

The possible location of a
new APECCS logo.

Asia-Pacific Early Christian Studies Society

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For further information
or correspondence
please contact:

Centre for
Early Christian Studies

www.cecs.acu.edu.au
early.christian@acu.edu.au

Editors:

Dr Naoki Kamimura
Dr David Luckensmeyer

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November 2010

1. Greetings from the Editors

The editors send warm greetings to APECCS colleagues in the fields of early Christian studies and Patristics. Welcome to the new look of the APECCS Newsletter.

Recently, there has been some discussion about the desirability for APECCS to have a logo. Possible designs are being considered. If you have an idea which you think might best capture and represent the significance of APECCS, please let us know.

2. Conference Report

The First International Conference, "Poverty, Riches, and Social Welfare in Church History," 19-20 March 2010 at the Luce Center for the Global Church, Presbyterian College and Theological Seminary, Seoul, Korea.

The Patristic Society in Korea, established in December 2006, has held regular conferences twice a year. From the beginning the society has sought for international cooperation and collaboration and participated in the 15th Oxford Patristic Conference in August 2007 and in the Fifth International Triennial Conference of the Centre for Early Christian Studies, Australian Catholic University held in conjunction with the annual conference of Western Pacific Rim Patristics Society in Melbourne in January 2008. Close relationships with international scholars helped its six members to obtain a grant from the National Research Foundation of Korea for a joint study of "Poverty and Riches in the Later Roman Empire" (KRF-2008-321-A00053). As a part of this research project, papers were read at the Asia-Pacific Early Christian Studies Society Conference in Sendai, Japan, in September 2009. In March 2010, the society in collaboration with the Center for the Study of Christian Thoughts and Culture at Presbyterian College and Theological Seminary (Seoul) hosted the first international conference in Seoul, inviting Japanese and Australian Patristic scholars.

This conference also incorporated the annual joint conference of the Korea Church History Society and the Korea Historical-Theological Society, thereby including all periods of church history. The theme of this conference was "Poverty, Riches, and Social Welfare in Church History", and scholars from our nations – Australia, Japan, the United States, and Korea – collaborated in probing and exploring various aspects of poverty, riches, and social ministry throughout church

history. It was of great significance to hold this conference in the year of 2010, which is the 60th anniversary of the Korean War. It is not an exaggeration to say that the history of social services in Korea, especially Christian social services, began with restoration works of ruins made by the war. Since Korea is now proud of changing its status from a country receiving relief to a country sending relief, and since Korean churches and Christian organisations have played a major role in the history of social services and welfare in Korea, it was worthwhile examining the past, present, and future of social ministry in Korea from a broad historical perspective as well as historical development in the Western world.

3. Upcoming Events

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- 21 May 2010 5pm** The 15th annual gathering of the Brisbane Seminar Group for New Testament and Early Christian Studies takes place at Bible College of Queensland in Toowong, Queensland. Dr Mike Bird will present a paper entitled: "Paul: Apostle to the Gentiles and Jews." RSVPs to Mrs Sue Cruickshank (scruickscank@bcq.qld.edu.au) by 17 May 2010.
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- 27-29 May 2010** The 2010 Annual Meeting of the North American Patristics Society will be held at the Holiday Inn Chicago Mart Plaza in Chicago. For more information about the program, registration and hotel accommodation for the conference, see: <http://patristics.org/annual-meeting>
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- 30 May - 1 Jun 2010** The Canadian Society of Patristic Studies will hold its annual meeting at Concordia University in Montreal, Quebec. For more information, see: <http://www.ccsr.ca/csps/index.htm>
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- 3-6 Jun 2010** The Second Meeting of the International Network for the Study of Late Antiquity will be held in Heidelberg and Frankfurt. Thematic focus: "Regionalisation and the Integration of the Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity." For more information, see: <http://www.la-network.org/index.php?page=heidelberg-2010>
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- 11-12 Jun 2010** The XVIth Symposium of the Centre for Medieval and Early Modern Studies in conjunction with Perth Medieval and Renaissance Group will be held in Trinity College at University of Western Australia, Perth. This symposium will explore the subject of poverty and the poor in the medieval and early modern world, c.500-1800. More information will be available shortly at: <http://www.mems.arts.uwa.edu.au>
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- 29 Jun - 3 Jul 2010** The Ninth Conference on Orality and Literacy in the Ancient World will be held at The Australian National University in Canberra. Thematic focus: "Composition and Performance." For more information, see: <http://culturalinquiry.anu.edu.au>
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- 5-6 Jul 2010** The Colloquium on Cultural Memory and Religion in the Ancient City will meet at the University of Birmingham. For more information, contact Phoebe Roy (prr320@bham.ac.uk) and Juliette Harrisson (JGH139@adf.bham.ac.uk).
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Upcoming Events (continued)

- 5-7 Jul 2010** The Centre for Classical and Ancient Near Eastern Studies of Australia is holding a conference on "Appian and the Romans" at the University of Sydney. For more information, see: <http://classics.org.au/appian>
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- 7-10 Jul 2010** The Sixth International Triennial Conference of the Centre for Early Christian Studies, incorporating The Asia-Pacific Early Christian Studies Society, entitled, "Prayer and Spirituality in the Early Church: Politics and Religion," will be held at St. Patrick's Campus, Australian Catholic University in Melbourne. For more information, see: <http://www.prayerspirit.com.au>
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- 12-15 Jul 2010** The 17th International Medieval Congress will take place at The University of Leeds. Thematic focus: "Travel and Exploration." For more information, see: <http://www.leeds.ac.uk/ims/imc/imc2010.html>
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- 31 Aug - 2 Sep 2010** The Second Annual Late Antique World Workshop, in collaboration with the Ottawa Network for the Study of Late Antiquity, will be held at University of Ottawa in Ontario. Workshop title: "Jews and Christians in Late Antiquity: Revisiting the 'Parting of the Ways.'" For more information, see: <http://lateantiqueworld.weebly.com/index.html>
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- 1-3 Sep 2010** The Third British Patristics Conference will take place at St. John's College, Durham University in Durham. The deadline for proposals is 31 May 2010. For more information, see: <http://www.britishpatristics.co.uk>
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- 15-16 Oct 2010** The XIXth Finnish Symposium on Late Antiquity, on "Fall and Rise of the Roman World c.200-700 CE," will be held at the University of Helsinki in Tvärminne, Finland. Abstracts for proposed papers are due by 15 June 2010. For more information, contact: Dr Villa Vuolanto (villa.vuolanta@uta.fi).
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- 22-24 Oct 2010** The 35th International Patristic, Medieval, and Renaissance Studies (PMR) Conference will be held at Villanova University in Villanova. Plenary theme: "Mother of Mercy: The Figure of Mary in Theology and Culture." The deadline for submissions is 28 May 2010. For more information, see: <http://www.villanova.edu/artsci/augustinianinstitute/conferences/pmr>
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- 14-17 Nov 2010** The 12th International Colloquium on Gregory of Nyssa will be held at Katholieke Universiteit in Leuven, Belgium. Thematic focus: "Contra Eunomium (CE III)." Proposals are due by 1 June 2010. For more information, see: http://theo.kuleuven.be/page/gregorius_nyssa_2010
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Upcoming Events (continued)

18-19 Nov 2010 The Seventh Annual Conference of Australian Early Medieval Association will be held at University of Western Australia in Perth. Thematic focus: "Courage and Cowardice." Submissions should be emailed to Shane McLeod by 30 June 2010 (conference@aema.net.au). For more information, see: <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~medieval>

25 Nov - 9 Dec 2010 The Classical Association of South Africa: Seagull Tours International in conjunction with the Department of Classical Languages, University of the Free State, present "Ancient Egypt," a tour of Egypt. For more information, see: <http://www.casa-kvsa.org.za/TourEgypt2010.htm>

11-14 Jul 2011 The 18th International Medieval Congress will take place at The University of Leeds. Thematic focus: "Poor ... Rich." Paper proposals to be submitted by 31 August 2010 and session proposals by 30 September 2010. For more information, see: http://www.leeds.ac.uk/ims/imc/imc2011_call.html

July 2011 The 29th International Conference of the Classical Association of South Africa will be held at Rhodes University in Grahamstown, South Africa. For more information, see: <http://www.casa-kvsa.org.za>

8-12 Aug 2011 The XVI International Conference on Patristics (Oxford) will be held at Oxford University Examinations Schools on the High Street, Oxford. Submitted titles with abstracts are due 31 March 2011. Submitted workshop titles are due 31 May 2011. For more information, see: <http://www.patristics.org.uk>

2012 The Sixth Conference of the Asia-Pacific Early Christian Studies Society will be held at Hoseo University, Seoul. More information will be available in subsequent APECCS Newsletters.

4. Vacant Positions

Nil known.

5. Grants & Scholarships

Building on previously funded project, which included a grant of \$50,000 for two years by Japanese Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) and the Bilateral Joint Research Project between JSPS and the Australian Research Council (ARC) for their project "Joint Studies in the Perspectives on Poverty in an Era of Crisis - Testing Some Social Models of Early Christianity", members of the Japanese research team have obtained additional funding by JSPS. Miyako Demura has received funding of \$50,000 for three years (2009-2011) for her Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (GASR) project "Poverty, Wealth and Asceticism in Alexandrian Exegetical Tradition." Kazuhiko Demura and Naoki Kamimura have received funding of \$50,000 for three years (2009-2011) for their GASR project "Augustine's Understanding and the Practice of Poverty in an Era of Crisis." The Japanese

team collaborates with members of the Centre for Early Christian Studies (Pauline Allen and Bronwen Neil) who have received funding of \$262,000 for three years (2010-2012) for their ARC Discovery Project "Crisis management in late antiquity: the evidence of Episcopal letters."

6. Recent Publications

"Preaching Poverty in Late Antiquity: Perceptions and Realities", by Pauline Allen, Bronwen Neil, and Wendy Mayer was published in November 2009 by Evangelische Verlagsanstalt. This monograph offers a study of the works of John Chrysostom, Augustine, and Leo I of Rome, with regard to poverty and the poor. This volume will be launched by Professor Hal Drake (UCLA, Santa Barbara) at the opening reception for the forthcoming conference on Prayer and Spirituality in the Early Church at ACU St Patrick's Campus in Melbourne on Wednesday, 7 July.