

# • perspective

Newsletter of the Association for the Advancement of Christian Scholarship  
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## ICS students teach perspectives courses at University of Toronto

by Evelyn Kuntz Hielema



AACS serving students on  
secular campuses

Four university students are sitting around a table in the center of a Toronto university cafeteria. They are having a lively discussion and appear to be thoroughly wrapped up in their topic. Students at the tables nearby hear snatches of a rather curious conversation: "...well, then, what is redemption in Jesus Christ?" "How do you account for all the other religions?" "I won't believe a word you say until the course is over."

The setting is the cafeteria of the Scarborough campus of the University of Toronto. The students--one graduate from the ICS and three Christian students from the University of Toronto--

are searching together for a proper understanding of how their faith in Jesus Christ should be integral with their academic studies.

This group is an expression of AACS's growing concern with campus outreach. While the maintaining of the Institute for Christian Studies remains the number one priority, AACS is becoming increasingly aware of the need to reach out to students on secular campuses, both to Christians and to non-Christians. In April of 1977 the Board of Trustees identified an informal university teaching ministry as its second priority. Sponsoring Christian Perspectives courses on Toronto campuses has been one way of carrying out this task. The AACS now sponsors five such courses in the Toronto area, each being taught by a mature Institute student or graduate.

A very helpful tool for the course is a teaching manual being prepared by Tom Malcolm, former Educational Services Director of AACS and presently Director of the Curriculum Development Centre. The manual traces the main themes of creation, fall and redemption as they relate to different topics, and includes many guided Scripture readings. Tom has been work-

ing closely with Brian Walsh, Terry Tollefson and Harry Anastasiou who teach the courses, attempting to structure the manual according to their needs. Eventually AACSB hopes to revise and edit the manual to make it available in a good format to anyone who would like to teach such a course.

Although enrolment at these courses has not been overwhelming (three to four in each class), the discussions are proving to be forceful and relevant. Most of the participants are Christians, but most are also confused about how their faith relates to their study at a secular school. Brian Walsh noted that one common reaction to the course is a sense of its novelty. "They've heard nothing like this before," he says. "Their sentiments range from skepticism to a feeling of great liberation. They feel that they can now at least begin to think about integrating their faith with their life."

Terry Tollefson commented, "I sense a real appreciation that someone is willing to come out to their campus and listen to what they think. Just our presence is already very significant. It earns you the right to be heard."

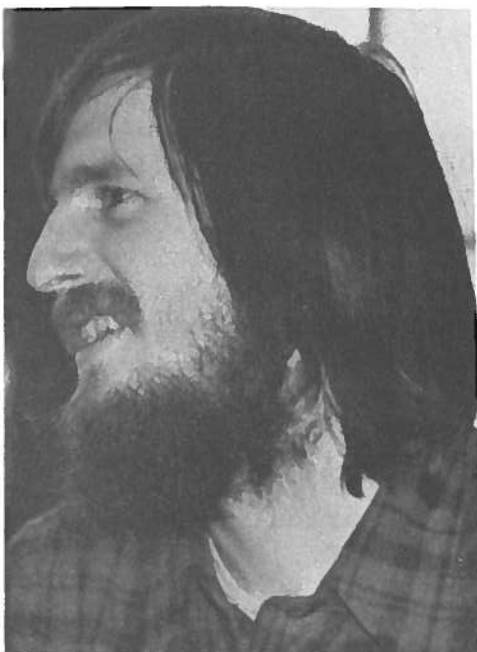
Some of the classes are co-sponsored by the Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship, and an attempt is being made to tie in as much as possible with IVCF events.

The format of the classes has been a combination of lectures, discussions, films and guest speakers. Brian and Terry both emphasize the importance of discussions. "I don't want just to come in there and give them the word," said Brian. "We struggle together." Sometimes the students are encouraged to visit a class at the Institute. For example, Terry spoke of one student of psychology who was trying to figure out how his faith could possibly have a bearing on his study of psychology. Terry suggested that he visit a class of Arnold De Graaff's at the Institute, which the student promptly did. Harry Anastasiou mentioned too that several students in one of his classes have visited the Institute to become aware of the work there.

"It's an exceptional student who will take this kind of a course," Brian commented. "Their studies take up a lot of their time, but also, they just wonder, 'What does it have to do with anything anyway?'" The three course leaders stressed the importance of showing the students that the course does relate to their day-to-day experience. For example, they may discuss the question of apartheid in South Africa as it relates to the way we spend our money in Canada. Or they will look at the traditional separation between sacred and secular music, and the problems that presents for an instrumentalist who does not verbally present the gospel. How can non-verbal music be Christian?

One of Harry's classes is of an advanced nature, and it deals very specifically with modern culture and Christian responsibility. In that class, Harry explained, "study is not undertaken for the purpose of achieving a packaged academic analysis. We aim for the kind of study that would have cultural consequences regarding the way we live, and that would challenge us to reform our own lives so that our critique of modern society is not in vain."

Brian added some comments on how his teaching has helped him in his own studies. "I have found that as I wrestle more deeply with the meaning



Brian Walsh: offering help to integrate faith and studies

of my Christian view of the world and its implications for a Christian way of life, my analytical insights have also been deepened." As a member of the Christian Reformed campus congregation in Toronto, Brian said that his teaching the course is a way of participating in the church's evangelical ministry, and that he has felt much support from the campus church.

Both Terry and Brian were very enthusiastic about the possibilities for future development of the campus outreach program. They see the new one-year Christian Worldview graduate course at the Institute as being excellent training for teaching such a course and are hopeful that somehow a comprehensive manual can be prepared for students to take home with them after completion of the Christian Worldview program. This manual would also function as a resource for teaching perspectives courses. Brian suggested that the AACS could perhaps even sponsor workshops to train prospective course teachers. Terry hopes that eventually more specialized courses could also be set up on secular campuses--a course dealing with Christian perspectives on social work, for example. Another possibility is having more AACS-sponsored lectures on the campuses.

The AACS has been working hard on its campus outreach program. Dr. Robert VanderVennen, AACS Executive Director, has established contacts with about 30 campus pastors and professors who receive AACS materials for distribution, and who generally work at making the services provided by AACS known on their campuses. One of these pastors, Rev. Mark Davies of the University of South Dakota, has already been teaching a perspectives course through special arrangement with Dordt College, using the AACS Christian Perspectives in Learning manual as a guide. His response to the manual is very enthusiastic, and he is looking forward to its completion.

Dr. VanderVennen has also been relating with the Christian Reformed Board of Home Missions, offering AACS services to complement the campus pastor's work. The Board of Home Missions has been very receptive to this idea, and has requested from AACS a list of topics that ICS Senior Members could lecture on at their campuses. Dr. VanderVennen emphasizes that AACS is not trying to overlap the campus pastor's work. "What we are offering is Christian academic material to help students integrate their faith and their studies," he said.

The AACS encourages students and those who work with them to write for academic papers, cassette tapes, and bibliographies, and welcomes questions or suggestions on how we can better serve them.

*Evelyn Kuntz Hielema is secretary of AACS.*

# Good news about 1977

We are thankful that AACCS and the Institute can begin another year, grateful for the privilege to witness to the restoring and renewing power of Jesus Christ for scholarship. We are especially conscious of this privilege when we think back to the grim financial situation facing us last October when we were carrying an \$80,000 deficit. Due to extraordinary donations we received in response to our year end appeal, we ended 1977 with only a \$32,500 deficit. (The preliminary financial report that appeared in the 1977 Annual Report showed a \$40,000 deficit, but very soon afterward we received additional money donated in 1977 that had been delayed in arriving.)

Our Members and friends in Canada, the U.S. and even worldwide came through with donations that far exceeded previous years. In the last nine weeks of 1977 we received a total of \$107,500 compared to \$55,000 in a similar period in 1976. We saw many examples of sacrificial giving that were heartwarming and inspiring. We thank all our supporters for their prayers, generous donations, words of encouragement and suggestions.

It is encouraging that we can begin 1978 without cutting staff salaries and programs as we had feared we might need to do. But even without adding Institute staff or raising salaries our costs will increase by about 5% because inflation continues in costs of postage, heating, etc. Though we've now rented 70% of the empty space in our building, loss of rental income must be made up too. In the face of continuing slow Canadian economy, it is a challenge we approach prayerfully, seeking the continued help of our Members and friends.

However, when the AACCS Members approved the 1978 budget at the Annual Meeting, they agreed with the stipulations presented by the Board that there would be:

- no further additions to the Institute staff in the near future.
- no staff salary increases in 1978, except in case of hardship
- holding the line on all our program expenses.
- a comprehensive fund raising program focusing on developing new donation income.

It is clear that one of our biggest challenges will be to develop new sources of donation income. We welcome any ideas and help our friends can give us. If you have any suggestions, please write Marcia Hollingsworth, Development Director.

Perspective newsletter is published bi-monthly with an extra issue in January by the Association for the Advancement of Christian Scholarship, 229 College Street, Toronto, Ontario Canada M5T 1R4.

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# Calvin and ICS co-sponsor Interim course

by Jeannette De Gier



A relaxed schedule and plenty of discussion

this first appeared to be a fancy way of saying "the good guys against the bad guys," we soon discovered that the course described a much more complex way of viewing history. We learned that history is not a series of time packages, with each package being either Christian or secular. There is always a combination or mixture of spirits.

Dawson, Butterfield, Dooyeweerd and H. Berkhof were some of the authors we used as references. Theology, philosophy and even semantics were brought in to help carve out a Christian perspective. We saw that the Bible does have a message to the historian--but it is not a history textbook. We learned how philosophy shapes one's view of historical events.



Dr. George Marsden

Calvin College and the Institute for Christian Studies were the co-sponsors of a three-week Interim course on history during the month of January. The course, held at ICS, drew a total of 14 participants--ten from Calvin College, Grand Rapids, three from Trinity Christian College, Chicago, and one from McMaster Divinity School, Hamilton. All but one of the students is Canadian.

Taught by Dr. George Marsden from Calvin and Dr. C.T. McIntire from ICS, the course was entitled "Christianization and Secularization as Historical Problems." Although

The two professors did not always agree, and thus we were taught how rather than simply what to think. Often we carefully listened as the instructors challenged, defined and contemplated their own and each other's ideas. Both McIntire and Marsden did agree, however, that history gives an account of man's cultural response to his Maker in different times and different places. This conviction should lead the Christian both to empathize with other peoples and to seek every day a healthy and holy lifestyle. It calls the Christian historian to study other cultures with respect and to glean from history not morals, but an appreciation of God's faithfulness.

Students often shared their ideas and questions over a sack lunch. The Institute provided a relaxed schedule to encourage a lot of discussion, and a wholesome atmosphere which promoted quality work.

Martin E. Marty, professor of History of Christianity at the University of Chicago, was scheduled to give a lecture series for January 26 and 27.

However, a severe storm kept him home. Butterfield would call that a conjuncture; the students recognized it as a synthesis between good intentions and bad weather. Dr. Marty's lectures have been rescheduled for April 3 and 4.

*Jeannette De Gier is an English student in her second year at Calvin College.*

## One-year graduate program takes shape

by Terry Tollefson



Hart: director of one-year graduate course

Christians are becoming increasingly aware of the need to bring their faith to bear on all of life. As the false gods crumble, and Christians see the need to seek God's paths of life, there is a need for leaders who can be sensitive to the spirits at work in the world today and who can lay out a broad cultural vision towards an alternative Christian lifestyle.

During the ten year existence of the Institute for Christian Studies, the need for a solid one-year program of graduate studies that would provide a basic reformational perspective became clear. After much discussion about the possible forms that such a program would take, it was agreed that Dr. Hendrik Hart would take leadership in developing the program, assisted by the other Senior Members. On January 13, 1978 the provisional outline and structure of the course was approved as presented by Dr. Hart. The new one-year graduate program leading to a Certificate in Christian Studies will begin next fall. The course is designed for those who have basic academic training but plan to pursue non-academic careers.

Traditionally, Biblical studies, philosophy, and cultural studies are treated separately. This often has the unfortunate consequence of blurring the relationship between these areas. Bible study is carried on without a view to the cultural consequences. Philosophical discussions become too academic. The faith-roots of culture are ignored. Yet it does seem to be helpful to approach reality by focusing on each of these areas. Thus, the committee decided to set up the course as one whole, moving through the three foci of a Biblical perspective, a world and life view framework, and a cultural orientation. The three foci will be distinct but not separate. The studies of Biblical perspective, for example, will be directed toward the Biblical implications for culture. From the reverse side, an exploration of problems in the economy and technology will bring to light the need for a Christian approach rooted in Scripture.

The program is designed to be a solid course of graduate level study. General lectures will be supplemented by readings, workshops, discussions, outside resources, and individual experiences and research. The empha-

sis will be on providing a learning experience that can be meaningful in terms of each person's life context. Those planning to work in such areas as law, politics, social work, counselling, the church, the arts, business, and teaching will find that this program allows them to develop their insight into their field in a Christian way, while also giving them a broader cultural perspective. All of the Senior Members of the Institute will be involved in the program, each contributing insights from his own field of study.

The implementation of this one-year program entitled "A Christian World-view" reflects a concerted effort by the Institute to bring its theoretical work to bear on our lives and our time. While the Institute will not be providing expert training in specific tasks, this program gives people with many and varied interests a chance to come and explore the possible implications of their faith for their area of work. The focus will be on providing a strong foundational sensitivity out of which one can move toward service to Christ in every area of life. The Institute hopes to educate persons who can be cultural leaders in their fields, manifesting the faith that is in their hearts.

In its function of providing educational nurturing to the Body of Christ, the Institute seeks to serve Christian communities through the training of leaders in this one-year program. In turn, the Institute looks to Christian communities to provide meaningful directions for its research. Both directions are open-ended, with far-reaching consequences for all of our lives. If you are interested, or can identify persons who might wish to enrol in this program, write to: Dr. Hendrik Hart, Director of Certificate Program, Institute for Christian Studies, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5T 1R4

*Terry Tollefson is an ICS graduate and is presently working for AACCS as a coordinator for student services on a part time basis.*

#### EVERYTHING HAPPENS AT ONCE...

or so it seems at times. In the last three months we have had three important office machines "konk out" or threaten to leave the land of the operating. Last November we were told that our Gestetner stencil machine should not be repaired for the 44th time. This was not surprising since we had stencilled over 2 million sheets of paper on it in the last seven years. We had no choice but to spend \$1300 to buy a new one--and this was an expense we hadn't planned on. More recently one of our IBM typewriters, which had also given us seven good years of fulltime service, began to lose its touch. We're nursing it along, but know we'll have to replace it soon. Finally, our folding machine was stolen and we don't have the money to buy a new one. Since the machine was very old, our insurance only gave us \$100 compensation.

We are hoping that someone will help us buy a new or used IBM typewriter and folding machine. A new IBM typewriter will cost \$1100 and a heavy duty folding machine about \$1200. This is money we do not have in our 1978 budget.

# Interviews with new ICS students

## Kanji Fuki



Kanji Fuki, born in Japan in 1950, became a Christian when he was 17. Kanji was born into a non-Christian home, and in high school spent a lot of time reading Erich Fromm and Karl Marx. At that time he became very curious about the concept of a loving God, and after reading the Gospel of John, he decided to become a Christian.

In high school Kanji was involved with an association called the High School Born-Againers, and later became a leader in the Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship of Japan. After receiving his B.A. in economics from Keio University, Kanji went on, against the will of his parents, to study at the Japan Christian Theological Seminary. He graduated from there with the Bachelor of Divinity degree.

ated from there with the Bachelor of Divinity degree.

It was Dr. Uda, Kanji's professor of Systematic Theology, who suggested that he study at the Institute. Kanji came to ICS eager to learn about a Christian worldview, and to study social ethics.

"I saw very weak Christians in Japan," he said. "They were removed from the realities of life and their minds were not God-centered." The evangelical groups he joined in Japan did not make a good contribution to academic study and seemed only concerned with protecting doctrine. Kanji became irritated with their lack of concern for a social ethic. "Church memberships were decreasing because churches did not speak to the social problems."

Kanji is pleased with the guidance being given in his courses at ICS. "It's a very creative Institute," he said, "and it gives me many good suggestions." He is concentrating on theology and philosophy, with an emphasis on social ethics, and after receiving the M.Phil. degree, plans to go on to another university to study further the issues of social ethics. "I have not yet decided whether to be a teacher or a minister. It depends on God's calling," Kanji said. The one thing he is certain of, however, is that "God calls me to help establish His Kingdom."

Kanji married his wife Keiko two years ago, and says that they are happy to be living in Toronto.

## Greg Officer

Greg Officer was born in California in 1947, but spent most of his life in Oregon. He received his B.S. in psychology from Southern Oregon College, and then went on to Western Baptist Seminary in Portland, Oregon, from which he graduated with his Master of Divinity degree in 1973. After working for two years with a student ministry in Oregon, Greg went to the L'Abri in the Netherlands in 1976. There he met his wife Anke and learned about the Institute for Christian Studies from Drs. Henk Geertsema, a L'Abri worker and lecturer at the Free University of Amsterdam.



Greg is now working toward his M.Phil. in theology, under Dr. George Vandervelde and Dr. James Olthuis, "What I was looking for at the Institute was a reformational viewpoint regarding culture," he says, "and I think ICS is the freshest expression of that to be found in North America. They appear to be breaking fresh ground here rather than rehashing old things."

Greg hopes to return to the Netherlands after his studies in Toronto, to work for a doctoral degree in ethical theology. He would like eventually to do work with students, and perhaps to teach. He is presently an active member of the Theological Students Fellowship of the University of Toronto. The Officers live in the apartment on the sixth floor of our building at 229 College Street

and oversee the building.

"It was a real answer to prayer for us to be able to come here," Greg says. "I think it's the best place in the country for me to study."

### Michael Reilly

Michael Reilly is a United States citizen, born in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania in 1951. After receiving his B.A. in philosophy from the Edinboro State College, Michael attended the Texas College of Theology in Houston for 2 1/2 years.

Michael learned about the ICS from Pete Steen, with whom he had studied since 1972. From 1972-73 Michael worked in cooperation with the Coalition for Christian Outreach staff at Edinboro State College, teaching theology classes.



Studying with Dr. Arnold De Graaff now, Michael is trying to come to grips with the relationship between God and the cosmos. Particularly by focusing on the concept of the Incarnation, he is working for a proper understanding of the relationship between God and man. Next year Michael will be studying under Dr. James Olthuis, and hopes to earn his M.Phil. degree in theology after two years. "This is one of the few places that I could get the groundwork that I need," he says. He is especially happy to be working with Dr. De Graaff this year, because De Graaff has been studying a Christian anthropology with respect to psychic phenomena and this is Michael's special interest.

Michael plans to go to Duquesne University after his studies at ICS, to work toward a Ph.D. and pursue the topic of physical/spiritual anthropology that he has begun at the Institute.

Eventually, he would like to become a staff teacher with Pete Steen for Christian Educational Services in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

# Hart teaches Interim course on South Africa

by Evelyn Kuntz Hielema

At the invitation of Calvin College, Dr. Hendrik Hart spent three weeks during January in Grand Rapids, teaching a Calvin Interim course on South Africa. The course concentrated on the problems and consequences of apartheid in that troubled country, a topic Dr. Hart is well versed in after his extensive travels and studies in South Africa during his 1975-76 sabbatical leave.

Hart made a special attempt in this course to use advice about teaching methods he received from the Curriculum Development Centre in Toronto. "I tried to have the learning going on in the context of an action program," Hart said. Lectures, readings, and discussions went on against the background of the students' actual involvement in the problems they studied.

The actual involvement was three-faceted. First, the students wanted to make a contribution toward urging the Christian Reformed Church to take a firm stand on South Africa's apartheid policies. Essentially, they tried to convince trusted leaders of the church to stand behind the "Koinonia Declaration," a courageous document written by Reformed Christians in South Africa. The document has been published in part or in total in CHRISTIANITY TODAY, the REFORMED JOURNAL, the CJL NEWS BULLETIN and THE BANNER. It outlines the stand taken by these people on the race issue in relation to South African politics and formulates their interpretation of the Biblical principles to which we should adhere in this context. There is every hope that the Christian Reformed Church (which operates Calvin College) will in fact support the declaration.

Secondly, the students worked at gaining widespread support and as many signatures as possible for the "Koinonia Declaration." They mailed a copy to every Christian Reformed consistory, organized a meeting in Grand Rapids to inform concerned Christians about the document and wrote an article to be submitted to THE BANNER about the South African situation.

Thirdly, a permanent student committee was established, to work closely with Dr. Nicholas Wolterstorff, a philosophy professor at Calvin who has lectured in South Africa. The purpose of the committee is to look at the Summer Conference to be held at Calvin College this August for Reformed Institutions of Higher Education, and to try to see how this conference is related to the South African race issue due to the presence of South African delegates.

Hart was very enthusiastic about the course and its results. The ten students enrolled were from all class levels and geographical areas. "All," he said, "seemed to be exceptionally gifted and their verdict on the course appeared to be favourable." Hart was very pleased, too, with the support he found for his efforts concerning South Africa.

Dr. Hart and Dr. Bernard Zylstra have become very much involved in the affairs of that country, both having done a good deal of travelling and lecturing there. They have established close working relations with Reformed Christians at the Christian University in Potchefstroom over the

last ten years. They were also instrumental in gaining international support for the "Koinonia Declaration" as soon as it was published.

Hart believes that the political problems of South Africa are and ought to be very close to the hearts of AACS/ICS supporters. "Many of us share important historical and religious roots with the Afrikaner community," he points out, adding that there is also a strong tie in basic convictions between the authors of the "Koinonia Declaration" and the Institute community.

Although South Africa has been a topic especially close to the hearts of ICS people in the past months, Hart points to the ICS Marxism seminar now in progress as a direct response to the problems of the oppressed people in Latin America. A lecture on the Middle East situation, to be held in Toronto in February by Souheil Khauly, an Arab Christian and an alumnus of ICS, is another manifestation of the Institute's attempt to respond to oppression and political turmoil in other parts of the world.

While in Grand Rapids, Hart gave three other presentations on South Africa, spoke to Calvin faculty and students about the relationship of Calvin College to the Institute for Christian Studies, and participated as much as possible in discussion with his colleagues in the philosophy department.

On the return trip to Toronto, Hart traveled via the New York-Patterson area, speaking on South Africa and on the present situation of the AACS. He also preached one Sunday in Harlem, and is grateful that "I was able to share my work in South Africa with that largely black Christian Reformed congregation."

## Paige Gibbs: a New Englander at ICS

by Dave Campbell



"Tending the garden" is the way Paige Gibbs was phrasing her understanding of human life. "We are meant for this world and are to be responsible and responsive to God in it, tending the garden (of the creation). By acting in stewardship we participate in bringing in His kingdom. I find this the most exciting thing in my life."

Paige, who recently visited Toronto, was explaining to me how her understanding of her life as a Christian was opened up by her study at the Institute for Christian Studies during the 1975-76 school year.

Paige came to the ICS from New England. She grew up in a middle class New England family, and attended a Congregational church as a girl. At that time she hadn't heard of the Kuyperian or Reformational tradition so familiar at ICS. "The last time

we knew anything about the Dutch" says Paige "was when we were fighting over the Connecticut River with them back in the 1600's."

She went to Parsons College and then to Gordon College, where for the first time she saw people taking the Gospel seriously for their day-to-day lives. Here her own faith took deeper root. She graduated from Gordon in June, 1969, and after receiving a graduate degree in library science she began her profession as a librarian. In a couple of years, however, she was back in school auditing a course at Princeton Seminary. She had found herself wanting some clearer understanding of her life as a Christian.

During this period Jack McDonald, an AACS member who worked in her library, invited Paige to a Discovery lecture sponsored by the mid-Atlantic chapter of the AACS. "I was very intrigued with what they were saying," Paige says. "It was what I had been looking for for a long time." A few years later, Paige enrolled at the Institute.

During her year there she took the basic biblical and philosophical foundations courses, and also took two seminars in political theory with Dr. Bernard Zylstra.

Paige says she was excited by what she found at the ICS, and "very much liked the European style of education, the seminars and presenting of papers." She sensed solid scholarship going on which she could respect. She also has praise for her fellow students that year. "All of them had good heads on their shoulders and had a competent way of handling research." She particularly admires some who, even before they came to the Institute, had the doggedness to struggle on their own to gain Christian insight into their fields.

A difficulty Paige experienced at the Institute came from her not being familiar at first with some of the terminology and concepts that were discussed. She found that she and some of the other new students were overwhelmed by the new perspective and that she had to work extra hard to keep up with the course.

At first, Paige considered settling in Toronto. But by the time her year of study was up, she felt differently. 1976 was an election year in the United States. She sensed the strength of her newfound insight into life in general and into political systems and issues. Her vote reminded her of her responsibility as a citizen. "I have a vote" she told herself "and while that vote in itself is insignificant, I can be back there helping." So Paige returned to New England. Today she lives in New Bedford, Massachusetts, near Boston.

Since then, she has worked with Christians for Urban Justice, a political organization in Boston. Recently she organized the filing system for DIRECTION, their new magazine. Paige admits that she probably wouldn't have become involved with them before studying at the ICS.

In other ways, too, Paige's Institute experience has affected her life. She works now at the Southeastern Massachusetts University Library and believes that she is not only more knowledgeable than before, but is also more christianly discerning in selecting books for the library, and in recommending books to students who use the library.

In general, Paige feels that the ICS experience effectively helped her develop her Christian understanding of life. "Now I feel confident in

being able to express why it is important to be stewardly responsible with our resources, or for that matter why it's important for me to remain a United States citizen."

*Dave Campbell studied at the Institute in 1970 and is now taking a course in radio broadcasting.*

## Social Sciences Seminar, August 3-11, 1978

The social sciences seminar sponsored by ICS will be a conference dealing with the relevance of Christian studies in the disciplines of economics, sociology, and political science. The intent of the conference is to bring into clearer focus the significance of a Biblical understanding of man and society in these areas of reflection. The conference is open to scholars and graduate students in the social sciences, and to persons whose professions are directly related to the areas discussed. The conference fee is \$100 (Students: \$50) and the program is as follows:

### PHILOSOPHICAL FOUNDATIONS

Lectures by Hendrik Hart (ICS), Daniel Strauss (Bloemfontein, South Africa) and Egbert Schuurman (Free University, Amsterdam).

Respondents: Nicholas Wolterstorff (Calvin College, Grand Rapids), Jacob Klapwijk (Free University, Amsterdam), and Roy Clouser (Clanton, New Jersey).

### ECONOMICS

Lectures by A.B. Cramp (Cambridge, United Kingdom), Bas Kee (Amsterdam), Roelf Haan (Facultad de Theologia, Buenos Aires, Argentina), George Monsma (Calvin College, Grand Rapids).

Respondents: A.M.C. Waterman (University of Manitoba, Winnipeg), Eugene Dykema (Calvin College, Grand Rapids), Joseph Schaafsma (University of Victoria, B.C.), Jasper Lesage (University of Toronto).

### SOCIOLOGY

Lectures by M. Elaine Botha (Christian University at Potchefstroom, South Africa), David Lyon (Bingley College, Brantford, U.K.), Maarten Vrieze (Trinity Christian College, Palos Heights, Illinois).

Respondents: Kerry Hollingsworth (York University, Toronto), Stanley D. Gaede (Gordon College, Wenham, Massachusetts), Grady Spires (Gordon College, Massachusetts).

### POLITICAL SCIENCE

Lectures by James Skillen (Gordon College, Massachusetts), Paul Marshall (York University, Toronto), Richard Mouw (Calvin College, Grand Rapids),

Respondents include P.J.J.S. Potgieter (Christian University at Potchefstroom, South Africa).

Bob Goudzwaard, professor of economics at the Free University, has accepted our invitation to give the concluding lecture entitled "The Open Society and the Social Sciences: An Assessment of the Conference."

# AACS announces new subscription program



Assembling AACS Academic Papers

We invite you to become a subscriber to "AACS Academic Papers" by which you can order academic papers that arise out of the work of the Institute for Christian Studies or are related to that work. Such a subscription allows you to order papers which are meant to help in the development of Christian thinking in academic work.

This is how it works. For a subscription fee of \$15 you can receive ten papers over a period of time. Each month you receive in the mail the title and description of a main feature paper, plus a list of some alternate selections. You check off the paper(s) you want, mail the selections to us, and we send you the papers. After you have received ten papers, we send a renewal reminder that

another \$15 will let you order more papers.

The purpose of the subscription program is to present the work of the Institute to a wide range of people so that more of a "Christian mind" can be developed for discussion of academic issues from a Christian perspective. A serious attempt is made in each paper to exhibit distinctive Christian thinking with a rather basic and philosophical character. A range of subject fields will be covered, roughly similar to the fields in which the Institute is active. We expect to include papers by people not directly connected with ICS, but most of the papers will arise from the work of the Institute so that people can see the kind of work we are doing. The papers generally will be provisional rather than definitive--they will reflect work that is in progress, including some of the better work of Institute students.

Papers offered in the first two months include:

- D. Sinnema: *The uniqueness of the language of faith*
- H. Hart: *The impasse of rationality today: a précis*
- J.H. Olthuis: *The word of God and creation*
- B. Goudzwaard: *Economic stewardship versus capitalist religion*
- W. Brouwer: *Christian commitment and scientific theories*

To be included in this distribution of "AACS Academic Papers," write to AACS or tear off and send this reply form:

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I would like to subscribe to "AACS Academic Papers." I enclose \$15 and would like to receive the following selections from the above list:

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Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Toronto, Ontario  
M5T 1R4

## Guest lecturers at ICS



On October 21, 1977, Dr. A.M.C. Waterman was guest lecturer at ICS. Dr. Waterman is an economic theorist at St. John's College in Winnipeg, Manitoba, and is a former Anglican priest. Under the topic "The relation between economic theory and Christian theology," Dr. Waterman discussed the logical relationship between economic theory and Christian theology in terms of the concepts of scarcity, freedom and choice. The lecture was attended by most Junior and Senior Members of the Institute, and was followed by a lively discussion.



Dr. Hans Burki, a well-known Swiss educator with a special interest in the integration of Christianity and psychology, lectured at the Institute on November 25, 1977. For almost thirty years, Dr. Burki and his wife have had a teaching counselling ministry with students in Europe, the Third World and the Soviet Bloc. He is also the director of the Crossroads Fellowship in Toronto on a part time commuting basis. Crossroads is an academic and theological resource center affiliated with the Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship.



Dr. David L. Jeffrey, Professor of English at the University of Victoria in British Columbia, gave a lecture at ICS on February 2, 1978. Dr. Jeffrey is presently on sabbatical leave. He has published a book entitled THE AESTHETICS OF BONAVENTURA, and has completed a book on Wycliffe and Chaucer this year. The topic of his lecture was "Chaucer and Wycliffe: History and Authority in Late Mediaeval Poetry." Dr. Jeffrey attempted to show that, because Chaucer was at one time a student of Wycliffe's, the powerful influence of Wycliffe can be traced in Chaucerian poetry.

# AACS News

## \* Membership dues voluntarily set at \$50

In view of the increased financial needs facing the AACS in 1978, the Members approved a motion made at their 1977 Annual Meeting that dues payments would be voluntarily set at \$50, beginning in January of 1978. The AACS membership fee was set at \$25 twenty years ago, and in that time inflation has shrunk the value of this \$25, both to AACS and to its Members. Those who cannot afford to pay the \$50 dues are free to pay what they can.

\* The AACS invites inquiries and applications from persons who wish to consider serving as a full time Field Representative for the AACS. The emphasis of the work is on fund raising which results from informed appreciation of what AACS and the Institute are doing. The work includes educating people about AACS and its service, promoting integral Christian scholarship, and raising money. Please write us also if there is someone you can suggest whom we ought to consider.

\* All AACS receipts for 1977 tax deductible donations were sent out by the first of January. If anyone has not received his receipt, please contact AACS, giving details.

\* Moving? It saves us time and money if you can send us notice of your address change before you move. Please include your new postal or zip code.

\* In March, Dr. Sander Griffioen will give a series of public lectures in southern British Columbia. His talk is entitled, "The Biblical Principle of Stewardship."

March 9 - Abbotsford

March 10 - New Westminster

March 11 - Victoria

During the day of March 11 he will give two talks at Regent College especially geared to students, but open to everyone. These lectures are entitled, "A Christian Critique of Socialism and Capitalism" and "Economics and Religion."

For more information, see local announcements or contact Nick Loenen, Western Representative in Richmond, B.C. (Tel. 274-3868).

### *It's a small matter...*

Recently a Christian college received \$15,000 as a gift because someone had the foresight and Christian dedication to make the college a beneficiary of his pension plan. It was a small matter to remember the college in this way, but one which meant a great blessing to the college later.

For more information on making AACS a beneficiary of your pension plan, life insurance policy or other program with beneficiary provision, drop us a note.

AACS  
229 College  
Toronto, Ontario



member  
Christian  
Stewardship  
Services

# ICS News

- \* On October 15, Bernard Zylstra spoke at the fall dinner of the AACS Chatham, Ontario, chapter on the topic, "Can Canada Survive?" He spoke on the same topic at a leadership seminar in St. Catharines, sponsored by OUTREACH, a Christian study-action group in the Niagara Peninsula.
- \* Bernard Zylstra attended a special meeting of the board of the Association for Public Justice (APJ) held at Dordt College on December 9-10. APJ is the new name of the National Association for Christian Political Action (NACPA). During that trip Zylstra also addressed the Iowa chapter of APJ on the topic "Christian Political Responsibility in the United States," and spoke at the first annual convention of the Christian Farmers Federation of Iowa on the theme "The Farmer as Steward."
- \* On November 18 and 19, Dr. Sander Griffioen was the guest of the Mid-Atlantic States Chapter of the AACS, to speak at their 11th annual study conference held in Wilmington, Delaware. Griffioen gave two lectures on "Neither Capitalism nor Socialism" and "The Future of Labour." About 50 people were present, most of them from Delaware, Pennsylvania and New Jersey.
- \* On November 24, Griffioen flew to Edmonton to speak at the annual banquet of the Christian Farmers Federation of Alberta. His topic was "The Biblical Idea of Stewardship." About 200 persons attended the banquet. The next day he participated in a panel discussion on "Active Stewardship," together with former ICS student Jacob VanderSchaaf, executive director of the CFFA and Dr. Art Bailey, professor of Range Management at the University of Alberta.

On November 26, Griffioen met with a group of students and other interested people brought together by Tom Oosterhuis, student chaplain for the Christian Reformed Church on the University of Alberta campus.

Griffioen presented an abridged version of his banquet speech to a group of interested people in Calgary on November 27. He was invited to speak there by Dr. Seerp Van Popta, one of Griffioen's former teachers at the Free University in Amsterdam.
- \* On January 21 Griffioen was the guest of the Fellowship of Canadian Reformed University Students to speak about "Are there Biblical norms for modern economic life?" The meeting was held in Burlington.
- \* C.T. McIntire spoke on "Historical Types of Christian Social Action" at a New England student conference held at Christ Episcopal Church, Hamilton, Massachusetts, on February 4. Rev. John R. Stott of All Souls Anglican Church, London, England, the other principal speaker, spoke on "Biblical Social Action." On February 3 McIntire lectured at Gordon College, Massachusetts, for the history department.
- \* Massimo Rubboli, a Ph.D. candidate in the Philosophy of History at the Institute, has published an Italian translation of Reinhold Niebuhr's intellectual autobiography and added an introductory essay on Niebuhr's life and influence: Reinhold Niebuhr, UNA TEOLOGIA PER LA PRASSI: AUTOBIOGRAFIA INTELLETTUALE, editoriale di Massimo Rubboli (Brescia, Italy: Queriniana, 1977).



## Letters to AACS/ICS

Enclosed is our contribution to your deficit drive....And while I am at it I wish to express my appreciation for your continued work in the area of christian scholarship. As I once again read through one of your recent Newsletters I was impressed how you have remained faithful to your original goals. Not only do I see you steadily chipping away at some of those goals, but I feel that you do so with often truly prophetic insight.

I can well imagine that sticking with your approach of always going to the heart of the matter must be difficult at times when it seems so much more "with it" and glamorous to treat only surface symptoms as so many others do. But I am grateful that you withstand that temptation. And your own faithfulness has already for many years helped me to re-orient myself to the fundamental issues.

I am personally less hopeful of easy and quick answers to troublesome questions than I was twenty years ago....But I am as much convinced that serious work on fundamental questions is essential, and I know of few if any other communities anywhere that tackle them from your determined biblical perspective and with as much competence. I say this less to put others down than to encourage you to stick to your guns while others will probably also be used by our Lord to make their contributions. May the Lord bless you in your continued work in this area.

British Columbia

...Becoming a member of the AACS has always been in the back of my mind, but it was something that I never did until last week. I think it was just a connotative stigma about the Association that prevented me from joining....However that is now fortunately behind me and behind us. I now see a task in removing it from the Christian community....But as you must know, it is not an easy task....

Ontario

I have read several issues of your newsletter PERSPECTIVE and wish to receive it. As a lecturer in law and a member of the Foundation for Christian Studies (New Zealand) I find the news from the ICS interesting and many of the articles very helpful. For instance the article by Bernard Zylstra in the Sept/Oct 1977 issue.

New Zealand

Just read the PERSPECTIVE and decided we better help. Liked Henk Hart's speech and the feedback from graduate students. The Lord bless you richly.

Ontario

...I want to thank Arnold De Graaff for all he gave at the Alberta Conference and for the materials he sent me....Also tell him we sold our automatic dishwasher which came with our new house. Perhaps it's a start, Lord help us.

Alberta

We are interested in the work you do and follow with interest your performance. However, it seems that with all good intentions on your part there seems to be some bad. I believe that you are trying to cover too much area, and perhaps even overlapping. May I make a humble suggestion: Concentrate on ONE specific area, which you know best and one you have expertise in, and then work on that. I believe that with your talents properly channelled you can do a lot of good. One area to concentrate on, which I feel is very important to God's Kingdom is that of POLITICS.... Could it be possible that God has a task for the AACS and that through His spirit they may open eyes, so that His Law and His Name may be honoured in word and deed and in the ruling and governing of this great country, Canada?

Ontario

We count it a privilege to be able to help advance Christ's cause in scholarship. We would like to help you more, in fact I wish I could wipe out your debt but then it wouldn't be a communal effort and I might get proud, at that!

Alberta

Your last newsletter really moved me to realize that the AACS and its vision is still very important for me and for our time. I pray that God will bless your work, in whatever way, even if it means breaking some things down....God's blessings come to us in lots of ways we can't understand....Financial blessings are richer for us now--praise God, and we're glad to share those times.

Ontario

We at...Christian High School really appreciate the work that you people are doing in Toronto. In the last eight years there have been many changes taking place around us. Amidst all the change however, the vision of the AACS for distinctively Christian scholarship has remained faithful to its biblical roots. We've drawn strength from that in our work as high school teachers, and are truly thankful for the expressions of our Lord's faithfulness which come in the form of AACS conferences, PERSPECTIVE Newsletters, Wedge Publications, VANGUARD magazine, and encouraging words from Bob VanderVennen....

New Jersey

Greetings in the name of our dear Lord. I heard about you and your ministry in witnessing against the effect of non-Christian education. I wonder if you can send me more details about your service.

Egypt

Hi! Learned of your shortage and needs so enclosed is a cheque...May God bless you. Appreciate your work and sense that more and more I struggle with you in the various issues that confront us as a Christian community. Don't give up.

Alberta

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## Seerveld to lead summer course in the arts

This summer Dr. Calvin Seerveld will lead a special ten-day Seminar for Continuing Education from July 4-14 for people who are interested in learning about art, literature and music from a reformational Christian perspective. The course is sponsored by AACS and is open to women or men of any age or occupation, background or training, who may know next to nothing about the subject but are eager to grow in understanding. The only condition is that you will have done the required reading before July 1, so that everyone comes to the seminar prepared.

This seminar is not for the specialist. It is not for the artist or professional art historian (although they are not excluded if they accept the fact that the seminar is meant for people who are not artists and art historians). It is for the factory worker and housewife, the dentist, the elder, the bright high school senior, the technician--anybody with a keen interest in developing christian sensitivity in this area of culture and who is willing to take two weeks of his or her life to throw oneself into it completely.

You can't know the players without a score card and you don't get much out of hockey or basketball unless you know the rules. It's the same with art. If you don't know how to look at a painting or how to read a novel or listen to music, you miss what's going on. This seminar is designed to start at the very beginning. It will not give you a total overview and grand survey. It wants to teach the abc's of painting, novels and music by studying a few important, manageable artists, and it will try to ease you into understanding this area of human response to God.

Send for a brochure that lists the required reading and the Christian scholars who will assist Dr. Seerveld in the lectures. There will be discussion groups too, led by the lecturers, alumni, friends and Junior Members of the Institute. The fee for the course is \$80 (\$50 for full time students). If you want to get started right away, during the winter snow, you should know that the novels to read are TOM JONES by Henry Fielding and THE BLUE MOUNTAINS OF CHINA by Rudy Wiebe. The main painters to be discussed are Watteau, Hogarth, Salvador Dali, William Kurelek and Henk Krijger. Full information is given in the brochure.

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