

The Kirby Laing Institute for Christian Ethics

Newsletter

Summer 2010

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conference**

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offer you
can't refuse!**

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publications

We hope you enjoy this issue of the KLICE Newsletter. Please feel free to forward it to others who may wish to see it. To unsubscribe, send an email to that effect to ethics@tyndale.cam.ac.uk

1. Sexual ethics conference resources available

Over 60 attended a rich and informative conference on sexual ethics held at Eden Baptist church on 15 May, co-sponsored with and organized by the Jubilee Centre. Entitled 'Beyond Individualism: Applying a New sexual Ethic', the conference explored various facets of a biblically-informed 'relational' view of sexuality and challenged the individualistic ethos which fuels so many of our society's hurts and pathologies in this area. It became clear how a relational sexual ethic is indeed radically 'new' over against our culture which is so in the dark about the gift of sexuality.

Speakers included Dale Kuehne, Jonathan Burnside, Rachel Gardner, Guy Brandon, and David Instone-Brewer. You can access their talks, and other resources, from the Jubilee Centre website: <http://www.jubilee-centre.org/document.php?id=355>

2. KLICE hosts consultation on equality and religious liberty

KLICE was invited to host an invited inter-denominational seminar on the growing tensions between equality laws and religious liberty, held on 14 June at the London offices of the Evangelical Alliance. The event was motivated by the desire to develop credible, balanced and informed responses to the questions arising in this area, and which are attracting increasing media attention. The event was a working consultation designed to produce a document of direct use to practitioners facing questions on these issues on a regular basis.

Sessions addressed the current state of the law, the issue of 'discrimination', and the positive contribution of religion to society. Over 20 experts participated, representing 15 different bodies engaged with the questions. KLICE will steer the drafting process for the document over the next months.

3. PLP summer schools on legal and biomedical ethics

A key aspiration of our newly-designed **Public Leadership Programme** (see Spring Newsletter or our [website](#)) is the offering of short, intensive summer schools in selected areas of Christian professional ethics. We are pleased to be able offer two this summer, led by expert practitioners and open to practising or trainee legal or medical practitioners or ethicists. Both courses will be held in Cambridge at Tyndale House.

- **Law and ethics:** 21-22 August. Course leader: Dr David McIlroy (barrister and law lecturer). Jonathan Chaplin is also a speaker.
- **Biomedical ethics:** 31 August – 2 September. Course leader: Professor John Wyatt (paediatrician, University College London, and KLICE Advisory Council member). Other speakers include Dr Robert Song (University of Durham) and Dr Brian Brock (University of Aberdeen).

Contact Joshua Hordern for further information: jwsh2@cam.ac.uk

4. Doctoral grantee activities

An update on activities of recent KLICE doctoral grantees:

- **Guido De Graaff**, who successfully defended his PhD at Oxford in December, has been appointed to the full-time post of Tutor in Doctrine and Ethics at the South East Institute for Theological Education, a key regional, interdenominational ministerial training centre.
- **Andy Draycott**, who teaches theology and ethics at Biola University in the USA, has edited *The Word in Small Boats* (Eerdmans 2010), a collection of sermons delivered in Oxford by Professor Oliver O'Donovan.

5. Environmental project update

Our project on environmental ethics – '[Hope for Creation](#)' - run jointly with the [Faraday Institute for Science and Religion](#) based at St Edmund's College, is moving into a new phase. In addition to working on a range of academic and popular publications, we are now actively preparing a **major conference** for environmental policy-makers and policy-influencers to be held on 26-28 September 2011 in Cambridge. The conference will be interdisciplinary, international, and inter-faith, and will explore the contribution of Christianity and other major world faiths to diagnosing and addressing the issue of sustainability.

We have recently appointed **Colin Bell** as full-time Researcher/Administrator on the project. Colin has a strong science background as well as a MA in Theology from London School of Theology, where he did significant work on environmental theology. **Clare Redfern**, who is already on the staff of the Faraday Institute, and active on environmental issues, has also joined the project team for half a day per week providing additional research and media support. They are busy assisting Jonathan Chaplin in the design and planning of the conference. Professor Bob White, Associate Director of the Faraday Institute and KLICE Advisory Council member, serves as overall project Director.

Jonathan Moo served as postdoctoral researcher on the project since early 2008. He recently returned to the USA to take up a tenure-track position in New Testament at Whitworth University in Seattle. His contributions to the project have been excellent and he will continue to be involved as he completes an accessible book with Bob White on an environmental theology of hope.

The next **KLICE Book Colloquium** will focus on environmental ethics and theology. We plan to explore three important recent books in the field, in the presence of the authors:

- Richard Bauckham, *Bible and Ecology: Rediscovering the Community of Creation* (DLT, June 2010).
- Hilary Marlow, *Biblical Prophets and Contemporary Environmental Ethics* (Oxford, 2009).
- Robert White, ed., *Creation in Crisis Christian Perspectives on Sustainability* (SPCK 2009).

Date, location, format and other speakers will be announced on our website soon.

6. Latest *Ethics in Brief*

- **'Abortion and Conscientious Objection'**. Daniel J. Hill, a philosopher at the University of Liverpool, explores whether the legal right to conscientious objection to participation in abortion should also include the right not to refer patients to those who will perform them.
- **'The Current Economic and Financial Crisis: Where Are We Now?'** Economist and ethicist Andrew Hartropp (Oxford Centre for Mission Studies) takes stock of the crisis 3 years on, analyzes its deeper causes, and points to Christian responses.

All issues of *Ethics in Brief* are available on our website.

Subscribe online to the print version of *Ethics in Brief* (£15 per year) at:
<http://klice.co.uk/index.php/resources/ethics-in-brief>

7. Director's activities

Jonathan Chaplin wrote six election or post-election pieces between April and June (see KLICE website). In May he lectured on 'Between Secularism and Theocracy' at Christian Heritage (Cambridge), on 'A Christian Perspective on Multiculturalism' at CARE's graduate programme, the Institute for Faith and Culture (London), and on 'Creation Order and the Public Good' at the Lawyer's Christian Fellowship (London). He participated in conferences on 'God and the Global Economy' (Regent College, Vancouver), 'Law and Religion' (Cardiff University), and 'Religion in a Liberal State (Bristol University). His feature article, 'Loving Faithful Institutions: Building Blocks for a Just Global Order' appeared in the U.S.-based online journal *The Other Journal* in May. His edited book, *God and Global Order: The Power of Religion in American Foreign Policy* appears with Baylor University Press in August.

8. Research Associate's activities

Joshua Hordern is currently completing a publication on Conservatism and Christianity for the project on Christianity and British political parties (run jointly with Bible Society), and providing other support to the Director in this project. In addition, he has continued to develop the KLICE Public Leadership Programme, especially the partnerships with Christian lawyers and doctors and the upcoming summer schools. On the Cambridge University front, he has continued his teaching work, has examined second year undergraduates for the Faculty of Divinity and is preparing lectures and classes for a third year paper on medical and sexual ethics for 2010-2011. In June he is leading two of the weekly teaching sessions for the CARE Institute for Faith and Culture graduate programme in London.

9. KLICE has an offer you simply can't refuse!

Anyone who becomes a KLICE Associate by 1 September 2010 will receive **up to four free publications** by leading UK ethicists (while stocks last).

Those who commit to the minimum amount of *£5 per month or more* will receive these insightful and accessible discussions of three major ethical issues:

- Peter Hesketh, *Transforming Capitalism: Entrepreneurship and the Renewal of Thrift* (Grove 2010). 32pp. Peter Hesketh is Director of [Transforming Business](#).
- Dan Boucher, *A Little Bit Against Discrimination?* (CARE 2009). 88pp. On the clash between equality rights and religious liberty.
- [Concordis International](#), *British Churches and the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict* (2009). 27pp.

Those who commit to *£10 per month or more* will also receive this beautifully-written, innovative and counter-cultural full-length book on sexual ethics by the Director of [Lapido Media](#), who is also a KLICE Advisory Council member:

- Jenny Taylor, *A Wild Constraint: The Case for Chastity* (Continuum, 2008). 166pp. Retail price £14.99. Only 7 copies available.

We invite you to become a '**KLICE Associate**'. Associates pay a minimum of £5 per month and receive:

- a subscription to the paper version of *Ethics in Brief*
- invitations to public events
- discounted conference fees
- discounts on KLICE publications
- access to the Tyndale House Library
- access to designated website pages (under development)
- the *Newsletter*.

Apart from the Director's position, all KLICE costs need to be covered either by trusts, fees or individual donations. We continue to work hard to place KLICE's administrative operation and our new Public Leadership Programme on a secure financial footing – *but we are not there yet!* If you are excited by KLICE's contribution to a credible Christian ethical voice in the UK today, we warmly encourage you to support our work financially.

KLICE depends on the help of individuals like you to sustain and expand its work. Please join us in the task.

For more information, visit our support page: <http://klice.co.uk/index.php/support-us>

10. Contact details:

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