

BSIR



Baptist Scholars International Roundtable

Christ Church,
Oxford

August 6- August 9, 2023

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2023 Visiting Distinguished Fellow

Gerald Pillay served Liverpool Hope University from 2003 to 2022 as Rector and Vice-Chancellor. He is a widely published theologian and ecclesiastical historian with a distinguished academic career. Professor Pillay, a citizen of New Zealand, was born in the former British colony of Natal in South Africa. He holds a Doctor of Philosophy degree from Rhodes University and a Doctor of Theology degree from the University of Durban.

After lecturing at the University of Durban-Westville, Professor Pillay became Professor of Ecclesiastical History at the University of South Africa in 1988. In 1997, Professor Pillay became Foundation Professor and Head of the Department of Theology and Religious Studies at Otago University, New Zealand's oldest University, based in Dunedin. He and his family attended Northeast Valley Baptist Church during their time in Dunedin, New Zealand. In 1998, he was asked to serve as the first Head of Liberal Arts for Otago University. He has served in senior leadership roles at The University of South Africa and the Human Sciences Research Council in Pretoria and has lectured in several institutions abroad. Professor Pillay joined Liverpool Hope University College as Rector in 2003 and became its first Vice-Chancellor in 2005 when the institution was given full university status. Hope is the only university with an ecumenical foundation in Europe. It works with church communities and colleges around the world and has strong Baptist links, especially at doctoral degree level, with the Baptist ministers in Nigeria.

In 2009, Professor Pillay was appointed a Deputy Lieutenant for Merseyside, assisting the Lord Lieutenant of Merseyside in carrying out her role as the Queen's representative on Merseyside. In 2021, he appeared on the Queen's Honours list when he was awarded an OBE for services to higher education.

Roundtable Session Schedule

Sunday, August 6

4:00-4:30 pm

BSIR Pre-Meeting Introductions
(Fellows, Scholars, and Sponsors only)

4:30-6:00 pm

Opening Plenary *(guests welcome)*

Keynote Address:

*“Global Mission? Some Reflections on
Returning to Our Roots.”*

Professor Gerald Pillay,
BSIR Distinguished Fellow

Research Centre

Monday, August 7

9:00-11:00 am

*“Temperance Abroad: A Tale of the Temperance
Movement in Nagaland, the Most Baptist Land
on Earth”* by Husezo Rhakho; Response by
Roger Ward

“Music in the Naga Missions - 1838-1911” by
Senchumbeni Kikon; Response by Caleb
Oladipo

Research Centre

11:00-11:30 am

Break

11:30 am-12:30 pm

*“Slavery, Scripture, and Civil War: The Long
Shadow of Baptist Missionaries in Mexico”* by
Ángel Gallardo; Response by Melody
Maxwell

Research Centre

Tuesday, August 8

9:00-11:00 am

Current Work of the Fellows: Baptist Intersections

“That Pauline Woman:’ The Development of Women’s Foreign Mission Work among Northern and Southern Baptists” by Laura Levens; Response by Paul Fiddes

Research Centre

11:00-11:30 am

Break

11:30 am-12:30 pm

“Southern Baptists and the Making of American Imperialism: Cuba, Panama, and the Overseas Work of the Home Mission Board, 1886–1933” by Benjamin (Jack) Young; Response by João Chaves

Research Centre

12:30-2:00 pm

Lunch

2:00-4:00 pm

“Making Sense of the Missionary Life of Adele Fielde, Woman of Religious Belief, Science and Activism” by Nadia Andrienas; Response by Brad Creed

“Called to Be Disciples: Mission, Context, and Ethical Intensity in the Italian Baptists’ Confession of 1990” by Tommaso Manzoni; Response by Nora Lozano

Research Centre

Wednesday, August 9

9:15-10:15 am

Closing Integrative Session with Professor Gerald Pillay

10:30-11:15 am

Worship and Benediction (*guests welcome*)

Chapter House

2023 BSIR Fellows

Roger Ward, Roundtable Director Emeritus and Fellow Professor and Chair of Philosophy, Georgetown College, KY, USA is a professor and chair of philosophy at Georgetown College. A graduate of Southwestern Seminary (MDiv 90), Baylor (MA 91), and Penn State (PhD 96), Dr. Ward combines an interest in the church and theology in conversation with philosophy, primarily the American tradition including Edwards, Peirce, James, Dewey, and Addams.

Dr. Ward is the author of four books, most recently *Peirce and Religion: Knowledge, Transformation, and the Reality of God* (Lexington, 2018). He is the founding director of Young Scholars in the Baptist Academy and co-editor of two books from that program, *The Scholarly Vocation and the Baptist Academy* (Mercer, 2008) and *Tradition and the Baptist Academy* (Paternoster, 2011), along with several journal issues of collected papers. He is very pleased to be able to continue and extend this work as Director Emeritus of the International Baptist Scholars Roundtable.

Paul Fiddes, Roundtable Fellow, Director of Research, Regent's Park College of the University of Oxford, UK has been described as “one of the leading contemporary Baptist Theologians” and “one of Christianity’s most distinguished scholars.” Dr. Fiddes has degrees from Oxford in English Language and Literature (BA Hons, 1968) and Theology (MA, 1972 and DPhil, 1975) and a DD (2004). He has taught at Regent’s Park College since 1972, successively as a Research Fellow, Tutorial Fellow in Christian Doctrine, Principal, and Director of Research. He is also Director of the Project for the Study of Love in Religion, and research supervisor in systematic theology, ecclesiology, and Baptist studies. Dr. Fiddes has been Chairman of the Board of Faculty of Theology and Religions as well as an Honorary Fellow of St. Peter’s College, Oxford. As an ordained Baptist Minister, he has been concerned to foster ecumenical relations, acting as co-chair

of conversations between the Baptist World Alliance and both the Anglican Communion and the Roman Catholic Church, and serving as an ecumenical representative on the General Synod of the Church of England. Dr. Fiddes is an Ecumenical Canon of Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, and Ecumenical Prebendary of St. Endellion, North Cornwall.

His research focuses on the doctrine of the Triune God, wisdom literature, the relations between theology, literature and late-modern philosophy, and ecumenical ecclesiology. Dr. Fiddes has authored 11 books and more than 115 articles and book chapters. His book *The Creative Suffering of God* is considered one of the major contributions to theology in the last decades of the 20th century. Dr. Fiddes recently published his first novel, a mystery exploring the mythology and symbolism of the unicorn: *A Unicorn Dies: A Novel of Mystery and Ideas* (Firedint: Oxford, 2018).

Brad Creed, Roundtable Fellow, President, Campbell University, Buies Creek, NC, USA is an accomplished leader of mission-driven institutions and a scholar and historian of religion. He began his duties as Campbell University's fifth president in July 2015. Previously, Dr. Creed was the provost, executive vice president, and professor of religion at Samford University, a private Christian university in Birmingham, Alabama. Prior to joining Samford, Dr. Creed was a professor of Christian history, associate dean, and dean at the George W. Truett Theological Seminary of Baylor University in Waco, Texas. He has also served as the scholar-in-residence at the Baptist Joint Committee on Religious Liberty in Washington, D.C., and visiting professor of church history at the John Leland Center for Theological Studies in Falls Church, Virginia.

A Jacksonville, Texas, native, Brad received a Bachelor of Arts in Religion from Baylor University. He earned his Master of Divinity and Doctor of Philosophy degrees from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas. He pursued

further study in Harvard University's Management Development Program and in the Spanish language program at Academia Hispano Americano in Mexico.

Caleb Oladipo, Roundtable Fellow, Professor Campbell University Divinity School, Buies Creek, NC, USA originally from Nigeria, holds the inaugural Snellings Chair of Christian Evangelism and Mission at Campbell University Divinity School where he also serves as the Director of Braswell World Religions and Global Cultures Center.

Although he grew up in a Christian home, Dr. Oladipo became a Christian through the Baptist Mission work in Nigeria and that missionary influence remains dominant in his life and work. Dr. Oladipo received his post-secondary education in the United States, starting from Wayland Baptist University with a B.A. degree in Theology. He attended Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, NC for the M.Div. degree, and proceeded immediately for the Master degree in Sacred Theology at Yale University Divinity School, where he was named the first Charles Forman Scholar in 1988. Dr. Oladipo earned the PhD degree in Theological Studies at Baylor University in 1993. He has written numerous articles and two books that explore the natural depth and character of Christianity in Africa. Dr. Oladipo was a member of the delegation to the 5th Parliament of World Religions at Melbourne, Australia in 2009, and he has served as a visiting scholar and professor in five continents. An active member in many professional organizations, he has received numerous leadership and service awards, including the Distinguished Alumni Leadership Award at Wayland Baptist University in 2016. He is fluent in six languages and has three children.

Melody Maxwell, Roundtable Fellow, Associate Professor of Christian History at Acadia Divinity College, in Wolfville, Nova Scotia, Canada, has filled this role since 2018, teaching courses in

Christian history and Baptist studies. Dr. Maxwell previously worked at Howard Payne University, East Texas Baptist University, Samford University, and Woman's Missionary Union. She holds degrees from Union University (BA), Beeson Divinity School at Samford University (MDiv), and the University of Wales (International Baptist Theological Seminary, PhD).

Dr. Maxwell's research interests include Baptist history, women in ministry, missions history, and global Baptists. She is the author of numerous articles as well as two books: *Doing the Word: Southern Baptists' Carver School of Social Work and Its Predecessors, 1907-1997* (co-authored with Laine Scales; University of Tennessee Press, 2019) and *The Woman I Am: Southern Baptist Women's Writings, 1906-2006* (University of Alabama Press, 2014).

Dr. Maxwell serves as chair of the Baptist World Alliance's Commission on Baptist Heritage and Identity and as Director of the Acadia Centre of Baptist and Anabaptist Studies, among other leadership roles. In 2020 she received the Acadia Students' Union Teaching Recognition Award, and she has also received multiple grants for her research. Her current research, funded by a \$55,000 grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, focuses on oral histories of ordained Atlantic Baptist women since 1950.

Nora O. Lozano, Roundtable Fellow, Executive Director and Co-Founder of the Christian Latina Leadership Institute, teaches at the Doctor of Ministry Program at Central Seminary in Shawnee, Kansas. She received her Ph.D. and M.Phil. in Religious and Theological Studies at Drew University, Madison, NJ, her M.Div. at Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary, now Palmer Theological Seminary, Philadelphia, PA, and her BA in Social Communications at the Universidad Regiomontana in Monterrey, Mexico. In addition, she holds a Doctor of Divinity honoris causa, from the John Leland Center for Theological Studies in Arlington, Virginia. Mexican born, Dr. Lozano

co-founded the Christian Latina Leadership Institute, and organization devoted to the discovery, development, nurturance, and empowerment of women leaders from a Latina perspective to be transformational agents in church and community settings.

Dr. Lozano has been involved in Christian theological education for more than 25 years. Previously, she served as Professor of Theological Studies at Baptist University of the Americas (2000-2021). Her academic interests are centered in the areas of systematic, Hispanic, Latin American, and women's theologies as well as leadership studies. Her writings include chapters in books, essays in theological dictionaries and encyclopedias, devotionals, and Bible studies. In addition, she writes for digital publications such as Baptist News Global, Baptist Standard, Good Faith Media, and Christianity Today. She is a member of the Baptist World Alliance Commission on Doctrine and Christian Unity, and attends Woodland Baptist Church in San Antonio, TX, where she lives with her family.

2023 BSIR Scholars

Nadia Andrienas is a third-year PhD student in the Department of Religion in Historical Studies at Baylor University. Her research centers on women, gender, lived religion and missions in Vietnam and East Asia. She hopes to center her dissertation on the experience of Christian and Missionary Alliance missionary women and local Vietnamese women in establishing Protestantism in early 20th-century Vietnam. She earned a B.A. in Anthropology (2009) and M.S.W. (2017) from the University of Washington and a M.A.R. with a concentration in Women and Global Christianity from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary (2021).

Ángel J. Gallardo is Assistant Professor of Church History at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Austin, Texas, where he teaches courses on the history of Christianity, race and religion in the Americas, and directs the Certificado en Ministerio program. Prior to joining Austin Seminary, he served on the faculty of Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University. A native of Mexico City, Dr. Gallardo is the co-chair for the Latina/o Religion, Culture and Society program unit in the American Academy of Religion and Society of Biblical Literature. He also serves on the General Board of the Hispanic Summer Program. Dr. Gallardo is currently working on his first book which considers how, in the wake of 1492, theological notions about nature undergird or undermine colonial configurations of power in the modern world.

Senchumbeni Kikon is currently pursuing a PhD in Church Music at Baylor University. She is from Nagaland, India, and holds a Master of Music degree in Church Music from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, and a Bachelor of Music degree from Margaret Shishak School of Music at Patkai Christian College, Nagaland, India. Her research interests include the church music and worship of North-East

India, music in missions and ministry, global worship, and expressions of Christian worship in the Global South.

Laura Levens earned a B.A. from Baylor University, and an M.Div. and Th.D. from Duke University Divinity School in Durham, NC. She has worked at the Baptist Seminary of Kentucky since 2014 and is the Associate Professor of Christian Mission. She recently published "A word about . . . mythmaking, gender, and race in the histories of Ann Judson and Sojourner Truth" in *Review & Expositor* and published chapters on Ann Judson and William James Simmons for *More Witnesses to the Baptist Heritage* (Mercer, 2021). She is revising a biography of Ann Judson's mission work and theology for Baptist series of the University of Tennessee Press.

Tommaso Manzon received a PhD in Philosophy from the University of Trento, and a PhD in Theology and Religious Studies from King's College, London. Previously, he read theology at the University of Cambridge, and philosophy at the University of Padua. Recently, he was accepted as a research fellow at IBTS, Amsterdam. Tommaso serves as a youth pastor in a Baptist church in Milan, Italy. His interests are varied and include systematic theology (specifically, 19th- and 20th-century theology and its connection to philosophical thought) and the history of Christian spirituality. He is working on a project that explores Luther's reception of Dionysius the Areopagite.

Husezo Rhakho is a third-year Ph.D. student at Baylor University. He received his Th.M. in Christian Thought from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, M.Div from Kohima Bible College, Nagaland, and Bachelor of Arts (History majors) from Patkai Christian College, Nagaland, India. He is interested in global Baptist mission, world Christianity, indigenous religion, and mission studies. His research focuses on the current trends of World Christianity in terms of Christian revival and renewal movements in the 20th century.

Benjamin (Jack) Young is a PhD student in the Department of History at the University of Notre Dame. A historian of the modern United States, his work engages the intersections of religion, politics, and the metropolitan built environment. Presently, his research centers on two separate lines of inquiry: evangelical suburbanization in the post-World War II South, and the global influence of American Protestantism in the twentieth century. His scholarship has appeared in *Baptist History and Heritage*, and he has written for broader audiences in the *Washington Post* and at *Patheos*. An Iowa native, Young received his BA in History and Religion from Baylor University.



2023 Baptist Scholars International Roundtable

2023 BSIR Co-Directors

T. Laine Scales, Roundtable Co-Director and Fellow, Professor of Social Work, Baylor University in Waco, TX, USA. Dr. Scales received her undergraduate degree from the University of North Carolina, her MSW from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, and completed her Ph.D. in Higher Education at the University of Kentucky. After teaching at Palm Beach Atlantic University and Stephen F. Austin State University, she began her Baylor career in 1999 as a faculty member in the School of Social Work. From 2004-2018 she served as Associate Dean of Graduate Studies and Professional Development in Baylor's Graduate School and from 2008-2018 she served the School of Education as Professor of Higher Education. Since 2011 Dr. Scales has co-directed the Baylor in Oxford summer study abroad program. In 2016, Baylor honored Dr. Scales with its highest teaching award, Baylor Master Teacher.

Dr. Scales has authored, co-authored, or co-edited ten books and over forty articles and chapters in the areas of faculty development, Christianity and social work (with an emphasis on early Baptist social workers and Woman's Missionary Union) and history of Baptist women in higher education, including *All That Fits a Woman: Training Southern Baptist Women for Charity and Mission, 1907-1926* (Mercer University Press, 2000) and *Doing the Word: Southern Baptists' Carver School of Church Social Work and its Predecessors, 1907-1997* (with Melody Maxwell, University of Tennessee Press, 2019).

João B. Chaves, Roundtable Co-Director and Fellow, Assistant Professor of the History of Religion in the Américas in the Department of Religion at Baylor University, received his undergraduate degree from the Baptist University of the Américas, his MTS from Truett Theological Seminary, and his Ph.D. in Religion from Baylor University. Before returning to Baylor as Assistant Professor, João held simultaneous positions as an Associate Director at the Hispanic Theological Initiative at Princeton Theological Seminary (HTI) and an Assistant Professor at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary. In his role at HTI, João helped write several grants, being part of the team who raised over \$7.4 million in grants and gifts.

João's research focuses on the history of religion in the Américas, the influence of U.S. Protestantism in Latin America, and the development of Latin American/Latinx religious networks in the United States. He is an award-winning author whose books include *Migrational Religion: Context and Creativity in the Latinx Diaspora* (Baylor University Press, 2021), *The Global Mission of the Jim Crow South: Southern Baptist Missionaries and the Shaping of Latin American Evangelicalism* (Mercer University Press, 2022), and *Remembering Antônia Teixeira: A Story of Missions, Violence, and Institutional Hypocrisy* (Eerdmans, 2023), co-authored with Dr. Mikeal Parsons. João also co-edited a book with Dr. T. Laine Scales, titled *Baptists and the Kingdom of God: Global Perspectives* (Baylor University Press, 2023). His peer-review articles appear in several academic journals, such as *The International Journal of Latin American Religions*, *The Journal of Reformed Theology*, *Political Theology*, *Review and Expositor*, *Perspectives in Religious Studies*, and *Baptist History and Heritage*.