NTSSA Gender and Sexuality subgroup - Report
Co-chairs: Nina Müller van Velden and Jacobie Visser

The subgroup can report as follows:

- **3rd Interdisciplinary Gender Conference: Violence against Children 2022**

The subgroup was invited to collaborate with Professor Lilly Nortjé-Meyer and the Department of Religion Studies, University of Johannesburg (UJ) to present an interdisciplinary conference on 18 and 19 August 2022, under the theme, "Violence against Children". This conference had a hybrid format, thereby including both in-person and online presenters and attendees. Two keynotes and twelve papers representing 11 institutions from South Africa and the larger African continent resulted in fruitful discussions, also affirming the need for interdisciplinary projects alongside subject-specific endeavours. Presenters were invited to submit their papers as articles for a special edition of *The Thinker*, an accredited UJ journal. Ten peer-reviewed articles will form part of this special edition, which is due for publication in 2024. Professor Lilly Nortjé-Meyer and Dr Nina Müller van Velden are the guest editors of this publication.

- **NTSSA Annual Meeting 2023**

The subgroup received 7 submissions for consideration for the Annual Meeting of 2023, of which all were accepted for presentation. The presenters were: Robin Gallaher Branch (Christian Brothers University/NWU), Tsholofelo J. Kukuni (NWU), Kobus Kok (ETF Leuven), Nina Müller van Velden (SU), Peter Nagel (SU), and Richard A. Burridge (University of Manchester). Unfortunately, Claudene Sebolai (UWC) could not attend the conference due to personal circumstances. Particularly encouraging was the number of presenters who participated for the first time in sessions of the Gender and Sexuality subgroup, as well as the range of texts (New Testament and other), methodologies and thematic approaches which presenters brought to the table.

- **NTSSA Annual Meeting 2024**

The next Annual Meeting will be hosted by the Gender and Sexuality subgroup in collaboration with Huguenot College, Wellington (Western Cape). Building on the interdisciplinary conference of 2022, the conference theme for 2024 is "Violent texts, violent interpretations, violent contexts". A more detailed Call for Papers will follow shortly. NTSSA members are requested to take note of the proposed date during the week of 8 to 12 April 2024. The Andrew Murray Centre for Spirituality (AMSS) in Wellington will most likely serve as venue for the conference, as well as providing an accommodation option for approximately 28 conference attendees (first come, first serve basis). Following the conference, a special edition of *Neotestamentica* under the conference theme is proposed. Based on feedback from the 2023 Annual Meeting, the subgroup leaders are exploring ways in which sessions can be structured and varied to encourage even more interaction, and to ensure optimal participation by keynote speaker/s.

- **Other matters: Membership of subgroups**

Allowance for membership of more than one subgroup is particularly important for those interested in the Gender and Sexuality subgroup, as such a thematic interest often overlaps with text-specific interests. Multiple membership will likely allow for greater participation in this subgroup, as well as other existing subgroups.

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