

MI National Conference Workshops

Tuesday, 19 July

Workshop 1 11:30 – 12:45

Theme: Child Protection Child “Abuse in Missions - Minefields & Smokescreens” - Paul Tuxworth, [Child Safety and Protection Network](#)

A not very funny thing happened on the way to the mission field. Paul didn't expect to be investigating child abuse in overseas missions when he signed up. In this session he will share some useful insights for mission leaders from his journey as a mission child abuse investigator.

Theme: Church and Mission “Establishing relationships: five contributions a pastor will welcome” - Bruce Dipple

Pastors can be hesitant, even negative, when contacted by an agency representative – a legacy of the idea that agencies ‘take’ resources from the church. The workshop will look at five positive contributions that agency personnel can ‘give’ to the growth of the local church.

Theme: Strategy and Success “Redefining Success in Ministry” - Omar Djoeandy

The world defines success according to what you possess, e.g. house, car, qualifications, career, salary, etc. Christians are tempted to define success similarly. Ministry success is often linked to numbers, dollars and prestige. But is the other extreme of no growth acceptable to Jesus when He calls us to be stewards and be fruitful? How does Jesus define success or impact?

Workshop 2 1:45 – 3:00

Theme: Organisational Wellbeing “Wellbeing Leadership - for mission's organisation's and missionaries in the 21st century” - Michael Smith

Missionaries and mission's organisations face some of the most demanding environments and challenges that workers face. To empower our people to run and to finish the race well, takes both a strategic and spiritual approach to wellbeing. In this workshop we will look at:

- What is Wellbeing Leadership?
- A strategic and spiritual approach to wellbeing
- How to lead your organisation through sustainable wellbeing

Theme: Communications “Social Media and Mission” – Eddie Arthur

How to encourage prayer, promote your agency, build your brand and cop a whole load of abuse by using blogs, Facebook, Twitter and the rest.

Theme: Training and Development “Learning Strategy: Identifying needs and developing a way forward” – Haylee Freudigmann

A strong learning and development strategy is crucial to the orientation, preparation and longevity of staff and cross-cultural workers. Whether you are just beginning to explore the learning space or looking to evaluate your current strategy, there are many competing factors that will impact your future plan. In this session we will consider a number of tools to help you identify your organisation's learning needs and create an effective and responsive strategy.

Workshop 3

3:00 – 4:15

Theme: Mobilising “The Legacy of Giants: mobilising and theologising in order to lead faithfully, wisely and courageously.” – Darrell Jackson.

A generation of mission leaders shaped the evangelical mission community during the 1970s and 1980s. Their insights and innovations continue to influence contemporary evangelical church planting, church growth, and overall mission strategy. Our debt to them is immense. However, I am increasingly convinced that we honour them more appropriately by learning from their innovative and prophetic reflection rather than simply repeating and reheating their conclusions and findings.

Forty years later, faithful and courageous mission leaders must take up the task of discovering contemporary strategies to reach the lost in a globalising and urbanising world.

This workshop will address Mission Agency Leaders and others who want to think carefully (missiologically?) about the promotion of mission and the mobilisation and formation of missionaries.

Theme: Legal “Taxation Issues for Missionaries and their Organisation” – Lawrie Green, Shedden & Green

Theme: Diaspora mission in Australia “Cross-cultural ministry programs in Australia: the joys, challenges and pitfalls” – Andrew Schatchel

Today’s Australia is clearly a very multi-ethnic country. With large and growing numbers of migrants, refugees and international students in our neighbourhoods, many churches and some mission organisations are very interested in ministry amongst these newer arrivals. But just what is involved if a mission organisation wants to start a program? This workshop will attempt to explore some of the opportunities, the challenges and the pitfalls

Wednesday, 20 July

Workshop 4

11:20 – 12:35

Theme: Charity and Law “Current Top Legal Issues” – Anne Robinson

Conference participants will be asked to nominate issues they would like addressed ahead of conference.

Theme: Mobilisation “Mobilising People into Mission: Strategy or Spirituality?” - Tim Silberman & Richard Hibbert

“Ask the Lord of the Harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.” (Mt 9:38)

We long to see people move into long term cross-cultural ministry, but how should we work toward that end? How does God move people into mission? And how can we work with and under him? How can we ensure our strategies serve God’s?

This session will draw on recently published research into the factors used by God to lead people into cross-cultural missions. Together we will explore the things that help and hinder people in their journeys, the common stages that people pass through and how we might be used by God to raise up workers for his harvest field.

Theme: Member Care “Don’t Let Them Eat Cake: Looking Out for Your Missionaries” - Roger Van Der Veen
Missionaries are often reluctant to attend counselling and debriefing because of the stigma and the perception of weakness or failure. In order to encourage them to agree to attend, you as the team leader, missions agency representative, or sending church, need to be able to recognise the signs that missionaries are in need of counselling. They often can’t because of a lack of objectivity, and you also need to be able to show them the benefits.

The workshop will debunk the myths about counselling by showing what it can achieve, the common missionary issues focused on (especially after selection and during training), and a brief visit of several of the major skills of counselling. The workshop will then cover what are the early warning signs (EWS) that a missionary is displaying that indicate something is starting to go wrong, as well as the triggers (situations) that make EWS start flashing. If attention and intervention are not provided, there are risks to the missionary’s physical and psychological well-being such as disillusionment, burnout, and leaving the field. Finally the workshop will exemplify the above issues by delayering a case study of a common missionary counselling issue.

Workshop 5 1:35 – 2:50

Theme: Risk Management “The Five Biggest Financial Risks of NFPs” – Neil Bull

In the current climate we are increasingly seeing not for profits failing with respect of their financial risk. In this informative session, Neil explores five major financial failings that organisations face and practical ways to manage the risk. This session is particularly relevant for CEOs, Business Managers and board directors.

Theme: Mobilisation “Mission in Motion: What Motivates People into Mission?” – Jay Matenga

Jay will introduce his forthcoming book “Mission in Motion”, co-authored with sociologist Dr. Malcolm Gold of Messiah University in the US. Mission in Motion is the culmination of a 10 year research project by the Mission Mobilization Task Force of the World Evangelical Alliance Mission Commission that Jay leads. A qualitative research project was undertaken in 9 regions of the globe to seek understanding about what motivates people to become involved in mission. The analysis revealed some remarkable findings and some solid confirmation of what we have long assumed. Jay will facilitate a conversation exploring the implications of this landmark work.

Theme: Leadership “Discerning a Global Missional Leadership Mindset” – Kirk Franklin

Christianity is both an agent and product of globalisation because its beliefs have spread from one source to another, crossing all modes of religious, linguistic and cultural contexts. As a result Christianity can be viewed as polycentric because it has many homes within a diversity of cultures and may not be permanently attached to any particular one. Polycentric global Christianity places immense pressure and challenge on leadership, which increasingly has to swiftly adapt in order for the church and ministry organizations to survive and thrive. Therefore, themes that will be explored in this workshop that help us determine what to do in response are: (1) applicable findings from leadership philosophies of global mission leaders; (2) key words from global missional leadership practices; and (3) the integration of a third space.

Workshop 6 2:50 – 3:55

Theme: Mission and International Development “Mission and Development grappling with the challenges” – Christine Gobius

The relationship between mission and development is complex, controversial (both missiologically and philosophically) and core to being faithful disciples of Jesus in a broken world. This session seeks to explore the issues in the current Australian context and consider how as a mission community we can respond with integrity.

Theme: Prayer “Prayer: Learning from African Leaders” – Kate Pocklington

For many years now, I have been impacted by the pervasive and abiding sense of spirituality that many leaders of Pioneers Africa possess. So when I embarked on my doctoral studies, I wanted to explore this more. What can we learn about prayer from our African colleagues? From 21 interviews held in Ghana, a wealth of data emerged that has deepened my own prayer life. These colleagues challenged my practice of prayer, displaying both passion and discipline in nurturing their own prayer life. They spoke of what emerges out of extended prayer, revealing a varied experience and expectation of prayer. Come and hear the voices of these Pioneers Africa colleagues speaking through my research as we, too, continue to grow, be challenged and encouraged in our own prayer lives.

Theme: Child Protection “Preventing Child Sexual Abuse In Your Mission” – Paul Tuxworth

If we are serious about preventing child sexual abuse in our missions, research has identified four areas we need to focus on. In this session Paul will discuss a variety of prevention strategies based on this research. Invest in Prevention.

Thursday, 21 July

Workshop 7 11:20 – 12:35

Theme: Charity Compliance “ACNC Update, Standards and Compliance” – Murray Baird, ACNC

Theme: Church and Mission “There Is A Way: Developing Agency – Church Relations” – Richard Utber

The agency-church relationship is critical in not only advancing the task of global mission but also in bringing glory to God as we do so. This seminar will view the agency-church relationship from a pastor’s perspective, outlining current or potential problems in that relationship, why they need to be addressed and exploring practical ways they can be addressed. The seminar will involve considerable interaction between participants.

Theme: Creation Care “Creation Care Creation Care: A New Frontier for Mission” - John Anderson

The Bible tells us that “the Earth is the Lords and everything in it. The world and all its people belong to Him” (Ps 24:1 NLT). The world was made by God, it is His and we have been appointed as stewards of God’s good creation. This workshop will explore this biblical mandate and how we can fulfil it. We will investigate creation care and sustainable environmental and community development as a new frontier in Mission.

Workshop 8

1:35 – 2:50

Theme: Strategy and Compliance “Compliance, Strategy and Trust” – Vanessa Hall

This workshop will explore how to put trust into practice so that you carry out your strategy with integrity and your organisation is compliant. It will consider how to implement strategic thinking and design appropriate systems and processes to enable you to do what you say you are going to do, and do it well.

Theme: Managing Teams “How Healthy is your Workplace?” – Barry Borneman

This workshop will introduce you to three ingredients of an effective and sustainable team/team plan that you can easily apply to your workplace. Its usefulness will be proven to you by applying this information to your own situation. It will also provide you with a great tool for your next staff review or to start an in depth conversation about how "personally healthy" is a friends working environment.

Theme: Mission Practice “England to Madagascar: Mentoring at a Distance” – Sue Arthur

The joys and challenges of building a team and developing knowledge, skills and attitudes at a distance of 6,000 miles and across language and culture.