

International Reformed Theological Institute Report of activities 2013 – 2015

The following activities have been developed or supported by IRTI over the past two years:

Development of a new website

Just before the conference in Sárospatak, Hungary the new IRTI website (www.irti.nl) was launched. A lot of information about the International Reformed Theological Institute and its activities can be found on it.

After the conference in Sárospatak we have tried to make the site more attractive with lively weblogs of students.

Tenth International IRTI conference - Sárospatak, Hungary (June 2013)

The biannual IRTI conference took place from 2 to 8 July 2013 in Sárospatak, Hungary. 58 participants from 8 different countries (Indonesia, South Korea, South Africa, USA, UK, Romania, Hungary and the Netherlands) participated at the conference. The keynote speakers were: Ferenc Szücs (Budapest), Gerrit Singgih (Indonesia) and David VanDrunen (USA). Some of the presented papers have been published in the latest issue of the *Journal of Reformed Theology*.

The conference can be considered a success because of the diverse and engaging input of the participants and the great hospitality of the host, the Sárospatak Reformed Theological Academy.

Community and Diversity

In the framework of the joint bachelor of theology of the Protestant Theological University and the Faculty of Theology of VU University a module has been developed on "Community and Diversity". As an integral part of the module, in 2014 seven students took part in a study trip to Debrecen, Hungary and participated in a students' conference. The activity was sponsored by IRTI and a weblog of was published at the IRTI website.

A second study trip was organized in April 2015 with twice as many participants. This time the students participated again in a student conference, had a mini internship and continued their theological trip with their fellow students from the Debrecen Reformed Theological University to Novi Sad (Serbia) and Sarajevo (Bosnia Herzegovina). Again the activity was sponsored by IRTI and a weblog was published at our website.

Summer School NBTS - Amsterdam, the Netherlands (July 2014)

Being part of a tradition of several years already, the biannual summer school of the New Brunswick Theological Seminary (NBTS) was organised again last summer in Amsterdam, this time at both the Protestant Theological University and the Faculty of Theology of VU University. The conference was organised by the host of the current conference and member of the IRTI advisory board, Allan Janssen. Fourteen Dutch theologians and an American historian offered a lecture at the summer school on the theme "Liturgy and Ethics".

Publications

The Journal of Reformed Theology, published by Brill and with prof.dr. E.A.J.G. (Eddy) Van der Borgh as its Editor in Chief, is an internationally recognised, peer reviewed journal, affiliated to IRTI. The journal is the only international academic journal explicitly based on the sources of reformed tradition. In 2014 for the first year four issues were published, because of the growing number of submitted articles.

The Studies in Reformed Theology, also published by Brill and with prof.dr. E.A.J.G. (Eddy) Van der Borght as its Editor in Chief published two series in 2014, one on "Calvinism and the Making of the European Mind" and the other titled "The Law of God". In 2015 one volume has been published thus far on "Calvin's salvation in writing" and another one is expected to be published in September.

Cooperation with MTS, the Beijers Naudé Centre and UKIM

The cooperation between IRTI, the Moluccan Theological Seminary, the Beijers Naudé Centre for Public Theology and the theological faculty of Ambon (UKIM) existed for ten years in 2014, in honour of which a festival volume has been published.

Composition of the management team

Because of the retirement of prof.dr. M.E. (Martien) Brinkman in the autumn of this year, a new director has been appointed. Dr. P.H. (Pieter) Vos will be the new director of IRTI as per November 2015. Prof.dr. E.A.J.G. (Eddy) Van der Borght will continue to be vice-director and A.S. (Albert) Nijboer, MA. the secretary. Prof.dr. C. (Kees) van der Kooi will complete the management team as a new vice-director.

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Martien Brinkman
Pieter Vos
Eddy Van der Borght
Albert Nijboer