

## **EDINBURGH 2010 PLENARY SPEAKERS**

### **Dr. DANA L. ROBERT**

**Truman Collins Professor of World Christianity and History of Mission  
Boston University School of Theology**

Dr. Dana L. Robert is the Truman Collins Professor of World Christianity and History of Mission at the Boston University School of Theology. In her twenty-five years of teaching she has directed approximately sixty doctoral dissertations in mission studies and the history of world Christianity. Former students hold teaching and ministry positions around the world. At Boston University, Robert also directs the Center for Global Christianity and Mission ( <http://www.bu.edu/cgcm/> ) and is affiliated with the African Studies Center.

Robert's books include *American Women in Mission: A Social History of Their Thought and Practice* (1997), *Christianity: A Social and Cultural History* (co-author, 1997), "Occupy Until I Come": *A. T. Pierson and the Evangelization of the World* (2003), *African Christian Outreach: Vol. 2 Mission Churches* (ed., 2003), *Converting Colonialism: Visions and Realities in Mission History, 1706-1914* (ed., 2008), and *Christian Mission: How Christianity Became a World Religion* (2009). Her most recent book is the 2010-2011 mission study text for the United Methodist Church, *Joy to the World! Mission in the Age of Global Christianity* (2010). With her husband Marthinus L. Daneel, a leading scholar of African Indigenous Churches and African Traditional Religions in Southern Africa, Robert co-edits the book series *African Initiatives in Christian Mission*, published by the University of South Africa Press. She serves on the editorial boards of major journals, including the *International Bulletin of Missionary Research*, *Church History*, and *Missionalia*. In 2006 she launched the online History of Missiology website to provide resources in the history of nineteenth- and twentieth-century mission thought (<http://digilib.bu.edu/mission>).

Robert is a lifelong lay United Methodist from Baton Rouge, Louisiana. She serves on the Committee on Faith and Order for the denomination, and for many years has chaired the denominational professors of mission. She received her bachelor's degree in history from Louisiana State University, and her masters' and doctorate in religious studies from Yale University. In support of her husband's ministry among African Indigenous Churches, she travels regularly to Masvingo, Zimbabwe. She has two grown sons and lives mostly in Somerville, Massachusetts. As a visible reminder of the forgotten lay women who have supported missions over the past century, Robert is carrying a piece of her hundred year old grandmother's handmade quilt to all the 2010 events she attends.

**REV. DR. YOUNG-HOON LEE**  
**Yoido Full Gospel Church**

Rev. Young-Hoon Lee's great-grandfather was converted to Christianity by one of the first missionaries at Pyongyang, North Korea. Since then, each generation of his family has believed in Christ. Born in Seoul, Korea, on November 19, 1954, and raised by devout Christian parents, Lee learned how to please God and how to serve the Lord from his early childhood.

In April 1964, Lee joined the Full Gospel Central Church (now Yoido Full Gospel Church) in Seodaemun where Rev. Yonggi Cho preached. There, Lee had a personal experience with the living God by receiving the baptism in the Holy Spirit and speaking in tongues. Called to ministry, Lee went to Yonsei University to study theology. After graduation, he attended Full Gospel Theological Seminary (now Hansei University), and then on to United Graduate School of Theology, Yonsei University, graduating with a Master of Theology.

In 1977, Lee began his ministry at the Yoido Full Gospel Church in Seoul, Korea as the Editor-in-Chief for Youngsan Publishers (now Seoul Logos) and as the first editor of the Full Gospel Newspaper. He also was one of the founding members of the Institute for Full Gospel Education (now International Theological Institute). After his ordination in 1982, Lee completed a Master of Theology at Westminster Theological Seminary in Philadelphia. He received an M.A. and a Ph.D. in Philosophy of Religion at Temple University. During this time of study, Lee served as Senior Pastor at Full Gospel First Church of Washington.

When Lee returned to Korea, he systematized and theologized Rev. Yonggi Cho's pastoral principles as the executive director of the International Theological Institute at Yoido Full Gospel Church. Lee has served as the Senior Pastor of Full Gospel Tokyo Church, as a professor at Hansei University (Korea), as the President of Bethesda Christian University (USA), as the President of Japan Full Gospel Bible College, as the Chairman of the Theological Committee for the National Council of Churches in Korea, as a Theological Committee member of Asia Pacific Theological Association (APTA), as the Senior Pastor of Full Gospel LA Church, and as the Vice-Chairman of the Council of Korean Churches in Southern California. Currently, Lee serves as the Senior Pastor of the Yoido Full Gospel Church, as the Co-President of Christian Council of Korea, and as the General Superintendent of the Assemblies of God of Korea.

In 2008 he succeeded Rev. Cho as the Senior Pastor of the Yoido Full Gospel Church. Anticipating the second revival of the Yoido Full Gospel Church, he is now leading the Holy Spirit Movement and the Church Unity Movement. Lee's faith is characterized by the fullness of the Spirit, absolute positivity, Christ-centered life, and by a faithful life of early-morning prayer. He emphasizes Christian sanctification, inner healing, and fruit-bearing life. He also urges his people to live by Spirit-filled faith, centered on the Cross of Jesus. Under the leadership of servanthood within the church, he aims to steer the church in the direction of serving the underprivileged, bringing about change in society.

Lee and his wife, In-Ja Baik, have one daughter, Grace Sung-Eun.

**DR. ANTONIOS KIREOPOULOS**  
**National Council of the Churches of Christ**

Dr. Antonios Kireopoulos is Senior Program Director for Faith & Order and Interfaith Relations at the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA. In this capacity he is responsible for the theological work done among both ecumenical and interfaith partners. Previously Kireopoulos directed the Council's work in international affairs. An Orthodox Christian theologian, he holds degrees from Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service, Thunderbird School of Global Management, St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary, and Fordham University.

Kireopoulos' published works include: "Theological Reflections on Security and Vulnerability," in *Arms Trade: Final Report from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ecumenical Conference in Gothenburg* (2004); "Witnessing the Peace of God in a Violent World," in *Violence and Christian Spirituality: An Ecumenical Conversation*, ed. Emmanuel Clapsis (2007); "The US Response to *A Common Word Between Us and You: An Affirmation of Theology as the Primary Rationale for Dialogue*," in *Ecumenical Trends* 38 (3) 2009; and "The State of Interreligious Affairs in the United States Today," in *Ecumenical Trends* 39 (1) 2010.

Kireopoulos' forthcoming publications include: "Orthodoxy and Islam: An Uncommon Opportunity?" in *The Greek Orthodox Theological Review* (forthcoming, 2010); "Orthodoxy in the Public Square: The Contextual Reality and the Theological Challenge," in *Religious Pluralism in 21<sup>st</sup> Century American Public Life: the Challenges and Opportunities for Orthodox Christianity*, ed. Elizabeth H. Prodromou (forthcoming, 2010); "Papal Authority and the Ministry of Primacy," *The Greek Orthodox Theological Review* 42 (1-2) 1997; "The Role of Ecumenical Charity in Christian Mission," in *Journal of Ecumenical Studies* (forthcoming, 2010); "Seeking Justice and Promoting Human Rights: Orthodox Theological Imperatives or Afterthoughts?" in *Sophia: Studies in Orthodox Theology, Vol. 2* (forthcoming, 2010); *The Ecumenical Movement: An Anthology of Key Texts and Voices*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, edited with Michael Kinnamon (forthcoming 2011); and *Some Ecumenical Directions in the US Today: Churches on a Theological Journey*, edited with Juliana Mecera (forthcoming 2011).

**Dr. TERESA FRANCESCA ROSSI**  
**Centro Pro Unione**  
**Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas**

Teresa Francesca Rossi is Associate Director of the Centro Pro Unione, Rome (Franciscan Friars of the Atonement). Rossi received a Baccalaureate in Philosophy in 1988, a Baccalaureate in Theology in 1991, a Licence in Theology in 1994, and a Doctorate in Theology, with a specialisation in ecumenism, all from the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas in Rome.

Rossi has served as Professor of Ecumenical Theology at the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas in Rome since 1998; at the Pontifical Athenaeum St. Anselm, Rome, since 2008; and at the Istituto Filosofico Teologico Viterbese since 1997. She teaches courses on ecumenism, the Pentecostal Movement, the World Council of Churches, and the question of lay ministry and women in ministry from an ecumenical perspective. She has lectured on ecumenism both in Italy and abroad extensively. Rossi's many publications include *Il Ministero della donna nella Chiesa* (Rome, 1998) and the revised edition of *The New Directory of Ecumenical Research Centres and Publication* (online at [www.prounione.urbe.it](http://www.prounione.urbe.it)).

Rossi has also served as Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Theology of the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas in Rome (2001-2007); as a member of the "Comitato di Referenti per il Master in Teologia Ecumenica" of the Istituto di Studi Ecumenici San Bernardino, Venezia, affiliated to the Pontifical University Antonianum, Roma (since 2009); and as author and coordinator of the project "Ecumenismo in erba" (Budding Ecumenism), an initiative of Ecumenical Reception at grassroot level for children (3-13 years old) at the Centro Pro Unione, Rome (since 2003).

Rossi's many ecumenical responsibilities have included membership in the Joint Working Group between the Catholic Church and the World Council of Churches (mandate 1999-2006, reconfirmed for the mandate 2007-2013); membership in the International Baptist-Catholic dialogue (International Theological Conversations between the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity and the World Baptist Alliance for the mandate 2006-2011); and participation in the Edinburgh Study Group within the the Edinburgh 2010 Study Process since 2008.

Rossi has also held a number of offices for the diocese of Rome and for various ecumenical organizations such as the Permanent Joint Working Group on Petrine Ministry, a study project of the International Bridgetine Center in Farfa (2005-2010). She is involved at the pastoral level as former catechist and member of the Liturgical Group in the Parish Santissimo Nome di Maria alla Caffarelletta and as missionary for the Great Jubilee for the Diocese of Rome, among other activities and organizational responsibilities.

**FIDON R. MWOMBEKI**  
**United Evangelical Mission**

Fidon R. Mwombeki is General Secretary of United Evangelical Mission (July 2006-present). He holds a Bachelor of Divinity (Makumira/Tanzania, 1987), a Master of Sacred Theology (Trinity Lutheran Seminary/USA, 1994), a Master of Business Administration (California Coast University/ USA, 1997), and a Ph.D. from Luther Seminary, USA (1997). His dissertation was entitled "Biblical Interpretation in a Current African Situation: The Case of Blood."

Mwombeki's publications include "Global Mission: An African Perspective" in *Global Vision 7* (1996); "The Role of the Church in Development Work" in the *Report on Workshop on Capacity Building for Africa* (1999); "Are We of the Same God: A Pastor's Day Reveals Tanzania's Heavy Debt Burden" in *The Lutheran* (2000); "Ecology in the New Testament" in *Christian Theology and Environmental Responsibility*, edited by J. N. K. Mugambi and Mika Vahakangas (2001); "The South Cries for 'Fair' trade, the North Wants 'Free' Trade" in *Habari Tanzania Network.de 1* (2002); "Etikken i Partnerskab" in *Mission og Etik*, edited by Harald Nielsen (2003), "Churches and the Vocation of Government in Africa" in *Communion, Responsibility, Accountability: Responding as a Lutheran Communion to Neoliberal Globalization*, edited by Karen L. Bloomquist (2004); "The Theology of the Cross: Does it Make Sense to Africa?" in *The Gift of Grace*, edited by Nils Henrik Gregsen (2005); and "Mission und Entwicklung: Ein Definitionsproblem" in *Mission und Entwicklung: Texte, Dokumente und Reportagen* (2009).

Prior to serving as General Secretary for United Evangelical Mission, Mwombeki served as pastor in Bukoba at the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (1988); in Missionary Exchange in Sweden (1989), as Secretary for Communication and Literature, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (1989-1992), as Pastor for the Swahili speaking congregation in Minnesota, USA (1994-1997), as Secretary for Evangelism for Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania for the North Western Diocese (1997-1998), as Deputy General Secretary for Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania of the North Western Diocese (1999-2000), as General Secretary for Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania for the North Western Diocese (2000-2004), and as Executive Secretary for Evangelism for United Evangelical Mission, Germany (2005-June 2006).