

INTERLINK

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From the desk of the coordinator

In the words of former Superior General Antonio Pernia, **Anthropos Institute (AI) should “act as the guardian of the Anthropos tradition of the Society”** (*VERBUM SVD* 45, 1 (2004), 34). This issue of *Interlink* presents the 2023 activities of AI individuals and institutions, dedicated to the social and religious sciences, within the global network of Anthropos Institute International (AII). These efforts contribute to academic scholarship and the continuation of the Anthropos tradition of the Arnoldus family.

Activities of Coordinating Council of Anthropos Institute International

The AII Council for 2022-2024 consists of Roger Schroeder (USC) as Coordinator; and Stanislaus Grodz (GER) and Michael Sebastian Maria (INM) as members. They conducted most of their work by email, but they also had two extended meetings.

March 2023 Meeting

Since both S.M. Michael and R. Schroeder were in Steyl, the Netherlands, on interculturality business, the AII Council were able to meet in person in St. Augustine, Germany, on **March 6, 2023**. The agenda of their meeting included: 1) an update on personnel and financial situation of Anthropos Institute in St. Augustine (presented by S. Grodz); 2) long discussion of a proposed Editorial Board for the journal *Anthropos*; 3) meeting with Dariusz Piwowarczyk (editor-in-chief of *Anthropos*) and Alexius Dungdung (recently-arrived new member of editorial team); 4) proposed third ZOOM discussion of AII members for July 2023; 5) review of lists of SVD with advanced degrees for potential new AII members.

November 2023 Meeting

A second AII Council meeting was held in St. Augustine, on **November 23, 2023**, with S. Grodz and R. Schroeder in-person, and S.M. Michael via Zoom. The agenda of this meeting included: 1) long discussion for finalizing the proposal for a new Editorial Board for the *Anthropos* journal (including D. Piwowarczyk) and approving the next steps in the process; 2) evaluation of the July 2023 Zoom discussion; 3) update on the personnel and financial

situation of Anthropos Institute of St. Augustine; 4) update on new and potential AII members.

Editorial Board

A **major 2023 initiative** was the development of a new **Editorial Board for the *Anthropos* journal**. In order to gather the opinion and commitment of the AII members to the journal, an AII consultation was held on March 1, 2022, and a questionnaire was distributed in April, with the results reported in August 2022. The general opinion was that the journal *Anthropos* should continue to be published and that it should be “an anthropological journal with a missiological slant.” However, this goal needs further formulation and development. The advantages is that *Anthropos* is “a foothold in the Academia,” and a “part of the ‘Anthropos tradition’ which is an integral part of the SVD identity.” The serious financial and personnel challenges are the major disadvantages for continuing with the journal. A new editorial structure is needed to continue with the publication of the journal.

The AII Council, in consultation with the journal editor, D. Piwowarczyk, developed a proposed plan to establish a new mode of operation and oversight for editing the journal, which would not require residence in Germany, but would necessarily involve a number of AII members. The proposal was circulated among the members in August, 2023, and there was a very positive response by sixteen AII members that they were willing to contribute to this new editorial framework.

The new structure will consist of two groups. The Editorial Board itself will consist of a coordinator and about five other members and it will serve as the “inner circle” to evaluate submitted manuscripts, formulate policy for the journal, and advise regarding special journal publications and the other two AII book series. The second group will be a wider circle of AII members who will do the actual editorial work on the accepted manuscripts.

Action Step:

Stanislaus Grodz will send out letters in early 2024 to a select group of AII members with the invitation to be a member of the Editorial Board itself. After the Board is set, then letters will be sent to the other AII members, who volunteered to be involved in this effort, to be members of the wider circle.

AII Zoom Discussions

In order to strengthen the AII network and provide on-going development, a Zoom discussion was held on July 11, 2023. They discussed the following chapter: Joel Robbins, "World Christianity and the Reorganization of Disciplines: On the Emerging Dialogue between Anthropology and Theology," in: *Faith in African Lived Christianity: Bridging Anthropological and Theological Perspectives*, edited by Karen Lauterbach and Mika Vähäkangas, 15-27 (Leiden and Boston: Brill, 2019). About a dozen AII members participated in an engaging conversation.

Action Step:

Roger Schroeder has contacted the members for a suggested topic and format for the next Zoom discussion which is proposed for July 2024.

AII Membership update

As a result of proactive invitations by the AII Council to several SVD with advanced degrees in the social and religious sciences, the following two persons were accepted as full AII members:

-- Indian-born Antony Susairaj completed a doctorate at Sophia University, Tokyo, and currently is an Associate Professor of Anthropology and Philosophy at Nanzan University, Japan. He has a significant publication record.

--- Indonesian-born Hendrik Maku completed a degree involving three years of advanced study in Islamology in Cairo, Egypt, and Rome, Italy. He has applied skills and publications relevant to this field and is currently involved in a research project.

-- There are currently forty full members, two emeriti, and four associate members for a total of forty-six members, which is two more than in 2022.

Interculturality activity

A fair number of AII members continued in 2023 to be involved in activities around the world related to interculturality with the SVD and SSpS congregations and many other religious congregations. AII members S.M. Michael and Roger Schroeder continue to serve on the SVD-SSpS **Resource Committee for Interculturality (RCI)**.

Activities of the Co-ordinator

AII coordinator Schroeder submitted the annual report on AII in April, 2023, as part of the no. 35 issue of *Interlink* to the SVD Congregational Leadership Team.

In 2023, he met in-person the seven AII members living in St. Augustine, Germany, Ennio Mantovani in Sydney, Australia, and S.Michael in Steyl, the Netherlands. He also had Zoom conversations with Jon Kirby and Alexander Rodlach, both in the USA.

Membership Reminders

AII members are strongly encouraged to submit articles and write book reviews for the *Anthropos* journal. If interested, contact our editor Darius Piwowarczyk at editorial@anthropos.eu.

The website for Anthropos Institute International is the need of and process of being updated

(<https://www.anthropos.eu/anthropos/institute/index.php>). AII members are invited to send the following to Grodź at grodz@anthropos.eu for inclusion on our website: individual professional bio (and website link), and a paragraph description and website link for institutes with some AII affiliation. The homepage of Anthropos Institute on the SVD Curia website (<http://www.svdcuria.org>) also provides general information.

Please contact me, regarding any business related to the international network of Anthropos Institute at rschroeder@ctu.edu. Best wishes for 2024!

Roger Schroeder, SVD

International Coordinator of Anthropos Institute

Publications of the Institute

The **official publications of the Institute** are currently entrusted to the **Editorial Board at Anthropos Institute St. Augustine (AI-SA)**.

Staff

The Editorial Board at Anthropos Institut Sankt Augustin consists of: 5 SVD AII members (Darius Piwowarczyk – the Editor-in-Chief, Vincensius Adi Gunawan, Joachim Piepke, Othmar Gächter, Stanislaw Grodź) and a number of lay workers. Also, AII member **Alexius Dunggung** was transferred from INE province (India) to Sankt Augustin to begin assisting with the editorial work after his German language course in 2023.

Publications

1. Anthropos 2023 (vol. 118) – two issues (711 pages altogether) were published. The first issue was sent out to subscribers in June, the second one will be sent out in early January 2024 (a slight delay in typesetting occurred on the part of the publisher). Vol. 118 contains 34 articles, 4 texts in the section "Reports & Commentaries" and 93 book reviews. The section "Survey of Journals" offers an overview of the contents of ca. 140 journals (including the Open Access ones) specialized in the field of social and cultural anthropology and religious studies.

Two SVDs contributed book reviews to the journal:
* Brzozowska, Zofia A., Mirosław J. Leszka, and Teresa Wolińska, Muhammad and the Origin of Islam in the Byzantine-Slavic Literary Context. A Bibliographical History. Łódź-Kraków, 2020 (Stanisław Grodź) 222-3.

* Basu, Amrita, and Tanika Sarkar (eds.): Women, Gender, and Religious Nationalism. Cambridge, 2022 (Othmar Gächter), 598-601.

* Fancello, Sandra, and Alessandro Gusman (eds.), Charismatic Healers in Contemporary Africa. Deliverance in Muslim and Christian Worlds. London, 2022 (Stanisław Grodź) 612-3.

and: Obituary: Henrk Zimoń SVD (1940-2022) (Stanisław Grodź) (211-213)

According to the calculations made by the editor-in-chief, 63% of the texts in the volume 118 were

written in English, 13% in Spanish and 13% in German, 8,5% in French and 2,5% in Portuguese. The authors come from 22 countries worldwide (Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Morocco, Mali, The Netherlands, Pakistan, Poland, Republic of South Africa, Russia, Spain, Sweden, USA).

Anthropos is available on JSTOR. NOMOS gives the subscribers full access to the electronic version of the journal via its eLibrary (the current and the most recent issues). The list of contents with articles' abstracts and the link to eLibrary are available at: <http://www.anthropos.eu/anthropos>. A few volumes (100.2005-111.2016) are accessible there in an Open Access form.

2. Special issue of "Anthropos": J.J. Pawlik, D.J. Piwowarczyk (eds), 'The Key to Forming Good Habits is to Make Them Part of Your Rituals'. Ritual and Celebration in Family and in Broader Societal Context, Baden-Baden: Academia Verlag, 2023.

3. Book series – Studia Instituti Anthropos (SIA) and Collectanea Instituti Anthropos (CIA)
-- (CIA 54) J.G. Piepke, Patchwork. *Religionen fallen nicht vom Himmel*, Baden-Baden: Academia Verlag, 2023

4. Anthropology & Mission

-- No. 67 (July 2023) with information about 26 books (prepared by O. Gächter and V. Adi Gunawan) and 13 articles (prepared by J. Piepke, D. Piwowarczyk, V. Adi Gunawan and S. Grodz).

-- No. 68 (December 2023) with information about 29 books (prepared by O. Gächter and V. Adi Gunawan) and 26 articles (prepared by J. Piepke, D. Piwowarczyk, S. Grodz). The bulletin appears only electronically at the Website of Anthropos <http://www.anthropos.eu/anthropos/publications/anthropology-and-mission/index.php>.

Other Matters

Sharon E. Hutchinson (a retired professor of University of Wisconsin, USA) who had researched and published on the Nuer in Southern Sudan, published (at her own costs) a new edition of *Outlines of a Nuer Grammar* by J.P. Crazzolara (Vienna, 1933; Anthropos Linguistische Bibliothek, vol. 13).

Crazzolara (+1976) was a Comboni missionary who published on north-eastern African languages, among others. Prof. Hutchinson was impressed by his work and wanted to make that old book available to the Nuer, as there is very little published on the Nuer language that can be of use to ordinary people. She formally cleared the matter of the new edition with Anthropos Institute and with the Combonis. The book (and other materials) is available through: <https://www.nuerdilemmas.com/>

This is the second book from the old Anthropos linguistic series that appeared anew in recent years (the book by E. Strömer, OFM, *Die Sprache der Mundurukú* [Wien, 1932] was republished by a

publisher from Munich in 2020 but without a clear acknowledgement of its original edition in Anthropos Linguistische Bibliothek, Bd. 11).

Reports by Individual Members

These reports include publications, conference papers, teaching and other activities/events during 2023. Materials in press will normally be mentioned when they appear. Members, however, sometimes also report on their works in progress to communicate what they are currently working on. These reports reflect the great diversity and depth of the work of the members of Anthropos Institute International.

There are 30 individual reports, which is two more than last year.

Adigunawan, Vinsensius

Adigunawan is on the Editorial Board at Anthropos Institut Sankt Augustin.

Professional activities:

Lecture at the The Cologne University of Catholic Theology (Kölner Hochschule für Katholische Theologie – KHKT) in the Winter Semester 2023-2024. Subject: "Music in the cultures".

Joachim Andrade

Andrade is the elected Member of IAMS (International Association of Mission Studies) Executive Council as the Latin American Representative. He is the coordinator of New Missionaries for the SVD province of Brazil South, and Director of Anthropos do Brasil

Teaching:

The teaching experience of this year was splendid one, as the class rooms were half full and gradually the students started coming to the class rooms after the Covid 19.

1) In the Faculty of Vincentians Fathers taught also three subjects: Theological anthropology, Comparative study of religions and Ecumenism.

2) In the Pontifical Catholic University of Paraná, he is the professor of the department of Theology and having classes for the graduate students. Including courses on Interculturality and mission and Mission spirituality;

3) Intercultural formation for the religious congregations in different parts of Brazil, especially in CCM – Brasilia.

Retreat work

1) Retreat on Interculturality for the Escolares sisters in Porto Alegre- Brazil.

2) Retreat for the diocesan clergy of Diocese of Caxias – Maranhão – Brazil.

3) Retreat for the contemplative sisters of Our Lady of Sion.

4) Retreat in East Timor – for the priests of the three dioceses in Dili.

5) Retreat for the sisters – Missionaries of Good Shepherd – Cuiabá – Brazil.

6) Retreat for the SVD confreres – East Timor Region in DILI

Other activities

- 1) Participated in the IAMS meeting in Seoul – South Korea.
- 2) Moderator the Provincial Chapter of Sisters of the Divine Providence in Curitiba.
- 3) Moderator of the preparatory commission for the provincial chapter of the Batistinas – Sisters of the John the Baptist in Brasília.
- 4) Talk on interculturality and mission to the Pallotine Fathers in Santa Maria – Brazil.

Publications

1) ANDRADE, Joachim. *Ação caritativa da Igreja Católica: múltiplos rumos de caridade nos tempos contemporâneos*. Intersaberes, Curitiba, 2023

Articles:

- 2) ANDRADE, Joachim. From the Local to the Global: Mission as Processual Movement in the Digital World. IN: Jose Kuzhikkattuthazhe, SVD Christian Tauchner, SVD (Editors) Called to be a Blessing: International Festschrift in honour of Dr. Jacob Kavunkal, SVD. Published by Global Publishing House India Published by Global Publishing House, 2023, India.
- 3) ANDRADE, Joachim. SVD QUERIDA AMAZÔNIA: THE BIRTH OF A SYNODAL CHURCH IN THE AMAZON. IN: Endearing Leader in Mission Dr. Jose Kuzhikkattuthazhe SVD Dr. Victor Sagayam Zacharias SVD (editors). GLOBAL PUBLISHING HOUSE, 2023, INDIA.

Bhaskar Das

Das is currently as Assistant Professor in the Post Graduate Department of Anthropology at DHSK College, Dibrugarh (Assam), India.

Participation in Seminar and Course:

- 1) Participated in the one day seminar on ‘Trends in Higher Education in the Context of NEP 2020 in Assam’ organized by Girijananda Choudhury University, Guwahati and IQAC, DHSK College, Dibrugarh on 25th March, 2023.
- 2) Participated and successfully completed the UGC-Approved Short-Term Professional Development Programme on ‘Implementation of NEP-2020 for University and College Teachers’ organized by Indira Gandhi National Open University held from 12th to 20th June, 2023.

Paper Presentation:

Paper entitled ‘Screening for Haemoglobinopathy among the Female Tea Garden Workers of Upper Assam, India’ presented in the UIAF World Anthropology Pre Congress 2023- Envisaging the Essence of Anthropology Possibilities, Paradoxes and Shifting Paradigms organized by the Department of Anthropology, Savitribai Phule Pune University (SPPU), Pune, Maharashtra in association with Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts, Pune, Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute, Pune and Tribal Research and Training Institute (TRTI), Pune held on 26th and 27th July, 2023.

Serving as Session Chair and Workshop Convener:

- 1) Participated and co-chaired a session for the Panel ‘Intersections of Inequality’ in the 19th IUAES-WAU World Anthropology Pre-Congress 2023- Anthropology In/Of the Future, Virtual Congress organized by Discipline of Anthropology,

School of Social Sciences, Indira Gandhi National Open University held on 2nd and 3rd August, 2023.

- 2) Organized as Convener a National Level Workshop on ‘Artificial Intelligence’ held at DHSK College on 29th April, 2023. The workshop was organized jointly by the Information & Career Guidance Cell; Research & Development Cell of DHSK College and NLB City College, Dibrugarh, Assam.

Alexius Ddungdung

Ddungdung has joined the editorial team of the *Anthropos* journal at St. Augustine’s. He focused on his German language program and beginning to learn about the editorial business.

Othmar Gächter

Gächter is a member of the Editorial Board of *Anthropos*. He co-edited with Vinsensius Adi Gunawan the “Review of Books” in *Anthropology & Mission* 2023.

Publication - Reviews:

- 1) John, Vinod: Believing without Belonging? Religious Beliefs and Social Belonging of Hindu Devotees of Christ. Eugene: Pickwick Publications, 2020. 246 pp. Zeitschrift für Missionswissenschaft und Religionswissenschaft 107.2023: 426-428.
- 2) Basu, Amrita, and Tanika Sarkar (eds.): Women, Gender, and Religious Nationalism. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2022. 360 pp. *Anthropos* 118.2023: 585-587.

Joshua Awienagua Gariba

Gariba is on the faculty of the University of Ghana, Legon.

Teaching

He taught Introduction to Social Anthropology and Societies and Cultures of Africa for level 400 and Sociology of the Family for level 600 (MA/MPhil) students of the University of Ghana, Legon.

Publications

- 1) The Role of Religion in Transforming Ghanaian Society: A Christian Perspective - Eric Oduro Wiafe and Joshua Awienagua Gariba
- 2) Syncretism and Inculturation: The encounter between Christian theology and Ghanaian religious culture - Joshua Awienagua Gariba and Bernard Kwame Assenyoh
- 3) One Lord, One Body: Rethinking Disability in Ghana through Biblical and Theological Anthropology - Joshua Awienagua Gariba and Bernard Kwame Assenyoh
- 4) Influencing Judicial Process Using Black Magic: Experiences of court users from the Houses of Chiefs in Ghana - Alhassan Sulemana Anamzoya and Joshua Gariba
- 5) Between Local Architecture and Modernity: An Ethnography of the Balsa House in Northern Ghana – Joshua Awienagua Gariba
- 6) Dealing with Death and the Departed: The Changing Face of Funerary Rites Among the Balsa of Northern Ghana - Joshua Awienagua Gariba.

Other Activities

- 1) In June, he organized the annual Cross-Cultural Reflection on Ministry (CCROM) program for SVD confreres who are under 5 years in ministry and 7

SSpS. The theme was: RELIGIOUS IDENTITY, YOUTH AND FAMILY LIFE

He presented on one of the topics: "SVD/SSPS Religious Missionary Identity and the Context of Mission Today."

2) In September, he participated in the 7th Ghana sociological and anthropological association conference at the University of Cape Coast, (UCC) Cape Coast. The theme of the conference was: Digital Technologies in Sociological and Anthropological Spaces.

3) He still offers service to his Alma Mater, The Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium as a member of the Alumni Advisory Board.

4) He is a Board member of the Fr. Andrew Campbell SVD Foundation.

5) He is also a Board Member of the Br Tarcisius Prosthetics and Orthotics College at Adoagyiri-Nsawam. This college, which is affiliated to the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), Kumasi is owned by the SVD.

6) He serves as Governing Council Member of the Catholic Institute of Business and Technology (CIBT) in Accra.

7) He reviewed a paper for the *African Journal of Legal Studies* (AJLS)

Patrick Gesch

Gesch is Professor at Divine Word University (DWU) in Madang, Papua New Guinea, and the head of the Department for PNG and International Studies.

Teaching:

Normal teaching load in Divine Word University Madang, is three units per semester. His favourite units, from which he learns a lot, are: Papua New Guinea Literature; Conflict Resolution; and Traditional Village Religions.

Research

His research interest at the present, is writing a commentary on the chapter written in 1900 in Herman Auf der Heide's book about the arrival of the Divine Word Missionaries in Friedrich Wilhelmshafen, now known as Madang. There are a number of ironies in the text worth highlighting today, but the text itself is in old Gothic script. This commentary is for presentation at the Symposium for the 125 years commemoration of the arrival of the SSpS sisters in Papua New Guinea. They arrived in March 1899, as a crowning of the earlier efforts of the SVD.

Editorial work

Gesch is also editing the memoirs and diaries of Fr Wim Valckx SVD, long time PNG missionary, now resident in Sydney. He has a substantial body of reflections, which he would like to see made presentable as a research archive.

Other activities

Gesch continue in his interest and long term association with the Village Courts in peri-urban Madang. The magistrates have been marvels of self-help and service to the larger community.

Günther Gessinger

Gessinger continues to contribute to the work at

Anthropos Institut Sankt Augustin. He keeps track of various new or older copies of the regular review subscriptions. He makes sure that our review copies or annual collections in carton boxes carry the respective signature label. He assigns to new entries in our review categories the new signature in the respective sequence on our shelves either on the floor for continued reviews or within the sequence of older series now discontinued but stored on our ground level under the special heading UG (Unter-Geschoss in German) above the respective label.

Philip Gibbs

Gibbs is serving as the President of Divine Word University, in Papua New Guinea.

Publications

1) Gibbs, Philip, Jefferson, "Postmodern Faith Response to Sorcery Accusations in Papua New Guinea," *ASPCAMER Vol 1 No 1* (2023): Challenges in a PostModern World: Asia Pacific Christian Responses | Issue 1st, August 2023. <https://journal.unwira.ac.id/index.php/ASPACMER/article/view/2730/785>

2) Gibbs, P. "Global Influences in the Growth of the Catholic Church in the Pacific Region." In Jose Casanova and Peter Phan, eds. *The Catholic Church in Asia-Pacific and Globalisation*, Georgetown University Press.

Conference

Gibbs attended the PIURN (Pacific Islands University Research Network) conference in the Cook Islands.

Stanislaw Grodź

Grodź is the director of the Anthropos Institut, Sankt Augustin and a member of the Anthropos Institute International Coordinating Council. Most of his attention was focused on the administrative matters of the Institute at Sankt Augustin.

A. Publications:

Short introductions to and translations into English of ca. 1000-words-long excerpts from original works in:

1) M. Frederiks et al. (eds), *Christian-Muslim Relations. Primary Sources*, vol. 2: 1500-1700, London: Bloomsbury, 2023: 1/ Introduction, pp. 163-5; 2/ Benedict Curipeschitz: Ein Disputation oder Gesprech zwayer Stalubben (1531), pp. 168-71; 3/ Straszliwe widzenie Piotra Pegowskiego (1608), pp. 191-4; 4/ Wojciech Wijuk Kojalowicz: O uważnym a rozsądnym obraniu (1671), pp. 211-3; 5/ Joanicjusz Galatowski: Alkoran Machometow (1683), pp. 214-6.

2) And (with Martha Frederiks): 1/ Adam Olearius: The expanded version... (1647), pp. 202-5; 2/ Johann Ulrich Wallich: Religio Turcica (1659), pp. 205-8).

3) In C. Bennett et al. (eds), *Christian-Muslim Relations. Primary Sources*, vol. 3: 1700-1914, London: Bloomsbury, 2023: (1/ Introduction, pp. 113-4; 2/ Gottfried Less: Beweis der Wahrheit der Christlichen Religion, pp. 122-4).

4) In addition, he edited 27 other entries prepared for both volumes by other contributors.

B. Book reviews:

* Brzozowska, Zofia A., Mirosław J. Leszka, and

Teresa Wolińska, Muhammad and the Origin of Islam in the Byzantine-Slavic Literary Context. A Bibliographical History, Łódź-Kraków, 2020, 384 pp. ISBN 978/83/8220/341/7, *Anthropos* 118/1 (2023) 222-3

* Fancello, Sandra, and Alessandro Gusman (eds.), Charismatic Healers in Contemporary Africa. Deliverance in Muslim and Christian Worlds. London, 2022, 222 pp. ISBN 978-1-350-29544-5, *Anthropos* 118/2 (2023) 612-3

C. Forthcoming publications:

* He wrote four entries (1/ German Christian missionaries on Christian-Muslim relations in the proceedings of the German Colonial Congresses 1902, 1905 and 1910; 2/ Moritz Lüttke; 3/ Islam and Christian-Muslim relations in Allgemeine Missions-Zeitschrift; 4/ C.H. Becker, Christliche Polemik und islamische Dogmenbildung, AND a part of the entry on Becker's articles on Islam in Africa and the German colonial policy) for: D.R. Thomas, J.A. Chesworth (eds), Bibliographical History of Christian-Muslim Relations, 1500-1900, vol. 22. The volume should appear in 2024 (<https://brill.com/view/serial/HCMR1BP> and <http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/ptr/departments/theologyandreligion/research/projects/CMR1900/project.aspx>). I edited some of the entries in my capacity as "Section Editor".

D. Participation in conferences & workshops:

* CIBEDO-Werkstatt: Theologie im Angesicht des Islam (Evangelisch-theologische Zugänge zum Islam), 13-14.10.2023, PTH Sankt Georgen, Frankfurt am Main.

Heisig, James

On November 13, 2023, the government of Japan presented AII member James Heisig of the Japan Province with the imperial "Order of the Sacred Treasure" for long-term distinguished service in education and research, particularly for his contributions to Japanese philosophy. Based at the Nanzan Institute for Religion and Culture, Heisig has devoted himself for the past 45 years to research and teaching. Honored with an imperial prize, Heisig made it clear that it is less an individual honor than a tribute to the contributions of the Nanzan Institute and the many colleagues with whom he has collaborated over the years. [Taken from *Arnoldus Nota*, ENG Jan-Feb 2024, 17-18.]

Thomas Kavumkattayil (K.J.)

Thomas K.J. is the Director of Sanskruti – Institute of Dravidian Culture and Research, Hyderabad, India.

Professional Activities

1) Participated on line, in the 6th ASPAC MER Conference conducted on June 22nd to June 25th, 2022 at Widya Mandira Catholic University, Kupang, Indonesia, with the seminar theme, "Christian Mission in the Post Modern and Post-Truth Society".

2) Presented a paper on "Rights of Children during Covid-19 and Beyond", on 30th September 2022, for the National Seminar on "Impact of Covid on Informal Economy of Telangana with special reference to Hyderabad", conducted by Loyola

academy, in collaboration with CSSEIP, University of Hyderabad.

3) Presented a paper "Covid-19 and Sustainable Development Goals" on 17th February, 2023, for the National Seminar on "Covid-19 as Disaster: Social Vulnerability and Risk Analysis", conducted by Sanskruti, Hyderabad.

4) Participated in a seminar, "Leveraging Artificial Intelligence for Research Process in Social Sciences" on 8 and 9 July, 2023, conducted by St. Ann's M.Ed. College, Secunderabad.

5) Participated in a special seminar on, "Challenges of Social Sciences in India", on 3 August, 2023, conducted by Centre for the Study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy, School of Social Sciences and Department of Anthropology, University of Hyderabad.

6) Participated in a National Workshop on "The Liangmai Nagas and Cognate Tribes in North East India: Origin, Identity Formation, Issues and Challenges", on August 1-2, 2023, conducted by the Centre for the Study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy, University of Hyderabad.

7) Participated in a Webinar on "Using AI Tools to Power your Scholarly Research", on 20th June, 2023, conducted by Habib University Library and Information Commons.

8) Participated in an online workshop on "Open Source and AI-based Tools for Research" on 11th July, 2023, conducted by Sanatan Dharma College, Ambala, India.

Jon Kirby

Kirby was elected for a second term as the Provincial of the SVD USW province. Due to these duties, he is not able to devote time to academic and professional activities at this time.

Robert Kisala

Kisala was reappointed president of Nanzan University in Japan for the 2023-2026 triennium.

Talks

1) "Anime and Religion," the opening lecture of the Nanzan Anime Study Tour, Nanzan University, Nagoya, Japan on 11 July 2023.

2) "Culture and Christianity in Japan," at Pontificia Universidad Católica de Puerto Rico on 7 September 2023.

Zdzisław Kupisiński

Kupisiński has been a member of the Department of Religiology and Missiology, Section of Fundamental Theology, Institute of Theological Sciences, John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin. **He retired on 30.09.2023 from the Catholic University of Lublin.**

Teaching

1) Religion of the Slavs – 15 hrs – KW, ITF, year I-II.

2) . Religion in the Modern World – 30 hrs – KW, ITF, year I-II.

3) Religiology – 30 hrs – course "A" year II; (Metropolitan Theological Seminary in Lublin).

4) Religiology – 15 hours – course "B", year I.

5) Religiology – practical classes – 15 hours – course "B" year I.

Editorial reviews of articles:

- 1) Zjawia ze Strachociny. Święty Andrzej Bobola w historii i kulturze współczesnej (The Phantom of Strachocina. Saint Andrew Bobola in History and Contemporary Culture), "Łódzkie Studia Etnograficzne" (02.02.2023)
- 2) The Communion of Saints in the Light of Ancestor Veneration in Africa and its Sequels on the Christian Theology of Hope, "Roczniki Teologiczne" (22.03.2023).
- 3) "Hagiological patronage" – a Theological Reflection on the Traces of Memory of Blessed Dorothy of Małowy (Poland), "Studia Warmińskie" (08.05.2023).
- 4) What Rich Institutions like the Family do: Stabilizing Overflowing Contents in Ritual, "Studia Warmińskie" (15.05.2023).
- 5) Koncepcja człowieka w islamie a perspektywa dialogu chrześcijańsko-muzułmańskiego (The Concept of a Man in Islam and the Perspective of Christian-Muslim Dialogue), "Studia Nauk Teologicznych Polskiej Akademii Nauk" (08.11.2023).

Printed publications - Articles

- 1) Dusza w życiu i po śmierci w wyobraźni ludowej (The Soul in Life and After Death in the Folk Imagination), chapter 15th, in: Antropologiczno-językowe wizerunki duszy (Anthropological and Linguistic Images of the Soul), vol. 4, Dusza w doczesności – dusza w nieskończoności (The Soul in the Temporal – the Soul in the Infinite), Masłowska Ewa, Pazio-Wlazłowska Dorota (eds), Publishing House: Institute of Slavonic Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences, Slavonic Foundation, Warszawa 2022, p. 241-252.
- 2) Św. Marcin z Tours w obrzędowości i religijności ludowej na przykładzie wybranych regionów w Polsce (St. Martin of Tours in Rituals and Folk Religiosity on the Example of Selected Regions in Poland), in: Święty Marcin z Tours w wierze, pobożności, teologii i sztuce – dawniej i dziś (Saint Martin of Tours in Faith, Piety, Theology and Art – Past and Present), Mączka Ewelina M., Mikołajczak Sylwia, Piechocka-Kłós Maria, ks. Towarek Piotr (eds), Faculty of Theology, University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn, Olsztyn 2022, p. 121-135.
- 3) Kult św. Rocha w religijności i obrzędowości ludowej w Polsce (Cult of St Roch in Polish Folk Religiosity and Rituals), in: Rola i znaczenie św. Rocha w historii, tradycji i kulturze Pomorza. Materiały II konferencji naukowej w Osieku 29 października 2022 r. (The Role and Significance of St. Roch in the History, Tradition and Culture of Pomerania. Materials of the 2nd Scientific Conference in Osiek on 29 October 2022), Ossowski Zdzisław (ed.), Osiek 2023, p. 31-54.
- 4) Ritual of the Christmas Eve Supper in Opoczno Region. Tradition and the Present Day. "Forum Teologiczne", 24(2023), p. 175-188.

Jose Kuzhikkattuthazhe

Kuzhikkattuthazhe is Director of Sanskriti—North Eastern Institute of Cultural Research (NEICR) in Guwahati, India (ING). See that institutional report below for his individual activities as well.

Michael, S. M.

Sebastian Maria Michael is a member of the Coordinating Council of Anthropos Institute International and the Arnoldus Family Resource Committee of Interculturality (RCI).

Teaching:

- 1) Regular classes for the students of LLM (Master of Law) on Religion and Law in India at Pravin Gandhi Law College in Mumbai, affiliated to the University of Mumbai.
- 2) Engaged regular lectures on Anthropology and Mission at St. Peter's Pontifical Institute, Bangalore and also at St. Pius College in Mumbai.

Publications:

- 1) "Post-truth and its Challenges to Christian Mission Work in Asia", in Challenges in a Postmodern World: Asia Pacific Christian Response, in Asia Pacific Missiological Education and Research, Issue 1t, August 2023, edited by Philipus Tule, Widya Mandira Catholic University, pp. 11-21;
- 2) "Culture, Faith and Mission Today", in Called to be a Blessing: International Festschrift in Honour of Dr. Jacob Kavunkal SVD, eds. K. Jose SVD and Christian Tauchner, Bhubaneswar: Global Publishing House India, 2023, pp.99-114;
- 3) "Post-Modern Cultural Challenges to Christian Mission Today", in Justice, Ethics and Morality: Contemporary Concerns, ed. by Walter D'Souza, Baengaluru: ATC Publishers, 2023, pp.118-139;
- 4) "Building Intercultural Urban Parishes for a Synodal Church in the Third Millennium", in Church in India on the Synodal Path – National Conference, 22-23 March 2022, ed. By Antony Lawrence, Stany C. Fernandes and Simon Pinto, Bengaluru: ATC Publishers, St. Peter's Pontifical Institute, Bengaluru. 2023, pp. 611-626.

Hendrikus Maku

Maku was admitted as a member of Anthropos Institute International in 2023. He is a lecturer of Islamology and Interreligious Dialogue in Ledalero Institute of Philosophy and Creative Technology (IFTK), Maumere, Indonesia. Since September 2021, Maku has been doing his Ph.D. studies in the Syarif Hidayatullah State Islamic University in Jakarta, Indonesia.

Publications

- 1) Maku has published three books, first two books as author, that is 'ĪSĀ AL-MASĪH ACCORDING TO THE QUR'ĀN and Peace In Islam According To Muhammad Šarif Ahmad, and the third one as editor, that is *Vision of Humanity: A Comprehensive Analysis of John Paul II's Wednesday Catechesis*.
- 2) He also published several articles in international and national journals.
 - "Tresno Mergo Kulino (Know Then Loved), <https://jurnal.unismabekasi.ac.id/index.php/paradigma/article/view/5927>
 - "Exploring The Function and Philosophy of The Mbaru Gendang: The Cultural House of Manggarai, Flores, NTT", <https://ijmaberjournal.org/index.php/ijmaber/article/view/1243>
 - "Rejuvenation of Religion in Building

Dialogue and Harmony in NTT”, <http://www.ijhess.com/index.php/ijhess/article/view/646>

□ “Educational Pearls Behind The Phase Of Birth And Forty Years Before Prophethood Reinterpretation Of The Prophetic Head By Sheikh Shafiyurrahman Al-Mubarakfuri”, <https://ejournal.upgrisba.ac.id/index.php/jurnal-mamangan/article/view/7780>

Other activities:

He has also participated in several meetings, organized by the Ministry of Religion of the Republic of Indonesia.

Roger Vanzila Mungsi

Mungsi is a member of the Faculty of Global Liberal Studies at Nanzan University, Japan.

Teaching

His teaching comprised two seminars and nine courses, spanning diverse subjects such as Cultural Anthropology, Anthropology of Religion, Multiculturalism, Topics in Global Liberal Studies, Studies in Religion, Human Dignity and Ethnic Issues, Sustainability, Ethnicity and Culture, Globalization, and Ethnicity and Religion.

Publications

Book (In Japanese)

MUNSI, R.V. and SHIMAZAKI, T. 2023. *Menka to Ningen to no kakawari: Rekishi kara Keiken to Kiroku he* [Cotton and Human-Relations: From History to Experience and Records], Osaka: Meisho Shuppan. (298 pages).

Academic Articles:

1) MUNSI, R.V. 2023. “Kirishitan Shrines in Nagasaki Settings: Narrative Analysis and Perspectives on their Extent, Nature, Facets, and Contours.” *Academia, Humanities and Natural Sciences* 25: pp. 97-129. Nanzan university.

2) MUNSI, R.V. 2023. “Fieldwork Research during the COVID-19 Pandemic: Selected Experiences and Fond Memories from the Congo” *Academia, Social Sciences* 24: pp. 23-40. Nanzan University.

3) MUNSI, R.V. 2023. “Cultural Performance Festivals in Japanese Settings.” *Academia, Humanities and Natural Sciences* 26: pp. 71-101. Nanzan University.

4) MUNSI, R.V. 2023. “Cotton-Human Relations in Contexts of Production, Consumption, and Sustainable Community.” *Social Sciences* 25: pp. 127-163. Nanzan University.

Annual Conferences and Special Seminars

1) On October 25, 2023, he presented two distinct fieldwork-based papers during the Institute of Religious Studies' Annual ISP Program in Kyoto. The papers, titled "Japanese Christianity" and "Kakure Kirishitan Practitioners in Nagasaki Settings," delved into profound aspects of religious studies.

2) December 9 marked a collaborative effort with the Members of the Christian Center at Nanzan University to organize a workshop. Themed "Listening to the Voice of Shusaku Endo's Silence: Celebrating His 100th Birthday, Speaking to Us in the Present," the workshop aimed to illuminate the enduring relevance of Endo's work.

3) On December 22, he delivered a Keynote Lecture

on the “Anthropology of Sustainability.” The lecture, centered on the case study of Heiwa School in the Congo DRC, was part of a two-day workshop by the Art of Science Institute in Tokyo.

Fieldwork

1) From April to October 2023, Mungsi embarked on the second phase of his fieldwork, focusing on “Cultural Performance Festivals in Japanese Settings.” The collected data have been meticulously compiled into an academic article, contributing to the scholarly discourse on this intriguing subject.

2) Between December 26 and December 31, 2023, he conducted a short follow-up fieldwork in Nagasaki, specifically on Kuwahime Shrine, a Kirishitan shrine nestled within the confines of the Fuchi Shinto Shrine. The research findings gleaned from this endeavor have significantly enriched two upcoming academic articles on the same subject.

Future Book Projects

1) He has successfully concluded his latest book project, delving into the age-old ritual practice of Ohatsuhoage among the Kakure Kirishitan survivors. The book's central focus lies in exploring the intriguing intersection between identities and resources within this unique cultural context. This work is scheduled for publication in Austria by the esteemed Mengo-Bitha Sapientia publishing house, with an anticipated release in December 2024.

2) Mungsi is also engaged in collaborative efforts with Professor Julian Vasquez from Stockholm University on a research project titled “Performing Hiddenness: Facets of Kirishitan Shrine Festivals and Kakure Kirishitan Communities in Nagasaki Settings.” This joint endeavor promises to illuminate nuanced aspects of Kirishitan practices and the communities upholding them in Nagasaki.

3) Simultaneously, alongside Mr. Shimazaki, Mungsi has dedicated efforts to the initial phase of a second joint book project, focusing on Water and Environmental Issues on a Global Scale. Workshops were organized to facilitate comprehensive discussions and insights into the multifaceted challenges surrounding water and the environment. The goal is to make substantive contributions to the discourse on critical issues, including biodiversity, sustainable development, eco-indigenous knowledge, socio-cultural, and ecological anthropology.

Piotr Nawrot

Research

1) Reconstruction of music for the Holy Week liturgies in the old reductions of Moxos and Chiquitos. It is a continuation of the extensive one whose beginning dates back to the second half of 2022. Its completion and publication is expected in 2025.

2) Preparation of the International Festival of Renaissance and American Baroque Music, Misiones de Chiquitos. Its execution was scheduled on the following dates: April 19 to 28, 2024.

Teaching

1) UAM, Poznan, Poland

2) Cornell University, New York, USA

3) Juilliard School of Music, New York, USA

- 4) Royal College of Music, London, UK
- 5) University of Warsaw, Warsaw, Poland
- 6) Lodz University, Lodz, Poland

Administration

- 1) Supervision of the missionary music schools (34), Santa Cruz, Bolivia
- 2) Supervision of the musical and artistic activities of the Arakaendar Choir and Orchestra, Santa Cruz, Bolivia

Publications

- 1) Piotr Nawrot. Regina cæli, lætare and Tota pulchra is Maria from the Moxos Missionary Archive: encounter of missionary and cathedral baroque in the missions. In: Yearbook 2023, ABNB, Sucre.
- 2) Piotr Nawrot, ed. Laudate Dominum omnes gentes & Laetatus sum. Catedral de la Plata, s. XVIII. Santa Cruz de la Sierra: Fondo Editorial APAC, 2023.
- 3) Piotr Nawrot, ed. Francesco Feo. Missa a 5. Madrid: Dairea, 2023.

Neonbasu, Gregorius

Neonbasu teaches at several campuses: Widya Mandira Catholic University, Kupang State Institute of Christian Religion, School Prof. Johannes Usfunan Kupang, and Higher Law Science.

Professional work with Doctoral Students

- 1) Neonbasu became the promoter and moderator of exams for 4 doctorates including an SVD member, namely P. Fritz Meko from SVD Java Province. The other three other doctors were Major General TNI (Ret.) Saurip Kadi and his wife Justiani Liem Siok, and a Protestant Priest, Rev. Niftrik Tanau.
- 2) Another doctoral candidate in Anthropology from Timor, completed his studies at Hasanudin University Makasar, South Sulawesi, and is writing a thesis on "The Digital Church and Atoni Pah Meto Cosmology, Ethnographic Study of the Encounter of Digital Church Tradition and Atoni Pah Meto Cosmology in the Consensus of the Christian Church in Timor."
- 3) All results of doctoral guidance will be able to use the following website: the International Journal of Anthropology HumaniverCity and Green Cybernomics on a website that is a work in progress. <http://gregoranthropologicalgroup.clik>.

Book Publication and Editorial Work in 2022

- 1) Together with AII member Dr Philip Tule SVD, Neonbasu researched and wrote a book about Pancasila. It is in the process of being published
- 2) Writing in *Asia Pacific Missiological Education and Research* (August 2023), an article entitled "Oral Traditions and The Christian Mission in East and West Timor: Tracing the post-Modern Life" (pp. 149-166); p-ISSN 3025-3802, published by UNWIRA PRESS: Kupang and Tree Cahaya Press of Jakarta.
- 3) Editor and Prologue for the book *Tuhan Sumber Hidup, Sebuah Percikan Kehidupan Manusia [God is the Source of Life, A Spark of Human Life]*, GAG and Galang Press, ISBN: 9-786237-120148.
- 4) Writing a book *Mencari Sosok Kebenaran, Dalam Perspektif Ilmu Antropologi [in search of the figure of truth, in the perspective of anthropological science]*, GAG and Galang Press,

ISBN: 9786237120155.

- 5) Wrote an article "Architecture in Anthropological Perspective: Structural Reflection on Local Architectural Dynamics" Vol 16, no 1, 2024: *Local Wisdom, Scientific Online Journal*
- 6) Wrote the Epilogue for the book *Kwadran Bele*, ISBN 978-623-97524-08 Gita Kasih Press of Kupang, pp. 328-336.
- 7) Wrote articles for the Book of the Governor and Deputy Governor of NTT 2013-2023, ISBN: 978-623-7760-36-8; pp 684-501 entitled "Desa: Jantung Dinamika Pembangunan (Teropong Antropologis Atas Kinerja dan Strategi), [Villages: The Heart of Development Dynamics (Anthropological Binoculars on Performance and Strategy)]."
8. An article will be published in *Anthropos* in 2024.

Seminar lecture

Neonbasu was the keynote speaker at the International Seminar in Maliana, Timor Leste, on the topic of Anthropology of Timor, Wehali Existence (In Reflection on the Anthropological Scheme).

Important initiative

He consulted with the new Provincial (and Provincial Council Members) to **restart the MANSE NSAE Research Center** which had previously been established and had not yet been inaugurated by the Province.

Jacek Jan Pawlik

Pawlik is professor and Chair of Family Sciences in the Faculty of Theology in Olsztyn since 2008. Since Oct. 2020, Pawlik is a Director of the Chair of Sciences of Family in University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn.

Editorial publications:

- 1) He completed the editing of a book marking the 50th anniversary of the return of the SVD to Togo. 2023 (z Firminem Kossi Azalekor), „Vous les reconnaîtrez à leurs fruits (Mt 7,20). La Société du Verbe Divin au Togo, S-CAN, Tarnów, 171 pp.
 - 2) Pawlik collaborated in the editing of the special issue of the journal „Anthropos“.
- 2023 (Co-editor with Dariusz Piwowarczyk) „The Key to Forming Good Habits Is to Make Them Part of Your ‘Ritual’”. *Ritual and Celebration in Family and in Broader Societal Contexts*, *Academia-Nomos*, Baden-Baden, 203 ss. Pawlik also wrote the introductory article.

Publication - articles

- 1) Antropologiczne implikacje zwrotu ku zwierzętom [Anthropological implications of the turn to animals], in: M. Czubaj, M. Pęczak, W. Kuligowski, Michał Rauszer (eds.), *Kultura jako przygoda. Księga ku pamięci prof. Wojciecha J. Burszty*, Wyd. Naukowe Scholar, Warszawa 2023, s.108-121;162. 2023,
- 2) Tożsamość narodowa w sidłach dyktatury i trybalizmu na przykładzie Togo [National identity in the snare of dictatorship and tribalism on the example of Togo], in: A.W. Brzezińska, A. Pomieciński, J. Schmidt (eds.), *Afryka w kilkunastu odsłonach. W darze profesorowi Ryszardowi Vorbrichowi z okazji jubileuszu 45 lecia pracy zawodowej*, Wyd. Nauk Społecznych i Humanistycznych UAM, Poznań, s. 197-210;

3) Chrześcijaństwo i islam w Togo. Szanse wspólnego życia [Christians and Muslims in Togo. Opportunities for living together], in: W. Cisko, J. Różański, M. Ząbek (eds.), *Bilad as-Sudan*. T. 10. Religie a polityka, Bernardinum, Warszawa-Pelplin, s. 45-68.

Francis Pereira

Teaching:

1) Classes on Theological Anthropology to third year theology students at KJM, Interdiocesan Regional Theologate at Sambalpur, Odisha, India in July 2023.

2) Classes on Tribal Theology to final year theology students at KJM, Interdiocesan Regional Theologate at Sambalpur, Odisha, India in September 2023.

3) Classes on Tribal Theology to third year theology students at St. Charles Seminary, Nagpur, Maharashtra, India in September 2023.

4) Classes on Tribal Theology to second year theology students at Samanvaya, CMI Theologate at Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, India in October 2023.

Conference paper:

Presented a Research Paper on the “Distinct Religious Identity of Tribal Religion with Reference to Kurukhar (Oraons/Uraons)” at the One Day National Seminar on Emerging Research Trends in Tribal Life, Society and Literature at Sanskruti Kendra, Tribal Cultural and Research Centre at Sundargarh, Odisha, India.

Joachim Piepke

Piepke is on the editorial team for the *Anthropos* journal and for the review of articles for the *Anthropology and Mission* publication.

Publications

1) Patchwork. Religionen fallen nicht vom Himmel (Patchwork. Religions do not fall from sky). Baden-Baden: Academia Verlag. 308 pp. (*Collectanea Instituti Anthropos* 54)

2) *Anthropology & Mission* 67 (July) and 68 (December)

Darius Piwowarczyk

Piwowarczyk is the Editor-in-Chief of the *Anthropos* journal.

Publications

Books:

[Co-Editor (with Jacek Pawlik)]: “The Key to Forming Good Habits is to Make Them Part of Your Rituals.” *Ritual and Celebration in Family and Broader Societal Contexts*. Baden-Baden: Nomos - Academia Verlag (*Anthropos* - Special Issue 3). 203 pp.

Articles

1) “Dangerous Liaisons”: Whiteness and Private Relations between German Colonial Officials and Indigenous Women in German Togo and Their Political Consequences. *Zeszyty Naukowe UJ* 50: 137 - 156.

2) Inculcating Kultur through Religious Discourse and Rituals. Missionaries of the Divine Word (SVD) in German Togo. In: J. Pawlik and D. Piwowarczyk (eds.), “The Key to Forming Good Habits is to Make Them Part of Your Rituals.” *Ritual and Celebration in Family and Broader*

Societal Contexts; pp. 109 - 133. Baden-Baden: Nomos - Academia Verlag.

Editorial Work

Volume 118 of *Anthropos* (34 Articles, 4 Reports and Commentaries, 85 Book Reviews, and two other sections, on 712 pages).

Teaching

1) Jagiellonian University (UJ), Cracow, Poland - Lecture: “Anthropological Perspectives. Cultural Aspects of Colonialism” (30 hours);

2) Jagiellonian University (UJ), Cracow, Poland - Seminar: “Facets of Colonialism. Between the Argument of Force and the Force of Argument” (30 hours);

3) Jagiellonian University (UJ), Cracow, Poland - Lecture: “Modern Museums and World Exhibitions as Platforms for Forming the Modern Person. Missionary Ethnography and Ethnographic Collections” (10 hours).

Alexander Rödlach

Rödlach is Professor of Medical Anthropology at Creighton University in Omaha, United States of America. He was on sabbatical leave from the university until July 2023, conducting research with colleagues in Doctoral Programs in Nursing Practice at three different universities to systematically explore through interviewing students, faculty, and alumni/ae in these programs the effectiveness of mission statements in forming students personal and professional value orientation. The study is completed, and he is working on two article publications with his colleagues.

He returned to Creighton University in August, teaching a course on Global Health, another one on Assessment and Evaluation, and a third one on Professional Development for anthropology students. He is member of his department's committee to develop a Land Acknowledgement text, recognizing that the university is on stolen Indigenous land. The text was developed by the committee with representatives of the Omaha Tribe and marks the beginning of a mutually benefitting relationship of all involved. They are now in the process to identifying practical implications of this text, e.g., how the students and faculty in the department can provide support to Omaha Tribe members.

Publications

1) During the sabbatical, he co-authored a book chapter with a colleague from Augsburg University in Minneapolis, discussing how to teach students empathy, drawing on thoughts of the political theologian Johann Baptist Metz.

2) The sabbatical also gave him the opportunity to solicit reflections and stories from SVD confreres who integrate their missionary vocation with a calling to be a healthcare professional or otherwise involved with health and caregiving. He interpreted these stories and reflections in light of the SVD constitutions and statements from different SVD provinces. Two theologians reflect on the association of health and healing with evangelization and mission. A biographical sketch of Sr. Veronika Rackova concludes this volume that was published by the SVD Generalate as an e-book.

It can be downloaded by clicking here: <SVD Health Professionals - Participating in God's Mission to Heal>.

Conferences

1) In November 2023, he attended the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association in Toronto, Canada, where he presented a paper on the relationship of three Indigenous groups in Omaha with each other, interpreting this relationship in terms of Juergen Habermas' concept of "communicative rationality," arguing that their relationship gives them a strong voice vis-a-vis the city administration, corporations, and organizations in the city, who employ a top-down and hierarchical engagement style.

2) In December 2023, he attended the meeting of the National Religious Vocation Conference in Tucson, United States to give a workshop on how social and cultural factors influence and shape discernment dynamics of young women and men, considering to join a religious community. The participants were asked to contribute their thoughts about this theme, which Alexander Roedlach then analyzed, interpreted, and presented. Participants in the workshop were then encouraged to discuss their insights and to adapt their vocation ministry accordingly, hoping that this will increase the effectiveness of their ministry to accompany young women and men who discern a religious calling.

Roger Schroeder

Schroeder holds the Louis J. Luzbetak, SVD Chair of Mission and Culture and is Professor of Intercultural Studies and Ministry at Catholic Theological Union at Chicago (CTU). He is the AII coordinator and co-chair (with Adriana Milmanda, SSpS) of the SVD-SSpS Resource Committee on Interculturality (RCI). Schroeder is on sabbatical from CTU for the 2023-2024 academic year.

Publications

A. Chapters in book:

1) "Engaging Our Diversity: Interculturality and Consecrated Life: A Program of the Center for the Study of Consecrated Life (CSCL) at Catholic Theological Union at Chicago," in: *Creative Collaborations: Case Studies of North American Missional Practices*, edited by Dana L. Robert, Allison Kach-Yawnghe, and Morgan Crago, 165-177. Oxford, UK: Regnum Books International, World Council of Churches, 2023.

2) "Intercultural Ministry in Mutuality with the Disabled," in: *SVD Health Professionals: Participating in God's Mission to Heal*, edited by Alexander Roedlach, SVD, 120-129. Generalate, Rome: SVD e-Publications, 2023.

B. Translation of Previously Published Book:

Stephen B. Bevans and Roger P. Schroeder. *Prophetic Dialogue: Reflections on Christian Mission Today*. Korean translation by East Asia Evangelization Center, 2023.

C. Book Review:

The Word and the Words: 125 Years of SVD Engagement in Papua New Guinea. Proceedings of the Symposium "Did We Bring the Light?", edited by Geovanne Bustos, SVD and Patrick Gesch, SVD. *VERBUM SVD*, no. 2, 64 (2023): 281-282.

D. Back-cover Book Endorsements

1) James Kroger, MM. *Walking with Pope Francis: The Official Documents in Everyday Language* (Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2023).

2) Ferdinand Okorie and Mark Enemali, eds. *Bible, Interpretation, and Context: Reading Meaning from an African Perspective* (Lanham, Maryland: Lexington Books/ Fortress Academic, 2023).

Editorial work:

1) One of three Associate Editors. *International Bulletin of Mission Research* (IBMR)

2) Member of ASM (American Society of Missiology) Scholarly Monograph Series Editorial Committee.

Workshops and Conferences attended:

1) Attended the annual World Mission Institute. Speaker was Dr. Michel Andraos, on "Trauma, Reconciliation, and Healing," on March 9, 2023, at Lutheran School of Theology (LSTC), Chicago.

2) Participated in a Workshop on "Moving along the Arc: Women and Men Religious as Agents of Reconciliation and Transformative Action toward a more Racially Just Church and World." August 24-27, 2023. Libertyville, IL.

Academic programs, presentations, workshops.

1) Co-facilitated (with Adriana Milmanda, SSpS) 8-day meetings of RCI and AJSN (Arnold Janssen Spirituality NetworK) over February-March 2023 in Steyl, the Netherlands.

2) 30-minute missiological podcast interview for Fuller Theological Seminary, CA, on April 12.

3) Co-facilitated (with Milmanda) 16-day interculturality program for SSpS/SVD in Quezon City, the Philippines, June 8-23.

4) "Engaging Diversity through Interculturality" Zoom presentation for International Assembly of Sisters of Providence of St-Mary-of-the-Woods, on June 23, 2023.

5) "Interculturality and SVD Founding Generation," presentation for SVD, Marsfield, Australia, June 28.

6) "Introduction to Interculturality and Entering Someone Else's 'Garden'," and "Intercultural Journeys of Jesus and the Early Church." Workshop at parish in Alice Springs, Australia, July 1, 2023

7) "Prophetic Dialogue and Interculturality," Zoom lecture for Series of MER (Mission, Education, and Research) of SVD Australian Province, July 5.

8) Three presentations for non-Australian-born priests, Acculturation Program, Brisbane, Australia, July 12-13.

9) "Intercultural Leadership Teams: Engaging Multiple Forms of Diversity" talk for UISG, Constellation 3, Dallas, TX, August 12, 2023.

10) Co-facilitated (with Milmanda) the intercultural component of two SSpS programs in Steyl, the Netherlands, November 3-26, 2023.

11) Schroeder led a two-day in-person workshop on "Intercultural Living: Engaging Our Diversity" for Intercommunity Novitiate Program, St. Louis, MO, September 20-21, 2023.

12) Led Day of Recollection for SVD/SSpS at Divine Word College, Epworth, IA, on December 9, on "Interculturality: Charism of Arnoldus Family."

Djalma Antônio da Silva

Da Silva works in the management of the

Missionary Cultural Center.

Teaching

He is Coordinator of the Postgraduate course in missiology at the Faculty of Theology of Brasília (FATEO) and Centro Cultural Missionário (CCM). He teaches classes on Mission ad Gentes and Intergentes in the Introduction to Missiology Course at the Catholic University of Santa Catarina.

Other activities:

- 1) He offers assistance for Salesian priests and Sisters with the theme: “Mission and Synodality”.
- 2) He offers training for Lazarist lay people and religious with the theme: “The challenges of Urban Pastoral”.

Antony Susairaj

Susairaj is teaching at Nanzan University in Japan.

Publications:

- 1) A Comparative Study on the Contemporary Indian Concept of Universal Religion, Academia, Humanities and Natural Sciences, Nanzan University, Vol.25, pp.209~226 (18p.), 2023/1.
- 2) The Status of Narikuravar Community: Challenges Faced Transitioning from their Traditional to Present Occupation, Academia, Humanities and Natural Sciences, Nanzan University, Vol. 26, pp. 115-136 (22p.), 2023/6/30.
- 3) Religious Response towards Ecological Crisis: Lessons from Buddhism and Jainism, Academia, Humanities and Natural Sciences, Nanzan University, Vol. 26, pp. 103-114 (12p.), 2023/6/30.
- 4) Harmony in Pluralistic Religious Indian Society: Lessons from Vivekananda’s Principles of Inter-religious Dialogue, Academia, Nanzan University Vol. 27, pp.173-184(12p.), 2024/01/31.
- 5) Article written in Japanese

ヒンドゥー・ナショナリズムの台頭:インドの宗教と文化的多様性の危機, 人類学研究所通信, 南山大学人類学研究所, 23号, p. 5-6 (2p.), 2023/7/31.

[English Translation: (The Rise of Hindu Nationalism: The Challenges on the India’s Religious and Cultural Diversity, Anthropology Research Institute Journal, Nanzan University Anthropology Research Institute, No. 23, p. 5-6 (2p.), 2023/7/31).

Philip Tule

Tule is serving his second term as the President of Widya Mandira Catholic University in Kupang, Timor, Indonesia (2017 – 2025).

Reports of Corporate Members

Anthropos Institut Sankt Augustin

Stanislaw Grodz, member of the AII Council, is the Director of Anthropos Institut, Sankt Augustin, and the following AII members also work there: Alexius Dung Dung, Vincensius Adi Gunawan, Othmar Gächter, Günther Gessinger, Joachim Piepke, and Darius Piwowarczyk.

- 1) The extensive list of their institutional publications is described above (pp. 2-3) under “Publications of the Institute.”

- 2) Activities of individual members of Anthropos Institut Sankt Augustin are listed in their personal reports above.

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NOTE OF CLARIFICATION:

At the moment the official Statutes of Anthropos Institute recognize only full corporate association. However, we also acknowledge and include here the important efforts in 2023 of the following institutions dedicated to the study of culture and religion which carry out the Anthropos tradition of our Society, even though they are not full corporate members as of yet. Each of these institutes have some SVD affiliation, though several are presently not officially recognized by the SVD Generalate. One or more SVD are working in each of these centers, of whom many are currently members of Anthropos Institute.

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Aditya Wacana Centre

Missiologist Raymundus Sudhiarsa, SVD, is the Director of Aditya Wacana Centre for Studies of Religion and Culture in Malang, Indonesia. The Centre publishes the biennial journal of *Perspektif, Jurnal Agama dan Kebudayaan* (June and December), which can be found at:

<https://adityawacana.id/ojs/index.php/jpf>.

Sudhiarsa participated in the IAMS Asia Conference held at the De La Salle University, Manila, Philippines (22-24 November 2023) and presented a research paper entitled “Human Adaptation to Climate Change and Mission of the Church: And Indonesian Perspective”. The theme of the conference was “Global Crisis, Sustainability, and Mission in Scholarship.”

Publications by Sudhiarsa:

- 1) “Christian Migrants and Their Living Faith in Mission: An Indonesian Perspective,” *Transformation* 40, no. 2 (2023): 119-130. DOI: 10.1177/02653788231151358;
- 2) “Religion, Human Fellowship, and Our Wounded World: The Relevance of the 2019 Abu Dhabi Declaration in Our Post-truth Society,” *Asia Pacific Missiological Education and Research* (1st August 2023): 108-124;
- 3) “Gereja: Peran Budaya dalam Masyarakat Majemuk – The Church: Its Cultural Role in Multicultural Society,” *Prosiding Seri Filsafat Teologi* 33, no. 32 (2023): 69-81. Doi:10.35312/serifilsafat.v33i32.195.

Anthropological Institute, Nanzan University

Prof. Shinya WATANABE of the Faculty of Humanities, Department of Anthropology of Nanzan University is the Director of the Institute. Nanzan University is a private, Catholic and coeducational higher education institution run by the Society of the Divine Word.

The institute aims to promote mutual understanding among the peoples of the world through a two-fold research emphasis. It actively creates opportunities for cross-disciplinary research exchanges with faculty and students, with the aim of fostering students and building academic platforms.

Events

Over 2023, the Institute held a number of public symposiums and lectures, and ran the Anthropological annual festival, and also joint Research Projects between the Institute and Nanzan University's Anthropology Department. It maintains academic connections to researchers within Japan and overseas through formal and informal channels. Please see this link for a listing of activities and reports (in Japanese) <https://rci.nanzan-u.ac.jp/jinruiken/activities/report.html>

Publications

In addition to producing a number of publications in Japanese, the institute publishes, in cooperation with Boston University, the journal *Asian Ethnology*, which was published for many years as *Asian Folklore Studies* by AII member Peter Knecht. The current issue and back numbers dating back to 1942 can be accessed through the journal website <https://asianethnology.org/>

Anthropos do Brasil

New Director of Anthropos Institute of Brazil is AII member Joachim Andrade.

Anthropos do Brasil is still organizing itself and looking for ways to continue with its activities post-COVID 19 pandemic. On November 25, 2023, the assembly of the Instituto Anthropos do Brasil took place virtually. The points that were discussed are: a project by the Anthropos Institute for the next three years. The aim consists of creating a space to present the scientific production of the confreres, the preparation of a book with different themes about the history of the Congregation of the Divine Word in Brazil. It was also suggested the production of short videos where confreres talk about their lives and mission.

In the second part of the Assembly the election of the new board of directors of the Anthropos Institute for the next three years (2024-2026) took place. The newly elected team was composed as follows:

Director: Fr. Joachim Andrade

Vice-director: Fr. Djalma Antonio da Silva

Secretary: Fr. Omir Cícero Antônio de Oliveira

Treasurer: Fr. Ferdinandus Beki Doren

Centre d'Etudes Ethnologiques Bandundu (CEEBA)

The former director, Guillaume Bumba, SVD, died at the age of 51 in December 2021. The good news is that **Georges Bosakaibo Bomino, SVD**, will be transferred in 2024 from Japan to the Congo Province by the SVD Generalate **to take over the direction of CEEBA** in Bandundu city, Congo. Bomino has a Ph.D. in International Development from Nagoya University (2018), and has taught at Nanzan University between September 2018 and March 2024. He has published his doctorate dissertation in a book format in 2022 and has so far published almost 9 academic articles (7 in English and two in French).

Institute of Indian Culture (IIC)

AII member S.M. Michael is the Director of the Institute of India Culture in Mumbai, India. See his individual report above.

Conferences and Seminars:

IIC organized several lectures on "Research Methodology" for many college students. It conducted several Internship programmes for the University and College students in Mumbai. Its members participated in several national and international conferences and presented research papers. The members also published several research papers in national and international journals and books. The members also were in several panels for the Ph.D. evaluation teams of the Universities and Research Institutes.

IIC also conducted several Inter-cultural seminars and workshops. A few of these are listed below: Conference on "Inclusivity in Law: Multidisciplinary Perspectives" in collaboration with Pravin Gandhi College of Law, Mumbai; Conference on "75 Years of Independence & Gender Issues" on 22nd February 2023 in collaboration with SNTD Women's University in Mumbai and with Quebec Government Office in Mumbai.

Internship with SNTD University:

Institute of Indian Culture organized a year long Research Methodology workshops for the students of Nanavati Manibavan College. At the end of the Workshop, the participants were awarded a Certificate of Participation. IIC has drawn up a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with SNTD University, Mumbai for Internship for Master students pursuing research. The students are guided by the academic staff of IIC in the research projects.

Dialogue Programmes:

IIC in collaboration with the Bombay Archdiocesan Commission for Inter-Religious Dialogue organized several online programmes such as (i) Safe-guarding our Earthly Home; (ii) Building Inter-Religious Harmony.

Melanesian Institute

Br. Martin Tnines, SVD, is the Director. The Melanesian Institute (MI) is an Ecumenical social and Educational Institute administered by PNG and Solomon Islands mainline churches (Catholic, Evangelical Lutheran, United and Anglican), that serves the people of Melanesia through Research, Publication and Education. Their publications include *Catalyst* and the *Point Series*.

Sanskriti -- North Eastern Institute of Cultural Research

AII member Jose Kuzhikkattuthazhe is the Director of Sanskriti—North Eastern Institute of Cultural Research (NEICR) in Guwahati, India (ING).

Sanskriti Book Publications:

- 1) India & 75: Policy, Governance and Development,
- 2) Endearing Leader in Mission: Pope Francis,
- 3) Arunachal Pradesh: Re-inventing a frontier ethno-space, called to be a Blessing,
- 4) Contemporary Assam: Cultural Heritage, Land and Development

Research

1) Adivasi Research in view of Empowerment: initiated an Adivasi empowerment association of north east India with a special focus to identify

academically qualified scholars of one of the most numerous communities of north east India. After an year long planning and many short meetings with select scholars and leaders they have planned to organize a national seminar at the end of 2024 and bring out an edited book, with some of the most significant issues related to this community.

2) MoU : Sanskriti has signed a tentative MoU for research collaboration (initially for a three year, as an experiment) with Samanyay, a newly formed association of social science researchers in Assam, India. This new initiative is for connecting more New Era Leaders in multi-disciplinary research with special reference to the discipline of Anthropology.

Programs:

1) 15th two-day Annual National Seminar was organized from November 18th & 19th, 2023 on the focal theme - DEBATES ON WOMEN EMPOWERMENT TODAY: NATIONAL SCENARIO, CONTEMPORARY CONCERNS & CREATIVE PATHWAYS AHEAD. Vice chancellors and many professors including 30 assistant professors attended and presented research papers.

2) Sanskriti commemorated the International Women's Day 2023 with a webinar and about a dozen scholars and professors participated and shared vital perspectives.

3) One day animation for the diocese of Bongaigaon on the theme : Perspectives of Tribal Cultures on the Background of Fratelli Tutti – contemporary notes on individuals, ideas and institution for an inclusive journey.

Sanskriti – Institute of Dravidian Culture and Research

Thomas Kavumkattayil (K.J.) is the Director of Sanskriti – Institute of Dravidian Culture and Research, Hyderabad, India. See his individual report above.

The vision of Sanskriti (Institute of Dravidian Culture and Research) is to promote intercultural understanding and empowering the marginalized and the downtrodden by way of research, workshops and publications. As the whole world has been under the grip of Covid-19 for the last two years, the Institute has been fully engaged mainly on webinars, seminars and workshops in various educational institutions.

A two day National Conference on “Covid-19 as Disaster : Social Vulnerability and Risk Analysis”, was conducted on 16 and 17, February, 2023. More than 51 participants presented papers on the subject and an edited volume is being published based on the seminar papers that were presented

Sanskriti Kendra – Tribal Cultural and Research Centre

All member Ignatius Soreng is Director of Sanskriti Kendra, Sundargarh, India.

Tamale Institute of Cross-Cultural Studies (TICCS)

New Director and Staff:

Since the past director, Phaniel Myers Agudu, SVD

is currently pursuing doctoral studies, a **new director--Samuel Adu, SVD**--was assigned to take over in September, 2023. Samuel Adu holds License in Missiology from the Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome. He has been a resource person for TICCS, and he had been in charge of OTP and New Missionaries in the Ghana Province. TICCS has seventeen (17) staff in total: three senior staff, eleven regular staff and three part-time workers.

Programs:

1) Two courses were organized for new missionaries; one in the month of May while the other was in September. The May edition was four weeks cross-cultural orientation course for new missionaries. In September, the duration was also one month. Participants of the new missionaries course were from five religious congregations, a lay missionary organization and one Italian student coming to do her fieldwork in Ghana.

2) In June, TICCS organized a two-week Cross-Cultural Pastoral year preparatory course for the Theology three seminarians from the St. Victor's Major Seminary who were due for their one academic year pastoral ministry outside the seminary. The two week programme prepared them for their nine-month supervised pastoral experience in different diocese.

Possible future projects/collaborations

1) Some universities abroad have expressed interest in TICCS hosting and facilitating their students' internship programmes in Ghana. Discussions are still ongoing on this area of collaboration with interested universities.

2) In collaboration with the SVD Ghana Province's Projects and Development Office (SVD-GHA-PDO), and the Justice and Peace and Integrity of Creation (JPIC) office, TICCS put forward a project proposal to undertake a vigorous Education for Change campaign against witchcraft accusation in Northern Ghana. The overarching aim of this project therefore was to contribute to efforts geared toward the eradication of witchcraft accusation among some ethnic groups in Northern Ghana.

Events

Birthdays

In 2024, six AII members celebrate birthdays of particular significance: Gesch and Heisig (80), Cazarotto (75), Soreng (70), Grotz and Rödlach (60). *Ad multos annos* to all.

Jubilees

Congratulations to the following celebrating SVD vow anniversaries of particular significance in 2024: Knecht (65), and Gesch, Piepke, and Zocca (60).

And to those celebrating significant ordination anniversaries: Gessinger (65), Heisig and Piepke (55), Kupisinski, Tule, and Soreng (40), and Mungsi (25).

Roger Schroeder, S.V.D.

International Coordinator of Anthropol Institute