

Saturday, 29 October 2016

(UniS Room B-105)

09.00-10.15

**Contemporary Diversity Issues**

Dr Anna-Konstanze Schröder, et al. (Bern):  
*Xenosophia – a suggestion for the encounter of people with different world views*

Dr Joseph Daniel (Kerala/India): *Christian Indians sharing cultures: Key insights and lessons in the context of Indian nationalism*

10.15-11.00 *Pause / Coffee Break*

11.00-12.15

**Keynote 2: open for public to attend**

Prof Dr Dr Paul Weller (Coventry & Oxford)  
Learning from Experience, Leading to Engagement: Lessons from Belieforama for a Europe of Religion and Diversity

12.15-13.15

**Diversity & Lived Experience**

Dr Clare Amos (Geneva): *The WCC experience*

Miriam Schneider MA (Basel): *Religious communities and interreligious dialogue: Two guidelines for living together in a multi-faith society*

13.15-13.30 *Close of Conference*

This conference, involving an ecumenical group of theologians and scholars of religion, will address issues relevant to the intersecting themes of religious diversity and the day-to-day 'lived experience' of religion in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Mutual ways in which religious praxis and diversity of belief engages, challenges, or confronts an increasing sense of irreligiosity that, arguably, dominates presumptions about the nature of secular society in the West, are among the sorts of issues that this conference seeks to explore. What are the markers of lived experiences of diverse communities of faith? The conference features public lectures and keynote addresses, to which the general public is warmly invited.

Prof Dr Angela Berlís

Prof Dr Douglas

**Addresses:**

**Haus der Religionen:** Europaplatz 1, 3008 Bern

**UniS:** Schanzeneckstrasse 1, 3012 Bern

*The Conference is financially supported by the „Fonds für Ökumenische und Historische Theologie der Fontes-Stiftung“ (Bern) and the doctorate's program of the Theological Faculty Bern*

**Information and application for the hole conference:**

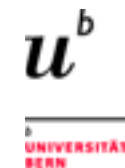
[stefanos.athanasiou@theol.unibe.ch](mailto:stefanos.athanasiou@theol.unibe.ch)

Departement für Christkatholische Theologie  
Länggassstrasse 51  
3012 Bern

**Belief Diversity and the Lived Experience of Religion: Narratives and Interpretations**

**27 — 29 October 2016**

**4th International Conference “Interreligious Relations and Ecumenical Issues” (IREI)**



Departement für Christkatholische Theologie

## Thursday, 27 October 2016

(Haus der Religionen)

**14.00-15.45**

*Conference Welcomes, Opening Remarks & Introductions*

David Leutwyler MA (managing director HdR): *The House of Religions – Dialogue of Cultures as a laboratory of living together / Das Haus der Religionen – Dialog der Kulturen als Labor des Zusammenlebens*

**Guided tour through the Haus der Religionen**

(German/English)

**15.45-16.15**

*Pause / Tea Break*

**16.15-18.00**

**Ecumenical Interfaith Engagement**

**Panel open for public to attend**

Prof Dr Dr Douglas Pratt (Anglican)

Bischof PD Dr Harald Rein (Old Catholic)

Dr Tamara Grdzeldze (Orthodox)

**Free Evening**

## Friday, 28 October 2016

(UniS Room B-105)

**08.45-09.00**

*Conference Registration*

**09.00-10.30**

**Graduate Research: Various Perspectives**

Hunter Gsoell MA (Bern): *Evolutionary Theology and the Process of Inter-Religious Dialogue*

Martin Bloomfield MA (York): *Inequality or Nihilism? Neo-pragmatism, anti-realist conceptions of religion, and social hopelessness*

Richard Staub MA (Basel): *The XIV. Dalai Lama – A Secular Approach to Buddhist Ethics or a Buddhist Approach to Secular Ethics*

**10.30-11.00**

*Pause / Coffee Break*

**11.00-12.15**

**Keynote 1: open for public to attend**

Prof Dr Marianne Moyaert (Amsterdam)

On the Role of Ritual in Interfaith Education: Opportunities, Obstacles and Limitations

**12.15-13.45**

*Mittagessen / Lunch Break*

**13.45-14.30**

**Interreligiöses Begegnungslernen** (Session in German/auf Deutsch)

Prof. Dr. Katja Boehme (Heidelberg): *Fächerkooperierendes interreligiöses Begegnungslernen in der Schule – auch mit Konfessionslosen*

## Friday, 28 October 2016

(UniS Room B-105)

**14.30-15.45**

**Diversity Issues: Military Contexts**

Matthias Inniger (South Africa & Bern): *Muslim Chaplains in the Swiss Army? A reconsideration of arguments against their involvement*

Prof Dr Dr Douglas Pratt (Waikato, NZ & Bern): *From Belief Diversity to Ecumenical Unity: Military chaplaincy as model for inclusivist plurality? Lessons from the New Zealand experience, 1939-1945*

**15.45-16.15**

*Pause / Coffee Break*

**16.15-17.30**

**Extending Diversity: Faith & Scientific Enquiry**

Dr Andreas Losch (Bern): *Belief in God in an Age of Science*

Dr Michael Waltemathe (Bochum): *Where no soul has been before? Religious questions regarding space exploration*

**Public Lectures**

*(Uni Hauptgebäude, Hochschulstr. 4, Room 114)*

**18.15-19.45**

**PD Dr Hansjoerg Schmid (Fribourg):** *Dialog durch Konflikt? Islambezogene Auseinandersetzungen in der Schweiz als Orte interreligiöser Theologie*

**Dr des. Matthias Inniger (Bern):** *Der christlich-muslimische Dialog in der Schweizer Armeeeseelsorge*