

Oxford Institute of Methodist Theological Studies Annual Report

Contact Name and Details	The Revd Dr Martin Wellings, Chair of the Committee
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Summary of Content

Subject and Aims	To provide an annual report to the Council from the Committee of the Oxford Institute of Methodist Theological Studies (OIMTS) in fulfilment of SO 335A(3) To report on progress regarding preparations for the Oxford Institute of Methodist Theological Studies in August 2018
Background Context and Relevant Documents (with function)	MC/15/19 SO 335A
Consultations	The British OIMTS committee, and with Connexional Team colleagues

Summary of Impact

Wider Connexional	Supports continuing engagement with research and scholarship
External (eg ecumenical)	Supports ongoing ecumenical involvement

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1. Background

- 1.1 Under SO 335A the Methodist Council annually appoints a British committee to oversee the preparations for the Oxford Institute of Methodist Theological Studies (OIMTS), which is normally held every five years. The next institute will be the fourteenth, to be held 12-19 August, 2018 at Pembroke College, Oxford. The theme will be “‘Thy Grace Restore, Thy Work Revive’’: Revival, Reform and Revolution in World Methodism’.

2. Work of the Committee

- 2.1 The committee, appointed in January 2015, is as follows: The Revd Dr Martin Wellings (Chair), The Revd Dr Claire Potter (Secretary), The Revd Colin Smith (Treasurer). The Revd Dr Stephen Skuce acts as a consultant to this committee (MC/15/19).
- 2.2 Over the past year the committee has met once involving American colleagues and names for plenary speakers and sub groups have been discussed. The current financial position is expected to meet the currently anticipated expenditure. A further meeting is being planned for October 2016.
- 2.3 In past institutes there has been a pre institute gathering for British related world church participants. This is deemed to no longer serve its original purposes of helping those to prepare for the institute who may have had little such prior experience. Having an involvement between the British participants and the British related world church participants is being actively considered.
- 2.4 A call for papers for British participants is anticipated to be made by December 2016. This is expected to follow a similar pattern as recent institutes. Individuals will apply for a place based on the strength of the paper they wish to present. The American and British sub committees will decide who participates, and how many participate. Normally it is not possible to participate in the institute without presenting a paper. We anticipate that British participants will be expected to be involved in the annual Methodist Research conferences.
- 2.5 *Holiness* journal has provisionally agreed to have an OIMTS themed edition for a number of papers from the institute.

3. Conclusion

- 3.1 The committee will continue with preparations. No changes to the committee are currently necessary. It is anticipated that the full list of British participants will be confirmed by October 2017.

***RESOLUTION

- 90/1. The Council receives the report.