

## NEWS AND EVENTS 2009

### Grants

Pauline Allen and Bronwen Neil will receive funding of \$262,000 for three years for their ARC Discovery Project **Crisis management in late antiquity: the evidence of Episcopal letters**, which will start in 2010.

The Korean project on **Poverty and Riches in the Later Roman Empire**, which includes collaboration with the Centre's project, has been funded by the Korean government for two years from 2008, at \$100,000 each year.

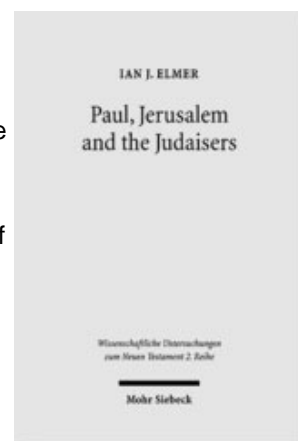
Building on previously funded project, which included a grant of \$50,000 for two years by Japanese Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) and the Bilateral Joint Research Project between JSPS and the Australian Research Council (ARC) for their project **Joint Studies in the Perspectives on Poverty 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 research team will complement the Centre's ARC-funded project **Poverty and Welfare in Late Antiquity** (\$320,000 in 2006-8).

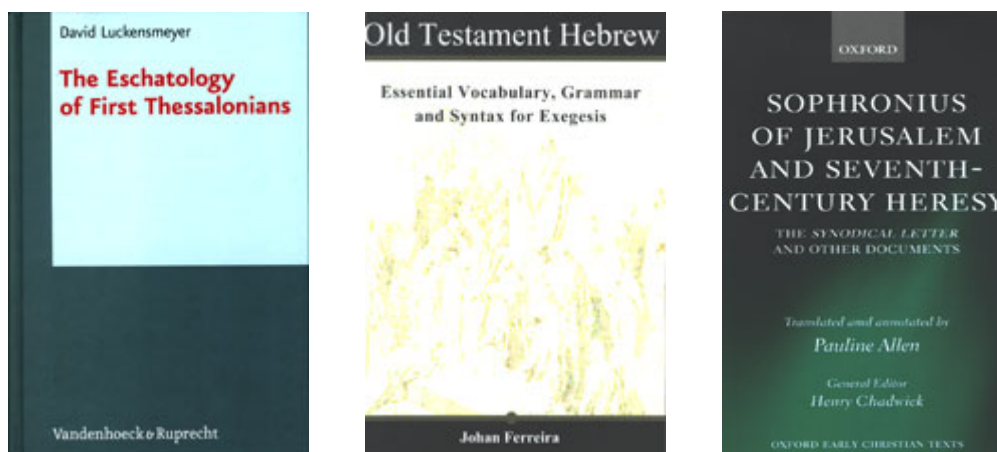
[Grants 2008](#) | [Grants 2007](#) | [Grants 2006](#) | [Grants 2005](#)

### Publications

Member of the Centre, Dr Ian Elmer, will launch his new book, *Paul, Jerusalem and the Judaisers: The Galatian Crisis in Its Broadest Historical Context* (Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2009), on May 6th at the Brisbane Campus of ACU. The thrust of this book is encapsulated in the title, which reflects Ian's insistence that reconstructing all the events surrounding the crisis that impelled Paul to compose his letter to the Galatians is essential to understanding this letter. The position taken by the author is that the Galatian crisis was initiated by a group of Judaising opponents acting under the direct authority of the Jerusalem church.

At the recent annual meeting of the Centre for Early Christian Studies in Brisbane, which was attended by Honorary Fellows from Japan and USA, three books were launched.





Dr David Luckensmeyer is lecturer in New Testament Greek and Earliest Christianity, Dr Johan Ferreira is Principal of the Bible College of Queensland, and Professor Pauline Allen FAHA is Director of the Centre.

Dr Ferreira's book will be the prescribed text for the first online Hebrew unit which he has designed and will teach in Semester 1, 2009.

[Publications 2008](#) | [Publications 2007](#) | [Publications 2006](#) | [Publications 2005](#)

### Research Visits

From 19-30 March 2009, Professor Pauline Allen delivered five public lectures in Japan and South Korea. The visits were made in connection with the Centre's ARC Discovery Project on poverty and welfare in late antiquity and involved Okayama State University (Japan), Hoseo University, Presbyterian College, and Baesuk University, Seoul (South Korea). The Centre's team working on poverty has been the model for Japanese and Korean scholars researching similar topics. On 17 April, George Lawless OSA, from the Augustinianum in Rome and visited and presented a paper on the finances of those clerics mentioned in Augustine, *Sermo* 356.

[Research Visits 2008](#) | [Research Visits 2007](#) | [Research Visits 2006](#) | [Research Visits 2005](#)

### Conferences

*Studiorum Novi Testamenti Societas*, Perth 2013

The annual meeting of the Society for New Testament Studies, the peak international body for New Testament scholarship and research, will be held in Perth, Western Australia, 22-26 July, 2013, at Murdoch University. It will bring together scholars elected to the society from around the world as well as guests and accompanying persons. This will be the first time it will have met in Australasia and only the second time it will have met in the southern hemisphere, the first being in Pretoria, South Africa in 1999.

It will be the largest gathering of New Testament specialists (perhaps 200+) ever to be held in this part of the world and the organising committee plans to ensure that the region will benefit from their presence, especially through pre- and post-conference activities. For further information, please contact Professor Bill Loader, convener of the organising committee: [w.loader@murdoch.edu.au](mailto:w.loader@murdoch.edu.au); +61894474994.

[Conferences 2008](#) | [Conferences 2007](#) | [Conferences 2006](#) | [Conferences 2005](#)

### Other News

## Research Fellowship in Late Antique Christianity

The Faculty of Theology of the K.U.Leuven invites applications for a research fellowship in the History of Church and Theology Department. It is preferred that the successful candidate will earn a doctoral degree (PhD/STD) at the K.U.Leuven, although candidates with a completed doctorate may also apply. For doctoral candidates the fellowship will be tenable for 4 years, while postdoctoral candidates will initially be hired for 2 years. Applicants should be fluent in at least one of the following languages: Dutch, English, French or German. Further information can be found [here](#), or <http://theo.kuleuven.be/page/en/>.

In November, Dr Bronwen Neil was promoted to Senior Lecturer, Academic Level C.



Prof. Johan Leemans, Professor of Early Church History and Patrology at Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (Belgium) was awarded a Honorary Distinguished Visiting Research Fellowship at the Centre for Early Christian Studies, ACU Brisbane. Prof.



Leeman's visit was sponsored by Dr Bronwen Neil and funded by the Institute for the Advancement of Research. On 30 July, Prof. Leemans delivered a lecture at McAuley campus on Gregory of Nyssa's first homily on love for the poor. Guests of the Director for Early Christian Studies, Prof. Pauline Allen, included Prof. Gail Crossley (PVC Research) and Prof. Anne Hunt (Dean, Faculty of Theology and Philosophy). After the lecture, Prof. Leemans launched Dr Bronwen Neil's new book in the Routledge Early Church Fathers series, *Leo the Great* (London—New York 2009).

*Graham N. Stanton (9 July 1940 – 18 July 2009)*

The Centre for Early Christian Studies notes with sadness the passing of one of its international consultants, Professor Graham N. Stanton of Cambridge University. Professor Stanton was a leading New Testament scholar whose main interests were the Gospels and their underlying traditions. Originally from New Zealand, he undertook doctoral studies at Cambridge and held the Chair of New Testament Studies at King's College London from 1977 to 1998. From 1998 to 2007 he was the Lady Margaret's Professor of Divinity at Cambridge, the University's oldest Chair established in 1502. Professor Stanton served from 1982 to 1990 as the editor of *New Testament Studies*, the most prestigious journal in the field, and from 1982-1991 as the editor of its accompanying monograph series. He was also a General Editor of the current series of the International Critical Commentaries from 1984 to 2007. In 1996-1997 he was elected as President of the Society of New Testament Studies, and in 2006 he was awarded the Burkitt Medal by the British Academy for his contributions to Biblical scholarship. The author or editor of fifteen books and writer of dozens of articles, Professor Stanton was a leading scholar of his generation who has left an indelible mark on modern Gospel studies. In noting his passing the members of the Centre for Early Christian Studies are thankful for his contribution to it.

Dr James Mc Laren is currently on the Editorial Board of the Society of Biblical Literature Early Jewish Literature Monograph Series.



On 30 and 31 January the Centre held its annual meeting in Brisbane. As well as general discussions, reports about past events, and strategic planning for



the future, some research was presented by Dr. David Lukensmeyer with a paper entitled "Intertextuality in Obadiah and First Thessalonians" and by Dr. Naoki Kamimura from Tokyo Metropolitan University with a paper entitled "Rhetorical Approaches to the Poor and Poverty in Augustine's *Enarrationes in Psalmos*."

Dr Geoffrey D. Dunn has been appointed to the advisory board of *Journal of Early Christian Studies* from the start of 2009.

Western Pacific Rim Patristics Society is now called **Asia-Pacific Early Christian Studies Society**. All news and correspondence for WPRPS are now using the name Asia-Pacific Early Christian Studies Society .

Associate Professor David Sim has been appointed to the editorial board of *New Testament Studies*, the most prestigious journal in the field. His appointment runs from 2009 to 2011. In July he was at a conference in Aarhus, Denmark, on the Gospels of Matthew and Mark. This was a specialist conference with only eighteen invited participants. Associate Professor Sim delivered a paper on the current state of research on the Gospel of Matthew, which will be published by Mohr Siebeck in the proceedings of the conference.