

Religion and Society Research Cluster
School of Social Sciences and Psychology

**“Pentecostal Charismatic
Christianities in Australia”
Symposium**

11-12 August 2017

**Keynote speaker: Prof Paul Freston
(Wilfrid Laurier University)**

Pentecostal Charismatic Christianities (PCC) have grown significantly worldwide, particularly in the Global South. In Australia, the latest National Church Life Survey has shown they have overtaken Anglicans as the second largest religious group by attendance, behind the Catholic Church. Data also points to PCC adherents' higher educational attainment, now higher than among Anglicans. Moreover, Australia's location in Oceania, the 'most Christian part of the world,' means that many migrants from the region are Pentecostal and Charismatic.

On the other hand, Australian megachurches such as Hillsong, Planetshakers, COC and C3 have been influencing churches in many parts of the world, including the USA and even Brazil, the largest Pentecostal country in the world.

In this symposium we are interested in teasing out the remarkable growth of PCC in Australia, a country considered largely secular. We are hoping to discuss the following questions: How have PCC grown from their humble origins to become such a force in Australia? What makes Australians join a PCC movement? What is the relationship between PCC and Australian politics? How do migrants and refugees negotiate identity, belonging and home-making in Australia through Pentecostal/Charismatic churches? How can we account for the remarkable rise of PCC in Australia in a post-secular world? How do PCC expand in and out of the country?

Abstract Submission Date

Friday, January 13, 2017

Submit to

Kathleen Openshaw
k.openshaw@westernsydney.edu.au



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This call for papers seeks authors on topics which include the connections between Australian PCC and:

- Historical development
- Australian politics
- Media, music, Information Communication Technologies
- Branding and marketing
- Late modernity and global capitalism
- Material culture
- Aesthetics and embodied practices
- Lived experiences
- Social justice movements/activism
- Chaplaincy in schools
- Aboriginal Peoples
- Migration
- Gender and class
- Youth and celebrity cultures

Expressions of Interest should include a Title and an Abstract of no more than 250 words.

Expressions of Interest must be received by Friday, **January 13, 2017**.

Queries and EoI should be sent to:

Kathleen Openshaw
k.openshaw@westernsydney.edu.au

The conveners are planning to publish chapters in an edited volume after the symposium.

Symposium Conveners:

Associate Prof Cristina Rocha
Associate Prof Mark Hutchinson
Ms Kathleen Openshaw

