



ALLIANCE FOR VULNERABLE MISSION

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Alliance for Vulnerable Mission Bulletin

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Volume 9, Number 8.

Editor:

Jim Harries, PhD,

Chairman of the AVM



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Jim Harries	Jonathan Winter	Chris Flanders
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Fred Lewis	Tomas Dozier	Frank Paul
John Macdonald	Jean Johnson	Gord Sawatzky
		Stan Nussbaum

The Alliance for Vulnerable Mission encourages some missionaries from the West to engage in their ministries using local languages and resources.

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- **‘How schools use language as a way to exclude children’** is the title of an article published in *The Conversation*. In it, the authors Carolyn McKinney and Xolisa Guzula point out that many African students are punished if they use any language other than English while in school. The article comes out in favour of multilingual education. To read this article, go [here](#).



2017 CONFERENCE THEME

Engaging theology, theologians, theological education in (or from) majority world contexts.

- Look out for presentations by the AVM chairman, and others, at the annual conference of the EMS (Evangelical Missiological Society) to be held in Dallas in September of this

year. More details of this conference available [here](#). Jim is to present a paper entitled 'Theological Education in Africa using African languages'. In this paper, Jim will make a case for the necessity of the use of African languages in theological education in Africa. Write to Jim [here](#) for your personal advanced copy of the paper.

- An article entitled: 'The Corruption of Biblical Studies', written by Joshua Berman, points to contemporary academia's default condemnation of any biblical scholar who seems to be in the slightest 'conservative'. Respected scholars of the bible today, Berman tells us, are those who are trying to prove the bible to be incoherent, historically inaccurate, or of recent origins! "In many quarters today, the critical study of the scripture is executed in the wider service of ... undermining the beliefs of the faithful" Berman emphasises. This, to Berman, totally unacceptable bias, needs redressing. For your copy of this article go [here](#).

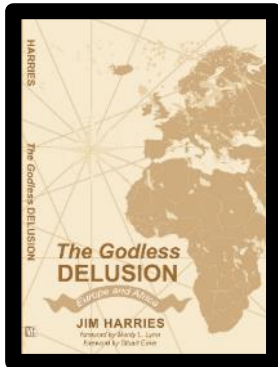
- AVM chairman Jim Harries has an article published in the inaugural edition of the *On Knowing Humanity Journal* coming from Eastern University in PA. In this article, entitled 'Anthropology's Origins, Christianity, and a Perspective from Africa,' Jim argues that a



great deal of scholarly condemnation of 'generalisations' has been a covert and misleading way of promoting secularisation theses. Jim proposes: "A re-integration of anthropology into a Christian theological paradigm ... as the means of honestly, truthfully, and genuinely, providing a rootedness and foundation for anthropology's future development." Get your copy of this article [here](#).

- Craig Greenfield here guides us to a proper understanding of the prosperity gospel. See his article, entitled '5 sure signs you've been hoodwinked by the "Prosperity Gospel"', and the much discussion that it has already evoked, [here](#).





- **NEW BOOK.** How the West's pre-occupation with atheism has blinded them to the plight of the poor world. This is essential reading especially for people who remain convinced that atheism is a legitimate strategy for tomorrow's world. In this book, Jim outlines the folly of secular approaches to African development, while outlining a radical new vision for reaching the continent with the Gospel. Amongst the revolutionary insights contained in this book, is a clearly stated challenge to contemporary academia, that translation should be from unknown to known! Get your copy of this book [here](#).*



- Keep these dates free in your diary; May 28 to June 2nd 2018, for a **UK conference on Vulnerable Mission**, to be held at All Nations Christian College, Ware, Hertfordshire. Details pending.

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Call for Papers

Contributions of papers are welcome for the following conference:

Moving beyond post-colonial dependency: developing sustainability through vulnerability

sponsored by the [Alliance for Vulnerable Mission](#), and [Trinity School for Ministry \(tsm.edu\)](#) in Ambridge, PA.

The conference will take place in Pennsylvania 8th to 11th November 2017. For more information go to [vulnerablemission.org](#) and click on the flier.

Papers accepted for the conference will also be considered for a special guest-edition of *Global Missiology*, January 2018, on the same theme.

Please submit title and abstract or your outline idea to Dr. Jim Harries at jim@vulnerablemission.org

The AVM (Alliance for Vulnerable Mission) believes that some missionaries to the non-West should engage using local languages and resources.

23rd May 2017

Moving beyond post-colonial dependency: developing sustainability through vulnerability

sponsored by the **Alliance for Vulnerable Mission** (vulnerablemission.org)

Trinity School for Ministry, Ambridge, Pennsylvania, www.tsm.edu

Wednesday 8th November 2017 registration at 5.00pm, finishing 12 noon on Saturday 11th November.

Cost: \$270.00 conference and meals. Bed and breakfast separate. Discounts available for those attending part-time and/or students.

Speakers to include: Jean Johnson, Director, World Mission Associates.
Dr. Stan Nussbaum, Global Mapping International.
Rev. Canon Dr. John Macdonald, Trinity School for Ministry, PA.
Dr. Jim Harries, Chair, Alliance for Vulnerable Mission.
Fred and Carol Lewis, Worldview, Portland, OR.
Peter Sholl, Director, MOCLAM, Monterrey, México.



'Emphasising the use of indigenous languages and resources as the norm for some intercultural workers.'

We are looking for presenters of papers in other languages: Korean, Swahili, Spanish ...

Queries to: allyson@vulnerablemission.org or jmacdonald@tsm.edu

(Details may still change. Registration open.)



Conference outline; **Moving beyond post-colonial dependency: developing sustainability through vulnerability**

To be held at Trinity School for Ministry, Ambridge, Pittsburgh, November 2017
(as of March 2017)

Wednesday (8/11/2017)

17:00 Registration

19:00 Plenary paper 1. by Dr. Stan Nussbaum. Key note address.

Thursday (9/11/2017)

9.30 Plenary 2. by Jean Johnson.

11.45 Seminars 1

14.30 Panel of practitioners each commenting on their VM experience.

16.00 Seminars 2.

18.45 Plenary 3. by Dr. Jim Harries.

Friday (10/11/2017)

9.30 Plenary 4. To be decided.

11.45 seminars 3

14.30 Outing to old economy village in Ambridge. / Meeting to plan future activities of AVM/USA.

18.45 plenary 5. Mr. and Mrs. Fred Lewis. The significance of Language-Learning and Worldview for Connecting with People.

20.15 Tea and discuss the conference so far in groups. Feedback.

Saturday (11/11/17)

9.30 Working groups.

10.15 Plenary. Summing up key points from the conference, by Dr. John Macdonald.

11.00 Wrapping up.

Conference ends at 12 noon.

Provisional