

ACTIVITY REPORT
2006-2007

FEBRUARY 2008

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I. ORGANISATION

UCSIA strives to continue the Jesuit tradition of involvement in university education, research and community service in the Flemish and Antwerp region.

The main objective of UCSIA, inspired by a Christian belief and in a spirit of openness and tolerance, sustained by the members of the Society of Jesus and of the Antwerp University, is to provide for an international and interdisciplinary platform that supports and stimulates academic research, higher education and community service regarding themes that express the Christian ideology, thus serving the faith and contributing to a more just society.

Article 3 - Articles of Association

UCSIA's mission ties in with Ignatian spirituality. The 34th General Congregation of the Jesuit Order, which took place in 1995, singled out three main themes: faith and justice, faith and culture, and interfaith dialogue.

UCSIA is an incorporated non-profit organisation under Belgian law. The General Assembly consists of up to thirty members: one-third are mandated members of the Society of Jesus, one-third are co-opted members of the Antwerp academic community and one-third are external members from civil society (Church, education, press, employees, employers, NGOs, etc.).

The *UCSIA team* runs the day-to-day activities. The *General Council* is responsible for the overall strategy of the Centre. It supervises the Board of Directors and it adopts the budget and the accounts. The *Board of Directors* directs the organisation. The *Executive Committee* supervises the implementation of the Board of Director's decisions and prepares its meetings. An advisory body, known as the *Academic Council*, ensures that initiatives are of the highest academic quality.

GENERAL COUNCIL

In the course of 2007, a number of mandates on the General Council expired. Hence, honourable discharge was granted to the following members, with thanks for their commitment and effort during the start-up period of UCSIA: Bert Claerhout, Paul Lansu, Theo Rombouts, Michel Scheuer sj, Frank Swaelen and Mgr. Paul Van den Berghe.

Minister of State and honorary member Frank Swaelen passed away during the 2007 Christmas period. At the 2008 New Year reception, the Academic Director paid tribute to Mr Swaelen's commitment and a minute's silence was held.

The new General Council is composed as follows:

for the Society of Jesus:

- Luc Bouckaert, Professor Emeritus of Ethics, Catholic University of Leuven (K.U. Leuven)
- Loïc de Cannière, Managing Director, INCOFIN
- Pierre Devos sj, Professor of Biology, Facultés Universitaires Notre-Dame de la Paix (FUNDP)
- Jacques Haers sj, Professor of Theology, Catholic University of Leuven (K.U. Leuven)
- Jan Koenot sj, Provincial of the Flemish Jesuits
- Jan Peters sj, Honorary Vice-Chairman of Radboud University in Nijmegen
- Hugo Roeffaers sj, Professor Emeritus of Philosophy, University of Antwerp
- Mark Rotsaert sj, President of the Conference of European Provincials of the Society of Jesus
- Guy Vanheeswijck, Professor of Philosophy, University of Antwerp

For the University of Antwerp:

- Jean Van Houtte, Professor of Sociology & Pro Rector of UFSIA,
Chairperson of the General Council
- Bea Cantillon, Professor of Sociology & Vice-Rector, University of Antwerp
- Pierre Delsaerdt, Institute of Education and Information, University of Antwerp
- Helma Desmedt, Professor of History, University of Antwerp
- Johan Meeusen, Professor of Law, University of Antwerp
- Jeroen Puttevils, Student, University of Antwerp
- Carl Reyens, Professor of Accounting & Pro Rector of UFSIA
- Johan Vanhoutte sj, Pastoral Care, University of Antwerp
- Gerlinde Verbist, Assistant Professor, University of Antwerp

External members:

- Frans Crols, Managing Director & Editor-in-Chief of Trends/Roularta
- Canon André De Wolf, Honorary General Director of the Flemish Board of Catholic Education
- Etienne De Jonghe, Secretary-General of Pax Christi International
- Mia De Schamphelaere, Senator
- Maddie Geerts, Honorary National Secretary of ACV
- Frank Lambert, Director
- Philippe Michiels, Chairperson of Lessius Hogeschool, Antwerp
- Peter Vande Vyvere, Editor-in-Chief of Tertio
- Mieke Van Hecke, Director-General of VSKO

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Walter Nonneman, Professor of Economics and **Managing Director of UCSIA**
- Carl Reynolds, Professor of Accounting & Pro Rector of UFSIA
- Mark Rotsaert sj, President of the Conference of European Provincials of the Society of Jesus
- Christiane Timmerman, Director of Academic Affairs
- Geert Vanhaverbeke, Administrative Manager

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

In the course of 2007, a number of mandates on the Academic Council expired. Hence, honourable discharge was granted to the following members, with thanks for their commitment and effort during the start-up period of UCSIA: An Jorissen, Stephan Claes, Daniël Cuypers, Jan Koenot sj and André Van Poeck.

- Christiane Timmerman, Director of Academic Affairs,
Chairperson of the Academic Council
- Luc Braeckmans, Deputy Director of Academic Affairs,
Vice-Chairperson of the Academic Council
- Zwi Berneman, Professor of Haematology, University of Antwerp
- Wil Derkse, Catholic University of Nijmegen
- Mark Desmet sj, Doctor of Medicine
- Pierre Devos sj, Professor of Biology, FUNDP
- Guido Dierickx sj, Professor Emeritus of Political Science, University of Antwerp
- Marie-Claire Foblets, Jurist and Professor of Anthropology, Catholic University of Leuven
- Louis Ferrant, Doctor of Medicine, Centre for GP Medicine, University of Antwerp
- Tim Heysse, Professor of Political Philosophy, KUBrussel
- Henk Opdebeeck, Professor of Ethics, University of Antwerp
- Wilfried Pauwels, Professor Emeritus of Economics, University of Antwerp
- Nicolas Standaert sj, Professor of Sinology, Catholic University of Leuven
- Jacques Tempère, Professor of Physics, University of Antwerp
- Dirk Van Dyck, Professor of Physics, University of Antwerp
- Walter Van Herck, Professor of Philosophy, University of Antwerp
- Luc Van Liedekerke, Professor of Ethics, University of Antwerp and Catholic University of Leuven
- Dirk Vanheule, Professor of Law, University of Antwerp
- Amaryllis Verhoeven, Doctor of Law, Catholic University of Leuven
- Johan Verstraeten, Professor of Moral Theology and Ethics, Catholic University of Leuven
- Frank Willaert, Professor of Literature, University of Antwerp

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- Christiane Timmerman, Academic Director & **Chairperson of the Executive Committee**
- Luc Braeckmans, Academic Vice-Director & **Vice-Chairperson of the Executive Committee**
- Sara Mels, Scientific Collaborator
- Barbara Segart, Scientific Coordinator
- Geert Vanhaverbeke, Administrative Coordinator

TEAM

- Prof. Walter Nonneman, Managing Director
- Prof. Christiane Timmerman, Director of Academic Affairs
 - Chairperson of the Academic Council and the Board of Directors
 - in charge of national and international projects
- Prof. Luc Braeckmans, Deputy Director of Academic Affairs
 - Vice-chairperson of the Academic Council and the Executive Committee
 - coordinator of national projects
- B. Segart, Scientific Coordinator
- G. Vanhaverbeke, Administrative Coordinator
- C. Van Wonterghem: Secretary's Office and Administration (part-time)

In 2006, the following new members were appointed:

- Sara Mels: Scientific Collaborator
- Marijke Celis: Secretarial, Administrative and Financial Support (fulltime).

II. PROJECTS

SUMMER SEMINAR ON “RELIGION, CULTURE AND SOCIETY”

From 2 to 9 September 2007, the 3rd Summer Seminar on Religion, Culture and Society took place, in a changed format. Henceforth, the Summer Seminar shall be shorter, it shall take place annually, and the focus shall be on a specific topic. Greater emphasis shall be placed on developing and transferring methodological skills for (multidisciplinary) research in the chosen field. The group of around 30 young academics, doctoral students and mainly postdoctoral researchers, is given an opportunity to attend lectures by four internationally renowned scholars. The participants are selected from across the world on the basis of an annual call for papers. UCSIA takes care to ensure that an adequate balance is achieved between various disciplines, religions, origins and gender. The participants are expected to present their current research activities in paper and poster sessions.

The following aspects are dealt with every year:

- Modernisation and Democracy: Prof. Ronald Inglehart (University of Michigan) and Prof. Chris Welzel (International University of Bremen), both of whom are involved in the World Values Study.
- Nationalism and Religion: Prof. John Hutchinson (London School of Economics).
- Islamic Culture and Politics: Prof. Robert Hefner (Boston University).

Every year, a different guest lecturer is invited in order to ensure a unique perspective. In 2007, UCSIA invited Valentine Moghadam, a Professor of Sociology and the Director of the Women's Studies Programme at Purdue University, who specialises in transnational feminist movements and religion.

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOPS

WHAT KIND OF CHRISTIANITY IN PRESENT-DAY EUROPE?

In early 2006, UCSIA organised an international workshop entitled “What Kind of Christianity in Present-day Europe?”. The event was conceived by Professors Guy VANHEESWIJCK and Guido DIERICKX sj. as a combined workshop focusing first on a philosophical approach and subsequently on a political science perspective on the issue at hand.

DOES CHRISTIANITY HAVE A FUTURE IN EUROPE?

Part one took place on 9 and 10 February 2006. The focus was on *philosophical reflection* on the specificity and future of Christianity in contemporary Europe.

This first part consisted on the one hand in a number of master classes for researchers (25 participants) and, on the other, in a series of public lectures (around 200 participants in all). Each proceeding from their own academic background, theologian Lieven Boeve (KULeuven) and philosophers Herman De Dijn (KULeuven), Louis Dupré (Yale University) and Ad Verbrugge (VU University Amsterdam) dealt with questions such as: What is the specificity of Christianity? Why is it that Christianity seems to have lost its appeal to Western European youngsters (and adults)? Is this a recent phenomenon or is it to be understood as a longer-term evolution? To what extent does Christianity distinguish itself from other religions? In which sense may Christianity in Europe continue to inspire on account of its being different from what is accepted as self-evident in today’s western, (neo-)liberal context? Is Christianity “conservative” or “progressive”? Is it “modern” or “anti-modern”, or may new opportunities unfold for Christianity in a “post-modern” context?

CHRISTIAN POLITICS IN EUROPE: AN UNEASY RELATIONSHIP?

On 27 and 28 April 2006, UCSIA organised part two of this dual workshop, under the heading “Christian Politics in Europe: An Uneasy Relationship?”. This time, the focus was on the *political aspects* of the issue at hand.

The participants took an inductive, empirical approach to such general questions as: Is there any such thing as a specifically Christian agenda in the various fields of policymaking? Does Christian political thought play an explicit role in policymaking today and, if so, then where, when and to what extent? Do the so-called Christian political actors really give expression to Christian values and principles?

The programme consisted of four panel debates and two public evening sessions. Each of the panel debates explored one of the four principal policy domains and was led by a prominent researcher from the University of Antwerp: education policy (Prof. Jan De Groof), economic policy (Prof. Wilfried Pauwels), wellbeing and social policy (Prof. Bea Cantillon) and family policy (Prof.

Frederik Swennen). The panel members came from different countries and professional backgrounds.

In addition, two public evening sessions were held. The topic of the first evening session was “Christian Political Strategy in Europe”. After an introduction by Prof. Steven Van Hecke (University of Antwerp), a panel discussion was held between Prof. Martin Conway (University of Oxford), Wilfried Martens (European People’s Party), Prof. Arie M. Oostlander (European Institute for Public Administration) and Peter R. Weilemann (Konrad Adenauer Stiftung). The debate was led by Prof. Emmanuel Gerard (KULeuven).

The second evening session dealt with “Faith and the media in Flanders” and was introduced by Prof. Bart Pattyn (KULeuven). Participants in the panel discussion were: Peter Vandermeersch (De Standaard), Toon Osaer (Kerk en Leven), Ernest Henau (Katholiek Televisie- en Radiocentrum) and Peter Vande Vyvere (Tertio). The debate was led by Jean-Pierre Rondas (Klara).

FOUR VOICES: TURKEY’S ACCESSION TO THE EUROPEAN UNION

From 8 to 10 June 2006, on the initiative of UCSIA, Prof. Dirk ROCHTUS of the University of Antwerp and Lessius Hogeschool, and Kemal KIRISCI, a Professor of International Relations with Bosphorus University in Turkey, an international workshop was held under the title of “Four Voices: Turkey’s Accession to the European Union”.

The start of official accession talks between the European Union and Turkey has prompted much debate among policymakers, academics and the public about the conditions of EU membership and the finality of the European Union. During the workshop, an inventory was drawn up of all points of debate between European and Turkish proponents and opponents of accession. The list contains socioeconomic, cultural-religious and political arguments. In addition, a number of possible future scenarios were developed.

To this end, UCSIA brought together Turkish and European academics and diplomats, including Hans Arnold, a former German diplomat and lecturer at the Academy of Political Science in Munich, Faruk Birttek, a political sociologist and head of the Sociology Department of the renowned Bosphorus University in Istanbul, Kemal Kirişçi, the Director of the Centre for European Studies of Bosphorus University, Binnaz Toprak, head of the Department of Political and Social Sciences and International Relations at the Bosphorus University, Erik-Jan Zürcher, Professor of Turkish Studies at the University of Leiden, and Ingmar Karlsson, Sweden’s Consul-General in Istanbul.

THE EUROPEAN UNION AND THE HISTORICAL LEGACIES IN THE BALKANS

This international workshop took place from 16 to 18 November 2006. It was organised on the occasion of the accession of Bulgaria and Rumania to the EU. Prof. Raymond DETREZ of the Centre for South European Studies/Ghent University and Prof. Frank DELMARTINO of the Institute for International and European Policy/KULeuven were the academic promoters of the workshop.

The workshop explored the influence of the Ottoman and communist legacies on the present-day regional identity and politics in Bulgaria and Rumania. A call for papers was issued, resulting in the selection and invitation of twelve doctoral students from the countries concerned. They were given the opportunity to present their research at the work shop. Ten established researchers from Western Europe and the Balkan presented lectures on such subtopics as: the relationship with national histories and with neighbouring countries, the significance of nationalism and ethnicity, the role of the Orthodox Church in society, regional economic cooperation, cultural rights, Neo-Ottomanism as an emerging political movement, identity and migration, and social cohesion.

FAITH-BASED ORGANISATIONS AND POVERTY IN THE CITY

This international workshop, in conjunction with a public lecture and panel discussion, took place on 7 and 8 December 2006. Prof. Jan VRANKEN (OASeS, University of Antwerp) and dr. Justin BEAUMONT (Urban and Regional Studies Institute, University of Groningen) were the academic promoters.

Some 30 international experts from a variety of fields exchanged research findings on the topic at hand. The common starting-point was the observation that faith-based organisations, such as churches and mosques, have in recent years come to play an increasingly prominent role in the fight against poverty and other social problems in urban centres. Topics dealt with included social, religious and spiritual capital; the specific properties of and reasons for the successes and failures experienced by faith-based organisations in their struggle against urban poverty; civil society and multi-level governance; the difference between European welfare regimes; and Islamic tools for poverty alleviation. The participating academics subsequently worked out a joint project proposal which could be submitted within the 7th framework programme for research and development of the EU.

During a public panel debate, the role of faith-based organisations in the fight against urban poverty in Antwerp was discussed. Representatives of various faith-based organisations in the city took part, including the Catholic and Protestant Churches, the Jewish charity organisation, the local centre for public welfare (OCMW), the Islamic community and the RISO (Regional Institute for Community Structure). The conclusion drawn was that faith-based organisations feel they can serve a supplementary role to government in this respect and that the issues of poverty among ethnic minorities and integration issues are closely interconnected.

MULIERES RELIGIOSAE

The Mulieres Religiosae workshop, which took place on 1 and 2 March 2007, was organised in cooperation with promoters Prof. Veerle FRAETERS (University of Antwerp, Ruusbroec Society) and Prof. Barbara BAERT (KULeuven, Illuminare: Centre for the Study of Illuminated Manuscripts). During this two-day event, 25 academics from different countries and representing an array of disciplines, including theology, philosophy, history, literature and arts, were given an opportunity to exchange research findings in the field of female religious authority from the Middle Ages to the present day. Topics discussed included female religious authority in the context of urbanisation in the

Low Countries, artistic expression, the psychological discourse on female authority, the feminine cult of the Sacred Heart in Christianity, and model women through the ages.

Participants included Prof. Anneke Mulder Bakker and Prof. Hanno Wijsman (University of Leiden), Kathryn Rudy (Royal Library, The Hague), Regina Ammicht Quinn (University of Tübingen).

Prof. Luce Irigaray (Centre National de Recherche Paris) presented a public lecture.

BELIEVIN' THE MEDIA

This two-day international workshop, on 26 and 27 April 2007, explored the presence of Christianity in today's largely secularised media and world. The promoters of this initiative were Prof. Hans GEYBELS of KULeuven, who is also the spokesman of Cardinal G. DANNEELS, Ernest HENAU (Emeritus, KULeuven) and Prof. Michel WALRAVE (University of Antwerp). Cardinal Danneels presented his views on the relationship between faith and the media in an evening lecture.

The relationship between faith and the media is often considered to be problematic. The Church is aware that it needs the media in order to reach out to the public. At the same time, it cannot but observe that the media pay little attention to processes of change within the Church, and that the ecclesiastical message is increasingly being locked out by scandals and stories about individuals. The key topic of the conference was how ecclesiastical events and messages are dealt with in the media. The Church and the media speak different languages and they communicate for different purposes: to convey a message ('evangelisation') versus market-driven reporting. But where do these divergent objectives meet? These questions were approached, not only from the perspective of communication science, but also from a theological and church-historical angle.

POLITICAL ECONOMY OF THEOCRACY

From 14 to 16 June 2007, 12 political economists considered the political economy of theocracy. They discussed aspects of theoretical analysis as well as insights into current and historical case studies. UCSIA developed this international workshop in association with promoters Mario FERRERO (University of Eastern Piedmont, Italy) and Ronald WINTROBE (University of Western Ontario, Canada).

The issues discussed were very topical, considering the current Islamic variants of theocracy in countries such as Iran and Afghanistan. But there are many other historical examples, including Geneva during the Reformation, the German Anabaptists, the Papal States in medieval times, the Jesuit mission in Paraguay in the 17th and 18th centuries, the Mormons in Utah, and the traditional Buddhist communities of Tibet and Mongolia before the communist era. At one end of the spectrum, there is complete overlap between Church and State, while at the other there is a strict separation of the two spheres. Between these two extremes, there are regimes that seek a balance by applying varying degrees of separation. The economic theory of rational choice can partly explain why certain regimes manifest themselves. Among the determining factors are the degree of political

and economic freedom, economic efficiency, government control of the economy and prevailing taxation regimes.

During the public evening lecture, Prof. Ferrero and Prof. Wintrobe discussed theocracy as a State system imposed by religious authorities and as an extreme form of institutional blending of religion and state.

**CHRISTIAN AND MUSLIM MINORITIES IN TRANSITION
IN EUROPE AND THE MIDDLE EAST**

In cooperation with the promoters Prof. Johan LEMAN (KULeuven), Prof. Emilio PLATTI (KULeuven) and Prof. Felice DASSETTO (UCL), UCSIA organised this academic workshop from 5 to 7 December 2007.

It explored the relationship between, on the one hand, Christian minorities in the Middle East and Muslim minorities in Europe and, on the other, the majority cultures surrounding those minorities. The globalisation process affects how they perceive their own identity and manifest themselves in society.

Two public lecture sessions were held that attracted a large audience. On 5 December, the speakers were Mgr Henri Teissier, Archbishop of Algiers, and Reverend Elias Khalife Hachem, General Superior of the Maronite Order in Lebanon. On 7 December, the focus was on the manner in which Muslims in Europe experience their religion. The speakers were Dr. Mohamed Mestiri of the International Institute of Islamic Thought in Paris and Prof. Rachid Benzine of the Religious Observatory at the Institute for Political Studies (Aix-en-Provence).

SCRIBANI

In 2003, on the initiative of Mark Rotsaert sj, the President of the Jesuit Conference of European Provincials, UCSIA established the Scribani network, which encompasses 17 research institutions and social centres associated with the Society of Jesus from 11 European countries. These academic research institutions provide food for the policy debate on social issues such as migration, they train professionals such as journalists, and they are involved in concrete social action, including poverty alleviation and care for refugees.

Every two years, a Scribani conference takes place for the following purposes:

- to bring about encounters between members of the network organisations and opinion makers so that they could reflect, from their faith-based perspective, on a concrete issue pertaining to social justice and the future of Europe;
- to allow the network to formulate clear perspectives and suggestions for social, cultural and economic policy, both nationally and internationally.

In between conference years, the network meets to exchange information and explore a research topic during an academic seminar.

AFRICA AND EUROPE: COOPERATION IN A GLOBALISED WORLD

From 6 to 8 September 2006, the second conference of the SCRIBANI network took place in Munich. The event was organised and hosted by Institut für Gesellschaftspolitik (IGP), a partner in the network, and Dr. Michael REDER in particular, with assistance from UCSIA.

The conference topic was cooperation between Africa and Europe, with special attention for three aspects: Africa's socioeconomic status in a context of globalisation, the phenomenon of migration and associated political strategies, and finally the role of women in Africa's cultural, religious and political development. The topics of inter-faith cooperation, peace-building, health and wellbeing, migration and economic development were further explored in five workshops.

This conference challenged the stereotypical European image of Africa. Many Europeans refer to Africa as the "forgotten continent" and associate it with collapsed states, violent conflicts and natural disasters. Politically, Africa is mainly of concern as a recipient of emergency aid. The president of Germany recently asserted that the development of Africa would be the decisive factor in whether or not a more humane world can be achieved. The purpose of this conference was to offer a different perspective on future cooperation between Europe and Africa, and to encourage academic thought on this topic. Africa is, after all, an explicit priority to the Society of Jesus.

At the end of the conference, attention was therefore also paid to the role of the Christian Churches and the Jesuit Order in the development of Africa and in cooperation efforts between Europe and Africa.

The programme encompassed lectures by authorities in the field – including Prof. Helmut Assche (University of Leipzig), Prof. Stephen Castles (Refugee Studies Centre Oxford), Florence Butegwa (Unifem West Africa), Pete Henriot sj (Jesuit Centre for Theological Reflection, Lusaka) and Clare Short, the former UK International Development Secretary – and an exchange of ideas between 130 local and international guests, almost half of whom were Africans.

GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE: A SOCIAL JUSTICE CHALLENGE

On 12 October 2007, UCSIA invited the members of the Scribani network to its annual meeting. Continuing on from the conference on solidarity between Europe and Africa of September 2006, this convention focused on the issue of global climate change and the challenges it poses in terms of social justice. The programme also included a public lecture on this topic.

There is now undeniable evidence that the ongoing process of global warming is caused by industrialisation and other human activity. Scientific predictions by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) are based on a relatively short climatological period and they tend to be rather conservative. Even if we were to halt emissions of carbon dioxide today, then the ongoing process of warming would have grave consequences for the planet, including widespread flooding and ensuing migrations. Urgent measures are therefore required. The unequal North-South distribution of per capita emissions raises the question of a socially equitable allocation of burden among peoples and generations, as well as issues relating to the market mechanisms and technology transfers. Sub-Saharan Africa in particular may expect to feel serious consequences of climate change.

The guest speakers were Prof. Robert Spicer of the Centre for Earth, Planetary, Space and Astronomical Research (CEPSAR) of the Open University, Prof. Jean-Pascal Van Ypersele of the Georges Lemaître Institute of Astronomy and Geophysics at the Catholic University of Leuven, and François Gemenne, a doctoral researcher with the Centre for Ethnic Migration Studies at the University of Liège.

After introductions by Michael Reder (Institut für Gesellschaftspolitik, Munich) and Jacques Haers sj (KULeuven), opinions were exchanged on how climate change ought to be tackled. The main conclusion was that the public and policymakers should devote much closer attention to the societal consequences of global warming, including migration and income disparities.

LECTURE SERIES

DIALOGUE TRILOGY

In 2006, the third cycle in the Dialogue Trilogy lectures series under the heading “The Catholic Church in Dialogue with Islam and Judaism” was concluded with two lectures followed by expert seminars:

- on 23 March 2006: “John Paul II. Accomplishments in Interreligious Dialogue” by Prof. Harold Kasimow, George Drake Professor of Religious Studies in Grinnell College, Iowa, specialising in comparative religion and Jewish studies;
- on 18 May 2006: “The Legacy of John Paul II in Interreligious Dialogue: How to Continue?” by Prof. Thomas Michel sj, Islamologist and Secretary for Interreligious Dialogue of the van de Curia Generalis of the Society of Jesus in Rome.

BIOETHICAL ISSUES

In 2006, UCSIA launched a lectures series on bioethical issues, conceived in cooperation with Prof. Wim LEMMENS (University of Antwerp) and Fernand VANNESTE sj (Emeritus, University of Antwerp). Which academics and professionals are involved in the preparation of these lectures depends on the topic at hand. Bioethical issues are commonly the subject of societal debate and controversy, and UCSIA, in accordance with its mission, has set itself the task of elucidating such topics by means of scientific insights in order to stimulate the debate and promote convergence.

CARE OF EARLY LIFE

On 2 December 2006, the first conference on topical bioethical issues took place. Entitled “Care of Early Life”, it explored the ethical problems associated with prenatal diagnostics, including termination of pregnancy. This specific activity was co-supervised by Ms Willeke DIJKHOFFZ, a practical expert.

The conference confronted some 150 professionals, including doctors, midwives and hospital managers with ethical questions pertaining to prenatal diagnostics and pregnancy termination. Lectures were presented by medical experts (from Gasthuisberg University Hospital and the Centre for Human Genetics/ KULeuven), a philosopher (G. Bodifée, on the perception of humanity in the medical sciences), an ethicist (Dr. Chris Gastmans, KULeuven), a legal expert (W. Dijkhoffz), as well as a parent who spoke from experience (P. Mertens). During the concluding panel debate, attention was also paid to interreligious aspects (dr. Moloud Kalai).

DISABILITY CARE AND PRENATAL DIAGNOSTICS

On 23 May 2007, the focus was on society's perception of and government responsibility in relation to disabled life and disability care. Prof. Jo Lebeer (University of Antwerp, Faculty of Medicine) and experiential expert Ms Lies Vanpeperstraete ("VZW Inclusie Vandaag") presented a sharp analysis. Ms Wivina De Meester, former Flemish Minister of Wellbeing and the Family, spoke from her personal experience as the mother of a disabled child and as a politician.

FROM STEM CELL RESEARCH TO OVUM DONATION: AN ETHICAL REFLECTION ON THE COMMODIFICATION OF THE FEMALE BODY

On 8 December 2007, UCSIA organised a seminar on a new type of exploitation of the female body driven by biotechnology. Among those invited were various national and international experts, including Professor emeritus Donna Dickenson (Birkbeck College, University of London), Guido Pennings (Professor of Bioethics, Ghent University), Herman De Dijn (Professor of Philosophy, KULeuven), Bart Hansen (Postdoctoral researcher, Centre for Biomedical Ethics and Law, KULeuven) and senator Mia De Schamphelaere of the Flemish Christian Democrat CD&V party.

Until recently, philosophical reflection on stem cell research was focused almost entirely on the status of the embryo. With the Hwang controversy, the issue of the buying and selling of human ova also came to the fore. Donna Dickenson presented a critical analysis of the ethical and scientific arguments for and against the use of human ova. She discussed legislative alternatives for the regulation of ovum donation and sale. She argued that the greater the effort and risks for donors of bodily materials, the more they should be empowered. Industry and science stake similar claims to ownership of raw materials from the body. If their research results in the development of a unique product, they can even take out a patent on it. Moreover, risk-taking is (financially) rewarded.

PEOPLE ON THE FRINGES OF SOCIETY

DETENTION, REPARATION AND WORLDVIEW

On 8 November 2007, UCSIA organised a workshop on detention, reparation and worldviews, which was attended by professionals from Flemish and Dutch penal institutions, representatives of the Office of the Public Prosecutor, the Federal and Flemish authorities and the Dutch Ministry of Justice.

Our prisons are overcrowded and understaffed; services are inadequate and contact with visitors is minimal. Punishing crime, it seems, is still a matter of retribution rather than reparation. However, a new legal framework creates room for a shift in emphasis. Yves Van Den Berge, Deputy Public Prosecutor at Dendermonde, elucidated the new legal framework, while criminologist Ivo Aertsen (KULeuven) expounded on the notion of the right to reparation. Representatives of various entities discussed the ideas presented in a panel discussion. Participants were Hilde Guffens (Federal government), Wilfried Meyvis (Flemish government), Leo Van Garsse and Jan Vanherp (mediation organisations Suggnomè and De Rode Antraciet) and Dirk Dufraing (reparation consultant).

Subsequently, the role of faith was discussed. Theologian Jacques Haers sj (KULeuven) spoke about his experiences as a prison chaplain. Jurist Adriaan Overbeeke (UA and VU University Amsterdam) presented a detailed analysis of detainees' right to a worldview, as stipulated in the new law. Prison chaplain Achiel Neys demonstrated that the recent legal initiative has heralded a practical

revolution. And prison chaplain Anne-Mie Jonckheere, finally, spoke about the role of the pastoral counsellor in the implementation of the notion of reparation.

ARE THERE LIMITS TO A DARWINIAN WORLDVIEW?

In 2007-2008, UCSIA is organising a series of five lectures under the title “Are there limits to a Darwinian worldview?”. The lectures explore the tension between religion and science on the basis of the example of Darwinian thought. Originally an explanatory science in the specific domain of biology, Darwin’s theory has today been transformed into a paradigm that makes more universal claims with relevance to all areas of human life and thought.

On Wednesday 12 December and Thursday 13 December 2007, UCSIA organised the first lecture, followed by an expert seminar. Professor Johan Braeckman (Ghent University) presented an introductory lecture on the life and work of Charles Darwin. The essence of Darwin’s theory, he argued, is that there is no ‘plan’ or ‘design’. Man was neither expected nor intended in the universe and in nature. Rather, man is the result of a blind, mechanical process.

LECTURES ON THEOLOGY AND THE CHURCH, IN COOPERATION WITH KVHU

In cooperation with KVHU, the Flemish Catholic University Extension Movement coordinated by Prof. Johan MEEUSEN, UCSIA organises two lectures per year on a theological topic.

THE FUTURE OF THE CHURCH

On 17 March 2006, Professor Rik Torfs (KULeuven) discussed the topic “the future of the Church”. Is the Church an institution in crisis or is it sustainable and does it have a great future ahead? Have we any way of telling what its future will look like? Shall a different Church emerge from the one we know today?

CONTEMPORARY THOUGHT AND THEOLOGY

On Monday 18 December 2006, Jan Van der Veken, an Emeritus Professor from KULeuven, spoke about "the challenges of contemporary thought and of the global status of theology".

The perception exists that the traditional religions, particularly in the most secularised countries, are in decline. However, there is an alternative way of looking at this issue: many of the insights of modern European culture are gradually becoming commonplace and some of those "modern truths" have, in fact, already become obsolete. On the other hand, the situation in the world today is more pressing than ever before, including from a religious and ethical point of view. How should we respond to these challenges from a theological perspective?

LONG LIVE THE OTHERNESS? ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CHRISTIANITY AND OTHER “WORLD RELIGIONS”

This lecture was presented on 26 March 2007 by Prof. Terrence Merrigan (KULeuven). The phrase “world religion” was coined by Western intellectuals and consequently it reflects a typically ‘Western’ perception of the nature and purpose of “religion”. The use of the term implies a judgement vis-à-vis religious traditions that are outside its scope. The ease with which the term is used should not blind us for the implied presuppositions that continue to be felt in the demands for – and expectations from – a so-called inter-faith dialogue. This lecture gauged these presuppositions, which are so determining for contemporary discourse on religion in general and supposedly “world religions” in particular.

CREATION, CONSUMPTION OR SOCIAL JUSTICE? CATHOLIC SOCIAL THOUGHT ON THE ALLEVIATION OF POVERTY AND ENVIRONMENTAL THREATS

On 17 December 2007, Ellen Van Stichel, a doctoral student on an FWO grant at KULeuven, discussed the topic of intergenerational and intragenerational justice in the face of worldwide inequality, extreme poverty, human rights violation and ecological challenges. In 2007, the Catholic Church celebrated the 40th anniversary of “Populorum Progressio”, an encyclical that was very much aligned with the economic growth model. Recent evolutions in Catholic social ideology have resulted in a shift from production to redistribution, sobriety and the restriction of the culture of consumption.

PASTORAL WORK AND THE CHURCH

UCSIA, in association with the Pastoral Care service of the University of Antwerp (Gert VAN LANGENDONCK and Johan VANHOUTTE s), is organising a series of activities relating to pastoral work and the Church.

YOUTH PASTORAL SEMINAR ON “PRESENCE – ABSENCE”

On 12 and 13 January 2006, the third seminar took place in association with the network of pastoral care providers at Flemish universities and university colleges (VUHP). These seminars provide an opportunity for pastors at these educational institutions to exchange views and insights, to innovate their professional approach and to deepen the spiritual content of their work.

The 2006 edition of the seminar attracted around 50 participants, mainly pastors but also staff of the interdiocesan youth services and the organisation of catholic educational institutions. Five Dutch student pastors also took part. The selected topic was “presence – absence”.

Prof. Andries Baart and student pastor Elly Beurskens presented the results of years of research into “presence”. “Presence” is a model for social and pastoral work that goes against the stream and that ties in with a “care discourse” rather than a “rights discourse”. It was developed by the city pastoral service of Utrecht but is now applied successfully in other sectors of healthcare and wellbeing, such as youth work, spiritual health care, teacher training, urban poverty alleviation policy, counselling of problem households, etc. It challenges the established approach whereby trained professionals formulate answers to well-formulated questions on the basis of accurately defined protocols, rules and methods and a sustained measurement of performances and efficiency.

Prof. Baart’s criticism is that this established approach ignores the real needs of people in the margins of society: attentive and sound care, being counted, the development of a fruitful relationship. He warned policymakers and professionals against banishing the presence-based approach to the sector of voluntary work. Professionals must also be able to do more than enhance a series of individual actions and performances. Prof. Baart demonstrated that a presence-based approach has very precise characteristics that are all but vague or arbitrary. He presented a number of suitable tools with which policymakers and administrators can measure and evaluate the results and the quality of such an approach.

During the public evening lecture, Prof. Baart reiterated the essence of his argument. In a very intense questions session with the audience, it emerged that a presence-based approach ties in closely with a Christian “Everyday Theology”.

YOUTH PASTORAL SEMINAR ON “THE NUMINOUS”

On 11 and 12 January 2007, a convention took place of pastors in Flemish higher education. Prof. Tjeu Van den Berk (Faculty of Catholic Theology Utrecht) presented an in-depth analysis of the concept of “the numinous”. Secularised society distances itself from traditional forms and institutions yet it is receptive to spirituality. Provided that appropriate pastoral care is offered, the experience of the “numinous” or the “overwhelming” may guide youngsters to a religious worldview. Geert Beheydt put the new Bible translation into context and management expert Filip Lowette introduced a technique for making teams function more efficiently.

THE IDENTITY OF THE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MOVEMENT

On Saturday 16 December 2006, the heads of pastoral care services and chaplains of 8 Christian youth movements, as well as representatives of the Network for Pastoral Care to Youngsters, met with each other during a workshop on the Christian identity of the youth movement.

Prof. Bert Roebben, a lecturer in Practical Theology, explored the spiritual challenges facing the Christian youth movement today. The Christian youth movement is no longer an instrument of the Church; nor is it an organisation for transferring Christian values. It does provide youngsters with an opportunity, though, to experience the good in community and to meet authentic individuals who attest to a religious life. It can also make them realise that the pivotal point lies outside their own selves, but that they may nonetheless put faith in this transcendental centre. And this insight is acquired in a multicultural and multireligious environment where one learns from and about others and thus comes to reappraise one’s own tradition.

Sabine Polleyn, of the CD&V, spoke about how her party gives expression to specific Christian or Christian-democrat values, such as connectedness, respect, responsibility, trust. To policymakers, the youth movement is important in that it provides youngsters with an opportunity to relax, while also shaping them into responsible adults with a sense of citizenship.

Mgr. Luc Van Looy places the youth movement on an equal footing with the Church and the Gospel. The youth movement is free to present its queries to the Church, but it is not for the Church to impose its version of Christian ethics. The Christian or evangelical contribution of the youth movement is threefold: love for the other, acknowledgement of the other, and blessing of the other (i.e. saying goodbye without abandoning).

Testimonies by leaders and chaplains of youth movements revealed that the various organisations, as well as their central and local leaderships, perceive and experience their Christian identity and spirituality differently.

THE CHURCH ON ITS WAY TO BECOMING A MISSIONARY MOVEMENT

This workshop, which took place on 28 and 29 November 2007, involved participants from the 5 Flemish dioceses and the Brussels vicariate. Each diocese described how it interprets and implements its assignment of “missionary action”. It emerged that, despite considerable pressure on parishes and chaplains, commitment to and enthusiasm for the new approach has, over the past two years, gained the upper hand.

Professor Jozef Wissink, who lectures Practical Theology at the Faculty of Catholic Theology at Tilburg University, presented an analysis of how the Church is at once an institution, a community and a movement, and he explored the opportunities and limitations that this entails for the parish. He put forward a typology of religious communities and/or priests and elucidated what missionary action meant to each of the types. He identified the required (theological) core competencies for providing leadership. Professor Johan Verstraeten of KULeuven presented models of spiritual leadership. Professor emeritus Ernest Henau elaborated his views on Christian community-building. Once again, the participants were very appreciative of the quality and depth of the introductions and the opportunity provided for exchanging experiences and insights with colleagues from other dioceses.

The workshop was organised by Johan Vanhoutte sj and Gert Van Langendonck of the Pastoral Care service of the University of Antwerp, with assistance from Professor Roger Weverbergh and Mr Jean Bastiaens (Centres for Christian Formation) as members of the steering committee.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

JUBILEE OF THE SOCIETY OF JESUS

OUTSTANDING JESUITS FROM THE LOW COUNTRIES

In 2006, on the occasion of the Jubilee of the Society of Jesus, UCSIA organised four lectures on as many “Outstanding Jesuits from the Low Countries”.

- 23 February 2006: “Ferdinand Verbiest sj”, with speakers Prof. Nicolas Standaert sj and Prof. Noël Golvers from KULeuven,
- 30 March: “Petrus Canisius sj”, with speakers Paul Begheyn sj (Director of the Netherlands Institute for Jesuit Studies in Amsterdam) and Prof. Guido Marnef (University of Antwerp),
- 26 October: “Leonardus Lessius sj”, with speakers Prof. Toon Van Houdt (KULeuven) and Prof. Guido Erreygers (University of Antwerp)
- 23 November: “Robert Regout sj”, with speakers Marc Lindeijer sj and Henri de Waele, both from the Radboud University of Nijmegen.

UCSIA cooperated specifically with Lessius Hogeschool (where the third lecture in the series took place) and the University of Antwerp’s Institute for Jewish Studies (on the final lecture).

JESUIT ARCHIVES

On 26 September 2006, UCSIA vzw and the State Archives in Antwerp presented the scientific inventory of the archives of the ‘Jesuit Province of the Low Countries’. These archives were moved back to Antwerp in 2002. They contain all material of the ‘Provincia Flandro-Belgica’ up until the order’s abolition in 1773. The archives bear testimony to the role that the order played in education, scientific research and missionary work, both in the Low Countries and in overseas territories. It also contains correspondence from such well-known Jesuits as Lessius, Scribani and Verbiest.

Dr. Hendrik Callewier, a scientific expert with the State Archives in Antwerp, drew up the first comprehensive and scientifically sound inventory of the extensive collection. Other speakers who underlined the value of these archives were E.P. Frans Mistiaen sj (Socius of the Flemish Jesuit Province), Prof. Karel Velle (General State Archivist), Prof. Eddy Put (State Archives in Leuven), Paul Begheyn sj and Prof. Johan Verberckmoes (KULeuven).

LECTURES BY PROF. RÉMOND AND PROF. ABU ZAYD

On 1 June 2006, UCSIA presented two booklets published by Tertio. The publications contained the course material of the two previous holders of the UCSIA chair, prof. Sadik Al-Azm and prof. René Rémond.

On the occasion, two renowned academic speakers presented a lecture. Prof. dr. René Rémond discussed “Religion and Society in a Secularized Europe”. The European unification and the presence of Islam have incited a discussion about the significance of religion in society. Prof. dr. Nasr H. Abu Zayd expounded and commented on the publication “The Social Debate in the Arabic World”. He promotes a theology for Muslims to link their own traditions with the modern world of freedom, equality, human rights and democracy.

RUUSBROEC IN BABEL

On 26 September 2006, as part of the two-day international conference on the translation of Mediaeval mystical texts, organised by the Ruusbroecgenootschap/University of Antwerp, UCSIA programmed a lecture on the significance of Ruusbroec to the Western mystical tradition, presented by Bernard McGinn, Professor Emeritus of Historical Theology and the History of Christianity with the Divinity School (University of Chicago, USA).

NANO-RESEARCHERS FACING CHOICES

The conference and workshop entitled “Nano-researchers facing choices” took place on 2 and 3 October 2006 on the initiative of UCSIA and in close cooperation with Prof. Lieve GOORDEN and Dr. Marian DEBLONDE of the Research Centre for Technology, Energy and the Environment (STEM)/University of Antwerp. Other members of the steering group were : Dr. Bart Partoens (Physics Department, University of Antwerp) and Dr. Johan Robbens (Biology Department, University of Antwerp).

The conference addressed questions such as: Is it really possible to make well-considered choices in the field of nanoscience and nanotechnology? Must a distinction be made between fundamental and applied research? Who is responsible for choices made: the individual researcher, the research group, the research council? What framework do government and the public institutions provide? Are their priorities regarding the research content and programming transparent?

As an input for this reflection on choices and options in scientific research, lectures were presented by two internationally renowned speakers: Arie Rip, Professor of the Philosophy of Science and Technology with the University of Twente, and Alfred Nordmann, Professor of Philosophy with the University of South Carolina and the Darmstadt University of Technology. Their lectures were followed by a panel discussion with Professors Jurgen Del Favero, Staf Van Tendeloo and Mark Van Rossum (IMEC) and Mr Paul Zeeuwts (IWT Vlaanderen). Prof. Dirk Van Dyck, Vice-Rector for Research of the University of Antwerp, introduced the panel discussion.

This conference and workshop attracted some one-hundred participants, primarily academics and science students.

DOM HELDER CAMARA, A RADICAL STRUGGLE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

On 12 October 2006, UCSIA organised an evening lecture on the legacy of Dom Helder Camara. Two Latin American guests presented lectures: philosopher, religious scientist and women's rights campaigner Ivone Gebara and theologian Marcelo Barros.

ROMAN CATHOLIC RELIGION AS A SCHOOL SUBJECT AND COMMUNITY-BUILDING

On 10 November 2006, UCSIA organised its annual workshop for secondary school teachers of religion, educational counsellors, organisers of school pastoral work and school principals. This fourth edition, which was attended by around 100 participants, went under the heading of "Tradition as a Field of Tension Between Inwardness and Connectedness" and was devoted to the role of religious teachers in enhancing the sustainability of a multicultural school community.

The topic was approached from an interdisciplinary angle by four guest lecturers: Professor Walter Weyns, University of Antwerp (cultural philosophy), Professor Jacques Haers, KULeuven (theology), Professor Dirk Hutsebaut, KULeuven (developmental psychology) and Professor Bert Roebben, Universiteit of Tilburg (didactic educational perspective).

SOCIALISM, RELIGION AND MORAL VALUES

This colloquium and debate took place on 28 and 29 November 2006. It was organised in close cooperation with the Association for the Study and the Work of Hendrik De Man (Lode HANCKE) and Prof. Marnix BEYEN (lecturer in Political History, University of Antwerp) acted as the academic promoter. This association has, for a number of years now, organised colloquia on a variety of topics concerning the person and the work of Hendrik De Man. In 2006, the focus was on "Hendrik De Man and Religion".

The purpose of the programme was to extend the body of knowledge and stimulate critical reflection on the historical and contemporary confrontation and exchange between religion, socialism and moral values in the 19th and 20th centuries, with special focus on the dogmatic antithesis (utopian versus scientific socialism) and on changing work cultures.

The programme included contributions from reputed national and international experts, including Prof. Gareth Stedman Jones (Cambridge University), Prof. Emile Perreau-Saussine (Cambridge University), Prof. Bert Altena (Erasmus University Rotterdam), Dr. Lode Hancké (Chair of the Association) and Prof. Bart Tromp (VU University Amsterdam). Considering the importance of the historical research by Prof. Gareth Stedman Jones, Marnix Beyen organised a special master

class for doctoral students and researchers of the various history departments at universities in Flanders.

BOOK LAUNCH “FAITH-BASED RADICALISM”

On 18 January 2007, UCSIA launched a publication on “Faith-Based Radicalism”. The book summarises the findings of the Summer Seminar of September 2005. After an introductory address by Prof. Walter Nonneman, a panel discussion took place with Gie Goris, Editor-in-Chief of MO Magazine, Koenraad Dassen, the then head of the State Security Service, Dirk Hutsebaut, Em. Prof. of Psychology at KULeuven and Nadia Fadil, a researcher with KULeuven.

THE CATHOLIC AND PROTESTANT CHURCHES IN DIALOGUE WITH THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

This workshop took place on 30 May 2007 and was organised in cooperation with Pax Christi Flanders, the Network for Justice and Peace and the Antwerp Council of Churches. This initiative was taken in preparation of the Flemish participation in the European oecumenic meeting at Sibiu, Romania, in September 2007.

Professor Peter De Mey (Oecumenic Theology, KULeuven) elucidated the Charta Oecumenica and the significance of intra-Christian consultation at the global, international and national levels. Subsequently, three representatives of the Catholic, Protestant and Russian Orthodox Churches presented their perspectives on oecumenic consultation, particularly in relation to peace, justice and care for all of creation. These speakers were: Jef Felix (Network for Justice and Peace), Huub Vogelaar (Centre for Intercultural Theology, University of Utrecht and Faculty of Protestant Theology, University of Brussels) and Reverend Andrey Eliseev (Russian Orthodox Church of Antwerp).

During the ensuing evening lecture, Mgr. Paul Van den Berghe, the Bishop of Antwerp, presented his views on the role of the Christian churches in a multicultural and multireligious Europe.

GLOBALLY CONNECTED, LOCALLY ROOTED

On 14 June 2007, UCSIA, in association with Patrick HANJOUL and Prakash GOOSSENS of the Movement Without a Name (Bond Zonder Naam), organised an academic workshop entitled “Globally Connected, Locally Rooted: Challenges in and Obstacles to Inter-Faith Dialogue”. The Movement Without a Name acts as a local reference point for the worldwide United Religions Initiative.

The lecture took place within the framework of the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue (2008) and was therefore introduced by European Commissioner Ján Figel. He emphasised that the

European initiative extended to inter-religious dialogue and spoke about the need for the EU to pay closer attention to culture and, more specifically, to a culture of dialogue. A number of local initiatives in the field of inter-faith dialogue were presented: the 'Triologue' series, 'WIDA' and 'HOpen deuren'. Ample attention was also paid to the recently established Flemish Partnership for Inter-faith Dialogue (VPiD).

III. CHAIRS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

UCSIA CHAIR AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ANTWERP

The University of Antwerp decided not to fill the UCSIA chair in the 2005-2006 academic year.

UCSIA collated the course material of two previous holders of the chair and published it with Tertio (the course by Prof. Sadik Al-Azm, edited by Mark OOMS, and the course by Prof. René Rémond, edited by Wouter MEEUWS). On 1 June 2006, the two publications were presented to the public, with introductory lectures by Prof. Nasr Abu Zayd (University of Leiden) and Professor René Rémond. This presentation was attended by 150 people.

JÜRGEN FRIEDRICHS

During the second semester of the 2006 -2007 academic year, Prof. Jürgen FRIEDRICHS occupied the UCSIA chair at the University of Antwerp. Prof. Friedrichs is a Doctor of Sociology and the Director of the Institute for Applied Social Research at the University of Cologne. He also taught as a visiting professor at the Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore and at the universities of Utrecht and Hamburg.

At the University of Antwerp, he presented an inter-faculty Bachelor's course on globalisation and a Master's course on poverty and social exclusion in an urban context. He also taught a number of guest lectures in the course on the "Sociology of Inequality" (Prof. J. Vranken).

His inaugural lecture on 23 May 2007 focused on social and religious problems in relation to the integration of immigrants into German society.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Every year, UCSIA offers the University of Antwerp the opportunity of inviting a number of foreign academics for a period of up to three months and of involving them in research activities at the institution. In 2006 and 2007, six academics spent time at the University under this scheme.

Laszlo Zsolnai

In the Spring of 2006, Laszlo ZSOLNAI, a Professor of Business Ethics with the Corvinus University of Budapest, worked at the University of Antwerp as an UCSIA scholar on a research project entitled "Spirituality, Economics and Sobriety". Prof. Henk Opdebeeck (Centre for Ethics of

the Philosophy Department) acted as his promoter and Prof. Luc Van Liedekerke as his co-promoter.

On Friday 24 March 2006, Prof. Zsolnai, in cooperation with Prof. Johan Verstraeten (KULeuven), presented a lecture on 'Buddhists and Bishops on Globalisation'. According to Prof. Zsolnai, Buddhism strives for optimum satisfaction with the least possible consumption, a notion that ties in closely with the principles of antiglobalism. Prof. Verstraeten, who had provided input for the statement by the bishops of Belgium on the economic, cultural and social consequences of globalisation, argued that the Church should approach globalisation primarily from the perspective of those who suffer because of it.

Christo Heunis

Christo Heunis is a Doctor in Sociology and a Senior Researcher with the Centre for Health Systems Research and Development (CHSR&D) of the University of the Free State, Bloemfontein. Under the supervision of Prof. Herman Meulemans, he conducted research at the University of Antwerp into 'Determining factors in inappropriate health-seeking behaviour among TB and HIV/AIDS patients in the Free State with a view to developing appropriate intervention strategies'.

In a lecture presented on 6 December 2006, he analysed the manner in which AIDS/HIV manifests itself in the Free State and the response from government. Unlike in Europe, AIDS/HIV affects a large and predominantly heterosexual part of the Free State's population. In conjunction with TB, it is responsible for a twin epidemic that is catastrophically destroying the social fabric of the entire society. Prof. Leen Rigouts, a Doctor of Science (Ghent University) and a postdoctoral researcher with the Institute for Tropical Medicine, described the context of the AIDS epidemic in South Africa and the rest of the African continent.

Willem Van der Merwe

Willem Van der Merwe is a Doctor of Philosophy and a Professor with the University of Stellenbosch, RSA. In association with Prof. Guy Vanheeswijck, he carried out a research project at the University of Antwerp on 'Post-modernity and the Christian faith; a cultural reappraisal of religion and, more specifically, of the Christian religion, in post-modern Philosophy'. He presented a public lecture on this topic on Wednesday 13 December 2006.

Craig Harline

Prof. Craig Harline lectures European History at the Brigham Young University (USA). As an UCSIA scholar, he conducted research at the University of Antwerp in association with Prof. Guido Marnef (History Department). Professor Harline studied a fundamental, but hitherto much neglected aspect of the Reformation, namely the effects on families of religious conversions and mixed-religion marriages. Families who are faced with religious, cultural, racial or sexual differences are today experiencing the same essential problems: when and how do convictions and religious beliefs transcend family ties and vice versa? He presented a public lecture on this topic on 14 February 2007.

Jeffrey Müller

Jeffrey Müller, a Professor of Art History at Brown University (USA), in cooperation with Prof. Bruno Blondé (Department of History), carried out research into “Visual Communication and Counterreformation in Antwerp: 1566-1801”. On 29 June 2007, he presented an expert seminar on “The Brotherhood of the Holy Trinity to Free Christian Slaves and Its Images in Antwerp’s St-Jacob’s Church”.

Beatrice Hanssen

Beatrice Hanssen is a Professor of German at the University of Georgia, Athens. During her stay at the University of Antwerp, she worked in association with Prof. Viviane Liska on the theological and ethical implications of Walter Benjamin’s theory of *Eingedenken* (recollection, mourning, commemoration). The research contributed to the dialogue on the theory of the Frankfurt School within the Literature Department of the University of Antwerp.

JEF VAN GERWEN SJ CHAIR

In 2006, the Jef Van Gerwen sj Chair was awarded for the first time. This Chair was established in commemoration of Jef Van Gerwen, a Jesuit from Antwerp who pioneered the field of corporate ethics in Flanders and who co-founded UCSIA.

The chair was inaugurated on 4 May 2006. Prof. Bea Cantillon, Vice-Rector of the University of Antwerp, welcomed the numerous guests and underlined the significance of the Chair. Prof. Luc Van Liedekerke, the promoter of the chair, spoke about the pioneering work of Jef Van Gerwen.

DIRK MATTEN

Dirk Matten, a Professor of Business Ethics with the School of Management at Royal Holloway, University of London, and the Director of the Centre for Research into Sustainability, presented a lecture on "Corporate Social Responsibility". Prof. Matten explored such questions as: What is the political role of enterprises in society? Is the entrepreneur a citizen? What is the distribution of tasks between politics and entrepreneurship in relation to education, healthcare, security ...? How much political power resides with industry?

GEORGE FRYNAS

Prof. J. George FRYNAS was the invited speaker to the second edition of the Jef Van Gerwen sj Chair on 15 October 2007. Professor Frynas, a lecturer in International Management with the Middlesex University Business School in London, put it that many companies set themselves ambitious development goals only to meet with disappointment and subsequently to drop out. They feel “Corporate Social Responsibility” (CSR) is no longer suited for resolving social problems and conclude that ‘development’ is best left to government and to the NGOs. However, in many African nations, there is a chronic lack of good governance and citizens therefore count on industry to satisfy their needs. Professor Frynas explored the analytical framework and empirical evidence concerning

the impact of CSR on development. He documented these insights with a number of studies, including on Nigeria's oil and gas reserves.

In the ensuing panel discussion, Christophe Zyde, Manager of Umicore's Supply and Refining Department, and Marc-Olivier Herman of Broederlijk Delen, acted as the representatives of the practical field.

IV. TRAINING

RELIGION, GOVERNMENT AND SOCIETY

Spread out over the 2004-2005/2005-2006 academic years, UCSIA, in association with the International Institute Canon Triest, organised a two-year academic training programme that explored the theoretical framework of the pluralist, multireligious and multicultural society. From the 2006-2007 academic year, the training was transferred to the Centre for Migration and Intercultural Studies (CEMIS/University of Antwerp). UCSIA and IICT continue to be involved in the programming though.

The courses are taught by a broad array of lecturers, including professors from Flemish and foreign universities. The target group are high-skilled individuals (Master's level) who are confronted in their professional lives with aspects of multireligious and multicultural society: civil servants, administrators of educational institutions, police officers, intercultural mediators, trade-union officials, magistrates, etc. Twenty-five participants registered for the first cycle of the training programme.

The purpose of the training programme was to offer knowledge about and insight into the manner in which government and policymakers address the issues that present themselves in our multicultural and multireligious society through regulation and social organisation, in a broad array of areas that includes education, healthcare, the employment market etc. It offers a transparent and topical overview of the existing legal and institutional framework in which the answers should be sought to the questions of multicultural society. The first cycle of the training programme was divided over four semesters, each of which explored a separate dimension of the issue at hand: the socio-historical framework; the legal-institutional framework; the interfaces between education, wellbeing and labour market; the issue of intercultural and interreligious mediation.

The training was organised alternately at the University of Antwerp (City Campus) and the International Institute Canon Triest in Ghent.

WORKSHOP ON URBAN POLICY AND DIVERSITY OF WORLDVIEWS

On 22 June 2006, the first cycle of the two-year training programme on Religion, Government and Society was concluded with a workshop on urban policy and diversity of worldviews, which was attended by over 100 participants.

After an introductory lecture by Prof. Johan Leman of KULeuven, the focus was on three urban policy initiatives in different Flemish metropolises (Hoopvol Brussel, Cordoba Antwerpen and Agora Gent). The different approaches to and implementation of urban policy in relation to religious diversity were analysed in a panel discussion led by Bert Claerhout of Tertio.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1. MEMBERS OF THE SCRIBANI NETWORK

- Angelus Silesius House, Wroclaw, Poland
www.silesius.org.pl
- Centre for Bio-Ethics, Institute of Philosophy and Theology of the Society of Jesus, Zagreb, Croatia
www.bioetika.com
- Center of Spirituality East-West of Michal Lacko, Košice, Slovakia
www.vychod-zapad.com
- Centre Sèvres, Department of Public Ethics, Paris, France
www.centresevres.com
- European Centre of Communication and Culture, Pontifical Faculty of Theology "Bobolanum", Warsaw, Poland
<http://www.eccc.pl/>
- Faculty of Social Sciences, Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome, Italy
www.unigre.it/pug/scienze-sociali/sociali.htm
- Heythrop Institute for Religion, Ethics and Public Life, University of London, UK
www.heythrop.ac.uk
- Institute for the Study of Religions and Cultures, Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome, Italy
www.unigre.it/pug/isrc/isrc.htm
- Institute for Social and Development Studies, Munich School of Philosophy, Munich, Germany
www.hfph.mwn.de/igp
- Institute of European Studies, University of Deusto, Bilbao, Spain
<http://www.iee.deusto.es/>
- Jesuit Centre for Faith and Justice, Dublin, Ireland
<http://www.cfj.ie/>
- Jesuit European Office, Brussels, Belgium
<http://www.ocipe.org/>
- Jesuit Refugee Service Europe, Brussels, Belgium
www.jrseurope.org
- Newman Institute for Catholic Studies, Uppsala, Sweden
<http://www.newman.se/>
- Pedro Arrupe Institute for Political Formation, Palermo, Italy
www.gesuiti.it/csarrupe
- University Centre St-Ignatius Antwerp, Belgium
<http://www.ucsia.org/>
- University Institute of Migration Studies, Comillas Pontifical University, Madrid, Spain
www.upcomillas.es/pagnew/iem/index.asp

Appendix 2. ACADEMIC GUEST LECTURERS 2006 -2007

This list enumerates all guest speakers at UCSIA-events in 2006 and 2007 that have a doctoral degree and have, on principle, a professorial office at a university or related research institute including emeriti.

Summer School on “Religion, Culture and Society”

Ronald Inglehart	Center for Political Studies, University of Michigan
John Hutchinson	London School of Economics
Robert William Hefner	Boston University
Valentine Moghadam	Purdue University
Christian Welzel	International University of Bremen

Does Christianity Have a Future in Europe?

Louis Dupré	Yale University, USA
Lieven Boeve	Catholic University of Leuven (KULeuven)

Christian Politics in Europe: An Uneasy Relationship?

Jan De Groof	University of Antwerp
Marianne Heimbach-Steins	University of Bamberg
Wilfried Pauwels	University of Antwerp
Johan J. Graafland	Tilburg University
Bob Goudzwaard	VU University Amsterdam
Guido Dierickx	University of Antwerp
Steven Van Hecke	University of Antwerp
Emmanuel Gerard	Catholic University of Leuven (KULeuven)
Martin Conway	University of Oxford
Bea Cantillon	University of Antwerp
Kees Van Kersbergen	VU University Amsterdam
Hilary Russell	Liverpool John Moores University
Frederik Swennen	University of Antwerp
Wim van de Donk	Tilburg University
Cathy Berx	University of Antwerp
Bart Pattyn	Catholic University of Leuven (KULeuven)
Ernest Henau	Catholic University of Leuven (KULeuven)

Four Voices: The Accession of Turkey to the European Union

Dirk Rochtus	Lessius Hogeschool Antwerpen
Hans Arnold	Akademie für Politische Wissenschaften, Munich
Hasan Ali Karasar	Bilkent University, Istanbul
Kemal Kirişçi	Bogaziçi University in Istanbul

The European Union and the Historical Legacies in the Balkans

Bernard Lory	Institut National des Langues et Civilisations Orientales, Paris
Michael Palaret	University of Edinburgh
Ivan Ilchev	University of Sofia
Alexander Kiossev	University of Sofia
Victor Friedman	University of Chicago
Francis J. Thomson	University of Antwerp

Faith-Based Organisations and Poverty in the City

Herman Noordegraaf	University of Leiden
Andries Baart	University of Catholic Theology, Utrecht
Chris Baker	The William Temple Foundation, Manchester
Clive Barnett	Open University
Stanley Carlson-Thies	The Center for Public Justice, Annapolis, Maryland
Paul Cloke	University of Exeter
Sarah Johnsen	Centre for Housing Policy, University of York
David Ley	University of British Columbia, Canada
Ian Linden	University of London
Vivien Lowndes	De Montfort University, Leicester
Gerbrand Mans	Stellenbosch University, South-Africa
Andrew Orton	Sociology and Social Policy, University of Durham
Ronan Paddison	University of Glasgow
Jo Southworth	University of Birmingham
Tanja Winkler	University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa

Mulieres Religiosae

Veerle Fraters	University of Antwerp, Ruusbroecgemeenschap
Barbara Baert	KULeuven, Illuminare
Luce Irigaray	Centre National de Recherche Parijs
Anneke Mulder Bakker	University of Leiden
Kathryn Rudy	Royal Library in the Hague
Hanno Wijsman	University of Leiden
Regina Ammicht Quinn	University of Tübingen
Walter Van Herck	University of Antwerp
Frank Willaert	University of Antwerp

Faith and the Media

Hans Geybels	Catholic University of Leuven (KULeuven)
Ernest Henau	Catholic University of Leuven (KULeuven)
Michel Walrave	University of Antwerp
Peter Horsfield	RMIT University
Marc Hooghe	Catholic University of Leuven (KULeuven)
Joan Hemels	University of Antwerp and University of Amsterdam
Jacques Guyot	University of Paris 8 – Vincennes
Stewart M. Hoover	University of Colorado
Franz-Josef Eilers svd	Divine Word School of Theology

Theocracy and Economy

Mario Ferrero	University of East Piedmont, Italy
Ronald Wintrobe	University of Western Ontario, Canada
Walter Nonneman	University of Antwerp
Douglas Allen	Simon Fraser University Vancouver
Donald Wittman	University of California
Frederic L. Pryor	Swarthmore College
Martin Paldam	University of Aarhus
Luisa Giuriato	La Sapienza University Rome
Fabio Padovano	Roma Tre University
Pierre Salmon	University of Bourgogne, Dijon
Brendan O'Leary	University of Pennsylvania
Amihai Glazer	University of California

Religious Minorities in Europe and the Middle East

Peter Mandaville	Center of Global Studies, George Mason University
Lenie Brouwer	VU University Amsterdam
Mohamed Mestiri	International Institute of Islamic Thought, Paris
Dick Douwes	Erasmus University
M. Rachid Benzine	IEP
Emilio Platti	Catholic University of Leuven (KULeuven)
Felice Dassetto	UCL
Tariq Modood	University of Bristol
Herman Teule	Radboud University Nijmegen
Hassan Boussetta	Université de Liège
Johan Leman	Catholic University of Leuven (KULeuven)

Africa and Europe

Stephen Castles	Refugee Studies Centre, UK
Robert Kappel	Institute of Global and Area Studies, Germany
Johannes Müller sj	Institut für Gesellschaftspolitik, Munich

Global Climate Change: A Social Justice Challenge

Robert A. Spicer	The Open University
Jean-Pascal van Ypersele	UCL
Michael Reder	Institut für Gesellschaftspolitik, München

Dialogue Trilogy

Harold Kasimow	Grinnell College, Iowa
Thomas Michel sj	Curia Generalis, Society of Jesus, Rome

Care for Early Life

Fernand Van Neste sj	University of Antwerp
Ingrid Witters	University Hospital Leuven
Jean-Pierre Fryns	University Hospital Leuven
Chris Gastmans	Catholic University of Leuven (KULeuven)
Willem Lemmens	University of Antwerp
Mouloud Kalaaï	Vesalius Hospital, Tongeren
Philip Loquet	St Augustine Hospital, Wilrijk
Bernard Spitz	Catholic University of Leuven (KULeuven)

Disability Care and Prenatal Diagnostics

Fernand Van Neste sj	Law Faculty, University of Antwerp
Jo Lebeer	Faculty of Medicine, University of Antwerp

From Stem Cell Research to Ovum Donation

Guido Pennings	Ghent University
Josiane Van der Elst	University Hospital Brussels
Donna Dickenson	University of London
Herman De Dijn	Higher Institute for Philosophy, KULeuven
Willem Lemmens	University of Antwerp

Detainees, Reparation and Worldview

Jacques Haers sj	Catholic University of Leuven (KULeuven)
Adriaan Overbeeke	VU University Amsterdam

Are There Limits to a Darwinian Worldview?

Johan Braeckman	Ghent University
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Lectures on Theology and the Church, in cooperation with KVHU

Jan Van der Veken Catholic University of Leuven (KULeuven)
Terrence Merrigan Catholic University of Leuven (KULeuven)

Youth Pastoral Seminar on "Presence - Absence"

Wiel Kusters University of Maastricht
Andries Baart University of Catholic Theology, Utrecht
Elly Beurskens University of Catholic Theology, Utrecht

The Church on Its Way to Becoming a Missionary Movement

Jozef Wissink University of Tilburg
E. Henau Catholic University of Leuven (KULeuven)

The Identity of the Christian Youth Movement

Bert Roebben Universiteit van Dortmund

Youth Pastoral Seminar on "The Numinous"

Tjeu Van Den Berk University of Catholic Theology Utrecht

Notable Jesuits from the Low Countries

Noël Golvers Catholic University of Leuven (KULeuven)
Nicolas Standaert sj Catholic University of Leuven (KULeuven)
Guido Marnef University of Antwerp
Toon Van Houdt Catholic University of Leuven (KULeuven)
Helma De Smedt University of Antwerp
Henri C.F.J.A. De Waele Radboud University Nijmegen
Marc Lindeijer Radboud University Nijmegen

Jesuit Archives

Hendrik Callewier State Archives in Antwerp
Karel Velle General State Archives
Eddy Put Catholic University of Leuven (KULeuven)
Johan Verberckmoes Catholic University of Leuven (KULeuven)

Lectures as a result of Tertio publications

René Rémond † Université Nanterre
Nasr H. Abu Zayd University of Leiden

Nano-Researchers Facing Choices

Lieve Goorden STEM, University of Antwerp
Arie Rip University of Twente

Alfred Nordmann	TU Darmstadt and University of South Carolina
Dirk Van Dyck	University of Antwerp
Jurgen Del Favero	University of Antwerp
Marc Van Rossum	IMEC
Staf Van Tendeloo	University of Antwerp
Paul Zeeuwts	IWT - Vlaanderen

Roman Catholicism as a School Subject and Community-Building

Luc Braeckmans	University of Antwerp, UCSIA
Walter Weyns	University of Antwerp
Jacques Haers	Catholic University of Leuven (KULeuven)
Dirk Hutsebaut	Catholic University of Leuven (KULeuven)
Bert Roebben	Tilburg University

Socialism, Religion and Moral Values

Gareth Stedman Jones	Cambridge University
Emile Perreau-Saussine	Cambridge University
Bert Altena	Erasmus University Rotterdam
Bart Tromp †	University of Amsterdam
Mark Eyskens	Catholic University of Leuven (KULeuven)

Book Launch: "Faith-Based Radicalism"

Frank Buijs	Iimes, University of Amsterdam
Dirk Hutsebaut	Catholic University of Leuven (KULeuven)

The Catholic and Protestant Churches in Dialogue with the Russian Orthodox Church

Peter De Mey	Catholic University of Leuven (KULeuven)
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Chairs, Scholarships and Lectures

Jürgen Friedrichs	University of Cologne
Dirk Matten	School of Management, University of London
George Frynas	Middlesex University Business School, London
Craig Harline	Brigham Young University, USA
Guido Marnef	University of Antwerp
Beatrice Hanssen	University of Georgia, Athens
Laszlo Zsolnai	Corvinus University Budapest
Willem Van der Merwe	University of Stellenbosch, RSA
Johan Verstraeten	Catholic University of Leuven (KULeuven)
Hendrik Opdebeeck	Centre for Ethics, University of Antwerp
Christo Heunis	University of the Free State, RSA
Leen Rigouts	Institute for Tropical Medicine

Religion, Government and Society

A.P.C.M. Jaspers	Universiteit Utrecht
Matthias Storme	Universiteit Antwerpen
Ben Vermeulen	Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen
Wilfried Rauws	Vrije Universiteit Brussel
W.A. Zondag	Rijksuniversiteit Groningen
Louis-Léon Christians	Université Catholique de Louvain
Daniël Cuypers	Universiteit Antwerpen
Wim Verzelen	Karel De Grote Hogeschool
Miet Lamberts	Hoger Instituut voor de Arbeid Leuven

Workshop on Urban Policy and Religious Diversity

Johan Leman	Katholieke Universiteit Leuven
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