Announcing

The annual meeting of the American Society of Church History is convening January 7–10, 2010, in San Diego, California, in conjunction with the American Historical Association’s annual meeting. One of the panels, chaired by Keith A. Francis, associate professor of history, Baylor University, will focus on the 1910 World Missionary Conference. Speakers include Peter Phan, Georgetown University; Heather J. Sharkey, University of Pennsylvania; and Jessica Ann Sheetz-Nguyen, University of Central Oklahoma. For details visit http://churchhistory.org.

An interdisciplinary symposium on Southern African studies of religion with the theme “In the Presence of Faith” will be held at the University of Johannesburg, February 25–26, 2010. The university’s Centre for Culture and Languages in Africa and the University of the Witwatersrand’s Wits Institute for Social and Economic Research will cohost the conference “to stimulate social science and humanities research into religion in Southern Africa,” according to the announcement. For details, visit http://wiserweb.wits.ac.za/index.htm.

The 2010 annual meeting of the American Society of Missiology will be held June 18–20 at Techny Towers, Techny, Illinois. Focusing on the mission of non-Anglo congregations in North America, the theme for the meeting is “Colorful Initiatives: Confounding Hegemony in North America.” For details, visit www.asmweb.org/news.htm. The Association of Professors of Mission (www.asmweb.org/apm) will hold its annual meeting June 17–18 at the same location.

“Consultation and Cooperation in the History of Missions” is the theme for the 2010 conference of the Yale-Edinburgh Group on the History of the Missionary Movement and Non-Western Christianity, which will be held July 1–3 at the University of Edinburgh. A call for papers will be issued in January, with titles and abstracts due in March. IBMR contributing editors Andrew F. Walls, Brian Stanley, and Lamin Sanneh are the conveners. This annual conference is cosponsored by the Centre for the Study of Christianity in the Non-Western World at the University of Edinburgh, Yale Divinity School, and the Overseas Ministries Study Center. For more information, visit www.library.yale.edu/div/yaleedin.htm.

The Twenty-first European Conference on Modern South Asian Studies, which will be held at the University of Bonn, Germany, July 26–29, 2010, will include a panel discussion on the theme “Christians, Cultural Interactions, and South Asia’s Religious Traditions.” The conveners are Richard Young, Princeton Theological Seminary (Richard.young@ptsem.edu), and Chad Bauman, Butler University (cbauman@butler.edu). For conference details, visit www.ecmsas.org.

The Chinese Christian Texts Database (www.arts.kuleuven.be/sinology/cct) makes available primary and secondary sources related to cultural contacts between China and Europe from 1582 to ca. 1840. The database comprises documents in the various fields of cultural interaction, including religion, philosophy, science, and art. It builds on the work of Erik Zürcher (1928–2008), who compiled a bibliography of Chinese primary sources concerning Christianity in China in the seventeenth century. Conversion to an online format was undertaken by Ad Dudink and Nicolas Standaert, of Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium. An ongoing project, the database references over 1,000 primary sources, including printed books, manuscripts, pamphlets, and maps, and more than 4,000 secondary sources in a variety of ancient and modern Asian and European languages.

Christine Love-Rodgers, librarian at New College, divinity school of the University of Edinburgh, announced that a database is being developed of all graduates during its first one hundred years. The online source (www.archives.lib.ed.ac.uk/students) draws from the annals of the Free Church of
Scotland and the United Free Church of Scotland and includes many missionaries.

The Humphrey Winterton Collection of East African Photographs: 1860–1960, at Northwestern University Library, Evanston, Illinois, is available online at http://repository.library.northwestern.edu/winterton. The collection, created to increase access to 7,610 photographs, 230 glass lantern slides, and other materials, was assembled by British collector Humphrey Winterton. The collection documents African life and European life in Africa, and portrays the African landscape as it has changed over time.

Personalia


Appointed. Olav Fykse Tveit, 48, Norwegian theologian and pastor, as seventh general secretary of the World Council of Churches. Tveit will be the youngest general secretary since Willem A. Visser ‘t Hooft, who led the WCC while it was in process of formation and following its founding assembly in 1948. Since 2002, Tveit has been general secretary of the Church of Norway Council on Ecumenical and International Relations. An ordained Church of Norway pastor, he was a parish priest in Haram, More Diocese (1988–91), and an army chaplain during his compulsory year of national service (1987–88). Tveit is a member of the WCC Faith and Order Plenary Commission and the board of directors and executive committee of the Christian Council of Norway. He will replace outgoing general secretary Samuel Kobia, from the Methodist Church in Kenya.

Elected. Martin Junge, 48, a pastor and theologian from Chile, as the eighth general secretary of the Lutheran World Federation, Geneva, Switzerland, effective October 2010. Junge will be the first representative from the Latin America and Caribbean region to hold that position, a seven-year term. Since September 2000 he has been area secretary for Latin America and the Caribbean at the LWF Department for Mission and Development. He was president of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chile (Iglesia Evangélica Luterana en Chile). He will succeed Ishmael Noko, an ordained pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Zimbabwe, who was elected in 1994, becoming the first African to hold the LWF chief executive post.

Emilio Castro, a Methodist pastor from Uruguay who was World Council of Churches general secretary (1985–92), was honored October 14, 2009, by the Republic of Chile for his contribution to the defense of human rights in this South American country during the 1980s. He received the Orden de Bernardo O’Higgins, which is named for a central figure of Chile’s fight for independence in the nineteenth century. The order is an honor usually conferred on foreign citizens for their outstanding contribution in the field of arts, education, industry, commerce, or humanitarian and social cooperation.