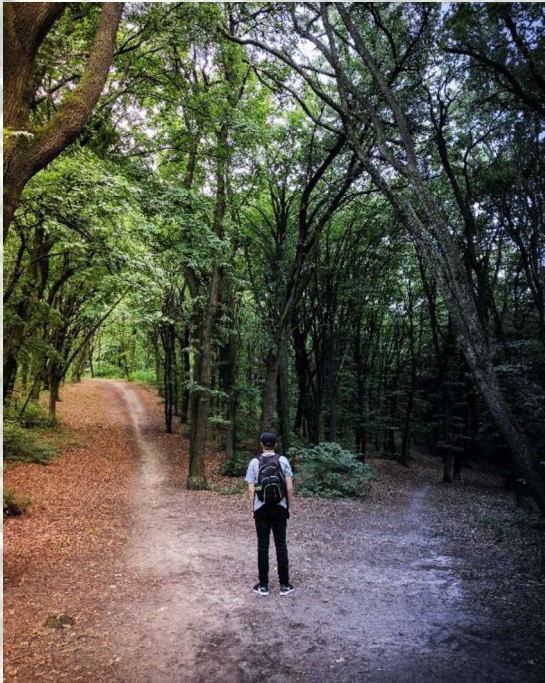


# ANZATS 2021 *Theological Ethics*

## Conference Update



The ANZATS Council is pleased to confirm that the 2021 Conference *Theological Ethics*, initially planned to be held in Perth, will proceed this year as an Online/blended Conference from Monday July 5 through Wednesday July 7.

The Council regrets having to abandon an on-campus Conference but considered this a necessary decision in view of the continuing uncertainty about travel, borders, and gatherings due to the ongoing effects of COVID-19. No doubt many members of the Association are also disappointed that we will not be able to meet this year in person with friends and colleagues from Australia and New Zealand. Brian Brock, our speaker from Edinburgh, shares our disappointment, as he very much hoped to be able to join us this year in July. The Council hopes that we will once again be able to meet in person in 2022.

The following points summarise the Council's decisions and the Conference Committee's planning to date.

1. The Conference will proceed as planned for July 5-7, 2021 as an online Conference with the possibility of city hubs in each state + New Zealand. Hubs will be optional for registrants, and we will seek a volunteer institution in each city to host these hubs.
2. The Conference registration will be slashed to just \$60 per person. This is possible because the big-ticket expenses associated with an on-campus Conference no longer apply. Hospitality at the city-based Hubs will be an additional minor cost for those who attend. The Council hopes that this low registration fee will encourage many institutions, academics, lecturers, and clergy to support and participate in the Conference.
3. The organisers will ask the two invited speakers—Brian Brock (University of Aberdeen) and Megan Best (Institute for Ethics and Society, University of Notre Dame, Australia)—and all elective session presenters to provide a pre-recorded video of their presentations by June 15. These recordings will be available for registrants to view prior to the Conference. The four plenary lectures by Brian Brock and Megan Best (i.e. two sessions each) will be 45 – 50 minutes each. Elective session presentations will be no longer than 20 minutes.
4. The Conference proper will consist of three hours of Zoom sessions each day. These sessions will be dedicated to discussion of the pre-recorded lectures and elective session presentations. Elective session presenters will be present in their sessions to take questions from Conference participants, and a special Q&A session with the two invited speakers will be scheduled.
5. The timing of the Conference sessions will be as follows:



Session	Western Australia	Central Australia	Eastern Australia	New Zealand
1	9-10am	10:30-11:30am	11am-12pm	1-2pm
2	10-11am	11:30am -12:30pm	12-1pm	2-3pm
3	2-3pm	3:30-4:30pm	4-5pm	6-7pm

The Conference Committee has restricted the number of sessions to avoid Zoom-fatigue, yet by providing video of all presentations prior to the Conference has *doubled* the time allowed for discussion and interaction. The times have been structured to allow Hubs to gather for fellowship, discussion, morning tea, or lunch, or afternoon tea, or an evening meal in accordance with local suitability. Participants in Perth, Adelaide, or Brisbane (for example) might gather on one day for joint activities, and share or go out for lunch together, while participants in Auckland or Christchurch (for example) might choose a particular day for an evening meal. There are many possibilities and these will be at the discretion of the local host institution.

6. The Conference schedule will be as follows:

AEST	Monday July 5	Tuesday July 6	Wednesday July 7
11am (55 minutes)	Plenary Session Welcome + Prayer Discussion: Brian Brock Lectures	Plenary Session Welcome + Prayer Discussion: Megan Best Lectures	Plenary Session Welcome + Prayer ANZATS AGM
12noon (Electives: 3 x 20 minutes; multiple channels)	Elective Sessions 1 General Presentations Stream Presentations	Elective Sessions 3 General Presentations Stream Presentations	Plenary Session Economic Value of Theology Panel
1pm	<b>Free Time</b>	<b>Free Time</b>	<b>Free Time</b>
4pm (Electives: 3 x 20 minutes; multiple channels)	Elective Sessions 2 General Presentations Stream Presentations	Plenary Session (Synchronous) Zoom Discussion with Brian Brock and Megan Best	Elective Sessions 4 General Presentations Stream Presentations Thesis Slam

7. **HUBS:** The Conference Committee invites institutions to host a Hub gathering in each capital or major city, and regional cities where there is sufficient interest. It is envisaged that the Hub would meet on one of the Conference days, participate in the main Zoom sessions, and enjoy some good fellowship, conversation, and food together. Local organisers are free to offer a time of worship and prayer, hospitality, or other activities as they see fit. The Committee will provide some guidance to the local Hub hosts to assist their planning. If you would like to volunteer to host a hub, or if you would like further information about the Hubs, please contact Dr Angela McCarthy ([drpelikan53@gmail.com](mailto:drpelikan53@gmail.com)).
8. **Call for Papers:** A new Call for Papers will be distributed this week with an extended deadline for submissions (April 9, the week after Easter). All successful proposers will be provided information for recording and uploading their video presentations.
9. **Conference Registration:** Registration for the Conference will open in the week of April 12. A new update will be sent to all ANZATS members encouraging them to register and take advantage of this unique opportunity for a high-quality, low-cost Conference!