Welcome to the newsletter for the Centre for Theology, Science and Culture (CTSC) based at the Adelaide College of Divinity (ACD), Brooklyn Park, South Australia

ACD’s Artist in Residence-Yvonne Ashby

Yvonne introduces herself: “As Artist in Residence at the Adelaide College of Divinity, I occupy studio space in the southern wing of the campus above the chapel. I became involved with the college through the Festival Fringe exhibitions as both artist and committee member. As a qualified interior and graphic designer, I work in the fields of illustration, design and visual art. Through interaction with the college, I have been given the opportunity to explore Christian and spiritual faith through the medium of painting. This challenge has expanded my horizons as an artist as well as developing my concepts as a Christian in search of understanding. I work in the media of watercolour and acrylic painting.”

You’re invited to Celebrating the Spirit art exhibition at Adelaide College of Divinity. For more information see page 3 of this newsletter or www.fringefestival.com.au

Some examples of Yvonne’s work:

Jesus as Friend in the Gospel of John

In the late 90s Yvonne was engaged in the restoration of 14 plaques depicting the Stations of the Cross at St. Ignatius Church, Norwood. She restored the plaster moulded Stations of the Cross to a decorative painted finish. Midday Mass was held daily and Yvonne says: “I was starting to feel part of a community which was a unique experience for an artist.” This painting reflects Yvonne’s thoughts about the gospel of John, a semester length study course, she undertook whilst at ACD

Creation and the Universe

Based on the Biblical text Genesis 1:1-2:4a and the scientific story of creation, the painting depicts Genesis and the scientific beginnings of time. The upper half shows the interrelation between the origins of time and the scientific data. Creation is shown as the sunset of primary colours. The lower half of the painting shows the life force (water) and the fossils around the Cambrian period.
Interested in a study tour of the lands of the Bible?

This program of focused study on the lands of the Bible will head off straight after Christmas 2006 for Greece (Athens, Corinth, Delphi, Meteora, Beroea, Vergina, Thessalonika, Philippi), Turkey (Gallipoli, Istanbul, Cappadocia, Ankara, Tarsus, Antakya), Syria (Damascus), Jordan (Amman, Mt Nebo, Geras, Pella, Petra) and Mt Sinai. The study tour is prepared for by two preliminary sessions in months prior to departure. The program is so popular that currently there are few places remaining. So if you're interested, be quick! Ring Michael Trainor on 8416 8407 or email at michael.trainor@flinders.edu.au

Profile on new Director
- Rev Dr Lee Levett-Olson

After growing up in North and South America, Lee began his ministry with the Uniting Church in Whyalla, South Australia and has been with the Uniting Church of Australia for over 20 years. He has degrees in English Literature, History, World Religions, and philosophical Theology - and has just enrolled for a Masters in online education! Yet a longstanding passion for both science and the arts (Lee is a published poet and concert performer) mean that the CTSC is a welcome chance to continue his interest in thinking across disciplines.

Married with one daughter (so far) and two dogs, Lee is committed to social justice and the environment as well as the art of preaching. He is keen to see the CTSC build on a reputation that already stretches around the world.

Diary Dates
Conversation dates

All conversations are held on Thursdays 5-6.30pm in the Student Room 1 (next door to the Chapel) at Adelaide College of Divinity, 34 Lipsett St, Brooklyn Park, Adelaide. The conversations are usually between theologians and experts from a variety of other academic disciplines. Commencing at 5pm with drinks and nibbles the conversation scene is set by the invited speakers and then opened to the audience. This process of presentation continues to work exceedingly well and the chairperson is often seen to be curtailing a stimulating discussion when proceedings are concluded at the advertised time of 6.30pm!

Planned dates for 2006 conversations are:
- 9 March
- 18 May
- 17 August
- 19 October

Research Forum meetings

Members of the theology faculty make their presentations on Thursdays 1-2pm in the Research Centre Meeting Room (W3) in the upstairs south west wing of the Adelaide College of Divinity.
- 6 April
- 4 May
- 1 June
- 3 August
- 31 August
- 5 October
- 2 November
Flinders University is 40 years old!
Stay tuned for information on a noted theologian speaking at ACD in July as part of the 40th Birthday celebrations. See www.flinders.edu.au/anniversary/ for up-to-date information.

Membership

CTSC is delighted to have over 100 members. Please don’t hesitate to encourage others to join. We remind all members outside the School of Theology and the Adelaide College of Divinity that an annual service fee of $10 is required. If you have not forwarded a service fee for 2006 please put your fee in an envelope and include your name, address and email address and send it to our Membership Officer, Ms Jules Munchenberg, ACD, 34 Lipsett Tce, Brooklyn Park, SA 5032. Phone: 8416 8420 or email p-wcollege@flinders.edu.au

Exciting Plans for Adelaide Festival Fringe 2006

Celebrating the Spirit art exhibition is happening! This free event builds upon the successes of the four previous ACD Exploring Australian Spirituality Art Exhibitions held as part of the 1998, 2000, 2002, 2004 Fringe Festivals. This event is advertised in the Adelaide Fringe Festival Program.

Twenty five artists celebrate the universal life of the spirit. A wide range of perspectives with something for every taste. Includes original paintings, sculpture, textile art, photography, wood and glass. A celebration of art, imagination and the spirit.

Sun 26 February, 1-5, 8-12 March 2006
1pm-5pm
Opening: Sunday 26 February, 3pm
Speaker: renowned SA artist Cedar Prest
Artists discuss their work: Sunday 5th March at 3pm
Conversation on theology and the arts: Thursday 9 March, 5 – 6.30pm
For more information phone: 8416 8460

Human Rights Awards

Together with Gerard Goggin, Christopher Newell received the “Arts Non-Fiction Award” of the 2005 Human Rights Awards for their book Disability in Australia: Exposing a Social Apartheid published by UNSW Press. The result was announced on December 9th at the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission ceremony in Sydney. Prof Newell addressed CTSC members at ACD in 2003.

Visitor from Zimbabwe

Mr Gabriel Manyangadze, Director of Church and Society, which is a department of the Zimbabwe Council of Churches, spoke at a lunchtime meeting on November 10 2005. His visit was sponsored by the Christian World Service Commission of the National Council of Churches in Australia as part of the 2005 Christmas Bowl Appeal.
Global Warming and Extinction of Species: What does it mean for us?

This was the title of Sean McDonagh SSC presentation on November 16 2005 at ACD. Sean is an Irish missionary priest and ecological activist who worked in the rainforest regions of the Philippines for many years. Sean's books include Passion for the Earth (1995), Greening the Christian Millennium (1999), Why are we Deaf to the Cry of the Earth (2001), Dying for Water (2003), Patenting Life? Stop! (2003) and The Death of Life - the Horror of Extinction (2004). Other speakers included Dr Douglas Bardsley who is Senior Project Officer for the South Australian government within the Department of Water, Land and Biodiversity Conservation and well as Katherine Wells who is the Acting Chair of the Premier's round table on sustainability in Tim Flannery's absence. Lee Levett-Olson chaired the evening. The event was sponsored by the Heads of Christian Churches and the Office of Sustainability within the Department for Environment and Heritage in conjunction with the Adelaide Catholic Justice and Peace Office.

The Board welcomes communications with members and invites members to contribute to its newsletter. Please email either the Director Lee Levett-Olson or the Executive Secretary Di Thiele at

CTSC@flinders.edu.au

or forward your communication to:

CTSC
Adelaide College of Divinity
34 Lipsett Terrace
Brooklyn Park SA 5032

For further information about the Flinders University and Adelaide College of Divinity Centre for Theology, Science and Culture and its activities, please visit our website:

www.flinders.edu.au/CTSC