As we celebrate the centennial of the World Missionary Conference at Edinburgh, 1910, we seek to deepen and strengthen its prophetic vision of worldwide, multi-cultural Christian unity—a unity marked by shared passion to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ. The memory of Edinburgh 1910 reminds us that we are ambassadors of hope, confident in the power of God’s love despite our limitations in a world of pain and injustice.

— Dana Robert (Boston University School of Theology)

Edinburgh 2010 should be an occasion to rethink seriously the language and perspective of mission taking into account that the language in 1910 was the language of imperialism and the perspective that of Western Christianity. If mission is with others we have to speak a language that will be understood by the secular public and people of other faiths. It has to be a language embracing the poor and not alienating them.

— Ninan Koshy (Former Director, International Affairs, World Council of Churches)

The measure of missionary success enjoyed by Christianity in the century that followed arguably owed rather little to the priorities set and the objectives enunciated at Edinburgh. The Christian faith was indeed to be transfigured over the next century, but not in the way or through the mechanisms that they imagined.

— Brian Stanley (University of Edinburgh)
Confirmed Speakers Include:

Ruth Padilla DeBorst (Latin American Theological Fraternity)
Angelyn Dries (St. Louis University)
Bishop Ian T. Douglas (Connecticut Diocese, Episcopal Church, USA)
Daniel Jeyaraj (Liverpool Hope University/Visiting Lecturer in World Christianity, Andover Newton Theological School)
Todd Johnson (Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary)
Brian McLaren (Author, Everything Must Change)
Athanasiou Papathanasiou (Synaxis Greek Orthodox Theological Journal)
Peter Phan (Georgetown University)
Dana Robert (Boston University)
John Sentamu (Archbishop of York, Church of England)
Brian Stanley (University of Edinburgh)

How Can I Be Involved?

Edinburgh 1910 led to multiple mission movements, the development of ecumenical agencies, the growth of world Christianity, and engagement with peoples of other living faiths. In 2010 the theological community will gather together once again to discern the missional challenges of our times.

Students helped to shape the mission movement in 1910. They are central to it in 2010. We encourage not only attendance at the entire event, but participation in eight academic sessions. A “Call for Papers” is found on the website: www.2010boston.org. Possibilities for accommodations are being arranged.

The academic sessions of the 2010 Boston Conference are as follows:

- Contours of Christian Mission in Unity
- Mission in Context
- Discipleship and Mission
- Education for Mission
- Mission, Post-Colonialism and Post-Modernism
- Mission Theology in a Pluralist World
- Mission and Power
- Salvation Today

Special Features of the Conference Include:

Atlas of Global Christianity a comprehensive visual reference of the changing status of global Christianity over the one hundred years since the epoch-making 1910 Edinburgh Mission Conference will be introduced.

A History of Boston in Mission – an ecumenical trolley tour of the chief locations in the Boston area central to mission history, from the cooperation of John Eliot and Chief Waban (1642), the work of revivalist D. L. Moody, Maryknoll founder Mollie Rogers, Missionary Society of St. James the Apostle to contemporary expressions of the Gospel on the cutting edges of justice, mercy and hope.

Special assemblage of materials from the Origins of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, 1810. The 1810 anniversary is being celebrated with a special exhibit, at the Congregational Library, 14 Beacon Street, Boston 02108.

Daily worship and additional features to be announced.

Moving Conference – The Conference will begin at Boston’s historic Park Street Church and move along the “Green Line” trolley to Boston University and include Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, to Andover Newton Theological School and Boston College including historic Episcopal Church of the Redeemer. On Sunday the conference will conclude at Harvard University and at its Memorial Church.

Details

2010boston.org