

## Report on the 12th International Congress for Luther Research<sup>①</sup>

### Committee of International Journal of Sino – Western Studies

The 12<sup>th</sup> International Congress for Luther Research was held from 5th to 11th of August in 2012 in the University of Helsinki, which was founded by Queen Christina of Sweden in 1610. The overall theme of the congress was “Luther as Teacher and Reformer of the University”. Lectures and seminars took place in the city center, on the campus surrounding the main building of the university. The opening ceremony and first lecture, “*Doctor communis? The ecumenical significance of Martin Luther’s theology*” by emeritus bishop Eero Huovinen, took place in the Lutheran Cathedral of Helsinki on Sunday evening, the 5th of August at 6.30 pm. The congress closed with an evening banquet in Helsinki House of Shares on Friday, the 10th of August.

Each morning, in addition to morning devotions in the Lutheran Cathedral of Helsinki, there were two or three main lectures as follows. Ulrich Köpf; *Luther’s Proposals for University Reform / Luthers Beitrag zur Universitätsreform*. Christine Helmer; *Teaching Theology with Luther / Luther als Lehrer der Theologie*. Risto Saarinen; *Luther and Humanist Thought / Luther und Humanismus*. Mark Mattes; *Luther’s Use of Philosophy / Philosophie bei Luther*. Tarald Rasmussen; *The Early Modern Pastor between Ideal and Reality / Der frühneuzeitliche Pfarrer zwischen Anspruch und Wirklichkeit*; and Pilgrim Lo; *Luther between Theology and Cultural Studies / Luther zwischen Theologie und Kulturwissenschaften*.

On *Wednesday 8. 8.* there were about 72 short presentations and Excursion, the Chief Editor of International of Sino – Western Studies Prof. Dr. Paulos gave a presentation titled with “Luther in China”.

On *Thursday 9. 8.* there were lectures of Luther in the New Perspective on Paul / Luther in der “Neuen Perspektive der Paulusforschung” by Jens Schröter, Bo Kristian Holm and Notger Slenczka.

Each afternoon there were originally planned to have around 30 seminars, and finally 22 of which were fulfilled on the following themes;

1. Ricardo Rieth; *Universitäten und Hochschulen des 21. Jahrhunderts als Erben der Bildungsreform Luthers / The Legacy of Luther’s Educational Reform for Universities and Seminaries of the 21st Century*
2. Volker Leppin; *Die Verwendung von Autoritäten in den frühen Wittenberger Vorlesungen und Disputationen / The Use of Authorities in the Early Wittenberg Lectures and Disputations*
3. Mary Jane Haemig; *Luther, Preaching, and the Reformation*
4. Michael Beyer; *Schola Wittenbergensis; Freunde und Kollegen Luthers*
5. Anna Vind; *Luther’s Commentary on Galatians 1519*
6. Irene Dingel; *Die Aufnahme Luthers und Melanchthons in der Schütlergeneration; Memoria – theologische Synthese – Autoritätenkonflikte / The Reception of Luther and Melanchthon among Their Students; Memoria – Theological Syntheses – Conflicts of Authority*

① This report has employed materials from the website of <http://www.helsinki.fi/teol/pm/luther2012/index.htm>

7. Charles Arand; Catechesis in the Context of University Theology
8. Markus Wriedt; Pietas et Eruditio. Erziehungskonzepte in reformatorischer Theologie / Pietas et Eruditio. Concepts of Education in Reformation Theology
9. Christopher Brown; The Impact of Luther's Hymns
10. Kirsten Busch Nielsen; Luther's Critical Concept of Church / Kirchenkritik in Luthers Verständnis von Kirche
11. Pekka Kärkkäinen; Philosophical Psychology in Luther's Theology
12. Christoph Burger; Luther als Bibelausleger / Luther as Exegete of the Bible
13. Brooks Schramm with Kirsi Stjerna; Luther and the Old Testament / Luther und das Alte Testament
14. Miikka Ruokanen; Luther Reception in Asia and Africa
15. Else Marie Wiberg Pedersen; Disciplined Freedom, or Free versus Slave? Recuperating Luther for Feminist Theology in an Age of Terror
16. Andrew Wilson; Luther in the Ibero American World
17. Roger Jensen; The Legacy of Swedish Luther Renaissance
18. Friederike Nüssel; Sola scriptura
19. Hans - Peter Großhans; Glaube und Vernunft bei Luther / Faith and Reason in Luther's Thought
20. Paul Hinlicky; A Post - Modern Luther? New Readings of the Critique of Epistemology and Revision of Metaphysics
21. Theo Dieter; Luthers und Melanchthons Aristoteles / Luther's und Melanchthon's Aristotle
22. Wolfgang Thönissen and P. Augustinus Sunder OSB; Luther - Katholik und Reformier?! / Luther; Catholic and Reformier?!

Since 1956, the International Congress for Luther Research meets regularly in different countries and continents. The congress of 2007 was held in Canoas, Brazil and the meeting in 2017 will take place in Wittenberg, Germany. The Continuation Committee of the Congress is chaired by Scott Hendrix (USA); other members include Mary Jane Haemig (USA), Robert Kolb (USA), Albrecht Beutel (Germany), Michael Beyer (Germany), Volker Lippin (Germany), Carl Axel Aurelius (Sweden), Antti Raunio (Finland), Anna Vind (Denmark) and Ricardo Rieth (Brazil).

The Continuation Committee met in Helsinki in August 2009 and decided about the programme of 2012 congress. It also asked Bishop Kero Huovinen to act as the President of the Congress during its meeting in Helsinki. The main lectures and seminar reports of the congress are regularly published in *Lutherjahrbuch*.

The Local Preparatory Committee of Helsinki 2012 congress is chaired by Professor Risto Saarinen; other members include Kaarlo Arffman, Simo Heininen, Juhani Forsberg, Gunnar af Hallström, Vesa Hirvonen, Jari Jolkkonen, Jussi Koivisto, Ilmari Karimies, Pekka Kärkkäinen, Antti Raunio and Beatrice Sundkvist. The local committee works in collaboration with the "Renaissance and Reformation Team" of the "Philosophical Psychology, Morality and Politics" Centre of Excellence. The Congress has established her own website <http://www.helsinki.fi/teol/pro/luther2012/index.htm>

Some scholars from Japan, Korea, Mainland China, Hong Kong and Taiwan were also participating in the Congress, and they had active discussions concerning Luther in Asia and especially in China. Benefited by the research results presented in the Congress, encouraged by Luther scholars related to China, and led by Dr. Paulos Huang, a research institute "Luther Academy for China"

(Shijie huaren Lude xuehui) was established in August 2012 after the Congress in Helsinki. In addition to his twice presentations titled with "Luther in China" in the Congress, Dr. Paulos Huang is now leading a project to translate Dr. Martin Luther's Hauspostille and Kirchenpostille into Chinese. The project is planned to let the Reformer to refresh the world through Chinese language, and concretely is planned to publish some of these sermons of Luther by 2017 when the Reformation is celebrated its 500 anniversary in Wittenberg.

中文题目：

第十二界国际路德研究学会 会议综述

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