the church towards Culture Care and the development of robust Theology of Making."

The Kuyper Prize is awarded annually by Calvin University and Calvin Seminary to a leader whose contribution reflects the ideas and values characteristic of Kuyper's Neo-Calvinist vision of religious engagement with culture. The prize ceremony will be held during the May 9-11, 2023 Kuyper conference at Redeemer University. (sections of this story have been taken from: Calvin News)

Individual Membership Dues Reminder

In January 2023, individual INCHE members can renew their annual membership. The individual dues structure for 2023 will continue to be related to self-reported personal income in equivalent U.S. dollars. 2023 individual dues will be:

Self-reported income	2023 Individual Dues
Under \$20,000	USD \$10
\$20,000-\$60,000	USD \$30
\$60,000-\$100,000	USD \$55
Over \$100,000	USD \$110

Membership renewal is online with new year's messages!

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AFRICA REGION

Tribute to Dr. Samson Abekhale

The International Network for Christian Higher Education is grateful to God for Dr. Samson Olorunda Abekhale. Before his recent death, he led the University of Mkar's Professional Learning Circle about the African Formation of Christian Teachers. The team read and discussed books on how Christian faith shapes the vision, content and pedagogy of teachers.



Subsequently, through a university seminar, Dr. Abekhale aided other University of Mkar faculty members in exploring Christian teaching and learning. He was instrumental in sharing what the team had learned with regional Christian secondary school leaders. Through INCHE, Dr. Abekhale selected useful library resources on the topic of Christian teacher formation and secured them as long-term resources for the University of Mkar. We pray for the Holy Spirit to comfort and provide for his family as he has now passed on to live with Jesus.

INCHE 2023 Grant for African Professional Development

INCHE announces that an anonymous foundation has awarded our network a 2023 grant to support the professional development of Christian educators in the INCHE Africa region on the topic of **Educating Redemptive Change Agents**. INCHE Africa members will be invited into reading, discussion, and online opportunities that deepen their understanding of a wholistic Biblical worldview as well as the knowledge and skills to form students as ethical Christian leaders. The goal is to prepare Christian university graduates as agents of Christian renewal as they engage corruption in business, government, and other organizations.

By February 2023, African universities that are INCHE members will be invited to this opportunity. Look for future INCHE announcements and ask administrative, faculty, and staff leaders about their interest. In this grant-supported project, INCHE African members will combine their time and talent with the grant's financial resources.

Vice-President of Nigeria Speaks at Bowen University

Bowen University was visited in November by the Vice-president of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Yemi Osinbajo, who spoke at the launch of the first Super Dual Auroral Radar Network (SuperDarn) Building launch. The system's name is Virginia Tech-Nigerian Bowen Equatorial Aeronomy Radar (VT-NigerBear).



The radar network is the 36th of such in existence around the world. The VT-NigerBear is a network of high frequency radars that looks into the earth's upper atmosphere, providing insight into variations in atmospheric conditions and weather hazards.

Akademie Reformatoriese Opleiding en Studies moves forward in South Africa

Akademie Reformatoriese Opleiding en Studies (AROS) has bought a new campus. In September 2022, both South Africa's Department of Higher Education and Training and their Council on Higher Education approved AROS' new permanent home in Montana Park, Pretoria..



A R O S

AROS leaders look forward to an exciting student life with the resumption of academic and social activities on the new campus in 2023.

Additionally, AROS has been making a significant investment in online education. Yet to maintain personal support for students, in 2023 both in-person and online students can attend support sessions in person on campus. Further, for students who, because of distance, are unable to attend on campus sessions, they will be reached through online broadcasts or interactive sessions. Each student will have the opportunity to receive personal academic support.

AROS also has made significant changes to its constitutional documents to support a new body that oversees AROS governance. These changes are important as AROS searches for a new head of the institution. AROS is in the process of confirming the appointment of a new President.

ASIA-OCEANIA REGION

Call for Paper/Presentation Proposals INCHE 2023 Asia-Oceania Conference

January 31, 2023 Deadline!



INCHE is pleased to announce the call for papers and presentations for the INCHE Asia-Oceania Conference on June 20-22, 2023. This English language conference will be hosted by Handong Global University in Pohang, Republic of Korea (South Korea) on the theme: **Christian Scholars: Forming Identity, Building Community**. While proposals must be submitted in the English language, presentations may be given in either English or Korean, with live translation available. The deadline for proposal submission is January 31, 2023. Additional information about conference plans, themes, and the proposal process are available at:

- Conference website with more information: <https://inche.one/call-for-papers>
- Google Form: <https://docs.google.com/forms/u/0/>

The Lumina College Experience

Lumina College continues to create its influence in Hong Kong through diploma programs, media workshops, and corporate learning series. In this process, they have discovered that adult learners can be awakened in life perspectives as they grow their leadership competence. Lumina faculty leaders have learned that they can re-frame their disciplines with God's creation and redemption in mind while facing the context of our times. They are convinced that corporate learning touches on values



and worldviews as we face change. The Christian endeavor bears on both the macro and micro context. Lumina College is a beacon for co-creating with God in the Asian world of diversity, conflict, and turmoil.

Dr. Andrew Butcher Moves from Academic to Church Leadership

In 2023 INCHE Board member, Dr. Andrew Butcher, is moving from his leadership of Bethlehem Tertiary Institute (New Zealand) to the role of Senior Associate Lay Minister in the Parish of Fendalton with the Anglican church in Christchurch, New Zealand. After moving to the South Island, he will be under discernment on the possibility of becoming an ordained deacon, and then a priest. With his change of position, INCHE will seek a new board member for Asia-Oceania.



At the end of 2022, Dr. Butcher will have completed five years of service to BTI students and staff. He says, "I leave in absolute confidence that BTI is in good heart, with leaders and staff who have a deep love for God, for each other, and for our students. I am very proud of what we have achieved; flourishing through the pandemic, with new programmes, new online courses, and outstanding students. Yvette and I are sad to leave BTI and Tauranga, but we are also excited about the new opportunities before us to serve God in the large, vibrant and diverse parish of Fendalton. Our hearts are open to what God is doing through this unexpected leading of the Spirit."

As BTI celebrates its 30th year in 2023, the Institute will seek a new Principal. In the meantime, interim arrangements within existing leaders will ensure a smooth transition for students and staff. Dr. David Tweed, chair of the BTI Board of Directors, noted, "BTI's mission remains to provide Christ-centred, biblically informed professional preparation, development and research – and we do this with a firmer foundation and clearer focus thanks to Dr. Butcher's contribution."

EUROPE REGION



Artwork by Ukraine artist: Alicja Wieczorek
Posted by Global Scholars Canada

INCHE Prayer for Ukraine

Heavenly Father, we come to you with heavy hearts as the war in Ukraine continues. We pray that truth will be known, and evil-doers will be thwarted. Comfort those who are displaced from loved ones, homes, and futures. Help us extend mercy to all affected by this war while we also seek justice. We pray for the promised day when wars are replaced by your peaceful kingdom. Help us to live now as your agents of mercy, justice, and peace.

INCHE-Europe Leaders Meet Online

In November and early December two sets of INCHE Europe leaders met. On November 4, INCHE Europe held its first online meeting of designated international officers. The goal was to gain deeper knowledge about each other's Christian higher education institutions so that there can be greater cooperation among like-minded Christian educators. International officers can describe the various fields of study within their institutions and consider how to infuse a faith-based identity into multiple areas of learning and practice.

On December 2, INCHE Europe executive leaders, met online. Liudmyla Shtanko, Rector of the Ukrainian Institute of Arts and Sciences, an INCHE member, joined the meeting.

After noting the success of the April 2022 INCHE Europe conference hosted by Károli Gáspár University in Budapest, participants focused on future INCHE Europe collaboration. They support emerging cooperation through their international officers; the expected April 2023 student

programme in Romania; plans for a May 2023 meeting in conjunction with a May 24-25, 2023, conference on Christian educational leadership sponsored by Driestar Christian University in Gouda, the Netherlands.

During the meeting, Lydia Bor, INCHE-Europe coordinator and Driestar Educatief international officer, reviewed the history of INCHE Europe, noting four presidents' meetings and three European regional conferences since 2016. Now INCHE Europe executive leaders are working to build greater capacity to develop INCHE Europe, attract additional institutional members, and plan for the next INCHE Europe conference in a couple years.

INCHE Student Programme: Nominate your student participants by December 15!

INCHE Europe is planning a Student Programme from 17 to 21 April 2023 in Romania. The gathering is being organized by the European Region of INCHE with Partium Christian University. The conference theme is: *Sustainable Development Goals from a Christian Perspective*. Conference organizers emphasize that God has offered sufficient means for a peaceful and happy existence, and Earth has gracefully offered us our ancestral home. Yet inequality, hyper-individualism, and overconsumption are pushing the world toward greater chaos. The program will explore how Christians are called to be part of the solution instead of aggravating the problem.

The programme will have plenary sessions, fellowship, community building, workshops, group work, discussion groups, excursions, and time for interaction between fellow students. Students will grow in their Christian leadership skills and fellowship with like-minded university students in Europe.

One to five students from each INCHE Europe institute or university can participate. There is no direct registration fee for the programme since it is a Blended Intensive Programme with Erasmus+ funding support. Registration for the programme, excursions and meals are included. Students can organise travel and accommodations using Erasmus+ short term blended mobility scholarship funds.

To participate students must be nominated by their institutions **no later than December 15, 2022**. Nominations should be sent to INCHE-Europe@INCHE.one.

LATIN-AMERICA REGION

A Universidad Madero (UMAD)-Puebla, Mexico: "A Day to Give"

Every year, the Madero Educational System, made up of the UMAD Puebla and Papaloapan campuses, the Madero Mexican Institute Center and Zavaleta campuses, and the Mexico Normal Institute carry out November 8 as "The Day to Give", a date in which the entire educational community supported by other sectors of society come together. The purpose is to carry out actions to raise the greatest quantity of resources that allow them to continue strengthening the scholarship fund of universities as well as a fund for training young people who neither study nor work.



Among the activities planned for this day, the following stand out: a conference on "Generosity" given by the Master Miguel Bértiz, General Director of the Caritas Food Bank

Foundation; a sale of food, products, and services; music by a guest DJ, a musical show by two guest singers and a dancing contest. Similarly, since October 13, a PET, cardboard and aluminum recycling campaign was launched. The sale of materials that could create the greatest possible resources was the focus of the collection.

The Master Donaciano Alvarado Hernández, vice principal for Institutional Development, explained that the other main objective of this activity is to promote a culture of generosity not only among the Madero Community, but throughout society. He called for people to join a social cause, contributing one of the three Ts: their Time, their Talent, or their Treasure.

The vice principal Alvarado highlighted: "Our activity is part of the global movement called 'A Day to Give' that is organized in many parts of the world, where people, schools, organizations, and companies are invited to participate by giving their time, their treasure, or their talent, for the good of some cause. In our specific case, we invite you to contribute to two programs: the scholarship fund that benefits 42% of our students and the training program for young people who neither study nor work, so that they can enter the market labor and be productive

... thus, helping them to continue with their dreams of being successful professionals with knowledge, culture and values."

New Scientific Magazine at Universidad Evangelical Del Paraguay (UEP)



Last May, the Faculty of Accounting, Administrative and Economic Sciences of the Universidad Evangélica del Paraguay (UEP), officially launched the Mba'apoha Scientific Business Magazine, an occasion where they shared the vision, purpose and operations developed to make this possible. This presents a great opportunity to strengthen scientific dissemination, socializing knowledge and cooperation with a comprehensive development of the nation. The scientific business magazine Mba'apoha, which is available online, is part of the work promoted by the Department of Research, Development, and Innovation (IDI) under the leadership of Dr. Emilio Iberbuden, who has promoted the vision and coordination of an articulated process with different internal units.

"The scientific journal for our faculty is the greatest expression of our desire to create knowledge, beyond simply transmitting it. With the magazine we open a space for students and teachers to be motivated to be curious, systematically investigate, and add serious value to society. The magazine will also allow added value to the curriculum of our teachers," said the Samuel Wiens Bartel – Dean of the Faculty and Director of the UEP Gutenberg Campus

The launching ceremony was held at the Oskar Bruno Walde Siemens University Library of the UEP- Gutenberg Campus, with the presence of the main authorities of the UEP, Mennonite Brothers Association, teachers, students, and special guests, who socialized in an atmosphere of great academic and scientific celebration.

The online magazine "Revista Científica Empresarial Mba'apoha" can be found at the following link: https://issuu.com/uevangelicopy/docs/revista_fce_2022

NORTH-AMERICA REGION

University of Northwestern-St. Paul Announces Their Ninth President

Following a nationwide search, Dr. Corbin Hoornbeek, a leader in Christian higher education and world missions for nearly 30 years, has been unanimously selected by the University of Northwestern – St. Paul (UNW) board of trustees to be the organization's ninth president.

Hoornbeek comes to Northwestern after having served as Vice President for University Advancement at Azusa Pacific University (APU), where he directed the university's fundraising, alumni, and parent engagement programs. Prior to his APU years, Dr. Hoornbeek spent more than a decade as a major gift officer with The Navigators, a global, interdenominational mission agency. During his Navigators' tenure, Hoornbeek traveled extensively throughout the world, interacting cross-culturally with global missions in Africa, Asia, and Europe.

Hoornbeek said, "...Over its 120-year history, Northwestern has remained true to its mission, unwavering in its commitment to Christ-centered academic excellence and to equipping the next generation of God-honoring leaders for our homes, churches, communities, and the world in the classroom and over the airwaves. I humbly step into this role on the shoulders of the great and faithful leaders who have gone before, and I look forward to doing so with the leading of the Holy Spirit."

Originally from Bellingham, Wash., Hoornbeek earned a B.A. in Music from the University of Michigan and an M.A. in Theological Studies from Covenant Theological Seminary before graduating with a Ph.D. in Leadership Studies from Dallas Baptist University. Hoornbeek assumed the role in August 2022, following Dr. Alan Cureton, who had led Northwestern since 2002.

(Sections of the above story are based on the University of Northwestern-St. Paul press release of 6/15/22.)

The King's University Develops Micro-Credential Initiative

The King's University is developing new bite-sized programs after the Government of Alberta announced in-



creased funding for micro-credential programming in October 2022. Micro-credentials are short learning opportunities focused on a particular skill or topic. Learners can access and complete modules on their own schedule. A grant of \$200,000 will be used to develop two courses: Financial Accounting and Sustainable Agriculture. Each credential will be divided into six parts, with completion of the entire set awarding the credential. The micro-credential can also be used towards a degree if desired. While the Financial Accounting credential will be based entirely online, the agriculture program will mix online and experiential, hands-on opportunities. These courses will provide a unique opportunity to access King's education in a flexible environment, equipping learners with the skills they need for a successful career.

Redeemer University Marks Its 40th Year

In October 2022 Redeemer University (Ancaster, Ontario, Canada) marked its 40th anniversary with a special weekend celebration. Events included the formal inauguration of Dr. David Zietsma as the university's fifth president; a barbecue for students, faculty, staff, and families; and art exhibits. Festivities highlighted a worshipful concert to which Dr. Justin Cooper, president emeritus, contributed stories of the early years.



During that weekend, university leaders also launched the *Albert M. Wolters Centre for Christian Scholarship* which honours the legacy of one of Redeemer's founding faculty, a Professor of Religion and Theology for 24 years. The Wolters Centre supports outstanding Reformed Christian research for the common good and offer lectures on Christian cultural engagement.

Earlier in the anniversary year, the university had inaugurated a complex that includes an Innovation Centre, makerspace, Career Centre, student residences, and contemporary learning spaces. This September the university welcomed 347 new students, reaching a total enrolment of 1,089, its all-time high.

In his October inaugural address, new president David Zietsma said, "The name Redeemer reflects the very purpose of this university. We exist to make the hope and love of Jesus Christ known in the world - the redeeming power of the Redeemer. We exist to begin now that work of reconciliation. We do that in research and creative work, in scholarship and in practice and significantly in preparing students to bear the name of the Redeemer wherever they are called."

SPECIAL FEATURE



Selected Poetry, Prose, and Translations, with Contextual Materials (Volume 76) (The Other Voice in Early Modern Europe: The Toronto Series)

By: Anne Vaughan Lock (author 1534–1590 CE), Susan M. Felch (editor)

Iter Press, October, 2021

Born to merchant-class parents who served in the court of Henry VIII and his queens, Anne Vaughan Lock lived in London and Exeter, spent time in Geneva as a religious exile, belonged to the Cooke sisters' political-religious circle, maintained friendships with prominent Protestant leaders, and engaged the issues of her day. As a recognized public figure, she took on the roles of reformer, poet, translator, correspondent, spiritual counselor, and political advocate. During her lifetime, she published two books, both of which were reprinted several times.

This volume provides a collection of Lock's works presented in modern spelling, and it includes additional contemporary materials that place her voice in the larger context of the Tudor period, offering insight into the intertwined complexities of political, social, and religious life in sixteenth-century England.

About the Author

Susan M Felch is Emerita Professor of English at Calvin University and Emerita Director of the Calvin Center for Christian Scholarship. She received her undergraduate education at Wheaton College and her Ph.D. in English from The Catholic University of America in Washington, D. C. She has published numerous articles in the fields of sixteenth-century British literature, contemporary literary theory, and higher education. In addition to books on 16th century authors, she has published *Bakhtin and Religion: A Feeling for Faith* (Northwestern UP, 2001) with Paul J. Contino; *Selected Readings of Bible Stories* with Xing Ling (Yunnan UP, 2011); *Teaching and Christian Imagination* (Eerdmans, 2016) with David I. Smith; and *The Cambridge Companion to Literature and Religion* (Cambridge UP, 2016). She has also written the Spiritual Biographies of the Seasons series and *The Emmaus Readers* with Gary Schmidt (2002–2009). She serves as the Executive Editor of The Independent Works of William Tyndale, and is preparing a critical edition of Tyndale's *The Obedience of a Christian Man*.



SPECIAL FEATURE

Shirley Roels: Over more than three decades, you have researched the poetry, prose, and translations of Anne Lock, a women of influence in 16th century England, who was part of the Reformed community. While you have addressed many topics as a Christian scholar, what called you to research the life and writing of Anne Lock?

Susan Felch: Early in my career, I was asked to present a paper on John Knox at an academic conference. As I began to read his letters, I found that he carried on an extensive correspondence with a number of women, including Anne Lock, whom he described as both a sister and mother in the faith, despite the fact that she was twenty years younger.



Knox's letters revealed a woman I wanted to know better, especially when I discovered that Lock had published two books, the first of which included the first sonnet sequence (a series of sonnets on a single topic) written in English. I soon realized that while Lock was well respected in her own day, few people now knew her, so I set out to recover her voice. I also identify as Reformed, so although I didn't choose to study Lock simply because I share her theological tradition, that mutuality does help me present her accurately and sympathetically to contemporary readers.

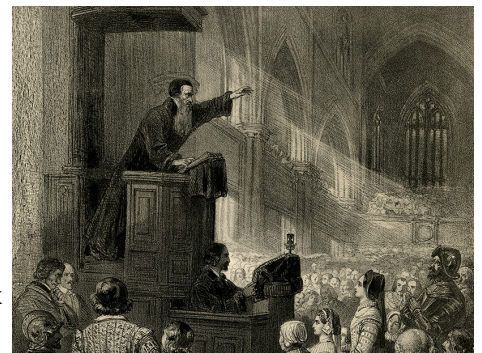
SR: In 16th century England, Anne Lock's theological perspectives, both Protestant and Calvinist, were not always regarded favorably by the court and official church. Yet despite her identity as part of a marginalized Christian group, Lock was a pastoral mentor to several leaders and a public influence in the royal court. Was Anne Lock always safe in England?

SF: Lock lived in a turbulent, partisan, and changing world, much like our own global context today. Her father championed William Tyndale, the Bible translator, who was martyred by King Henry VIII when Lock was just an infant, and she grew up within the London merchant class, which remained at odds with the king. When Lock was a teenager, Henry's son Edward VI, an ardent Protestant, came to the throne. Lock and her new hus-

band supported the regime change and hosted John Knox when he came to London to preach at court. Upon Edward's death, his sister Mary I, an equally ardent Roman Catholic, became queen and many Protestants, including Knox and Lock herself, fled to the Continent or were imprisoned and killed. When Elizabeth I ascended the throne in 1558, she laid out a "middle way" that was later called Anglican, and she was equally suspicious of both Roman Catholics and the Reformed community. So only for a short time during her long life, was Lock quite safe and secure. As a twenty-something mother with two young children, she left London as an exile. The journey proved costly when her baby daughter died within five days of their arrival in Geneva. As a middle-aged woman she was in danger of being sent to prison, although her husband wrote confidently that "God hath made her rich in grace and knowledge to give account of her doing." In her sixties, when many leaders in the Reformed community were exiled or imprisoned, she rallied her co-religionists.

SR: How was Anne Lock able to claim her public status when Christian leaders could be executed or imprisoned when they were out of favor? In what ways did Anne seek to influence English society?

SF: First, Lock consistently and publicly identified with and supported those in her Reformed community. She did not act alone. Lock took people into her home; she circu-



lated letters that kept an international Reformed community in contact with one another and in this capacity was known as one of the "brothers of Geneva"; she was asked to raise funds for the Scottish Reformation; she helped to collect and publish theological books; she was held up as a model of learning and piety to the queen herself; she was praised as being "no young scholar" in Christ's school and was named a spiritual "remembrancer," an official title for someone who represented a sovereign. Anyone who knew Anne Lock knew what she stood for.

Second, Lock used her learning and the printing press to

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good effect. Her first book, published in 1560 shortly after Elizabeth I came to the throne, was dedicated to a noble woman, the Duchess of Suffolk. This dedication insured that the book would find its way into the court. The entire book—Lock's sermonic preface on the need for spiritual medicine, the translation of John Calvin's sermons on King Hezekiah's repentant prayer in Isaiah 38, the sonnet sequence on Psalm 51 (another kingly penitent prayer)—constituted a warning to England and her new queen to turn from persecuting Protestants. It also provided a roadmap and liturgy for repentance. It was a particularly gutsy move for Lock to insert this book into the court at a time when Queen Elizabeth was not favorably disposed toward Calvin or anyone who had been in Geneva.

Twelve years later, when the queen was again annoyed with her Reformed subjects, Lock joined with friends and her second husband to produce a beautiful handwritten manuscript, composed in several languages, that pressed the queen to acknowledge their societal status, education, and right to be heard.

During a more intense time of persecution in the 1590s, Lock published her second book, again dedicated to a noble Protestant woman. Lock exhorted the Countess of Warwick in the sermonic preface to let her light shine in the queen's darkened court. But this time, rather than including sermons on repentance, she translated a book of consolation, written by French pastor Jean Taffin, which assured a frightened and weary community that their suffering was not a judgment from God, but rather a mark of their adoption by a loving Father.

In both books, Lock followed accepted rhetorical norms of the day, adding her own extensive prefaces to translations and including poetry as well as prose.

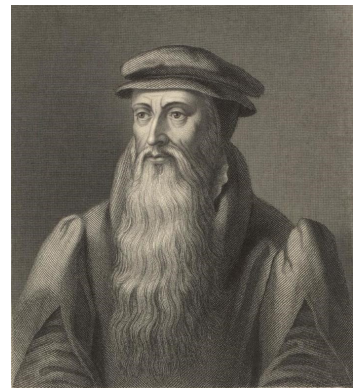
SR: Are there parallel ways in which Christians today are called to social influence on our world?

SF: I think that Lock provides an important model for us today. We need to stay imbedded in communities that nourish our spiritual identity—our families and friends, our churches, our local groups of Christian faculty, and our international associations, such as INCHE. We cannot do our scholarly work alone. But, second, we must do our scholarly work and publish it where it will be noticed. Lock studied; she learned languages; she polished her

writing; she used standard genres; she published in what we would call the mainstream. And people read her books, reprinted them, praised her learning, and were themselves inspired to write.

SR: John Knox, a Scottish leader of the Protestant Reformation, had an enduring Christian friendship with Anne Lock. In his letters to her, what does he emphasize as the primary obligation of married Christian women? Should we teach this to our students?

SF: Knox is clear that the primary obligation of all Christians, including married Christian women, is to love and obey God. When Lock wrote to him about a spiritual question, he gave his advice, but then reminded her to trust the Holy Spirit to guide her to make the right decision. When



Knox urged Lock to leave London and come to Geneva, her husband (for reasons we don't know) was reluctant or unable to travel. Knox responded that she should first pray "to follow that which is acceptable in God's sight," and then tell her husband what God had revealed to her.

The picture I chose for the cover of this edition (see newsletter, p.10) is a woodcut from the 16th century that shows a newly created Eve, reaching out towards God, represented by the Hebrew word Yahweh. Adam lies sleeping, his head turned away. Lock and her community believed that all Christians, including women, should read the Bible for themselves. They should pursue a direct relationship with God that would take priority even over proper societal relationships, such as those between wife and husband, children and parents, subjects and queen. We should teach our students the same: to reach out with unmediated hands to their Creator; to live always *Coram Deo*, before the face of God.

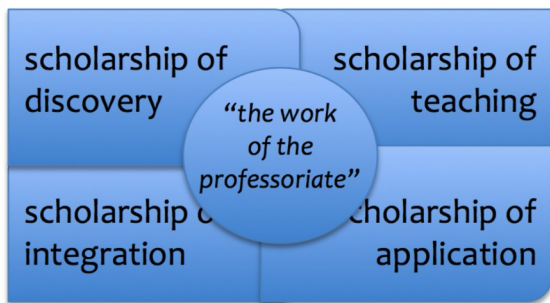
SR: During the 1500s, there is an explosion of varied Biblical translations and paraphrases. The Old Testament Psalms are one focus; and Anne Lock produced an original translation of Psalm 51. Many Psalms were recreated as lyrics set to music by Christians of this era.

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They recognized that Scripture memorization and meditation were aided by metrical psalm singing both in church and in private homes. Several “Psalters” were created in the U.K. and across the Low Countries of Europe. In the 21st century, about five hundred years later, Christian higher education offers another space for singing. How can Christian educators use Biblical songs to glorify God and improve Biblical literacy? Can we sing during online courses?

SF: The 16th century Reformers were well aware that music helps us to remember words. A tune floats into our consciousness and we begin to sing the words—even if they are a silly advertisement jingle. Lock’s paraphrase of Psalm 51 was actually set to music and is preserved in a Scottish manuscript.

I’ve never sung during an online course, but I think it is a great idea! In fact, I suggest that we incorporate a variety of artistic expressions into our courses. I’ve found that giving colored pens and paper or a camera or a box of sticks, tape, and markers to undergraduates, grad students, and even staid faculty can stimulate wonderfully creative and thoughtful responses to what we have read and discussed. And I’ve found that people remember what they make.



SR: Scholarship, according to a widely used typology by Dr. Ernest Boyer, can be described as: a scholarship of discovery; scholarship of teaching; scholarship of integration; or a scholarship of application.

Your work on Anne Lock is a scholarship of integration, in which you synthesize knowledge across the disciplines of history, Biblical studies, theology, linguistics, literature, music and more. It also is a scholarship of “re-discovery”, reclaiming knowledge about an influential Christian female whose leadership role had become obscured. How did you become ready to engage in this scholarship of integrated rediscovery?

SF: In some ways, I am an accidental scholar of Lock; I fell into research on Anne Lock while I was preparing a paper on John Knox. However, once I moved from Knox to Lock, I realized all of my earlier training was useful, even though I didn’t know it at the time. My work on Lock has utilized my undergraduate degree in music, my master’s degree in theology, and my doctorate in English literature, with a primary emphasis on literary theory. The intensive philosophic work in theory might seem the least relevant, but it taught me to examine underlying, often hidden, assumptions that guide all scholarly work.

For instance, I realized that often religious sentiments in the 16th century were seen by modern scholars as simply screens for “real” concerns about politics or economics. Although occasionally I might challenge this assumption directly, I found it better simply to treat religion, and specifically Lock’s Calvinist theology, as a straightforward expression of her beliefs. Those beliefs, of course, had implications for how she lived, how she viewed the queen and court politics, how she conducted her business affairs, and the like, but they were genuine beliefs. Another example of hidden assumptions is regarding women as a separate category of human being. Concentrated attention on “women’s writing” may have been necessary when women writers were being systematically excluded from scholarly work. But now I position Lock as a reformer, not as a woman reformer, and locate her within her various communities, which were composed of both men and women.

At the same time, when I began my work on Lock I realized that I needed to learn a great deal about book history, printing, and the technical aspects of examining and describing 16th century texts. So I attended seminars and conferences, asked advice from more experienced scholars, gave papers and solicited questions about my work, joined and was accepted into the international community of scholars who were also working on recovering early modern women’s voices.



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SF: Recently you received the 2022 Scholarly Edition prize from the Society for the Study of Early Modern Women and Gender for your 2021 book on Anne Lock titled “Selected Poetry, Prose, and Translations, with Contextual Materials.” This Society is not a Christian one. Yet they chose to award their prize to you as a Christian editor for a book about a Christian woman. Does this give you hope that contemporary academia may allow Christians to have a seat at the scholarly table?

SF: My field of early modern writers includes many authors who are Christian. To take them

seriously, you need to take their religious commitments seriously. So I have been fortunate to work within a community of scholars who value the precision of my work and, because they trust my scholarship, are willing to listen respectfully to my work on a Christian woman. A number of years ago, a reviewer for another book said, “As always, Felch’s scholarship is impeccable.” I treasure those words “as always” and try to live up to them.

I realize that different disciplines have different cultures when it comes to accepting Christian scholars, but the first and continuing step is to do work that commands respect, even when you may question foundational assumptions within your discipline.

SF: INCHE includes active and aspiring Christian scholars from six continents. Like you, many of these scholars have ongoing commitment to teaching as well as church and community service. Focused time for scholarship can be sparse and fragmented. Based on your experience, what strategies have you used to create the intellectual space and time to produce quality Christian scholarship?

SF: There is no substitute for simply sitting down and writing. Scholarship isn’t something you think about; it is something you do. None of us can make time or find time for scholarship, but all of us can secure time, and we must do that on a weekly basis. I learned this from *Write No Matter What* by Joli Jensen, a book I highly recommend. But, in addition, here are some of the strategies I have used.



- Start small; don't plan a book project, but rather write a conference paper and then turn it into an article.
- Go to the same conference every year and give a paper. You will meet other scholars; you will form partnerships; you will be asked to collaborate on scholarly projects.
- Never say, “I need to read one more book before I start to write.” Write from the beginning of your research, even if it is just notes, paragraphs, or wandering ideas. Fill a big basket with your own written words.
- Don't try to perfect an article, but send it off when it feels “about finished.” When it comes back with “revise and resubmit,” read the comments carefully, revise, and resubmit within a few weeks. Editors actually want you to resubmit, so don't put the “rejected” article away in shame.
- Once you've sent an article off, begin the next one immediately.
- Keep several projects going at the same time, in different stages: researching, writing, revising, polishing, proofing.
- Recognize that you are doing all your scholarly work, even the tedious tasks, *Coram Deo*, before the face of God. Take pleasure in your vocation and know that God delights in you and your work.



RESOURCES & BOOKS

VIDEO:

INCHE Quarterly Video

INCHE Director Shirley Roels interviews Dr. Susan Felch, Christian scholar and writer as well as a longtime member of the INCHE network. In the interview, Susan discusses her latest book, and its award from the Society for the Study of Early Modern Women and Gender, as well as her advice to young scholars. The video can be viewed on YouTube at this link: <https://youtu.be/Rj11yaz-vxE> and on the INCHE Facebook page at this link: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100087328756274>



PODCAST:

A Podcast Interview of INCHE member and scholar, Dr. David Koyzis, focuses on his book *Political Visions & Illusions: A Survey and Christian Critique of Contemporary Ideologies*. This podcast is at: <http://byzantinecalvinist.blogspot.com/2022/09/jason-montoya-interview.html>



BOOK:

An Explorer's Guide to John Calvin

Yudha Thianto

IVP Academic, July, 2022

Creation is the theater of God's glory. Scripture is like a pair of glasses to clarify our vision of God. Justification is the hinge on which religion turns. These affirmations are often associat-

ed with John Calvin, the 16th-century French Protestant Reformer known for his ministry in Geneva and authorship of the *Institutes of the Christian Religion*. Through several editions, Calvin expanded the *Institutes* from a brief study to a four-volume book. It covers the main doctrines of the Christian faith and shapes the theology of the Reformed tradition. In this volume, Reformed theologian Yudha Thianto guides readers through a careful study of Calvin's *Institutes*. After setting Calvin's writing in historical context, Thianto outlines significant aspects of Calvin's theology, guiding those who seek to learn about his ideas.

NOTE: Reviews are taken directly from the publishers' promotional materials and should not be considered reviews by INCHE.

The Civic Hospitality Project



The Kuyers Institute for Christian Teaching and Learning at Calvin University and its partner, the Henry Institute

for the Study of Christianity and Politics, announce the Civic Hospitality Project. The outcomes of this project create an approach to civic engagement rooted in Christian hospitality. Unlike tolerance, hospitality calls Christians to care for those who are different. Such an approach to civics education helps students grow in love of neighbor as they participate in civic spaces and processes. The goal is to teach students how to create active public space for productive engagements across lines of difference.

This new resource for Christian educations in the field of civics is available at: <https://civichospitality.com/> It includes free lesson plan outlines on multiple topics. These lessons describe a framework for understanding hospitality, a Biblical understanding of humans, skills in hearing the stories of others, a focus on hospitable character practices, and decision paths to workable outcomes. The project is intended to benefit both teachers and scholars.

The Civic Hospitality Project has special worldwide urgency in a time of eroding public trust, rising polarization, and widespread populist backlash against established institutions. Christian traditions provide rich formative resources for addressing such challenges with patience and generosity in our public spaces.

Calvin University Announces the 2023 January Series

The annual January Series is a FREE 15-day lecture series that takes place each year at Calvin University. It aims to cultivate deep thought and conversations about important issues of the day and to inspire cultural renewal as global citizens in God's world. This year's Series will occur on January 9-27, 2023.

Each day's speaker is described at "This Year's Speakers." The series offers online viewing for all 15 speakers in January 2023. Then these daily lectures will be available virtually during the hours after each day's presentation at: <https://calvin.edu/january>. As a result, these award-winning lectures are available to INCHE members worldwide at workable times. INCHE members are also encouraged to explore past lecture presentations that can be found in the Archives. They may be useful as teaching and scholarly resources.



Contact

Contact is the official newsletter of the International Network of Christian Higher Education (INCHE). It is published quarterly as a way of informing its members about news from across the many world regions in which INCHE operates. If you have any news items you would like to share with INCHE's members worldwide, please contact INCHE at:

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Grand Rapids, MI 49546, USA



ABOUT INCHE

INCHE is a network of institutions and individuals worldwide committed to advancing Christian education through training, capacity building, scholarship, and networking in ways that reflect both the universal (shared view of Christ's centrality in our identity and work) and the local (attending to the specific realities and practices of where and who we serve).

INCHE's Mission is to develop a network that facilitates contact and mutual assistance, acts as a catalyst for research and training, and encourages biblical and contextual responses to the critical issues in contemporary society, so as to help people serve the Lord Jesus Christ in an integral way.



**Have news you would like to share
with other INCHE members?**

Members may email articles to office@inche.one. We suggest articles contain 400 words or less.