

Christian Think Tank Launched

The Church's engagement with the many challenges and issues in society is an important part of her Christian witness. For many years, Trinity Theological College has worked together with the National Council of Churches to address a wide range of issues that has surfaced in Singapore society, from the ethical and social implications of biomedicine to interfaith relations. TTC has helped the Council to formulate its statements and prepare position papers for public consultations.

As the scope of Christian public engagement expands, many see the need to officially establish a Christian think tank in Singapore to reflect on the profound ethical and social implications of the complex issues that affect everyone in society.



From L-R: Mr Ezekiel Tan (BSS Gen Sec), Dr Ngoei Foong Nghian (Vice-Chair, ETHOS), Bishop Dr Wee Boon Hup (NCCS President & Chair, ETHOS), Bishop Terry Kee (former NCCS President), Mr Lim Khay Tham (NCCS Gen Sec), Dr Roland Chia (Theological & Research Advisor, ETHOS)



In June this year, Trinity Theological College, the National Council of Churches and the Bible Society signed the Memorandum of Understanding to establish the ETHOS Institute for Public Christianity, and to support its work. ETHOS was officially launched on 15 August at the Asia Bible Advocacy Conference held at the St Andrew's Cathedral. Dr Roland Chia, Chew Hock Hin Professor of Christian Doctrine at TTC was appointed as the Theological and Research Advisor of this new think tank.

Although one of the objectives of ETHOS is to assist NCCS in responding to debates in the public square, its main role is to help the Christian public to view these issues through the lens of Scripture and the rich theological and spiritual heritage of the

Church. ETHOS hopes to do this through publications, and by conducting seminars, conferences and symposiums.

ETHOS will be working with theologians as well as scholars in different disciplines – economics, politics, medicine, science, education, media, social sciences, and the arts – and across the Christian traditions and denominations. In addition, ETHOS will be working with Christian think tanks across the globe, such as Theos in the UK, and the Centre for Public Christianity (CPX) in Sydney, Australia. Such collaborations are absolutely vital if ETHOS is to make significant contributions to public discourse in our globalised world.

ETHOS hopes to contribute to Christian witness in society by working closely with pastors, leaders and churches in Singapore.

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TRUMPET EDITORIAL:

Ms Nie Yicong, Ms Dawn Lee, Rev Dr Liew Yoo Kiang, Ms Eunice Low, Rev Yap Seok Chin (Editor for Chinese), Rev Dr Ngoei Foong Nghian (Editor)

TRINITY THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE
490 Upper Bukit Timah Road
Singapore 678093
Email: info@ttc.edu.sg
Website: www.ttc.edu.sg
Tel: (65) 6767 6677

