

St. Andrew's in 2016

2016 was a challenging but very fruitful year for us. Despite the local and global problems we held a number of important scholarly and public conferences with accent on ecumenical dialogue and civil society, published many new books and organized several Summer Institutes.

Summer Theological Institutes and Public Conferences

We continued our highly successful Summer Theological Institutes (STI), organizing two sessions in Moscow: the 15th STI and the first *Summer Institute on Interconfessional and Interreligious Dialogue* from 4 to 16 July. These were vibrant meetings with very intensive studies and active communication between students and teachers. Ca 40 students came from all over Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, Moldova and Armenia and represented all major confessions. Many of them were established specialists and university professors. Teachers were St. Andrew's best professors.



7th Symposium *Feast and Hospitality Images in Theology, Philosophy and Culture* in memory of Natalia Trauberg; conferences *Theology, Culture, Society: Myths and Reality*; *Russian Synodal Bible in the Context of Russian Culture* (with the Institute for Bible Translation in Zaoksky); *Reformation and Culture* (with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of European Russia); and the 21st *St. Andrew's Readings on Contemporary Theological Issues* were open to a wide audience and gathered many friends of our Institute.

Interconfessional and International Cooperation

A number of important international conferences were organized in 2016, often jointly with other academic centers: *Paul's Epistles*, Moscow, 2-3 June; *Swiss and Russian Theology: Mutual Influences and Perception*, Moscow, 22-25 September; *Theology of Suffering in Ecumenical Perspective*, Bose, Italy, 26-29 October; *Theology of Nature: Divine Gift and Human Responsibility*, Utrecht, 9-12 November combined with the 7th Consultation of an Orthodox-Protestant-Catholic network DELM; and *Reformation, Church, Society*, Moscow, 11-14 December.

St. Andrew's rector and other faculty members participated in many international events including a presentation at the Faculty of Theology and a keynote lecture at the 8th conference of the International Society for Empirical Research in Theology *The Future of Religious Communities* in VU Amsterdam; the 5th conference *Arab-European Citizens' Dialogue* (Crete, Greece); the inaugural meeting of the *Network of Institutions of Higher Ecumenical Theological Education* (NIHETE) and an international twin consultation on *Reformation, Education and Transformation* (Halle, Germany); the first meeting of the *Global Forum of Theological Educators* (Dorfweil, Germany); the annual conference of *Oikosnet Europe* (Prague) and its East and Central European Consultation in Liebfrauenberg (France); a meeting of the former students of *OKI-Regensburg* in Istanbul; the launching event of the *European Academy of Religion* in Bologna; and many others.

St. Andrew's rector is actively involved in the work of the Steering and Academic committees to prepare GETI'17 (Global Ecumenical Theological Institute in Berlin in connection with the Reformation Jubilee in 2017) and GETI'18 (in Arusha, Tanzania in connection with the World Mission Conference), and of the board of the *European Christian Convention*.

Publishing Program

St. Andrew's is a recognized leader in academic theological publishing in Russian and our books are in demand at Orthodox, Catholic and Protestant seminaries, university theology departments and, most important, in the secular market. In 2016 we published 15 volumes including:

- *A Secular Age* by Charles Taylor
- *The Spirit of Life. A Holistic Pneumatology* by Jürgen Moltmann
- *Handmaid of the Lord* by Adrienne von Speyr
- *Semyon Frank. The Strokes to the Portrait of the Philosopher* by Teresa Obolevitch
- *Russian Baptists and Orthodoxy* by Constantin Prokhorov
- *The Prophet and the Prostitute. Commentary to the Book of Hosea* by Arseny Sokolov
- *The Passion of the Prophets. Themes of Prophetic Spirituality* by Alberto Mello

Our participation in international book exhibitions in Frankfurt and Moscow helps us to develop cooperation with leading publishers and book distributors worldwide. And we maintain our special book distribution projects to theological, university and regional libraries and to theological graduates – though at a reduced scale this year.