

## Symposium

Religion and Society Research Cluster (RSRC),  
Western Sydney University  
Australasian Pentecostal Studies Centre,  
AlphacrucisCollege

# “Pentecostal Charismatic Christianities and Migration”

## Symposium

2 August 2019

**Keynote speaker: Associate  
Professor Richard Vokes  
(University of Western Australia)**

Over the past few decades, Pentecostal and Charismatic Christianity (PCC) has exploded in the Global South and grown considerably in the Global North. Much of this growth is fuelled by networks of megachurches, the mobility of community leaders across diasporic networks, migration, and (mass and digital) media.

While (traditionally) missionaries would travel in a North-to-South direction, more recently megachurches from the Global South have moved horizontally, across to other developing countries, and also made inroads into the Global North in efforts of reverse missionisation.

Such attempts to missionise to locals in the Global North have been largely (though not wholly) unsuccessful and churches have turned their focus to migrants from the Global South. Many studies have shown that migrants, who were not attached to PCCs before migration, join churches in the diaspora as they offer them a home away from home. Meanwhile, diasporic churches also face difficulties keeping these (as well as second generation) migrants, since they may prefer local churches in an effort to integrate.

This symposium will probe these themes, discussing the many connections between PCCs and migration.

**Date:** Friday, 2 August 2019

**Time:** 8:30-5:30

**Where:**

Level 9, Parramatta City Campus, WSU  
169 Macquarie St, Parramatta

**Registration:**

[www.eventbrite.com.au/e/pentecostal-and-charismatic-christianity-and-migration-symposium-tickets-64954862743](http://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/pentecostal-and-charismatic-christianity-and-migration-symposium-tickets-64954862743)



8:30 – 9:00	Registration
09:00 – 9:10	Welcome: Cristina Rocha & Mark Hutchinson
9:10 – 10:30  Session 1 Historical Perspectives	1) John Maiden (Open University) – “New commonwealth migration, ‘black majority churches’ and British mainline responses, 1950s-1970s”  2) Mark Hutchinson (Alphacrucis) – “Evangelical-Pentecostal faith across the ‘Brown Atlantic’: Conversion cycles and Cyclical Italian Labour Migration”  <i>Chair: Ingrid Ryan</i>
10:30 – 11:00	Mid-morning Refreshments
11:00 – 12:30pm Keynote	Associate Professor Richard Vokes (UWA)  “‘The Spirit Really Moved Me’: Metaphors of Movement in African-Australian Conversion Narratives”  <i>Chair: Cristina Rocha</i>
12:30 – 1:30pm	Lunch
1:30pm – 3pm  Session 2 Music on the Move	1) Ibrahim Abraham (ANU) – “Between the Devil and the Black Atlantic: The Musical Migration of Hip Hop and Global Blackness in South African Charismatic Christianity”  2) Preciosa Dombale (University of Paris-Nanterre) – “Songs of belonging: The power of Hillsong’s music in the construction of a transnational migrant community.”  <i>Chair: Mark Hutchinson</i>
3pm - 3:30pm	Mid - afternoon Refreshments
3:30pm – 5:30pm  Session 3 South-North Connections	1) Joseph Williams (Rutgers University) – “Argentina, the United States, and the South-to-North Migration of Pentecostal-Charismatic Christianity”  2) Cristina Rocha (WSU) – “Religious Remittances: Returning Brazilians and Hillsong Church”  3) Kathleen Openshaw (WSU) – “The Universal Church of the Kingdom of God in Australia: A church of non-Brazilian migrants”  <i>Chair: Mark Hutchinson</i>
6pm – 9pm Conference Dinner for Speakers	

