

Department of Religion and Theology

Research Report for 2019

Selected Highlights

The Department of Religion and Theology was awarded the third prize for the quantity of its research outputs for all departments at UWC in 2019 (based on 2018 outputs).

In 2019 three Masters students graduated while 1 monograph, two edited volumes, no less than 18 articles, 8 essays and 9 other contributions to edited volumes were published by members of the department.

The research focus areas in the Department of Religion and Theology, including research by staff, postgraduate students and research fellows have been clustered together in terms of six research frameworks. Here are highlights for 2019 under each rubric:

Religion, Ethics and Social Transformation

A special edition of the *Svensk Teologisk Kvartalskrift* was published on the legacy of Gustaf Aulén in South Africa, with contributions by Demaine Solomons, Ernst Conradie and Hans Engdahl.

The Department of Religion and Theology hosted a workshop at UWC on “Reconciliation in light of the Truth And Reconciliation Commission” 31 May 2019 (UWC) and participated in a conference on Conference on “Trading Justice for Peace? International perspectives on the Norwegian TRC process” at VID University in Norway, 29-30 October 2019.



Religion and Gender

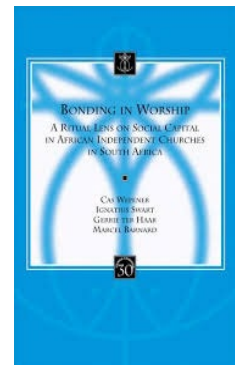
Johnathan Jodamus and Sarojini Nadar published a co-authored article in the *Journal for the Study of Religion*. See also the reports of the Desmond Tutu Centre for Religion and Social Justice and the contributions in the *The African Journal of Gender and Religion* (AJGR) which is the first, online, peer-reviewed, open access journal for the transdisciplinary study of gender and religion in Africa, housed at UWC.



Religion and Development

Ignatius Swart contributed as co-editor and author to the anthology *Bonding in Worship: A Ritual Lens on Social Capital in African Independent Churches in South Africa* (Peeters Publishers, 2019). The book was the final outcome of the NRF funded project, “The role of religious ritual in the formation of social capital for social development.”

Ignatius Swart held the position of Kjell Nordstokke Professor of International Diaconia at VID Specialized University in Oslo, Norway from 2016 - 2019. He worked full-time as international visiting professor at VID from August 2019 to June 2019.



Ecumenical Theology and Spirituality in Africa

Emeritus Professor Daan Cloete published his memoirs entitled *Vrede Vloei soos 'n Rivier: Oor die Strome van my Lewe* with Bybelmedia (2019). It engages extensively with the University of the Western Cape – as student, lecturer, acting rector and emeritus professor.

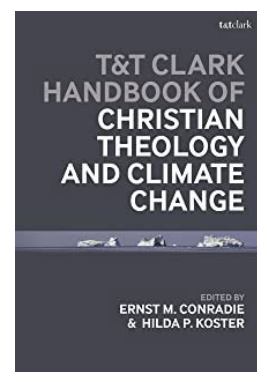
Teddy Sakupapa and Ernst Conradie contributed a series of articles on the doctrine of the Trinity in decolonial perspectives in South African journals such as HTS, JTSA and Missionalia,



Christian Ecotheology

The massive *T&T Clark Handbook on Christian Theology and Climate Change* (713pp), co-edited by Hilda Koster and Ernst Conradie, with 86 contributions, including 8 introductions, 40 essays and 38 responses was published in December 2019. It includes UWC contributions by Robert Agyarko, Ernst Conradie, Yasien Mohamed and Teddy Sakupapa.

Ernst Conradie was awarded a Senior Research Fellow on “The Ethics of the Anthropocene” at the Institute for Environmental Studies, Vrije Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam, with a project entitled “Whose Anthropocene? What Diagnosis”.



Biblical Hermeneutics and Rhetoric

Johnathan Jodamus and Tiana Bosman presented papers at the 3rd Discernment and Radical Engagement (DARE) Global Forum, June 2019, Tapei in Taiwan. The DARE Global Forums aim to provide platforms where theological and biblical scholars, together with activists and interested peoples, are welcome to engage with like-minded peoples from distant parts of the world; free to be creative and to trouble / disturb / critique mainline scholarships; confident to root their views upon on the ground struggles and concerns; keen to share their radical engagements and disturbances with global readership.

For more detail on these research frameworks, please consult the annual reports available on the departmental website at <https://www.uwc.ac.za/Faculties/ART/RandT/Pages/Research-Frameworks.aspx>.