



ALLIANCE FOR VULNERABLE MISSION

www.vulnerablemission.org

**Alliance for Vulnerable Mission Bulletin
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Editor: Jim Harries, PhD, Chairman of the AVM.

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Jim Harries	Alex Araujo	Stan Chu Ilo	Timothy Reeves
Chris Flanders	Jay Gary	Frank Paul	Gord Sawatzky
	Tomas Dozier	Jean Johnson	Stan Nussbaum

UK Conference Photographs (For more photos search for Alliance for Vulnerable Mission on facebook.)



A couple of pictures of the UK conference



Conference goes on the Saturday.

Brief Report on UK Conference

The UK conference of the Alliance for Vulnerable Mission was held in Norwich 14th to 16th 2013. The total attendance was about 30 people. In addition to British folks including a strong contingent from Norwich itself, we had a lot of people from the USA, and elsewhere.

Twelve papers were presented. Participants also benefitted from time set aside for group discussions. There was ample opportunity to ask our most difficult questions to an expert panel.

All the sessions were recorded. We hope soon to be able to make those recordings available on the web. We are also in the process of preparing a written form of the papers presented for publication purposes. We hope these will be available in published form before the end of next year. We will keep you informed on developments through means of this Bulletin.

We are especially grateful to NCBC (Norwich Central Baptist Church) for hosting. The church proved to be an excellent place to hold a conference. We are especially grateful to the team that prepared the meals for us.



Presenters at the US conference, Pasadena, 24th Sep. 2013, during a panel session.
L2R: Stan Nussbaum, Viv Grigg, Jim Harries, Jean Johnson

A video recording of Stan Nussbaum's presentation at the US vulnerable mission conference is now available here: <http://vimeo.com/78033884> Stan's presentation is entitled: **'Vulnerable Mission: doing mission partnerships better with Africa/Asia and Latin America.'**

A video recording of Jean Johnson's presentation at the US vulnerable mission conference is now available here: <https://vimeo.com/79741526> Jean's presentation was entitled: **'Resources: why and how to avoid being the source of resources.'**



Here's a challenging new book: Shorack, John. 2012. *Nail Scarred Hands Made New: Making Sense of the Gospel in a Violent Latin American Slum*. Eugene, Oregon: Wipf and Stock. Available over Amazon here: <http://www.amazon.com/Nail-Scarred-Hands-Made-New/dp/1610978382>



An edition of *Missio Dei* dedicated to Vulnerable Mission is now available in hard copy for just \$22.50. More details from amazon.com here:

http://www.amazon.com/dp/1490448764/ref=cm_sw_su_dp

The WCIU (William Carey International University) published an article by Jim Harries entitled: '**Integrated Learning and Education - A View from East Africa.**' See here for the full copy: <http://www.wciujournal.org/blog/post/integrated-learning-and-education-a-view-from-east-africa>

Eastern University is to open a new **Masters course that looks at theology and anthropology**. Is this the way forward for anthropology? Is it a lifeline thrown to anthropology? I think this is very interesting for vulnerable mission in that it represents an effort at encouraging theology to take context seriously. See: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Master-of-Arts-in-Theological-and-Cultural-Anthropology/620717557980298>

An audio recording of Jim Harries' presentation to Palmer Seminary in Philadelphia on 31st October 2013 is available here: http://www.jim-mission.org.uk/jim_harries_presentation.mp4. The title of the presentation is: '**Magic, Divine Revelation and Translation in Global Theological Education Today; with a focus on Africa.**'

I was amazed to discover a theological college recently which had different streams of study according to the ethnic origins of the students who attended. The three streams for this college in New Zealand are 1. People from the Pacific in general; Polynesians. 2. Native New Zealanders; Maori. 3. Westerners. Folks there seem to be taking ethnicity seriously! <http://www.stjohnscollege.ac.nz>

Rowan Williams lecture series recently given at Edinburgh university considers language in relation to theology concerning contemporary approaches to divinity: <http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/humanities-soc-sci/news-events/lectures/gifford-lectures/williams-oystermouth/overview>

German speakers may want to take a look at this book: Hiller, Susanne and Markus, 2013. *Indigene Gemeinde Brasiliens zwischen Eigenverantwortung und Abhaengigkeit*. Korntal-Muenchingen: VTR. (If anyone gets to read this book and can review it, please let me know.)

An audio recording of Jim Harries' presentation at GIAL (Global Institute of Applied Linguistics), Dallas, Texas on 3rd October 2013 is given here: http://www.jim-mission.org.uk/GIAL_Academic_Forum_3rd%20Oct.mp3 The presentation is entitled: '**The Talk leads the Way (Astray): Mission and**

Development in Africa Today?. (This is a version of the paper that I then also gave at the UK conference.)

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Below are some items that are less centrally concerned with vulnerable mission but that may be of interest to readers of the Bulletin:

1. *Deschooling Society* which argued that the top-down management of schools makes students powerless - and that the same top-down management is typical of the modern, technological economy that prevents people from learning.

Illich has the following works on the web (that have to do with VM-thinking):

- [Deschooling Society](#): At last, the entire text of one of Illich's most important works is available on line. This book made Ivan Illich famous, arguing that schooling is a model of our centralized consumer society.
- [Vernacular Values](#): This series of articles from *CoEvolution Quarterly* is the basis of most of Ivan Illich's book *Shadow Work*. It describes how professionals have taken over things people used to do for themselves - even learning their own language.
- [Silence Is A Commons](#): In this article from *CoEvolution Quarterly*, Ivan Illich takes on the electronic media.
- [Taught Mother Tongue and Nation State](#): A recording of Ivan Illich speaking about the invention of standard Spanish, the first language that people were taught to speak. (3.25 minutes).
- [Education Without School: How It Can Be Done](#), *NYRB* Jan 7, 1971
- [Why We Must Abolish Schooling](#), *NYRB* Jul 2, 1970 (full text for subscribers only)
- [Schooling: The Ritual of Progress](#), *NYRB* Dec 3, 1970 (full text for subscribers only)

2. The fraternal workers in northern In Argentina: Where mission includes the preservation of a language

<http://www.mennonitemission.net/Stories/News/Pages/InArgentina,missionincludesth preservationofalanguage.aspx> and:

<http://www.mennonitemission.net/Stories/News/Pages/TobaBiblestudy.aspx>

3. **About the responsibility for intercultural friendships**

(indigenous challenges and testimonies on "long term vulnerability")

<http://www.mennonitemission.net/Stories/BeyondOurselves/CanITrustYou/Pages/Wil lwethrowtheribbonaway.aspx>