

THE FUTURES OF PUBLIC THEOLOGY CONFERENCE

BIOGRAPHIES OF PARTICIPANTS

Teresa Callewaert

Teresa Callewaert received her doctorate in Theological Ethics from the University of Uppsala. Her doctoral thesis, *Theologies Speak of Justice*, is a comparative study of Islamic and Christian social ethics. It concerns the role of religious arguments in public, and theological contributions to the meaning of social justice, as well as issues of authority and interpretative methods. Her other research interests include disability theology, and she is currently working as a minister in the Church of Sweden with the Church's work for and with people who have cognitive disabilities.

David Clough

David Clough is Professor of Theological Ethics at the University of Chester. After completing his doctoral studies in the US, he moved to Durham as FD Maurice Postdoctoral Fellow in Christian Ethics at St Chad's College, Durham, and then taught systematic theology and ethics at St. John's College. He is currently serving as the President of the Society for the Study of Christian Ethics, convenes the Theological Ethics seminar at the Society for the Study of Theology, co-chairs the Animals and Religion Group of the American Academy of Religion, and is a Visiting Professor at the Centre for Animal Welfare, University of Winchester. He is a Methodist Local Preacher, a member of both the UK Methodist Church, Faith and Order Network and the Methodist Joint Advisory Committee on the Ethics of Investment, and has served on national ecumenical working groups on the ethics of modern warfare and the theology of climate change.

Alison Elliot

Alison Elliot is an Honorary Fellow at the University of Edinburgh, having formerly lectured in Psychology at Edinburgh and Lancaster Universities. Whilst Convener of SCVO, she was appointed to the Christie Commission on the Future Delivery of Public Services in Scotland and served on several follow-up committees. She also chaired a review of land reform for the Scottish Government. Currently, she is a trustee of the International Futures Forum and serves on the Advisory Group for the *Connected Communities* programme of the Arts and Humanities Research Council, the External Advisory Board for the Open University in Scotland, and chairs the Advisory Board for *What Works Scotland*. She is a former Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

David Fergusson

David Fergusson is Professor of Divinity and Principal of New College. He studied philosophy and theology in Glasgow, Edinburgh and Oxford. He worked for several years as a parish minister in the Church of Scotland. Having held the Chair of Systematic Theology in the University of Aberdeen, he returned to Edinburgh as Professor of Divinity in 2000. He was appointed Principal of New College (2008) and is a Chaplain to the Queen in Scotland. From 2009-11, he served as a Vice-Principal of the University of Edinburgh. In 2016, he was awarded the OBE for services to arts, education and the Church of Scotland. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh (2004) and a Fellow of the British Academy (2013). In 2014, he was awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of Aberdeen. His monograph on the theology of providence will be published by Cambridge University Press in 2018.

Douglas Gay

Douglas Gay is a Lecturer in Practical Theology at the University of Glasgow. Doug joined Theology and Religious Studies in October 2005 after PhD studies in New College, Edinburgh under Will Storrar and David Fergusson. He holds an MA degree in Modern History and International Politics from the University of St Andrews and a BD from the University of Glasgow. Doug is an ordained minister who trained for ministry in the Church of Scotland and worked as a Church of Scotland minister for two years, before spending six years working in Hackney, East London as a minister of the United Reformed Church. He has worked as a religious columnist for The Times and is also active as a hymnwriter and liturgist.



Robin Gill

Robin Gill is Emeritus Professor of Applied Theology at the University of Kent. He was previously the first holder of both the Michael Ramsey Chair at Kent and the William Leech Research Chair at Newcastle. He has published extensively in sociological theology, the sociological study of churches, Christian and religious ethics, and health care ethics.

Aruna Gnanadson

Aruna Gnanadson is a member of the Church of South India. She directed the programme on Women in Church and Society and the Justice, Peace and Creation work of the World Council of Churches, Geneva. She now lives in Chennai, India and resources the churches and the ecumenical movement in India and globally reflecting on the role, the challenge and the alternatives offered by the gospel in addressing the impact of patriarchy, caste and global capitalism on the people and the earth. She has contributed innumerable articles to Christian and secular journals, magazines and books on a wide variety of topics – especially on issues related to women and to North-South relations. She is the author of the book *No Longer a Secret: The Church and Violence Against Women*, and a book on eco-feminist theology from the Indian perspective *Listen to the Women, Listen to the Earth*.

Elaine Graham

Elaine Graham is the Grosvenor Research Professor of Practical Theology at the University of Chester. For her PhD, she studied the impact of gender theory on the discipline of pastoral studies within the Western Christian tradition. From there, via an interest in religion and the body, she started to think about the ways in which popular culture and scientific discourses provide the Western cultural imagination with all sorts of depictions of what it means to be human in a digital, biotechnological and cybernetic age. She recently jointly-authored a volume on advanced research methods in Practical Theology, to be published by Ashgate in 2017. In addition to her University commitments, she is currently holding the honorary post of Canon Theologian at Chester Cathedral.

Harriet Harris

Harriet Harris is the University Chaplain and Head of the Chaplaincy Service. She is a priest in the Scottish Episcopal Church (SEC), and Convenor of the Doctrine Committee of the SEC, which involves overseeing publications on Relationships and Human Intimacy, The Art of Dying Well, The Church and Scottish Identity, and Religion and Science. She takes part in ecumenical and interfaith activities nationally and internationally, including the Archbishop of Canterbury's Building Bridges dialogues between Muslims and Christians. Harriet was formerly a University Lecturer in Theology, and continues to teach and write. She is an Honorary Fellow of the Divinity School in Edinburgh. She is currently editing a volume on Atheisms, and has been commissioned to write a narrative of evil.

Jeremy Kidwell

Jeremy Kidwell is Lecturer in Theological Ethics at the University of Birmingham. His interdisciplinary research seeks to interact with scholars and practitioners in informatics and humanities, and to address those tricky ethical issues which can benefit from the insights of real experience and philosophical reflection. He has a background in the IT industry and prior to coming to Birmingham was a post-doctoral research associate the University of Edinburgh. His most recent publication is *The Theology of Craft and the Craft of Work: From Tabernacle to Eucharist* (Routledge 2016)

David Lyall

David Lyall is the former Principal of New College (1999-2002), where he was also Lecturer in Christian Ethics and Practical Theology. In the past, he has worked as a parish minister and hospital chaplain. He has published extensively in the area of pastoral care and has considerable experience of lecturing in practical theology. Since 2007, he has lived in Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

Jolyon Mitchell

Professor Jolyon Mitchell is Professor of Communications, Arts and Religion and Director of the Centre for Theology and Public Issues (CTPI) at the University of Edinburgh. He is also President of the UK's National Association for Theology and Religious Studies (AUDTRS). Educated at Cambridge, Durham, and Edinburgh



Universities, Jolyon Mitchell worked as a producer and journalist for BBC World Service and BBC Radio 4 before he was appointed to the University of Edinburgh. His publications reflect some of his research interests and include: *Promoting Peace, Inciting Violence: The Role of Religion and Media* (Routledge: 2012); *Martyrdom: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford University Press, 2012); *Media Violence and Christian Ethics* (Cambridge University Press, 2007); *The Religion and Film Reader* (co-editor with S. Brent Plate, Routledge, 2007). Prof. Mitchell is a regular broadcaster and he has given numerous invited lectures around the world. He has carried out original research in a wide range of countries both in Europe and beyond including Rwanda, South Africa, Ghana, the USA and the Philippines.

George Newlands

George Newlands is Professor Emeritus of Divinity at the University of Glasgow and has been an Honorary Professorial Research Fellow since 2008. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, and of the Royal Society of Arts, an Honorary Fellow of New College, Edinburgh, and President of the Society for the Study of Theology (2013-2014). He became an ordained minister of the Church of Scotland in 1970, and priest of the Church of England in 1982. Newlands' research interests are in modern systematic theology, Christology, emancipatory theology and the history of Christian thought. Recent publications are *Traces of Liberty* (Peter Lang, 2005), *Christ and Human Rights* (Ashgate 2006), *Faith and Human Rights* (Fortress 2008) and *Hospitable God* (Ashgate 2010).

Michael Northcott

Michael Northcott is Professor of Ethics at the University of Edinburgh. His teaching and research is in the areas of Christian Ethics, ecology and religious ethics, and economy and ethics. He has published 12 books and over 70 academic papers. He has been visiting professor at the Claremont School of Theology, Dartmouth College, Duke University, Flinders University, and the University of Malaya. He leads a large AHRC grant on faith-based ecological activism in the UK entitled 'Caring for the Future Through Ancestral Time'. He is a co-investigator on the Human-Business at Edinburgh Initiative investigating the ethical implications of current modes of representing economic value.

Oliver O'Donovan

Oliver O'Donovan is Professor Emeritus of Christian Ethics and Practical Theology at the University of Edinburgh. He was the Regius Professor of Moral & Pastoral Theology and Canon of Christ Church at the University of Oxford from 1982 until 2006, before which he taught at Wycliffe Hall, Oxford (1972-7) and at Wycliffe College, Toronto (1977-82). He is a past President of the Society for the Study of Christian Ethics. Ordained as a priest of the Church of England, he has been an active participant in ecumenical dialogue and has served on the General Synod. He has been a Fellow of the British Academy since 2000. He is the author of *Begotten or Made?* (Oxford University Press, 1984), *Resurrection and Moral Order* (Eerdmans, 1986), *On the Thirty-Nine Articles* (Paternoster, 1986), *Peace and Certainty* (Eerdmans, 1989), *The Desire of the Nations* (Cambridge University Press, 1996), *Common Objects of Love* (Eerdmans, 2002) and *The Ways of Judgment* (2005).

Lesley Orr

Lesley Orr is a Research Fellow at the Centre for Theology and Public Issues, University of Edinburgh. She is a historian, theologian and activist for gender and social justice. Her current research interests include war resistance and peace movements, the history of Women's Aid, and the historical relationship between faith and feminism. She is a co-editor of the forthcoming *Wiley Blackwell Companion to Religion and Peace*. She has extensive experience of work in NGOs and the public sector, including the Scottish Government. Lesley has had longstanding involvement in the ecumenical movement, particularly in relation to challenging gender inequality, violence and abuse in faith communities and wider society. Under CTPI auspices, she coordinated an action-research project: *Out of the Shadows: Christianity and Violence Against Women in Scotland* (1995-97). She was consultant to the WCC Decade to Overcome Violence 2001-2010. Lesley is engaged in initiatives for active citizenship in Scotland and is co-convenor of the Common Weal think tank.

Glen Pettigrove

Glen Pettigrove holds the Chair of Moral Philosophy at the Department of Philosophy, University of Glasgow. He has previously worked at the University of Auckland, Massey University, and Santa Clara University. His



primary research interests are in virtue ethics and moral psychology. Intertwined with projects in normative ethics and moral psychology is an ongoing engagement with Scottish Enlightenment thinkers, especially Francis Hutcheson, David Hume, and Adam Smith. His most recent volume is *Reconciliation and Love* (Oxford 2012).

Thomas Schlag

Thomas Schlag is Ordinary Professor for Practical Theology at the University of Zurich, Switzerland, and Director of the Centre of Church development, ZKE. He is currently a visiting scholar at the School of Divinity, Edinburgh. His core areas of research and interest are public theology and public church, youth theology and religious communication, the political dimension of church practice and religious education, religious education in church and school, and new forms of Church in the digital age. He is the editor of the online-platform *Göttinger Predigten im Internet* and is an ordained minister in the Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Württemberg, Germany. His recent publications include *Frei glauben. Reformatorische Anstöße zu einer protestantischen Lebenskultur*, with Christina Aus der Au (Göttingen 2017), *Confirmation, faith and volunteerism. A longitudinal study on Protestant adolescents in the transition towards adulthood*, with Friedrich Schweitzer et al. (Gütersloh 2017).

Joshua Ralston

Joshua Ralston is Lecturer in Muslim-Christian Relations at the School of Divinity, University of Edinburgh. Prior to moving to Scotland, he was Assistant Professor of Theology at Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, Virginia. He earned his undergraduate degree in philosophy at Wake Forest University, before going on to study World Christianity at Edinburgh (MTh with distinction), divinity at Candler School of Theology (MDiv), and Christian Theology and Islamic Thought at Emory University (PhD supervised by Ian A. McFarland). His primary work is concerned with theological, ethical, legal-political, and scriptural encounters between Christians and Muslims across the centuries with a particular focus on Protestant Christianity and Sunni Islam. He approaches these questions from an interdisciplinary perspective that draws on political theology, Islamic Studies, Christian theology, critical theory, migration studies, and comparative theology.

Leah Robinson

Leah Robinson is Lecturer in Practical and Pastoral Theology at the University of Edinburgh. Between 2010-2015 she was Lecturer in Practical Theology at the University of Glasgow. She holds a PhD from the University of Edinburgh (2011) and graduated from Mercer University with a Masters of Divinity (2007). Her main interest areas include sectarianism in the Scottish and Northern Ireland contexts, practical theology and the way we further define and understand this concept in the contemporary world, the theology of violence/reconciliation in war time, the way that theology is practically used in politics in both a negative and positive way, and liberation theologies.

Heather Walton

Heather Walton is Professor of Theology and Creative Practice at the University of Glasgow. Her research interests include narrative and life writing in theological reflection; theology, literature and critical theory; methodology in practical theology; and gender and sexuality. Her most recent publications include *Not Eden: Spiritual Life Writing to This World* (SCM 2015) and *Writing Methods in Theological Reflections* (Routledge 2014).

