New Trajectories in Australian Research on Late Antiquity and Early Christian Studies

20–22 April 2022
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All sessions will be held on Level 7 of the Daniel Mannix Building at ACU’s St Patrick’s Campus, 115 Victoria Parade, Fitzroy. The Daniel Mannix Building can be entered from Young Street or via St Mary of the Cross Square on Brunswick Street. See building 403 on the campus map: acu.edu.au/locations/melbourne/melbourne-campus-map

Wednesday 20 April

9 – 10am Arrival and Coffee / Tea

10 – 11am Plenary one
Chair: Matthew R. Crawford, ACU

‘Dreams, prophecy and violence from early Christianity to the rise of Islam’
Bronwen Neil, Macquarie University

11 – 11.10am Break

11.10am – 12pm Short paper session one
Chair: Michael Champion, ACU

‘Hypocrisy and high standards: Theodoret on Christian and non-Christian ascetics’
Michael Magree, Boston College

‘Inside others: Early Christian protagonists and their impairments’
Kylie Crabbe, ACU

12 – 1pm Lunch

1 – 2pm Plenary two
Chair: Michael Hanaghan, ACU

‘The rise of decline in the later Roman Empire’
Richard Miles, University of Sydney

2 – 2.15pm Break

2.15 – 3.05pm Short paper session two
Chair: Jonathan Zecher, ACU
‘Patterning the past: Research for the future’
Katherin Papadopoulos, St Athanasius College, University of Divinity

‘Historical and geoarchaeological records of the interaction between society and climate/environment in late antique and medieval Italy’
Duncan Keenan-Jones, University of Queensland

3.05 – 3.30pm  Coffee / Tea

3.30 – 4.20pm  Short paper session three
   Chair: Stephen Carlson, ACU

   ‘Augustine of Hippo and Eudaemonism’
   Katie Chambers, University of New England

   ‘Trajectories of ‘doubt’ in early Christianity and early Christian Studies’
   Anna Nürnberger, Australian Lutheran College

4.20 – 4.30pm  Break

4.30 – 5.30pm  Plenary three
   Chair: Sarah Gador-Whyte, ACU

   ‘Crises of leadership in the Eastern Roman Empire (250-1000 CE)’
   Peter Edwell, Macquarie University

5.30pm  Drinks and nibbles

Thursday 21 April

8.30 – 9am  Coffee / Tea

9 – 10am  Plenary four
   Chair: Kylie Crabbe, ACU

   ‘Babatha’s Sisters: Judaean Women Refugees in the Wilderness Caves’
   Joan Taylor, King’s College London

10 – 10.15am  Break

10.15 – 11.05am  Short paper session four
   Chair: Sarah Gador-Whyte, ACU
‘Divine envy and generosity in cosmological and anthropological arguments between Christians and Neoplatonists’
Edward Jeremiah, University of Melbourne

‘St Cyril of Alexandria and the mysteries of Isis in *De adoratione*’
Tom Pietsch, Australian Lutheran College/ACU

11.05 – 11.30am  Coffee/tea

11.30am – 12.30pm  Plenary five
Chair: Stephen Carlson, ACU

‘Progress in the Arts and Sciences according to Julian and Cyril: How Central is Knowledge to Human Flourishing?’
Matthew R. Crawford, ACU

12.30 – 1.30pm  Lunch

1.30 – 2.30pm  Plenary six
Chair: Matthew R. Crawford, ACU

‘The history of inebriation and reason from Plato to the Latin Middle Ages’
Eva Anagnostou-Laoutides, Macquarie University

2.30 – 2.45pm  Break

2.45-3.35pm  Grant workshop session one
Chair: Michael Champion, ACU

‘Roman mass media, religion and imperial power, circa 69-395 CE’
Ryan Strickler, Newcastle University; Amelia Brown, University of Queensland; Estelle Strazdins, University of Queensland; Bronwen Neil, Macquarie University; Justin Pigott, University of Auckland

‘The genomic text of the New Testament’
Stephen C. Carlson, ACU, and Rob Turnbull, University of Melbourne

3.35 – 4pm  Coffee/tea

4 – 5.15pm  Grant workshop session two
Chair: Ben Edsall, ACU

‘A phenomenology of ancient Christian meditative practice in the light of contemplative science’
Cullan Joyce, University of Melbourne
'The wakeful night: Nocturnal imagination, encounters and emotions in the late ancient Mediterranean'
Amelia Brown, University of Queensland, Kylie Crabbe, ACU, Sarah Gador-Whyte, ACU, and Dawn LaValle Norman, ACU

‘‘Who, then, is my neighbour?’: Political, theological, psychological, and biblical approaches to enmity’
Scott A. Kirkland, Trinity College, and Christopher A. Porter, Trinity College

6.30pm  Conference dinner

Friday 22 April

8.30 – 9am  Coffee/tea

9 – 10am  Plenary seven
Chair: David Litwa, ACU

‘Manichaean liturgical texts and practices from Egypt to China’
Iain Gardner, University of Sydney

10 – 10.15am  Break

10.15 – 11.05am  Short paper session five
Chair: Michael P. Theophilos, ACU

‘‘Pay me two chickens, but you can keep your Christology!’ Reflections on the Kellis Manichaeans from the point of view of the FAB’
Geoffrey Jenkins, Australian Institute of Archaeology

‘Rethinking the origins of Christianity in Alexandria’
David Litwa, ACU

11.05 – 11.30am  Coffee/tea

11.30am – 12.20pm  Short paper session six
Chair: Ben Edsall, ACU

‘Conquering country: Johannine anti-Jewishness and colonial violence in Australia’
Blake Wassell, ACU

‘The infancy narrative of Matthew in light of astrological papyri and ostraca’
Michael P. Theophilos, ACU

rev: 8/3/22
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session/Activity</th>
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<tr>
<td>12.20 – 1.30pm</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.30pm – 2.20pm</td>
<td>Short paper session seven&lt;br&gt;Chair: Michael Hanaghan, ACU&lt;br&gt;‘Cyprian of Carthage and the OT canon of North Africa’&lt;br&gt;Edwina Murphy, Australian College of Theology&lt;br&gt;‘A problem like Maria: Refiguring sex work in the <em>Life of Theodoros of Sykeon</em>’&lt;br&gt;Jo DowlingSoka, Macquarie University</td>
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<td>2.20 – 2.30pm</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td>2.30 – 3.30pm</td>
<td>Plenary eight&lt;br&gt;Chair: Jonathan Zecher, ACU&lt;br&gt;‘Memories of utopia: Destroying the past to create the future (300 – 650 CE)’&lt;br&gt;Wendy Mayer, Australian Lutheran College</td>
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<td>3.30pm</td>
<td>Coffee/tea and departure</td>
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Australian Catholic University
115 Victoria Parade, Fitzroy, Victoria, 3065 Australia
Convenor: Matthew Crawford

Cover art:
‘Fresco from the Church of Santa Maria Antiqua, Rome (Matthew Crawford personal photograph)’. 