Professional Doctorate (PrD) in Practical Theology

Participant and Staff Research Interests

2011-2012

www.theofed.cam.ac.uk
The Professional Doctorate in Practical Theology

The Professional Doctorate in Practical Theology is the first programme of its kind. Launched in 2006, it is offered by Anglia Ruskin University with the Cambridge Theological Federation, the University of Birmingham, the University of Chester, the University of Glasgow, and the University of Manchester.

This booklet is designed to introduce you to the staff and candidates currently on the PrD programme.
STUDENTS

Revd Trevor Adams (2007)

Self as practitioner, working to raise the aspiration of black boys, drawing on my lived educational experience, self-development and practice.

Revd Linda Barley (2007)

The Church of England is beginning to utilise empirical research to inform its changing pastoral policies. The national Church Wedding project, in particular, has successfully incorporated research among couples enquiring into church weddings. Research among clergy points to the need to design and evaluate a tool to encourage reflective practice and the development of responsive pastoral practice. This suggests a model of pastoral policy formation led by the use of empirical findings in local professional praxis.

Barend (Jaco) Beukes (2006)


The aim of this research is to explore how life coaching and pastoral care were used together in the context of a specific Christian charity. Subsequently a new method of pastoral care, called pastoral coaching, is proposed. This research intends to develop a theory of this new approach in which life coaching techniques are incorporated into the discipline of pastoral care.

Susanna Brouard (2009)

I work for the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development (CAFOD), in the theology team. My interest is in the social teaching of the Catholic Church and how it is both generated and communicated. I am interested in pedagogy, Catholic social teaching and theological reflection. My first paper was a critique of Magisterial social teaching. My second paper is looking at Catholic Social Teaching as theological reflection. My research will be carried out within CAFOD and will most probably focus on how CST is created and embedded within a Catholic organisation which counts many non-Catholics amongst its staff.
Revd John Caperon (2009)

Current Position: Director, the Bloxham Project

The nature of the ministry of school chaplains in Church of England schools. One of the foci of the Bloxham Project in its forty-year history of supporting spirituality in schools has been working with school chaplains, offering induction and development training. The professional doctorate provides a context in which to research empirically for the first time how school chaplains understand their ministry and what impact it has within their institutions.

Revd Quentin Chandler (2010)

Quentin is researching theological reflection in continuing ministerial education.

Revd Ann Coleman (2009)

Ann is currently researching spirituality in theological education.

Elizabeth Davies (2008)

Current position: Marriage and Family Life Project Officer, Catholic Bishops’ Conference of England and Wales.

The practice of diocesan coordinators of family ministry in the Roman Catholic Church in England and Wales: role descriptions; organisational structures; ministry methodologies; processes and practices.
Revd Margaret Davis (2010)

Margaret is currently involved in research into leadership and priesthood.

Revd Ronald Hart (2010)

Current Position: Rector, White Hart Benefice, Sherborne, Dorset (C.of E.)

Investigation into how the local church relates to its community in facing local issues. A traditional community work model is critiqued by a model of “Community Ministry” where the emphasis is on solidarity rather than provision of services, and where the church as well as the community may itself be transformed by the shared struggle. The research looks at the theological underpinning of the two models of care, and in particular incarnation as an act of solidarity with human suffering; it also examines the missional potential of this way of working.

Rev Peter Hayler (2010)

Current Position: Associate Vicar at Great St Mary’s, the University Church, and Chaplain to University Staff, Cambridge.

Modelling a complementary non-college chaplaincy within the University of Cambridge – Chaplain as Pastoral Entrepreneur – Theory of Effectuation (Sarasvathy) – Ethics of Pastoral Entrepreneurship – Narrative research with entrepreneurial chaplains in other universities.

www.gsm.cam.ac.uk/chaplaincy/research

Tessa Henry-Robinson (2010)

At present Black women in the United Reformed Church (URC) are insignificant in number in leadership roles / positions in the wider church. My aim is to discover why this is so and what is needed for transformation to occur. My roles in the URC are lay preacher and ministries accreditation sub-committee member.

Essentially this study brings up discussions around culture, belonging and cultural identity. It will therefore look at how in a multicultural church, seeking to become intercultural, this is best addressed in a way that includes rather than excludes.
Revd Clare Herbert  (2010)

Current position: Lecturer in Inclusive Theology at St Martin in the Fields.

My subject area is the Pastoral Care of lesbian and gay Christians with a particular interest in the creation of just listening processes and the spiritual and pastoral formation of lesbian and gay students in institutions and courses of theological education.

Phyllis Muraya  (2008)

Phyllis is researching residual traditional African religion in counselling.

Sister Caroline Nkoberanyi  (2008)

Caroline’s research is focussing on religious education in Tanzania.

Revd Timothy Norwood  (2009)

I am interested in the way that new church communities like fresh expressions and emerging churches think together - or do not. I suspect that the tendency of new communities to be collaborative is related to changes in culture, technology and theology. I would like to find ways of understanding and modelling collaborative thought that are helpful for those working in this area.
Helen O’Connor (2009)

Spiritual Development in secondary schools. How to engage teachers in enabling Spiritual Development in context post 16 Citizenship. Is spirituality an ‘untouchable’ area?

Revd Pamela Pennell (2006)

Pamela is researching self-supporting ministry in the Church of England.

David Sargent (2007)

The relationship between spirituality, faith basis and inclusivity in the YMCA movement in England. Keywords: Young People, Spirituality, Christian Basis, Faith Legacy Organisations.

Karen Shakespeare (2006)

Current Position: Salvation Army Officer

A priority in the selection, training and ministry of Salvation Army officers (ministers) is the personal spiritual experience of the individual. Theologically, this is understood as a dynamic experience; a relationship between the believer and God rather than a static entity. My work is concerned with exploring those factors which are significant to the ongoing spiritual development of Salvation Army officers so that suitable, relevant resources may be provided. Empirical research will be brought into conversation with models of theological education and adult learning. Evangelicalism and evangelical spirituality in particular, will provide a theological context.
Revd Victoria Slater  (2010)

The main focus of my research is the recent growth in forms of chaplaincy in community contexts in England. Examples of contexts include: care homes, shopping centres, agriculture. A case study approach is used to undertake an in depth study of the processes involved in the emergence and development of chaplaincy roles in the context of the mission and ministry of the church. Research will be undertaken in three contrasting contexts: rural, urban and semi-urban/market town. The overall aim is to gain understanding of the significance of the recent growth in chaplaincy for the mission and ministry of the Church of England.

Rev Lorraine Turner  (2010)

I’m looking into the clergy experience of bullying and how peoples’ responses to bullying might relate to the psychological baggage we accumulate through childhood and adult experience. All with a view to helping the diocese promote ways of being which would both minimize occurrence of bullying behaviour and deal with it more effectively when it does happen.

Susan Van Scoyoc  (2010)

Susan’s research explores acceptance in therapeutic work.

Clare Ward  (2010)

Clare is researching mission and evangelism in the Catholic Church.
Mary Younger (2010)

Mary’s research explores self compassion.

Staff and Students at a Prd Study Day in Cambridge.
TEACHING STAFF

Zoë Bennett (MA, MPhil. Cantab) is Director of Postgraduate Studies in Pastoral Theology including the Professional Doctorate in Practical Theology and the MA in Pastoral Theology. Her particular academic interests are feminist and Practical Theology, and a specific current research interest in John Ruskin and Practical Theology. She has researched and published in the area of theology as active research and the growth of the Professional Doctorate.

(Zoë eating an ice cream outside the Vatican)
Contact: zb200@cam.ac.uk

Zoë’s publications include:

• "'To see fearlessly, pitifully': what does John Ruskin have to offer to Practical Theology?" International Journal of Practical Theology. Volume 14, Issue 2, April 2011, pp 189-203
• "Theology and the researching professional: the professional doctorate in practical theology" in Theology Vol CXII No 869 September/October 2009
• Introducing Feminist Perspectives on Pastoral Theology Sheffield Academic Press 2002

The Revd Canon Dr Adrian Chatfield
Tutor in Christian Life and Thought
Director, The Simeon Centre for Prayer and the Spiritual Life.

Adrian is a member of the Fresh Expressions national team with a responsibility for prayer and spirituality, and currently working closely with Dave Male, Director of the Centre for Pioneer Learning, in the setting up and development of the Centre’s programmes.

Born in Trinidad, and brought up there and in Brazil, after training for ministry at the College of the Resurrection in Mirfield, he worked in parish ministry for 15 years in Trinidad and Devon. For the last 19 years, he has been a theological educator in Nottingham, Johannesburg and Oxford, while continuing in non-stipendiary parish ministry.

Adrian has written many distance learning programmes, and authored ‘Something in Common’, an introduction to Anglicanism. He acted as Consultant to the Editor of The Anglican Communion and Homosexuality, produced as a resource for the 2008 Lambeth Conference. He has recently completed two chapters, on Worship and Spirituality, for a BRF publication on Pioneer Ministry (due out in 2011), and is currently writing a distance learning Certificate level overview of Church History.

He maintains contact with the African context as External Examiner for the Theological Education by Extension College in Johannesburg, and by acting as Commissary for the Diocese of Christ the King in Southern Gauteng.
**Rev Dr Susan Durber**  
Principal of Westminster College, Cambridge

I am a minister of the United Reformed Church. I studied Theology at Oxford (as an undergraduate and then an ordinand), at Luther Northwestern Seminary in St Paul, Minnesota, as a visiting student, and at Manchester University where I completed a PhD on Literary Theory and the Parables of Jesus. I have served local churches as minister in Manchester, Salford and Oxford and have worked as a theological educator from both Luther King House in Manchester and in Cambridge as part of the Cambridge Theological Federation.

I have published in the areas of biblical studies and homiletics, particularly from feminist perspectives. I have also published sermons, liturgies and prayers. I am a member of the Standing Commission for Faith and Order in the WCC and have wide experience of international ecumenical conferences and work. I am committed to empowering women within the life of the Church and to opening up the riches of Christian tradition to people of all ages in local churches.

**The Revd Dr Jane Leach**  
Vice Principal and Director of Pastoral Studies, Wesley House, Cambridge.

Jane has been a member of staff at Wesley House since 1999. She is Director of Pastoral Studies, responsible for pastoral and formational aspects of the course. Prior to coming to Wesley House she was a Circuit Minister in the Fenland Circuit. She teaches pastoral theology, healthcare chaplaincy and pastoral supervision within the Cambridge Theological Federation. Her recent publications include: *Walking the Story: in the steps of saints and pilgrims* (a spiritual and theological resource book for individuals and groups) and *Pastoral Supervision: A Handbook*.

**Rebecca Nye, PhD**  
Tutor, Cambridge Theological Federation  
Associate Tutor, Open University

Rebecca has been working in the field of children's spirituality as a researcher, consultant and practitioner since 1994. She has been a post-doc researcher at the University of Cambridge 1996-2004, and a reader at Anglia Ruskin University between 2007-2009. She is a leading UK trainer for Godly Play, and research associated with this. She often works on a freelance basis with LEAs, Dioceses, HE institutions, health and social care settings as well as local organisations including churches and schools. She also supervises MA and PhD candidates. She's been a member of the Board of Education (Archbishop's Council) since 2003.

Her current research interests are looking at spirituality from a psychological perspective, Godly play, and how (adult) communities are challenged and transformed by engaging with new understandings about children’s spirituality in terms of both thinking and practice.
**Dr Oonagh O’Brien**  
Director of Studies, Margaret Beaufort Institute, Cambridge.

A theologian whose speciality is ecclesiology and ministry, Oonagh’s research interests span theologies of laity, collaborative ministry, the renewal of Church life and pastoral theology. Oonagh has wide experience of teaching theology and religious studies, both nationally and internationally. Her publications include *Parish Leadership Groups* (Columba Press 2001). Her current research is focused on the theology and practices of lay life and lay ministry. She is working on a project to map the development of lay life as a form of discipleship and ministry in the Church in England and Wales.

**Dr Anna Rowlands**  
Margaret Beaufort Institute, Cambridge.

Anna is a theologian with teaching and research interests in the areas of pastoral, philosophical, and public/social theologies. Her PhD research offered the first sustained theological reading of the twentieth century Jewish-Christian political philosopher Gillian Rose in the context of current debates in practical theology. Anna has worked in ongoing clergy formation and ecumenical dialogue at diocesan and national level respectively. She currently works as a theologian on CAFOD’s Theological Reflection Group. Anna’s current research is focused on Catholic Social Teaching and practices of asylum and immigration. She continues to work on ethics and faith in the unfinished work of Gillian Rose.

**Professor Philip Sheldrake**

Philip Sheldrake is Senior Research Fellow at Westcott House and the Cambridge Theological Federation and also Honorary Professor of Theology at University of Wales Trinity St David and Moulsdale Professorial Fellow St Chad’s College, Durham University. Philip was educated at Heythrop Pontifical Athenaeum, University of Oxford and University of London with degrees in philosophy and modern history, postgraduate studies in theology and Reformation Church history and an Oxford research BD on historical theory and the study of spirituality.

Philip was previously lecturer and Director, Institute of Spirituality, Heythrop College University of London (1984-92), Tutor in Church History and DOPS Westcott House (1992-97), Vice-Principal/Academic Director Sarum College (1998-2002), Leech Professor of Applied Theology Durham University (2003-2008) and then Joseph Visiting Professor Boston College MA. Philip’s current research interests are in the history and theology of Christian spirituality, public theology and interfaith. He was Hulsean Lecturer at Cambridge 1999-2000 and is a past-President of the international Society for the Study of Christian Spirituality. He has written or edited eleven books. His current projects are a book on “the idea of the city in Christian thought” and establishing an interdisciplinary project on interfaith contributions to debates about urban futures. Philip is involved internationally in ecumenical work and interfaith dialogue. He has worked in editing and religious publishing since 1981 including formerly as Chair of SCM Press.
Professor Vernon Trafford  
BA, Ph.D., DPA  

Vernon's primary current interest is into the nature of doctorateness and the operation of doctoral vivas. As an under-researched aspect of the doctoral experience the work that Dr. Shosh Leshem and he have undertaken offers insights on theory and practice for candidates, supervisors and examiners too. Their evidence is drawn from being inside doctoral vivas as an examiner, chair or supervisor in attendance. Vernon is also involved with the notion of threshold concepts to explain how candidates cope with getting 'stuck' in their research, and episteme as a conceptualization of how candidates develop the capability to 'think like researchers'.

For further information please contact:

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