Ecumenical studies

For the past five years the research conducted by Professor Noble and her team has concentrated on three main areas:

(i) Orthodox theology in the West – its relationship to Western thought and the Western Christian traditions (a study of the ways in which Orthodoxy came to the West, of the main theological themes, the personalities, confrontations and dialogues with Western theology and philosophy);

(ii) the relationship between theology and culture in post-communist countries (the concept of the world as a threatened place, the concepts of memory and reconciliation; the understanding of what human life most depends on and of what in the final instance most fulfils that life);

(iii) ecumenical hermeneutics emerging from synchronic work with the basic themes of fundamental theology in various Christian traditions (the revelation of God and human experience of God; the interpretation of Scripture in the tradition; the relationship between theology and spiritual, social and political life). These themes have come together under the research project “Symbolic Mediation of Wholeness in Western Orthodoxy”. At the moment Professor Noble and her team are preparing a continuation project centred on the theme of theological anthropology in the Orthodox and Western traditions that aims to investigate especially the concepts of personhood, human relationships and hospitality towards the other.

Selected outputs

• NOBLE, Ivana. Theological Interpretation of Culture in Post-Communist Context: Central and East European Search for Roots. Farnham - Burlington: Ashgate, 2010, s.220 [ISBN: 9781409400073 (hbk); 9780754688487 (ebk)]. (Teologická interpretace kultury v post-komunistickém kontextu: středoevropské a východoevropské hledání koženého místa)


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