

A Network of Professionals

ADVANCING
CHRISTIAN
PERSPECTIVES ON
INTELLECTUAL
DISABILITY



THEOLOGY

At the heart of it all



STORY

Hearing each other



THE ARTS

Creative communication

TIŌ

SEEING INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES DIFFERENTLY

Breaking New Ground

Tiō is a pioneer network of professionals providing and promoting Christian perspectives on intellectual disabilities using theology, story and the arts. Through the mediums of teaching, training and performance we aim to inspire, equip and accelerate change in churches, faith communities and wider society.

Tiō is a Classical Greek word meaning 'to honour', 'respect', 'lift up' or 'advance'. Used within the biblical imagery of 'body' (1 Corinthians 12) it conveys the importance of the weakest and most vulnerable people within church life, faith communities and wider society. The weaker parts of the 'body' are indispensable. At the heart of Tiō is a passion to 'honour the indispensable'.

- Our **vision** is to see a world valuing the personal and spiritual contributions of people with intellectual disabilities.
- Our **aim** is to provide teaching, training and consultancy on intellectual disability and spirituality by making available the significant expertise and wide experience of our Associates.
- Our **commitment** is to design and deliver accessible teaching and training, to take 'theology-on-tour' (to your place) and to be a theological voice on intellectual disability.



To see a human being as made 'in the image of God' is to change everything for everyone everywhere

Important advances in educational and social inclusion for people with intellectual disabilities have taken place over the past decade, with greater advocacy for change, yet significant areas of marginalisation are still to be substantially addressed.

Tiō is working to bring about change in three key areas:

1. The spiritual development of people with intellectual disabilities.
2. The role of the church in promoting the value and contribution of people with intellectual disabilities (and their families) by modelling appropriate inclusion.
3. The lack of a strong theological voice on intellectual disability across wider society.

Three Platforms

One: Speaking and Performances

Our **Associates** are available to **book** for your event - churches, groups, conferences, festivals, congresses.

Two: Teaching and Training

Five Learning Tracks:

- **Theology and Life** - includes our *Studying God Together* Programme - Accessible Theology Courses for adults with intellectual disabilities.
- **Study and Research** - includes supervision at Masters and Doctoral level on Disability Theology.
- **Family and Caring** - includes short sessions and half-day conferences.
- **Church and Mission** - includes staff training, short sessions and half-day conferences.
- **Advocacy and Society** - includes interaction with current issues on intellectual disability.

Three: Writing and Media

Several of our Associates are published authors currently engaged in research and writing for future publications. We welcome invitations from the media to contribute to programmes and debates on intellectual disability.

Associates

Our Associates are specialists - with professional, academic expertise and wide personal experience (as parents and/or practitioners) of intellectual disability.

Tiō Team: Ivan Bankhead, Gillian Carlisle, Paul Coulter, Ian Dickson, Beverly Graham, Jill Harshaw, Donna Jennings, Rachael Mackarel and Ruth McCartney

Contact

For further information or to book our Associates:

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tioassociates.org



**TIŌ CONFERENCE:
INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY
AND COMMUNICATION**

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Donate

You can donate a regular or one-off gift to Tiō Associates by cheque or direct transfer.

Contact us by email or phone for further details

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