



ASSOCIATION OF
PRACTICAL
THEOLOGY
IN OCEANIA

2022 APTO Conference

Gracious Engagement: Dialogue across the theological spectrums

30 November 2022 – 2 December 2022

Pilgrim Theological College (Centre for Theology and Ministry,
Parkville, Melbourne, Australia), or Online via Zoom

Register now via [TryBooking \(https://www.trybooking.com/CDDEK\)](https://www.trybooking.com/CDDEK) or scanning the QR code below:



Dialogue across the theological spectrums has always been an important component of practical theology. “No peace among the nations, without peace among the religions. No peace among the religions without dialogue between the religions. No dialogue between the religions without investigation of the foundation of the religions” (Hans Kung, 1997). How do we navigate those complex spaces of religious and theological difference in both ideas and practices? A respectful, participatory and collaborate approach seems sensible. Respect for each other’s diverse experiences and viewpoints is vital. After all, theology plays an important role in the search for a synthesis of knowledge as well as in the dialogue between faiths. However, practice within diversity does not necessarily flow into participation and collaboration, not to mention understanding and peace. What does a gracious engagement in dialoguing across the theological spectrums look like? How can we best learn about the theological other and engage with each other across the theological spectrums in ways that are comfortable, polite, meaningful, challenging? Basically, in a way that is gracious? And what is the nature and role of dialogue in the engagement? We want to convert our diversity into healthy dialogue, a symphony and multiplicity of theological voices.

Call for Papers

This Conference invites contributions that bring fresh and diverse perspectives to the conversation about Gracious Engagement: Dialogue across the theological spectrums.

Each proposal should have a title, abstract (200 words), and a brief bio (100 words) which includes your affiliation and email address (50 words). All papers will be reviewed by the organising committee. Title, abstract, bio, can be emailed to the APTO secretary, Mr Julian Kluge via email: secretary@apto.asn.au by no later than **Monday, 17 October 2022**. The committee will correspond with participants about the proposal and process by COB Friday, 21 October 2022.

We are requesting all presenters to pre-record their paper/workshop and upload the recording file to the 2022 APTO conference by COB Monday, 14 November 2022 (further instructions and details will be provided in our acceptance of your proposal). The pre-recorded paper/workshop should be no more than 20 minutes long and you will be given approximately 25 minutes during the conference to discuss and engage with conference delegates.

Contributions should:

- Be presented in a style that is engaging, accessible and motivating for participants.
- Be supported by a strong platform of research and theory.
- Enhance understanding of current knowledge in areas related to the topic.
- Raise critical questions and highlight key ideas that engage and empower participants to think about their own practice.

Possible subthemes:

Gracious engagement

What methods and techniques allows diverse theologies and religions to engage graciously? On what foundations do we engage and cooperate with each other?

On inter-theological dialogue

Why Dialogue? What is Dialogue? What Dialogue is not.

Learning together in practice

How can theologians create joint-based learning or shared-based learning opportunities in the field?

Theology across the spectrums

How can practice be used to support the diversity of theology curricula, indigenous knowledge, and cultural difference throughout the region? Where do extremes fit into the goal of developing cohesion and inclusion?

Dialogue models in terms of process and content

How can dialogue be classified in terms of course and content? What about such dialogue models as the Harmony Model, Conflict/Differences Model, Dialogue of Life Model, and Theological Dialogue Model.

Participants and participation

Based on the purpose of the dialogue, who needs to be involved, and how? What kind of participation or involvement can we expect from them? What do we hope to do and achieve? How do we best involve and engage? We must also ask: who is not here and why?

Content knowledge vs. process knowledge

In every dialogue, there is the process: how do we get there? And the content: what are we talking about? Then we have to ask, where do we want to go?

Practice and culture

How does theological learning and practice connect with cultures and subcultures?

Theological space

Does the space allow for true interaction and participation? Will the space make us all feel comfortable? Yet awake and alert? What does an inclusive theological space look like?

Forms of intercultural theology

What is intercultural and trans-cultural theologification, and what can it look like in a multicultural environment? What theories and evidence support intercultural and trans-cultural theologification? What can students and teachers learn through theologification.

Proposals addressing other practical theology topics are welcome, but preference will be given to proposals that explicitly address this year's conference theme of ***Gracious Engagement: Dialogue across the theological spectrums.***

Conference fees and registration link

Full conference registration (in-person), including morning teas, lunches, and afternoon teas	AU\$250.00 per person
Full conference registration (online)	AU\$100.00 per person
Single day conference registration (in-person), including morning tea, lunch, and afternoon tea (as appropriate)	AU\$95.00 per person
Single day conference registration (online)	AU\$50.00 per person
Single night accommodation - onsite at Pilgrim Theological College or a nearby university residential college. Comfortable room with a single bed and shared bathroom. Inclusive of breakfast.	AU\$90.00 per room
Formal conference dinner	AU\$60.00 per person

A limited number of research student, unwaged, and those experiencing hardship conference scholarships are available. Please contact the APTO secretary, Mr Julian Kluge via email (secretary@apto.asn.au), for more information.

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Preliminary conference schedule

(All times shown in Australian Eastern Daylight Time and schedule may change without notice):

Wednesday, 30 November 2022

11:00am-1:30pm: Arrival and registration

1:30pm: Conference start (lunch available between 12:30pm-1:30pm)

7:00pm: Book launches

7:30pm: Public lecture (please advise secretary@apto.asn.au if you would like to launch a book at this year's conference)

Thursday, 1 December 2022

9:00am: Day commences

5:00pm: APTO Inc. Annual General Meeting

7:30pm: Conference dinner

Friday, 2 December 2022

9:00am: Day commences

11:00am: Excursion and cultural immersion experience (details TBC)

2:00pm: Conference close

Questions?

Please contact the APTO president, Dr Zachariah Duke via email (president@apto.asn.au) if you have any questions about the 2022 APTO conference.

www.apto.asn.au
