

Anglican Communion Science Commission (ACSC)

Confident and courageous engagement with science

Vision

The Anglican Communion Science Commission has a vision of a world in which everyone celebrates science as a God-given resource and in which faith and science communities collaborate for the betterment of people and the planet.

Purpose and Aims

The ACSC aims to inspire courageous and informed engagement with science, focusing on four key priorities:

- 1. Thought Leadership and Training**

Inspiring confident and thoughtful engagement with scientific issues in church communities globally, equipping Anglicans especially young Anglicans to explore and understand the intersection of faith and science.

- 2. Faith Development**

Embracing science as a God-given resource that deepens faith and enhances appreciation for God's creation.

- 3. Wisdom and Ethics**

Bringing the ethical and moral wisdom of the Christian faith into scientific debates, addressing complex questions about the role of technology and innovation in society especially around AI.

- 4. People and Planet**

Promoting collaboration between faith and science communities to respond effectively to global challenges especially climate change and public health crises.

Membership of Commission

ACSC is co-chaired by Bishop Steven Croft of Oxford (until May 2026, to be replaced by Bishop Matt Brain of Bendigo, Australia, from June 2026), and the Rev Professor Kwamena of the University of Ghana. The work of the commission is directed by Professor Andrew Briggs of the University of Oxford. The membership of the commission is found here -

www.anglicancommunion.org/community/commissions/anglican-communion-science-

[commission/commission-members.aspx](#) The commission's Link Director at the ACO is Rev Canon Stephen Spencer.

Report on activities

1. The Commission has met virtually every three months. All Commission members are involved in various ways in the interface between science and faith and a key part of each meeting is given to the sharing of wisdom and engagement across a range of contextually relevant issues such as climate change, health care, and AI.

2. Bishop Emily Onyango (Commissioner) is developing Contextual Bible Studies on Climate Change. These will facilitate theologically informed reflection on issues related to climate change and encourage participants to engage with text and context in ways that lead to transformation of communities. This initiative is being supported through funds at the ACSC Kenya Hub at Saint Paul's University, Limuru, Kenya.

3. Twenty-nine of the 42 provinces have a Lead Science Bishop. The first global consultation for Lead Science Bishops was held at Virginia Theological Seminary in October 2024, generously hosted by the seminary. Findings from the three regional workshops were presented and speakers included Dr Francis Collins who led the Human Genome Project and was awarded the 2022 Templeton Prize. Lead Science Bishops formulated plans for their province and are being supported in this by Archbishop Linda Nicholls. (See further Bishop Steven Croft's blog - <https://blogs.oxford.anglican.org/an-account-of-the-first-ever-global-gathering-of-provincial-lead-bishops-for-the-anglican-communion-science-commission/>)

VTS has again offered to host the next global consultation for Lead Science bishops from 27 – 29 October 2026.

4. Members of the Anglican Communion Youth Network (for those aged 18 – 35 years) have created the Fellowship of Young Anglican Science Enthusiasts (FYASE). Seven provinces have FYASE members supported by their Lead Science bishops. An application has been made to Templeton World Charity Foundation for funding for FYASE members and Lead Science Bishops to generate collaboration between faith and science communities in their respective provinces.

5. The ACSC website has been updated with fresh content. Regular newsletters are produced and distributed to Lead Science bishops and commissioners on its activities. See www.anglicancommunion.org/community/commissions/anglican-communion-science-commission.aspx

This document is released to aid ACC Members in their preparation for ACC. The contents are pending discussion and agreement by ACC Members at ACC-19. Published May 2026. Any Resolutions submitted by Commissions and Networks have been submitted to the Resolutions Committee.

The 19th in person meeting of the Anglican Consultative Council – 2026.

6. Online webinars for Lead Science Bishops and their guests have been held at regular intervals. Speakers have included Professor Sir Andrew Pollard, Rev Prof Joseph Galgalo, Baroness Susan Greenfield and Professor Kwamena Sagoe with Rev Dr Akua Ofori-Boateng. All have described the benefits of science and faith working together.

7. ACSC remains in partnership with ECLAS through Bishop Richard Cheetham and Rev Dr Muthuraj Swamy, making its resources available through this network.