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The Centre for the Study of the Second Vatican Council in Leuven Historical Developments and List of Archives

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In 2005 the “Centre for the Study of the Second Vatican Council / Centrum voor Conciliestudie Vaticanum II”, which is part of the Maurits Sabbe Library¹ at the Leuven theological faculty, will be in existence 35 years. The year 2005 will also commemorate the close of the Second Vatican Council 40 years ago. This dual anniversary offers a perfect occasion for looking both back and forward. This article attempts to do the same and it will do so in three parts. The first part will highlight some key moments in the Centre’s 35 years of activity, looking at the evolution of the Centre’s twofold identity. A second part will focus on the Centre’s current activities and, finally, a closing part will list the archives currently contained in the Centre’s collection, including a brief description of each archival unit².

THE CENTRE’S PAST

From the very outset of the Centre’s existence, it was intended as both a documentation centre and a research centre. Glancing through the archive documentation, however, would indicate that these two facets of the same institution did not always develop side by side, nor at the same pace.

1. The Centre throughout the 1970’s: Development of a Documentation Centre

a) The Founding Fathers...

After a period of initial talks and correspondence, mostly on an informal level, an official meeting on February 20, 1970 resulted in the founding of a Centre for the Study of the Second Vatican Council in Leuven. The initiative was advanced by two Leuven professors, Maurits Sabbe and Jan Grootaers, who both had been

1. The Library of the Leuven theological faculty, celebrating its thirtieth anniversary, was renamed Maurits Sabbe Library on December 17th 2004, in commemoration of its founder, Professor M. Sabbe. More information in the anniversary publication by L. KENIS (ed.), *Een uitgelezen kader. Architectuur- en kunstcollectie van de Maurits Sabbebibliotheek Faculteit Godgeleerdheid*, Leuven, 2004. On the original inauguration of the building in 1974, see M. SABBE (ed.), *De bibliotheek van de Faculteit der Godgeleerdheid. Plechtige opening 1974* (*Annua Nuntia Lovaniensia*, 19), Leuven, 1975.

2. This article is a respectful update of M. SABBE, *Les Archives de Vatican II à Louvain à la Katholieke Universiteit Leuven*, in J. GROOTAERS – C. SOETENS (eds.), *Sources locales de Vatican II. Symposium Leuven – Louvain-la-Neuve 23-25-X-1989* (*Instrumenta Theologica*, 8), Leuven, 1990, pp. 39-45.

indirectly involved with the history of the Second Vatican Council³. It is not hard divining reasons and causes underlying the foundation of the Centre. For one, in 1970 the memory of the conciliar event was still very vivid and its impact was felt in everyday church life as well as in theology. There was an awareness of the necessity somehow to conserve the unique experience of this historical event. Second, not only was the Council an important historical event, but the Belgian representation at the Council in particular placed an exceptional and rather unexpected weight on the redaction of many of the Council's most important documents⁴. The Belgian influence at Vatican II had indeed been disproportionate, both on the level of theological contribution as on the level of tactics, lobbying, and so on⁵. As an immediate result of this influence many of the Belgian Council participants possessed an elaborate private collection of official Council texts, correspondence, drafts, personal notes, voting ballots, etc. – in short, all types of sources documenting the Council's history from the inside. It is not surprising therefore that soon after the Council some first tentative proposals were made to unite the collections of individual Belgian Council participants into one central Vatican II archive collection⁶. But this attempt was not successful.

Due to the particular Belgian State constellation, the university at Leuven was split in 1968⁷, and a year later the theological faculty was also divided into Dutch

3. Professor Jan Grootaers had been present in Rome for various periods in the conciliar era, and as editor-in-chief of the Flemish periodical *De Maand* served as one of Flanders' best informed journalists reporting the Council's major events. His colleague founder, the deceased Professor M. Sabbe – as a priest for the diocese of Bruges, and professor at the Bruges Seminary during the conciliar era – was consulted at several instances by the bishop of Bruges, Msgr E.J. De Smedt, for the redaction of theological texts for council use. More biographical information on M. Sabbe is found in G. VAN BELLE (ed.), *In memoriam Maurits Sabbe* (Annua Nuntia Lovaniensia, 50), Leuven, 2004.

4. See for instance C. SOETENS, *La « squadra belga » au concile Vatican II*, in L. COURTOIS – J. PIROTTE (eds.) *Foi, gestes et insitutions religieuses aux 19^e et 20^e siècles* (Collection Cerfaux-Lefort, 9), Louvain-la-Neuve, 1991, 159-172; A. PRIGNON, *Évêques et théologiens de Belgique au Concile Vatican II*, in C. SOETENS (ed.), *Vatican II et la Belgique* (Arca-Sillages, 2), Louvain-la-Neuve, 1996, 141-184; C. SOETENS, *Vatican II et ses suites*, in J. PIROTTE – G. ZELIS (eds.), *Pour une histoire du monde catholique au 20^e siècle, Wallonie-Bruxelles. Guide du chercheur* (Arca-Sillages, 7), Louvain-la-Neuve, 2003, 183-202. Yet, already at the close of the Council there was an awareness of Leuven's extraordinary contribution, as is well illustrated by J. GROOTAERS, *Leuven op het Concilie*, in *Onze Alma Mater* 19 (1965) 80-107.

5. Among the earliest postconciliar publications documenting this extraordinary influence is an article of J. GROOTAERS, *Le rôle de Mgr. Philips à Vatican II. Quelques réflexions pour contribuer à l'étude du dernier Concile*, in A. DESCAMPS – J. COPPENS (eds.), *Ecclesia a Spiritu Sancto edocta, Lumen Gentium 53. Mélanges théologiques, hommage à Mgr. Gérard Philips / Verzamelde theologische opstellen aangeboden aan Mgr. Gérard Philips* (BETL, 27), Gembloux, 1970, pp. 343-380.

6. See for instance the following note, emerging from Professor Troisfontaines' correspondence in 1965, and published in the forthcoming article by L. DECLERCK – M. LAMBERIGTS, *Le rôle de l'épiscopat belge dans l'élection des commissions conciliaires en octobre 1962*, in J. LECLERCQ (ed.), *La raison par quatre chemins. Hommage au Prof. Claude Troisfontaines*, Louvain-la-Neuve, 2005: "Nous sommes en train de préparer ... un gigantesque coup de filet concernant les papiers du concile ... La documentation de Philips, Moeller, Prignon et de tous les experts belges serait rassemblée dans une chambre secrète de la Bibliothèque de Louvain, et là nous aurions l'occasion de classer tout à notre aise ces précieux papiers en attendant de pouvoir publier plus tard. Si cela réussit ... ce sera un coup presque aussi sensationnel que celui des papiers Blondel". In addition, it appears that also Professor R. Aubert was interested in such undertaking.

7. The division of the Leuven university is well described in W. JONCKHEERE – H. TODTS, *Leuven Vlaams. Splittingsgeschiedenis van de Katholieke Universiteit Leuven*,

and French speaking faculties⁸. Consequently, a unified central Belgian Vatican II archive became less and less likely. Although some professors clearly disliked the division, both Flemish and Wallonian players in the field started wanting their piece of the heritage, and the conservation of Vatican II archival units would be henceforth perpetually divided. As mentioned, the Dutch speaking Leuven Faculty of Theology founded its Centre in 1970, and the French speaking Université Catholique de Louvain founded the *Centre Lumen Gentium* in 1982⁹ upon the initiative of Msgr Houssiau. From this point on in this study, we will describe only the history of the Flemish Centre.

At the Leuven Faculty, it was clear from the very outset that the new Centre would have a single identity, developed with two main foci. On the one hand – and fully in keeping with the late 1960's efforts to unite numerous private Council archives – it was to become a unique documentation centre, and on the other hand, it was to be a centre of research into the theological and historical significance of the Second Vatican Council. Both facets were to complement and enforce one another: serious scientific research is always in need of proper source material. This awareness clearly moved the first group of official members of the Leuven Centre, made up of Leuven professors Piet Fransen, Victor Heylen, Karel Blockx, and Willy Onclin, together with Grootaers and Sabbe. They did not hesitate to convince Rector Pieter De Somer into offering the necessary funding to attract researchers to the Centre¹⁰, and at the same time they directed several doctoral research dissertations that fit within the overall framework of the Centre¹¹. In fact, precisely in the first decade of its existence, the Centre's research activities cover a remarkably wide range of theological disciplines, given that the aforementioned member group included specialists in systematic theology, moral

Leuven, 1979, and CHR. LAPORTE, *L'affaire de Louvain 1960-1968*, Brussels, 1999. Information on the Leuven Faculty before its division is found in a.o. F. NEIRYNCK (ed.), *De Theologische Faculteit 1919-1969*, Leuven, 1970.

8. Cf. *De universiteit te Leuven, 1425-1985* (Fasti Academici, 1), Leuven, 1986, p. 369, and more elaborately in L. GEVERS – L. KENIS (eds.), *De Faculteit der Godgeleerdheid in de K.U. Leuven 1969-1995* (Annua Nuntia Lovaniensia, 39), Leuven, 1997, 8-29.

9. *Centre Lumen Gentium* (dir. Prof. Dr. C. Soetens): Université catholique de Louvain, Grand'Place, 45, B-1348 Louvain-la-Neuve. Some background information on this foundation is found in T.P. OSBORNE, *Un fond d'archives sur Vatican II à la Faculté de théologie*, in *RTL* 15 (1984) 139-141. A somewhat outdated overview of the archival units present in the *Centre Lumen Gentium*, is found in C. SOETENS, *Les Archives Vatican II à Louvain-la-Neuve*, in GROOTAERS – SOETENS (eds.), *Sources locales de Vatican II* (n. 2), pp. 33-37. The information given in the abovementioned publications seems to contradict a note in the chronica pages of the *Ephemerides* mentioning the erection of such an institute already in 1972, under the direction of P. Delhay. Cf. *ETL* 48 (1972) 639.

10. This is well illustrated by a joint effort of some of the professors involved in the 1970s to obtain research funding for the Centre (Cf. Archive of the Centre for the Study of Vatican II [henceforth ACVII], Map 1: P. Fransen, V. Heylen, K. Blockx: Application for research funding, 1973).

11. Even before the Centre for the Study of Vatican II existed, Professor Heylen allowed his private collection to be consulted for the doctoral thesis of G. POIER, *Il matrimonio e la famiglia nel capitolo I° - Parte II° della costituzione pastorale Gaudium et Spes. Genesi e sviluppo dei testi dalla fase preparatoria del Concilio alla promulgazione, 7 dicembre 1965*, 2 vols., Leuven, 1970. Other dissertations connected with the Vatican II area are a.o. M. CYRIAC, *The Church and Mankind. Towards a Theology of Non-Christian Religions in the Light of Vatican II*, Leuven, 1977; and J. SELLING, *The Reaction to Humanae Vitae. A Study in Special and Fundamental Theology*, Leuven, 1977 (this thesis made elaborate comparisons between the doctrine of *Humanae Vitae* and that of the Conciliar constitution *Gaudium et Spes*), and R. BELOIN, *The Perspective of the American Bishops in Presbyterorum Ordinis at the Second Vatican Council*, Leuven, 1983.

theology, church history, canon law, ecumenism, and exegesis. Thus, the *varietas membrorum* certified the interdisciplinary character of the Centre's research activities¹². No less important is another feature of this group. Apart from Professor Blockx, each of the early members had somehow been involved in practical ways in the history of Vatican II¹³, thus establishing the Leuven centre as a research institute with international academic standards.

b) Raising a Collection of Archives

According to his last wishes, a large part of Msgr Philips' personal archive¹⁴, consisting of Council papers as well as others documenting the activities of Philips himself, was willed to the Leuven Faculty of Theology after Philips died in 1972¹⁵. Almost immediately thereafter Professor Sabbe decided to set up a first inventory of Philips' Vatican II papers. Mrs. Irene Bigert, under the guidance of Sabbe, would carry through this immense work in the years following, when the Centre gradually succeeded in gathering an impressive collection of other archival units. For instance, in the diocese of Bruges, Fr. Leo Declerck's interventions with the bishop, combined with the diplomacy skills of Maurits Sabbe, eventually led to the transfer of the Council archive belonging to Msgr De Smedt, Bishop of Bruges. The archive was brought to Leuven in December 1973. These two first archival units were both considerably large collections, of immense importance for Council research. As such they were the basis of the entire further collection. Professors Heylen and Franssen soon afterwards decided to donate their respective

12. This variety is reinforced when further taking into account that the Centre's first members were representatives from both the Faculty of Theology and its Higher Institute for Science of Religion. See L. GEVERS, *Vijftig jaar Hoger Instituut voor Godsdienstwetenschappen, 1942-1992*, in M. LAMBERIGTS – L. GEVERS – B. PATTYN (eds.), *Hoger Instituut voor Godsdienstwetenschappen. Faculteit der Godgeleerdheid K.U.Leuven, 1942-1992. Rondom catechese en Godsdienstonderricht* (Documenta Libraria, 13), Leuven, pp. 3-58.

13. We already mentioned the experiences of Grootaers and Sabbe. For Onclin, see J.S. QUINN, *Monsignor Onclin and the Second Vatican Council*, in J. LINDEMANS – H. DE-MEESTER (eds.), *Liber Amicorum Monseigneur Onclin. Actuele thema's van kerkelijk en burgerlijk recht*, Gembloux, 1976. On the activity of V. Heylen, see J. GROOTAERS, *De spanningen rond het Huwelijks Hoofdstuk van Gaudium et Spes en het aandeel van prof. V. Heylen in het redactiewerk daarvan*, in G. MAERTENS – L. JANSSENS – J. GHOOS *et al.*, *Ethische vragen voor onze tijd. Hulde aan Mgr. Victor Heylen*, Antwerpen, 1977, 155-177; and more recently, M. LAMBERIGTS, *Le texte de Hasselt. Une étape méconnue de l'histoire du De Matrimonio (Schema XIII)*, in *ETL* 80 (2004) 485-505. On Franssen's involvement with the Second Vatican Council, see H.E. MERTENS, *De theologie van Piet Franssen*, in P.F. FRANSEN, *Hermeneutics of the Councils*, ed. H.-E. MERTENS – F. DE GRAEVE (BETL, 69), Leuven, 1985, pp. 40-41.

14. Papers concerning Philips' family were not transmitted, and those documents that concerned Philips' political activities – in the period 1953-1968 when Msgr Philips was co-opted senator for the Flemish Christian Democrat Party, see F. NEIRYNCK, *Gerard Philips*, in *Twintig eeuwen Vlaanderen* 14 (1976) 399-402; A. DESCAMPS, *In memoriam Monseigneur G. Philips*, in *RTL* 3 (1972) 378-381 – and his work on the Apostolate of the laity, are currently conserved in the KADOC archival unit with international reference code BE/942855/503.

15. See ACVII, Map 1: Contract on the transfer of the archive of Msgr Philips, signed by Msgr Philips' sister, Rosa Philips, university rector P. De Somer, and G. Declercq on the other hand. Philips' papers were temporarily stored in the Dorlodot mansion, C. de Bériotstraat, Leuven until the Centre had its own room in the new library.

documentation to the Centre, and because of the efforts of M. Sabbe, Edward Schillebeeckx also decided to transfer his papers to Leuven in 1974¹⁶.

In February of 1975, both the archives of Msgr V; Keuppens, and of Fr. D. van den Eynde became part of the Centre's collection. The Van den Eynde papers were in fact acquired via the intercession of E. Buytaert, a Belgian Franciscan who succeeded Van den Eynde as dean of the theological faculty of the Antonianum and who also lectured at the Leuven faculty between 1969 and 1975¹⁷. In that same year Msgr A. Janssen donated his collection. One year later, as a result of his close collaboration with the so-called *squadra belga* during the Council, Dominican Yves Congar offered one of three authorised two-volume copies of his Council diary, dactylographed by his secretary, Mrs. D. Guillou¹⁸.

It is only toward the end of the decade that a lack of progress emerges with regard to the archival material, although the acquisition of the archive of Msgr C. de Clercq in 1978 should certainly not be overlooked here. Surveying the first ten years, it seems safe to state that the Centre's main interest was its development as a documentation Centre, holding a rich collection of archival units. The element of research was only touched as an ancillary focus. Moreover, not only through the work of acquisition, but also through that of mastering, the collection played a role in this era. By the end of 1977, Mrs. Irene Bigert had largely succeeded in finishing her initial classification of the Philips papers providing a detailed description of each document on blank cards¹⁹. Each individual card passed the control and corrections of professors Fransen and Sabbe. This collection of cards – reorganised and put in a thematical-chronological order, each of them marked with a number corresponding to a numerical code indicated on the actual documents – was in fact a very first attempt towards making the archives available to scientific scholars.

2. The 1980's and 1990's: Transition Into a Research Centre

16. It was not surprising, then, to see Professor Fransen proudly informing the Dean of the Leuven Arts Faculty on the project of his colleagues in Theology, meanwhile underlining once more the importance of Sabbe's diplomacy. See ACVII, Map 1: Letter from P. Fransen to M. Janssens, January 4th, 1974; Letter from P. Fransen to M. Janssen, December 12th, 1977.

17. On Buytaert, see L. CEYSSENS, *Buytaert, Jan Norbert, theoloog*, in *Nationaal Biografisch Woordenboek*, Vol. 14, cc. 94-96; and R. ZAVALLONI (ed.), *Pontificium aethnaeum antonianum ab origine ad praesens*, Rome, 1970.

18. Given their unique character, these two volumes constitute a highly valuable accession for the Centre's collection. Recently, they have been published as Y. CONGAR, *Mon Journal du Concile*. Présenté et annoté par É. MAHIEU. Avant-propos de D. CONGAR. Préface de B. DUPUY, 2 vols., Paris, 2002. The crucial role of council diaries in the historiography of Vatican II has been elaborately discussed by A. MELLONI, *I diari nella storia dei concili*, in M.D. CHENU, *Diario del Vaticano II. Note quotidiane al Concilio 1962-1963*. A cura di A. MELLONI, Bologna, 1996, 9-53.

As to Congar's relationship to the Belgians, already during the Council he was able to acknowledge their central role in various conciliar events. See for instance CONGAR, *Mon Journal du Concile*, vol. 2, pp. 53 ff.: "On a dit de ce concile: Primum Concilium Lovaniense, Romae habitum. C'est assez largement vrai, au moins pour la théologie. Comme j'ai eu beaucoup de contacts avec mes amis belges, que j'ai (volontairement) logé plusieurs fois au Collège belge, je veux dire ici ce que j'en pense. [...]".

19. ACVII, Map 1: Report on the activities of Mrs. I. Bigert, under the direction of Prof. Dr. Sabbe, s.d. This report, presumably written by Prof. Fransen stresses heavily on the fact that the archives will not be of any use without the necessary work of classification.

While the end of the 1970s saw the Centre sliding into a period of accepting the *status quo*, the following decade came close to total stagnation. The reasons for this situation are twofold. On the one hand the immediate recollection of the Second Vatican Council was beginning to fade, and on the other hand the Centre gradually lost many of its initial inspirers. For instance, Professor Heylen had retired in 1977, and died in 1981²⁰. Both professors Blockx and Fransen passed away two years later²¹. In 1989 Msgr Onclin died²², after which his archive was inserted in the Centre collection. By the end of the decade, only the two founding fathers remained, and it would be the former secretary of the Centre, Jan Grootaers, who, in consistent communication with Sabbe, took upon himself the responsibility of gradually lifting the Centre up to an internationally renowned research centre.

The first step was taken in October 1983, although as a transitory move this still had more to do with the acquisition of sources than with actual research activity. On October 12th, Grootaers contacted Professor Marc Caudron²³, dean of the theological faculty, and informed him of the possibility of purchasing a unique collection of documents germane to the history of the Second Vatican Council. While travelling in Rome, Grootaers had been approached by Msgr E. Governatori, active within the Roman Curia, who offered to sell a copy of the so-called *Translatio voluminis Bobina Magnetici*. The *Translatio* consists of a collection of 75 hardcover volumes (one part of 50 volumes, and another of 25 volumes) containing a typed version of all of the oral council interventions made in St. Peter's Basilica. The importance of this collection was supported by two major arguments. First, only three copies of this collection existed, one being kept in the *Archivio Segreto Vaticano*, and another belonging to the private archive of Pope Paul VI²⁴. The second argument was its scientific value. In fact, it was known that the Council interventions – both oral and written – had been published by Msgr Vincenzo Carbone in the period between 1970 and 1985²⁵. Notwithstanding Carbone's highly valuable work, the official *Acta* at various occasions, appeared to offer only partial, or at least selective, editions of the actual interventions. In this light, the collection offered by Msgr Governatori would serve as a complement and/or correction to Carbone's *Acta Synodalia*. Although fairly unknown up to the present, the *Translatio*'s relevance for Vatican II historiography cannot be underestimated.

The first issue that Grootaers faced was obtaining faculty support, hence the abovementioned contact with dean Caudron. Notwithstanding some initial hesitation by members of the Leuven faculty board, Grootaers and Sabbe were able to convince and consequently respond to Governatori's proposal²⁶. Grootaers took

20. M. CAUDRON, *In Memoriam Mgr. V. Heylen, † 19 april 1981*, in *ETL* 57 (1981) 388-393.

21. B. WILLAERT, *In memoriam Piet Fransen s.j.*, in *ETL* 60 (1984) 184-189; R. BOUDENS, *In memoriam K. Blockx*, in *ETL* 59 (1983) 415.

22. L. DE FLEURQUIN, *In memoriam Willy Onclin*, in *ETL* 65 (1989) 481-483.

23. ACVII, Map 2: Letter from J. Grootaers to M. Caudron, October 12th, 1983.

24. ACVII, Map 2: Letter from A. Joos to J. Grootaers, s.d.: "Il existe 3 exemplaires de ces volumes (Paul VI/Archives Concile/Archiviste Governatori)". The Bobina are indeed conserved in the *Archivio Segreto Vaticano*, Conc. Vat. II, and it should further be noted that the Archive of Paul VI is currently conserved in the Istituto Paolo VI, Brescia.

25. On Msgr Carbone's work as the principal archivist of the Second Vatican Council, see V. CARBONE, *Genesi e criteri della pubblicazione degli Atti del Concilio Vaticano II*, in *Lateranum* 2 (1978) 579-594; ID., *Gli schemi preparatori del Concilio Ecumenico Vaticano II*, in *Monitor Ecclesiasticus* 96 (1971) 51-86; and more critical: G. LEFEUVRE, *Les actes du Concile Vatican II*, in *RTL* 11 (1980) 186-200.

26. ACVII, Map 2: Letter by J. Grootaers, October 28th, 1983.

up his negotiator role and started a correspondence with Leuven Librarian Sabbe and with A. Joos, Governatori's contact person²⁷. Finally in March 1984 an agreement between the parties was reached to purchase the first 50 volumes²⁸.

Still, shortly thereafter Governatori appeared not to be completely satisfied and proposed a counter-offer: If the Faculty paid the agreed sum sooner than planned, Governatori would hand over a large part of the remaining volumes gratis²⁹. After re-calculating the budget a new financial plan was developed, and the deal was closed by the end of April³⁰. It was only in September 1984 that the new collection was delivered to the *Pontificio Collegio Belga*, where rector Msgr Quintens³¹ temporarily stored it in the college basement. And then, a full year after the first contacts were made, the collection arrived at the Leuven Centre³². The date of this arrival places us in the middle of the decade, and apart from the acquisition of the *Translatio* and an occasional scholar³³ consulting the Centre, its activity is not especially impressive. Changes were due and were quickly forthcoming. Nevertheless, the 1986 publication of Prof. J. Grootaers, *Primauté et collégialité. Le dossier de Gérard Philips sur la Nota Explicativa Praevia* cannot go unnoticed, since it served as an example of the perusal of primary sources³⁴.

In the beginning of 1989 the same Grootaers undertook further steps that gave way to a new style. One element leading to a renewal of efforts was the fact that the *Centre Lumen Gentium* of Louvain-la-Neuve published an inventory³⁵ of three of their archival units: the archives of Charles Moeller³⁶, Gustave Thils³⁷ and François Houtart. Another stimulus was Grootaers' presence in December 1988 at a private meeting of ten Catholic historians³⁸ at the Centre Sèvres, Paris³⁹. This

27. ACVII, Map 2: Letter by J. Grootaers to A. Joos, November 17th, 1983; and Letter by J. Grootaers to M. Sabbe, December 5th, 1983.

28. ACVII, Map 2: Letter from J. Grootaers to A. Joos, March 1st, 1984. Payment for the collection was due in four parts spread throughout the following two years, see ACVII, Map 2: Letter from J. Grootaers to E. Governatori, March 30th, 1984.

29. ACVII, Map 2: Letter from E. Governatori to J. Grootaers, April 17th, 1984.

30. ACVII, Map 2: Letter from J. Grootaers to E. Governatori, April 28th, 1984.

31. Msgr Quintens, who has recently passed away, was rector from the Pontifical Belgian College in Rome from 1972 until 1997.

32. ACVII, Map 2: J. Grootaers, Note concerning a series of documents purchased in Rome by the Leuven Faculty Library, October 29th, 1984.

33. In April 1986, K.A. Solomone consults the Msgr Philips archives (see ACVII, Map 2: J. Grootaers, Note: Documents requested from Philips' archive) in view of his Ph. D. dissertation, K.A. SOLOMONE, *The People of God in Vatican II. The Biblical Antecedents of the Notion and Its Reception in the Post-Conciliar Church*, 2 vols., Diss. Leuven, 1989.

34. See J. GROOTAERS, *Primauté et collégialité. Le dossier de Gérard Philips sur la Nota Explicativa Praevia (Lumen Gentium, Chap. III)*. Présenté avec introduction historique, annotations et annexes (BETL, 72), Leuven, 1986. It needs to be mentioned however, that a large part of the sources edited there by Grootaers only joined the Centre's collection some time after the deposition of Philips' Vatican II archive.

35. C. SOETENS, *Concile Vatican II et église contemporaine (Archives de Louvain-la-Neuve). I. Inventaire des fonds Ch. Moeller, G. Thils, Fr. Houtart* (Cahiers de la RTL, 21), Louvain-la-Neuve, 1989.

36. On C. Moeller, see J.M. VAN CANGH (ed.), *In memoriam Mgr Charles Moeller*, Louvain-la-Neuve, 1986.

37. On G. Thils, see R. AUBERT, *La carrière théologique de Mgr. Thils*, in A. HOUSSIAU et al., *Voies vers l'unité. Colloque organisé à l'occasion de l'éméritat de Mgr G. Thils, Louvain-la-Neuve, 27-28 avril 1979* (Cahiers de la RTL, 3), Louvain-la-Neuve, 1981, pp. 7-27; and G. THILS, *In memoriam Gerard Fransen*, in *ETL* 71 (1995) 519-520.

38. Those present were G. Alberigo, J.O. Beozzo, F. De Medeiros, É. Fouilloux, J. Grootaers, J. Komonchak, A. Melloni, H. Ragner, C. Soetens, and K. Wittstadt.

39. *Centre Sèvres*: Rue de Sèvres, 35 bis, 75006 Paris, houses a theological Faculty from the Jesuit order in Paris.

Paris meeting planned an international scientific study project on the Second Vatican Council that led to the publication of a five-volume *History of Vatican II*⁴⁰. Within the core of this team – officially titled *Comitato della Storia del Concilio Vaticano II* – under auspices of professor G. Alberigo, the organization of a series of preparatory scholarly meetings was proposed, and the possibility was discussed to organize one of these in Leuven.

We will return later to this Leuven conference, which a decisive step toward Leuven becoming a research centre with international standards and with a large output by means of scientific publications. However, the Leuven participation in Alberigo's project signifies far more than just an opportunity to publish. It became apparent that by the end of the 1980s the general ecclesiastical context was strikingly different from that of the 1960s. Also Vatican II scholars came to realize the changes occurring both on the local level, as well as on the level of the Church's leadership⁴¹, and that these changes would have their effect on Vatican II historiography. Increasingly, questions were being raised about the specific significance of the Council for contemporary theology and church life⁴². Moved by a common concern for the doctrinal and pastoral heritage of the Second Vatican Council, and with a clear intention of preventing unilateral receptions and interpretations of the Council's teaching, the Leuven Centre participated in the effort of shaping Vatican II historiography. Besides the particular methodological option for a church historiography approaching the Council as an "event"⁴³, this option implied insisting on the interpretation of council documents with respect to their genesis, which in turn called for careful historico-critical study of primary sources⁴⁴ – an option that fit well with the research tradition of the Leuven

40. The theoretical framework underlying this project would later be published by authors such as J. FAMERÉE, *Vers une histoire du Concile Vatican II*, in *RHE* 89 (1994) 638-641.

41. For instance, K. RICHTER (ed.), *Das Konzil war erst der Anfang. Die Bedeutung des II. Vatikanums für Theologie und Kirche*, Mainz, 1991; and from the Centre's part, see J. GROOTAERS, *De Vatican II à Jean-Paul II. Le grand tournant de l'Église catholique*, Paris, 1981. A later elaboration of Pope John Paul II's reception of the Council is found in J. GROOTAERS, *Il Concilio, sfida del pontificato di Giovanni Paolo II*, in M. GUASCO – E. GUERRIERO (eds.), *La chiesa del Vaticano II*, vol. 2, Cinisello Balsamo, 1994, 671-689.

42. On this account, an interesting division of periods in Vatican II studies is offered by M. FAGGILOLO, *Concilio Vaticano II. Bollettino bibliografico (2000-2002)*, in *Cristianesimo nella Storia* 24 (2003) 335-360, p. 335: "L'attuale fase di produzione bibliografica sul Vaticano II può essere meglio valutata e compresa se si tiene conto, sia pure in maniera schematica e sommaria, della ormai quasi quarantennale storia delle studi sul Concilio Vaticano II che possiamo dividere in due periodi: 1965-1985 e 1985-2000".

43. The practical and methodological consequences of this type of Vatican II historiography are developed in M.T. FATTORI – A. MELLONI (eds.), *L'evento e le decisioni. Studi sulle dinamiche del concilio Vaticano II* (Testi e ricerche di scienze religiose: Nuova serie, 20) Bologna, 1997; and also: P. HÜNERMANN, *Il Concilio Vaticano II come evento*, in *Il Regno-documenti* 11 (1997) 376-384.

44. Due to the rather limited availability of primary sources, Vatican II studies up until this period are largely based on secondary literature and study of the final text of various council documents. To illustrate, almost none of the many contributions in the important overview volume *Le deuxième Concile du Vatican (1959-1965)* (Collection de l'École française de Rome, 113), Paris, published in 1989, make use of original documentation. It should however be noticed that some commentaries on Council documents published immediately after Vatican II displayed sufficient interest in the various redaction phases of the documents, yet they had the disadvantage of lacking the distance in time needed for historiographic research. See for instance the series edited by H. VORGRIMLER (ed.), *Commentary on the Documents of Vatican II*, New York, 1967-1969, and the volumes *Das zweite Vatikanische Konzil. Konstitutionen, Dekrete und Erklärungen lateinisch und deutsch, Kommentare* (Lexikon für Theologie und Kirche), 3 vols., Freiburg – Basel –

department of church history⁴⁵. It is not surprising, therefore, that the Centre's identity developed into an historiographic study Centre and somewhat lost its initial interdisciplinary character. For instance, in the same year 1989, Grootaers found staff members of the department of Church history, enthusiastic to breathe new life into the Centre's lungs. Conversations throughout 1989 show investigations into much needed financial resources for the Centre, in order to attract a fulltime staff cooperator⁴⁶, yet no indications of actual financial results are found on the matter. In the same period, Professor Grootaers also took care of a constant enrichment of the collection by continuously inserting fragments of his personal archive, containing documentation both on the Council and on the post-conciliar era with regard to the Council's reception.

The confusion that rose about the disposition of cardinal Suenens' immense corpus of Council documents in April 1989 further illustrates that the Centre's search for new materials never really ends. Rumors indicated that Suenens had offered his entire Vatican II archive to the Würzburg study Centre, which was led by Professor Klaus Wittstadt⁴⁷. Both Louvain-la-Neuve Professor Soetens and Leuven Professors Grootaers and Sabbe⁴⁸ had apparently hoped to lay hands on the Suenens collection. Finally, neither Würzburg, Leuven or Louvain-la-Neuve would house the archive, which found its home in the archives of the Mechelen-Brussels Archdiocese⁴⁹. After the death of Cardinal Suenens in 1996, it was Canon Leo Declerck who obtained the approval of Cardinal Danneels, Suenens' successor, to arrange and classify the entire archive. A few years after, an inventory as far as Vatican II was published⁵⁰, in close collaboration with the *Centre Lumen Gentium*. This inventory featuring a detailed description of each single document in the archive serves as an example for others that will follow soon, and through it the Leuven collection would eventually be open to international research scholars. This publication would also be the start for an amplification of Leo Declerck's ongoing collaboration with the Centre, both on the field of research publications as on the edition of inventories and source material.

The 1990s brought to the Centre a growing awareness of the fact that the possession of a rich collection of archives is in no way sufficient, an awareness that

Wien, 1966-1968, and also the publications by Fr. Umberto BETTI such as *La dottrina sull'episcopato nel capitolo III della costituzione dommatica Lumen Gentium. Sussidio per la lettura del testo*, Roma, 1968.

45. On the most recent history of the Leuven Faculty and its departments, see GEVERS – KENIS (eds.), *Faculteit der Godgeleerdheid* (n. 8).

46. ACVII, Map 2: Handwritten minutes of conversations between J. Grootaers and B. Dehandschutter, January 10th, 1989, pp. 2-3.

47. ACVII, Map 2: Letter from Cardinal L.J. Suenens to professors J. Grootaers and C. Soetens, April 14th, 1989. Presumably, the misunderstanding rose on the occasion of Wittstadt's publication of an article on Suenens Council participation that same year. K. WITTSTADT, *Leon-Kardinal Suenens und das II. Vatikanische Konzil*, in E. KLINGER – K. WITTSTADT (eds.), *Glaube im Prozess. Christsein nach dem II. Vatikanum*. Festschrift K. Rahner, Freiburg – Basel – Wien, 1984, 159-181. Wittstadt, having been responsible for a doctorate honoris causa offered to Suenens in Würzburg in 1982, was originally planning to write a biography on Suenens on the basis of the cardinal's papers. Yet, never obtaining sufficient access to them, the plan was abandoned later on.

48. Sabbe's involvement is documented in ACVII, Map 2: Letter from J. Grootaers to M. Sabbe, April 20th, 1989.

49. *Historical Archives of the Archdiocese of Mechelen-Brussels* (dir. G. vanden Bosch): Wollemarkt 15. B-2800 Mechelen.

50. L. DECLERCK – E. LOUCHEZ, *Inventaire des papiers conciliaires du cardinal L.J. Suenens* (Cahiers de la RTL, 31), Louvain-la-Neuve, 1998.

would lead – some 20 years after the initial classification of the Philips' archive – to a stream of publications that exposed the content of the collection to those interested. Again this evolution paralleled developments in the international field of Vatican II research, since in this period many centers began disclosing their material on the Second Vatican Council⁵¹. In 1998 an inventory of Msgr Onclin's papers was published⁵², and as a result of the joint efforts of two researchers from the department of church history and Leo Declerck, a full inventory of the Msgr De Smedt archive was published⁵³. Soon thereafter, Leo Declerck finished the publication of his inventory of the Philips archive⁵⁴. Notwithstanding the fact that Declerck offered a completely new classification of the documents, including new reference numbers, Mrs. Bigert's 1970 classification numbers are also mentioned so that documents referred to in earlier publications can still easily be traced.

Let us now return to the Paris project regarding the publication of a history of Vatican II. As we have said, Grootaers' commitment to this project would make the Centre a full member of an international research team⁵⁵. One of the means by which this membership was attained was the organization of and participation in the series of international conferences preparing the *History of Vatican II*. From October 23-25, 1989, the first of these conferences was jointly organized in Leuven and Louvain-la-Neuve, with the goal of developing a first international oversight of the disparity of primary sources and archival units documenting the Second Vatican Council. The proceedings were published in a book series edited by

51. To name just a few: P. LAFONTAINE (ed.), *Inventaire des archives conciliaires du Fonds P.É. Léger*, Montréal, 1995; L. LAZZARETTI (ed.), *Inventario dei fondi G. Lercaro e G. Dossetti*. Introduzione di G. ALBERIGO (La documentazione bolognese per la storia del Concilio Vaticano II, 2), Bologna, 1995; A.M. ABEL – J.P. RIBAUT, *Inventaire du Fonds J. Le Cordier* (Documents pour une histoire du Concile Vatican II. Nouvelle série, 1), Paris, 1993; G. HERBULOT – J. MENAGER (eds.), *Inventaire du fonds Jacques Ménager* (Documents pour une histoire du Concile Vatican II. Nouvelle série, 2), Paris, 1999; J. FAMEREE – L. HULSBOSCH (eds.), *Concile Vatican II et église contemporaine (Archives de Louvain-la-Neuve)*. III. *Inventaire du Fonds Ph. Delhaye* (Cahiers de la RTL, 25), Louvain-la-Neuve, 1993.

52. C. VAN DE WIEL – G. COOMAN (eds.), *Repertorium van de documenten in het archief Monseigneur Willy Onclin. Tweede Vaticaans Concilie en Pauselijke Commissie voor de Herziening van het Wetboek van Canoniek Recht* (Novum commentarium Lovaniense in codicem iuris canonici, 2), Leuven, 1998.

53. A. GREILER – L. DE SAEGER (eds.), *Emiel-Jozef De Smedt, Papers Vatican II. Inventory* (Instrumenta Theologica, 22), Leuven, 1999. This publication was based on the preparatory work done in 1990 by M. Peersman, research assistant to the Leuven department of systematic theology from 1985 until 1993, which in turn was based upon the initial provisional three-part classification prepared by Leo Declerck in Bruges. For Peersman's inventory, see ACVII, Map 3: M. Peersman, Archive Msgr De Smedt, papers regarding his participation to the Second Vatican Council, November 15th, 1990.

54. L. DECLERCK – W. VERSCHOOTEN (eds.), *Inventaire des papiers conciliaires de Monseigneur Gérard Philips, secrétaire adjoint de la commission doctrinale* (Instrumenta Theologica, 24), Leuven, 2001.

55. The original team of ten scholars was soon expanded to the following group: G. Alberigo (Bologna), O. Beozzo (São Paulo); G. Fogarty (Charlottesville); É. Fouilloux (Lyon); J. Grootaers (Leuven); J.A. Komonchak (Washington); A. Melloni (Bologna); H. Raquer (Montserrat); A. Riccardi (Roma); G. Routhier (Québec); C. Soetens (Louvain-la-Neuve); N.P. Tanner (Oxford); E. Vilanova (Montserrat), K. Wittstadt (Würzburg), and also R. Aubert (Louvain-la-Neuve), G.P. Salvini (Rome) and R. Tucci (Rome) are consulted. Cf. G. ALBERIGO, *The History of Vatican II (1958-1965)*, in *Bulletin for Contextual Theology* 4 (1997) 249-275.

the Leuven faculty Library: *Instrumenta Theologica*⁵⁶. From that moment on, *Instrumenta Theologica* became the principal medium for publications connected with the Leuven Centre. Moreover, this series would also publish the acts of most subsequent preparatory conferences of the aforementioned *Comitato*, held subsequently in Houston (1991), Lyon (1992), Würzburg (1993), Leuven/Louvain-la-Neuve (1994), Moscow (1995), and Bologna (1996)⁵⁷. As might be expected, Leuven consistently participated in these meetings resulting in an initiation, and later in a consolidation of contacts with other research centers⁵⁸, and with individual scholars⁵⁹. From the Houston Conference on, the Centre's current director, Professor Mathijs Lamberigts not only ensured Leuven's presence at these conferences, but also reinforced its policy of archive disclosure, that would result

56. GROOTAERS – SOETENS (eds.), *Sources locales de Vatican II* (n. 2). In order to grasp the expansion in the disclosure of Vatican II sources made ever since, it proves worthwhile to compare the 1990 conference acts to the recent overview published by M. FAGGIOLI and G. TURBANTI, *Il concilio inedito. Fonti del Vaticano II* (Fonte e strumenti di ricerca, 1), Bologna, 2001.

57. M. LAMBERIGTS – C. SOETENS (eds.), *À la veille du Concile. Vota et réactions en Europe et dans le catholicisme oriental* (*Instrumenta Theologica*, 9), Leuven, 1992; É. FOUILLOUX (ed.), *Vatican II commence... Approches francophones* (*Instrumenta Theologica*, 12), Leuven, 1993; K. WITTSTADT – W. VERSCHOOTEN (eds.), *Der Beitrag der deutschsprachigen und osteuropäischen Länder zum Zweiten Vatikanischen Konzil* (*Instrumenta Theologica*, 16), Leuven, 1996; M. LAMBERIGTS – C. SOETENS – J. GROOTAERS (eds.), *Les Commissions Conciliaires à Vatican II* (*Instrumenta Theologica*, 18), Leuven, 1996; A. MELLONI (ed.), *Vatican II in Moscow (1959-1965)* (*Instrumenta Theologica*, 20), Leuven, 1997; M.T. FATTORI – A. MELLONI (eds.), *Experience, Organisations and Bodies at Vatican II* (*Instrumenta Theologica*, 21), Leuven, 1999.

58. Apart from the abovementioned centres, the following can be added:

Vatican II et le Québec des années 60 (dir. Prof. Dr. G. Routhier), Faculté de théologie et de sciences religieuses, Université Laval, G1K7P4 Québec.

Centro Studi e Ricerche sul Concilio Vaticano II (CSRCV; dir. Prof. Dr. Ph. Chenaux): Pontificia Università Lateranense, Piazza S. Giovanni in Laterano, 4, 00120 Città del Vaticano.

Centro di Documentazione del Movimento Ecumenico Italiana (CeDoMEI; dir. Prof. Dr. R. Burigana): Via delle Galere 35, I-57123 Livorno.

Archiv des Erzbistums München und Freising (dir. Prof. Dr. G. Treffler): Karmeliterstrasse 1, D-80333 München.

Katholiek Documentatie Centrum (KDC, dir. R.J. De Klerk): Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen, Erasmuslaan 36, Postbus 9100, NL-6500 HA Nijmegen.

Istituto Paolo VI (dir. Dr. G. Camadini): Via Gezio Calini 30, I-25121 Brescia.

Cardinal Suenens Centre (dir. Prof. Dr. D. Donnelly): John Carroll University, 20700 North Park Boulevard, University Heights, Ohio 44118, USA

59. Some examples: The French Jesuit father Gonnet consults the De Smedt papers (in the Peersman classification) for his dissertation: D. GONNET, *La liberté religieuse à Vatican II. La contribution de John Courtney Murray* (*Cogitatio fidei*, 183), Paris, 1994, Cf. ACVII, Map 3: Letter from D. Gonnet to M. Sabbe, March 3th, 1991; Letter from E. D'hondt to D. Gonnet, February 9th, 1993; Also in 1991 Prof. Dr. R. Burigana visits the Centre and consults the archives of Philips, Janssen, De Smedt and Van den Eynde, as sources for his studies. Cf. R. BURIGANA, *La commissione "De divina Revelatione"*, in G. ALBERIGO – A. MELLONI (eds.), *Verso il concilio Vaticano II (1960-1962). Passaggi e Problemi della preparazione conciliare*, Genova, 1993, pp. 141-208, and ID., *La Bibbia nel Concilio. La redazione della costituzione "Dei Verbum del Vaticano II"* (Testi e ricerche di scienze religiose: Nuova serie, 21), Bologna, 1998, 514. See ACVII, Map 3: Note on the visit of Dr. Burigana, May 13th, 1991.

More recent visitors are Dr. S. Scatena, consulting the De Smedt Papers, see S. SCATENA, *La fatica della libertà. L'elaborazione della dichiarazione 'Dignitatis humanae' sulla libertà religiosa del Vaticano II* (Testi e ricerche per le scienze religiose: Nuova serie, 31), Bologna, 2003; also É. Mahieu, D. Roue, A. von Teuffenbach, A. Kasprzak, and M. Quisinsky have visited the Centre for research activities.

into the aforementioned inventories. In addition, the English edition of the *History of Vatican II* saw its first volume published in 1995, and for following volumes the Centre remained involved⁶⁰. Further, in April of that same year, the faculty organized its own international conference on Vatican II and its legacy in close cooperation with the Msgr Dondeyne chair⁶¹.

In fact, throughout this entire decade the Centre revived from its semi-hibernation and it had Grootaers and Lamberigts to thank for its resuscitation. The latter became the driving force behind the Centre's revival, which was shown through various signs. One of the features of this newly found vitality was the Centre's success in regaining its original interdisciplinary character. Perennial influences of Grootaers, Sabbe and an ever more active Leo Declerck⁶² were joined by new cooperating members, from the departments of Church History, Moral Theology, Pastoral Theology and Biblical exegesis⁶³. The active participation of this new generation of Leuven professors not only occasioned the growth in publications throughout the 1990s⁶⁴. In addition, an increased professionalism guaranteed that meetings were held on a regular basis, with an agenda that discussed the Centre's proposed activities as well as feedback on past efforts. Gradually, the new team revitalized the interest in collection expansion. In 1991, Professor Lambert Leijssen took steps toward the acquisition of Msgr Heuschen's council papers. However the most active person searching additional archival units was the new director, Prof. M. Lamberigts. In an attempt to collect as much documentation as possible on the Council activity of Belgian missionary bishops, he initi-

60. At present, all five volumes of the series are published: G. ALBERIGO – J.A. KOMONCHAK (eds.), *History of Vatican II. Volume I: Announcing and Preparing Vatican Council II. Toward a New Era in Catholicism*, Leuven – Maryknoll, NY, 1995; Volume II: *The Formation of the Council's Identity. First Period and Intersession*, Leuven – Maryknoll, NY, 1997; Volume III: *The Mature Council. Second Period and Intersession*, Leuven – Maryknoll, NY, 2000; Volume IV: *Church as Communion. Third Period and Intersession*, Leuven – Maryknoll, NY, 2004; Volume V: *The Council and the Transition. The Fourth Period and the End of the Council*, Leuven – Maryknoll, 2005. Already in the first volume, not only Prof. Grootaers, but also Mathijs Lamberigts figured among the members of the editorial board.

61. On this conference, see M. LAMBERIGTS (ed.), *Een toekomstgerichte terugblik. Dertig jaar na Vaticanum II (1965-1995)*, Leuven, 1996.

62. The rich contribution of canon Declerck – who at the time of the Second Vatican Council served as vice-rector of the Pontifical Belgian College in Rome – to the Centre's activities has recently been highlighted by D. VAN BELLEGHEM, *Dankzij de werkkraft. Archieven Vaticanum II*, in *Ministrando* 41 (2005) 224-232.

63. The following names are found in the Centre's archives: M. Lamberigts, J. Selling, L. Leijssen, L. Gevers, and R. Michiels.

64. L. GEVERS, *Vaticanum II en de Lage Landen. Bronnen en historiografie*, in *Trajecta* 1 (1992) 187-205; L. GEVERS, *Développements ecclésiastiques en Flandre à la lumière de Vatican II. La voix des laïcs*, in C. SOETENS, *Vatican II et la Belgique* (Sillages), Louvain-la-Neuve, 1996, pp. 223-250; J. GROOTAERS, *Une forme de concertation épiscopale au concile Vatican II. La conférence des vingt-deux (1962-1963)*, in *RHE* 91 (1996) 66-112; R. MICHIELS, *Lumen Gentium. Terugblik dertig jaar later. Twee Kerkbeelden naast elkaar*, in R. MICHIELS – J. HAERS (eds.), *Een werkzame dialoog. Oecumenische bijdragen over de kerk 30 jaar na Vaticanum II* (Nikè-reeks, 38), Leuven – Amersfoort, 1997, pp. 133-185; M. LAMBERIGTS, *The Liturgy Debate*, in ALBERIGO – KOMONCHAK (eds.), *History of Vatican II* (n. 64), Vol. II, 107-166; A. GREILER – M. LAMBERIGTS, 'Concilium episcoporum est'. *The Interventions of Liénart and Frings Revisited*, in *ETL* 73 (1997) 54-71; M. LAMBERIGTS, *Mgr. Emiel-Jozef De Smedt, bisschop van Brugge en het Tweede Vaticaans Concilie*, in *Collationes* 28 (1998) 281-326; J. GROOTAERS, *Actes et acteurs à Vatican II* (BETL, 139), Leuven, 1998.

ated various correspondences⁶⁵. This resulted in a donation from Msgr Jan van Cauwelaert, who offered part of his Council correspondence to the Centre in 1991⁶⁶, and two years later archimandrite Bonifaas Luyckx agreed to ship all of his Council documentation from the U.S.A. back to Leuven⁶⁷. In the period that followed, more acquisition efforts were made, resulting in the reception of the archives of both Msgr Cornelis, and Msgr Creemers, and finally a photocopied version of the Council archive belonging to Jan Brouwers was added to the Centre's collection⁶⁸.

THE CENTRE'S PRESENT

1. Continuity and Renewal, a Contemporary Documentation Centre

a) Continuity: Acquisitions and Inventories

Naturally, the current state of the Centre's activities reflects a work-in-progress. Therefore we can only very briefly and selectively present some of the most distinctive features of the Centre at present. For a start, it should be noted that after 35 years of its existence, the institute remains a documentation-and-research Centre. Today and always, this requires a constant balancing act. As for the aspect of documentation, the search and acquisition of new material remains constant. There is no better way to illustrate this than by mentioning the latest accessions. A renewal of the above mentioned contacts with Msgr van Cauwelaert have recently resulted in the completion of his Vatican II correspondence. Bishop van Cauwelaert donated large parts of his archive to the Leuven Centre, and parts of his private library have been inserted in the Maurits Sabbe Library. The correspondence collection has recently been put in chronological order and is to be consulted at the Centre. No less important is the recent insertion in our collection of Msgr Heuschen's Vatican II archive⁶⁹. Immediately after the acquisition of the Heuschen archive, canon L. Declerck took care of the disclosure of both this archive and the papers of Professor Victor Heylen by means of a published inventory. This publication also contains a limited part of Heuschen's Vatican II correspondence, translated into French⁷⁰. At present, a full inventory of the Schillebeeckx archive can also be consulted.

65. See ACVII, Map 3: Letter from M. Lamberigts to M. Goyens, October 7th, 1991; Letter from M. Lamberigts to D. Verhelst, October 1st, 1991; Map 3: Letter from J. van Cauwelaert to M. Lamberigts, November 22nd, 1991.

66. ACVII, Map 3: Minutes of the Centre meeting held on November 12th, 1991, p. 2.

67. ACVII, Map 3: Letter from arch. B. Luyckx to M. Lamberigts, s.d.; Map 3: Minutes of the Centre meeting held on October 25th, 1993, p. 1.

68. ACVII, Map 3, Minutes of the Centre meeting held on October 25th, 1994, pp. 1-2. On Brouwers, see M. LAMBERIGTS, *Een actieve getuige op Vaticanum II*, in T. ADRIAANSE – W. ADRIAANSE – R. DAMEN *et al.* (eds.), *In de hoofdrol J.A. Brouwers. Aangeboden aan drs. J.A. Brouwers ter gelegenheid van zijn gouden priesterfeest*, 's-Hertogenbosch, 1995, pp. 14-17.

69. ACVII, Map 4: Contract on the donation of J.M. Heuschen's archival documents concerning the Second Vatican Council, April 7th, 2004.

70. L. DECLERCK (ed.), *Inventaires des papiers conciliaires de Monseigneur J.M. Heuschen, évêque auxiliaire de Liège, membre de la Commission doctrinale, et du professeur V. Heylen* (Instrumenta Theologica, 28), Leuven, 2005.

The fact that since the 1990s the Centre's politics of acquisition is combined with a focus on disclosure of sources, fits well with the inventories we have just mentioned, yet at the present time more effort is needed. For in recent years, it has become clear that many of the documents suffer severe damage from frequent consultation and need protection. The awareness of the fragility of archived documents calls for new methods of making them available, and an adaptation of the Centre's conservation policy to these needs has been found in the perusal of modern digitalisation techniques.

b) Renewal, the Use of Digital Media in Archive Conservation

As many documents suffer from direct contact when consulted by researchers largely because of the poor quality of paper in the 1960s, the Centre was forced to find a conservation technique that was able to combine a minimum of physical contact with the original documentation, with a maximum possibility of source consultation by scholars. This could be accomplished only through digitalisation of the entire corpus archive. The Centre has begun into taking digital scans of all its documentation so that in the future scholars will no longer be consulting original papers, but high quality digital scans⁷¹. This procedure is the best means of preserving the sources and offers some advantages, such as the ability to send documents as e-mail attachments over the internet. Particularly with regard to archives already inventoried, it opens possibilities of long-distance consultation. The Centre thus is able both to preserve its documentation from ongoing damage and to offer better service at the same time.

The Centre's digital media renewal is not only evidenced through digital conservation and service. Additionally, the collection is now available to a larger public by a new and enlarged website, offering descriptions of all archives, links to other institutes, and information on research activities⁷². In combination with the use of internet, the Centre is using current international norms for archival disclosure and description. An international location and reference code was therefore given to the Leuven Centre that guarantees each archival unit receives its proper reference code. This type of reference description fits the principles laid down by the General International Standard for Archival Description (ISAD-G) – which is a standardized description of archives according to 26 fixed categories⁷³. The ISAD-G is also being applied in the Archiefbank-Vlaanderen-project⁷⁴, attempting to gather information on all private archives and archival units in Flanders into one central database freely accessible on the internet, as a means of broad public disclosure. The archives conserved in the Leuven Centrum for the

71. All digital document scans are being conserved per archival unit, and given a reference code corresponding to their inventory references. Digital scans are being conserved both on server and DVD, the latter conserving being applied according to the principles used by CLIR and NIST: Council on Library and Information Sources – National Institute of Standards and Technology. The standard procedure on digital conservation for these Institutes was developed by F.R. BYERS, *Care and Handling of CD's and DVD's. A guide for Librarians and Archivists* (NIST Special Publication, 500-252), Gaithersburg, MD – Washington, DC, 2003.

72. See http://www.theo.kuleuven.ac.be/en/centr_vat II.htm.

73. The ISAD-G description process enjoys worldwide recognition since the 1990s. Initially, the so-called ISAD-standard was developed, which was globally accepted from 1994 onward. In 1999 the descriptive system was further refined, and is named ISAD-G ever since. See H.L.P. STIBBE, *Standardising Description. The Experience of Using ISAD-G*, in *Janus* (1998) 132-152.

74. See <http://www.archiefbank.be>.

Study of the Second Vatican Council will have their references included in this project⁷⁵.

2. A Contemporary Research Centre

Some final words need to be said about the Centre's present activities as a research institute. The Centre remains a context for young scholars to conduct research. This is best proven by the recent defense of several doctorates connected with the Centre; each of these made frequent use of the Centre's resources⁷⁶. At present still another dissertation is in preparation⁷⁷. A second proof of ongoing research activity is in the area of publications. Apart from the contributions included in the volumes of the *History of Vatican II*, and apart from the published inventories, the number of research publications is constant. Each year various articles and/or books referring in various ways to the Leuven Centre are published internationally by its members⁷⁸. And last, the Centre's archives are not only being used as sources, they are also increasingly becoming themselves the subject of historico-critical editions. Recently the Council diaries of both Msgr Charue and of Msgr Prignon have been published in addition to a dossier of primary

75. In preparation of the insertion of the Centre's archives in the Archiefbank-project, all archival units were inserted in an earlier database, called ODIS: *Intermediary Structures in Flanders, 19th and 20th Century*. See <http://www.odis.be/ned/hom/home.htm>.

76. A. NJOKU, *A Study of the Wishes of the Catholic Bishops of Anglo-phone West Africa (1959-1960) for the Second Vatican Ecumenical Council*, Leuven, 1998; P. PULIKKAN, *Indian Church at Vatican II. A Historico-theological Study of the Indian Participation in the Second Vatican Council* (Marymatha Publications, 1), Trichur (Kerala, India), 2001; J.A. GREILER, *Das Konzil und die Seminare. Die Ausbildung der Priester in der Dynamik des Zweiten Vatikanums* (Annua Nuntia Lovaniensia, 48), Leuven, 2003; D. CLAES, *Theologie in tijden van verandering. De theologische faculteit te Leuven in de twintigste eeuw, 1900-1968*, Leuven, 2004.

77. K. SCHELKENS, *Placuit Deo in sua sapientia et bonitate Seipsum revelare. Een bronnenkritisch onderzoek naar de bijdrage van de Belgische bisschoppen en theologen aan de totstandkoming van de dogmatische constitutie Dei Verbum van Vaticanum II*, K.U.Leuven (in preparation).

78. Some examples: J. GROOTAERS, *Belgi ed Olandesi al Concilio Vaticano II*, in L. VACCARO (ed.), *Storia religiosa di Belgio, Olanda e Lussemburgo* (Europa ricerche, 6), vol. 2, Milan, 2000, pp. 591-623; M. LAMBERIGTS, *Research into the Second Vatican Council in the Low Countries. A Survey*, in *Annuario Historiae Conciliorum* 32 (2000) 387-404; A. NJOKU – M. LAMBERIGTS, *Vatican II. The Vota of the Anglophone West African Bishops Concerning the Sacred Liturgy*, in *Questions Liturgiques* 81 (2000) 89-121; M. LAMBERIGTS, *Der Forschungsschwerpunkt 'Vaticanum II' an der Theologischen Fakultät der Katholischen Universität Löwen*, in P. PFISTER (ed.), *Julius Kardinal Döpfner und das Zweite Vatikanische Konzil* (Schriften des Archivs des Erzbistums München und Freising, 4), Regensburg, 2002, pp. 74-83; J. GROOTAERS, *De plain-pied au concile. Albert Prignon, acteur et témoin à Vatican II*, in *RTL* 33 (2002) 371-397; L. DECLERCK, *De rol van de Squadra Belga op Vaticanum II*, in *Collationes* 32 (2002) 341-372; M. LAMBERIGTS, *Het Concilie Vaticanum II (1962-1965)*, in *Collationes* 33 (2003) 115-186; K. SCHELKENS, *Une recherche critique concernant la soi-disante squadra belga*, in *Oecumenica Civitas* 3 (2003) 233-238; L. DECLERCK – A. HAQUIN (eds.), *Mgr. Albert Prignon, recteur du Pontificio Collegio Belga. Journal Conciliaire de la 4ème session*. Préface de Mgr. A. JOUSTEN. Introduction par C. TROISFONTAINES (Cahiers de la RTL, 35), Louvain-la-Neuve, 2003; M. LAMBERIGTS – L. DECLERCK, *Le texte de Hasselt. Une étape méconnue de l'histoire du De Matrimonio (Schema XIII)*, in *ETL* 80 (2004) 485-505; M. LAMBERIGTS, *Mgr. Dondeyne's opvattingen over de godsdienstvrijheid. Hun relevantie voor de 21ste eeuw*, in B. RAYMAEKERS – G. VAN RIEL (eds.), *Hoe dichtbij is de toekomst?* (Lessen voor de 21ste eeuw, 11), Leuven, 2005, pp. 83-112.

sources on the Council's discussions on marriage⁷⁹. And at present a bilingual critical edition of the Council diaries of Msgr Philips is at hand⁸⁰.

DESCRIPTIVE LIST OF THE CENTRE'S VATICAN II ARCHIVES

The archives listed below⁸¹ offer four fixed elements of description. First we mention both name and international location and reference code to the archive; then follows a brief biographical note on the original holder of the unit, focusing on his function(s) and activities during the Council period; third, a concise content description is given; and each description ends with a reference to the state of the archive's inventory.

Papers Msgr G. Philips — BE/938277/I.1

Biographical note: Msgr Gérard Philips (1899-1972) was a priest of the diocese of Liège – from 1967 onwards of the new diocese of Hasselt – and a co-opted senator for the CVP (Flemish Christian democratic party). He obtained his STD and STM from the Pontificia Università Gregoriana. After his professorship at the Minor Seminar of Sint-Truiden and at the Major Seminar of Liège, he became professor of dogmatic theology at the Leuven Theological Faculty. In July 1960 Philips became a member of the preparatory Theological Commission (subcommission on the Church), and was later nominated official peritus for the Doctrinal Commission, to which he was appointed vice-secretary in 1963.

Contents: 47 boxes. This archive contains the complete collection of Philips' Vatican II papers and diaries. Since 1987 Philips' collection of index cards used for the commission's redaction of conciliar interventions was inserted into the archive. As a result of Philips' core position as joint-secretary to the Doctrinal Commission these papers contain material regarding all of the schemata of which this commission was responsible.

Inventory: L. DECLERCK – W. VERSCHOOTEN (eds.), *Inventaire des papiers conciliaires de Monseigneur Gérard Philips, secrétaire adjoint de la commission doctrinale* (Instrumenta Theologica, 24), Leuven, 2001.

Papers D. Van den Eynde (o.f.m.) — BE/938277/I.2

79. L. DECLERCK – C. SOETENS (eds.), *Carnets conciliaires de l'évêque de Namur A.-M. Charue* (Cahiers de la RTL, 32), Louvain-la-Neuve, 2000; DECLERCK – HAQUIN (eds.), *Mgr. Albert Prignon* (n. 83); J. GROOTAERS – J. JANS, *La régulation des naissances à Vatican II. Une semaine de crise* (Annua Nuntia Lovaniensia, 43), Leuven, 2002. Most recently, a digital scan of one of the documents belonging to the De Smedt papers was published in D. VAN BELLEGHEM, *Het handschrift van Ratzinger*, in *Ministrando* 41 (2005) 400-402.

80. K. SCHELKENS (ed.), *Conciliatedagboeken van Mgr G Philips, adjunct secretaris van de Doctrinale commissie / Cahiers conciliaires de Mgr. G. Philips, secrétaire adjoint de la commission doctrinale*. Avec une introduction par L. DECLERCK (Instrumenta theologica, 29), Leuven, 2006.

81. Given that the aforementioned Coppens papers contain no information on the Second Vatican Council, they were moved to the storage of the Maurits Sabbe Library, and are therefore not mentioned in the list.

Biographical note: The Franciscan friar Damien (Marcel) Van den Eynde o.f.m. (1902-1969), obtained his STD from the Catholic University of Leuven with a dissertation in the field of patrology. He then became professor, and from 1959 until 1966 was rector of the Pontificium Atheneum Antonianum in Rome. In September 1960, Van den Eynde was appointed member of the Preparatory Theological Commission, where he was particularly active in the subcommission on revelation. Later he was nominated conciliar peritus for the Doctrinal Commission. His primary contributions to the Council were as a redactor of the preparatory schema *De Fontibus Revelationis*, and of the liturgy constitution *Sacrosanctum Concilium*.

Contents: 7 boxes. This archive contains mostly documents from the Council's preparatory period (1960-1962), reflecting the activity of the Preparatory Theological Commission and of the Liturgical Commission.

Inventory: A provisional inventory is consultable.

Papers Fr. E. Schillebeeckx (o.p.) — BE/938277/I.3

Biographical note: The Belgian Dominican friar Edward Schillebeeckx o.p. (1914-), professor of dogmatic theology in Leuven, and, since 1958 professor of systematic theology at the Catholic University of Nijmegen (the Netherlands), served at the Second Vatican Council as official theological advisor to the Dutch episcopate. As such, he offered significant contributions to the conciliar debates.

Contents: 9 boxes. The original archive of Schillebeeckx has been split up in two parts. One part of his papers remains in the KDC-Nijmegen, while photocopies of them are available in Leuven. The second part of Schillebeeckx's papers are conserved in the Leuven Centre. The Schillebeeckx archive as a whole contains information documenting the history of various conciliar documents, e.g. *Dei Verbum*, *Lumen Gentium*, *Gaudium et Spes*.

Inventory: A full yet unpublished inventory (pp. 164) may be consulted at the Centre. A copy can be sent upon demand.

Papers Msgr E.-J. De Smedt — BE/938277/I.4

Biographical note: Msgr Emiel Jozef De Smedt (1909-1995) was bishop of the diocese of Bruges from 1952 until 1984. Before and during the Second Vatican Council he played a significant role as member of the Secretariat for Christian Unity (from 1960-1965) and as Council father. An active member of the Secretariate, he played an important role in its preparations for the Council (*Submissio IV: De Libertate Religiosa*). In the Council's first session and inter-session, De Smedt was very active in the Mixed Commission on Revelation, and further contributed greatly to the Council debate on Religious Freedom.

Contents: 24 boxes. The archive contains De Smedt's complete collection of conciliar documentation. Given his peculiar position, these papers constitute an important source documenting the activities of the Secretariat for Christian Unity,

the various redactions of the text *De Libertate religiosa*, and the Mixed Commission on Revelation..

Inventory: A. GREILER – L. DE SAEGER (eds.), *Emiel-Jozef De Smedt, Papers Vatican II. Inventory* (Instrumenta Theologica, 22), Leuven, 1999.

Papers Msgr C. de Clercq — BE/938277/I.5

Biographical note: Msgr Charles (Carlo) de Clercq (1905-1982) was a priest of the diocese of Antwerp. After having obtained doctorates in Ecclesiastical Oriental Sciences (Pontificio Istituto Orientale), in History (Catholic University of Louvain), and in Canon Law (Institut Catholique de Paris), he became full time professor at the Pontificia Università Lateranense in 1961. He was nominated official council peritus, and as such displayed particular activity within the Conciliar Liturgical Commission during the Council's first session. As an eminent scholar in the field of Oriental Studies, de Clercq was consequently appointed joint-secretary to the Conciliar Commission on the Eastern Churches in 1963.

Contents: 7 boxes. The largest part of Msgr de Clercq's conciliar papers contains documents relevant to the redaction of *Lumen Gentium*, *Orientalium Ecclesiarum* and *Sacrosanctum Concilium*.

Inventory: None available.

Papers Msgr V. Heylen — BE/938277/I.6

Biographical note: Msgr Victor Leonard Heylen (1906-1981), a priest of the archdiocese Mechelen-Brussels, was professor of moral theology at the Catholic University of Louvain from 1956 until 1977. Prior to 1956 he taught at the Major Seminar of Mechelen and in various schools for higher education. Although never receiving an official nomination as a conciliar peritus, Msgr Heylen played a crucial role in the later redaction phases of the chapter *De Matrimonio* of *Gaudium et Spes*.

Contents: 4 boxes. This archive largely consists of documents concerning the redaction of *Gaudium et spes*.

Inventory: L. DECLERCK, *Inventaires des papiers conciliaires de Monseigneur J.M. Heuschen, évêque auxiliaire de Liège, membre de la commission doctrinale et du professeur V. Heylen* (Instrumenta Theologica, 28), Leuven, 2005.

Papers Msgr A. Janssen — BE/938277/I.7

Biographical note: Msgr Arthur Janssen (1886-1979), a priest of the archdiocese Mechelen-Brussels, was professor of moral theology at the Leuven Faculty of Theology from 1918 until 1959. During the council preparations he was *consultor* of the Preparatory Theological Commission.

Contents: 1 box. The archive of Professor Janssen contains documents illustrating the activities of most subcommissions within the preparatory Theological Com-

mission. The largest part of them reflect the preparations of the schema *De Ordine Morali*, since Janssen himself was a consultant to that subcommission.

Inventory: A provisional inventory is available for consultation at the Centre. A new inventory is currently being prepared.

Papers Msgr J.V. Daem — BE/938277/I.8

Biographical note: Msgr Jules Victor Daem (1902-1993), bishop of Antwerp from 1962 until 1977, was responsible for the Secretariat for Catholic Education in Belgium. As a specialist on the issue, Daem became an active member of the Council's Commission on Seminaries, Studies and Catholic Education immediately after his ordination to the episcopate, and functioned at the Council as a *relator* on the Schema *Gravissimum Educationis*.

Contents: 1 box. Msgr Daem's archive consists of documents concerning the conciliar discussions on catholic education, among which some of Daem's reports regarding the schema on education.

Inventory: None available.

Papers Msgr J.M. Heuschen — BE/938277/I.9

Biographical note: Bishop Jozef Maria Heuschen (1915-2002), was appointed auxiliary bishop of the diocese of Liège in 1962. From 1967 onward he became the first bishop of the new diocese of Hasselt, which he served until 1989. In November 1963, Heuschen became member of the Doctrinal Commission, and began to play a considerable role in the redaction of *Gaudium et Spes*, *Lumen Gentium* and *Dei Verbum*.

Contents: 5 boxes. The papers of Msgr Heuschen mostly document the redaction of the aforementioned documents. They also contain the collection of the bishops' conciliar correspondence as well as a copy of Heuschen's council memoirs (25 pp.).

Inventory: L. DECLERCK (ed.), *Inventaire des papiers conciliaires de Monseigneur J.M. Heuschen, évêque auxiliaire de Liège, member de la commission doctrinale et du professeur V. Heylen* (Instrumenta Theologica, 28), Leuven, 2005.

Papers Msgr W. Onclin — BE/938277/I.10

Biographical note: Msgr Willy Onclin (1905-1989), was a priest of the diocese of Liège – from 1967 onward of the new diocese of Hasselt – and was professor of Canon Law in Leuven from 1938 until 1975. A conciliar peritus, he had a major influence on the redaction of the decree *Christus Dominus*, concerning the ministry of bishops and the governance of dioceses. As a result of his work at the Council, Msgr Onclin was appointed joint-secretary to the Papal Commission for the Revision of the Code of Canon Law in November 1965.

Contents: 13 boxes. This archive contains the full collection of Onclin's conciliar material. A large part of the documents are germane to the redaction of *Christus Dominus*. However, one also finds documentation relevant to *Presbyterorum Ordinis*, *Optatam Totius* and *Lumen Gentium*.

Inventory: C. VAN DE WIEL – G. COOMAN (eds.), *Repertorium van de documenten in het archief Monseigneur Willy Onclin. Tweede Vaticaans Concilie en Pauselijke Commissie voor de Herziening van het Wetboek van Canoniek Recht* (Novum commentarium Lovaniense in codicem iuris canonici, 2), Leuven, 1998.

Papers Fr. J. van Kerckhoven (m.s.c.) — BE/938277/I.11

Biographical note: Jan van Kerckhoven (1909-1974) was the General Superior of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart from 1958 until 1969. Prior to this he served as Provincial Superior of the Belgian province. His rank of General Superior made van Kerckhoven an official Council member. Although never appointed to a conciliar commission, his experience as a missionary to the Congo did cause him to play a considerable role in the redaction of the decree *Perfectae Caritatis*. He was often a liaison, and thus contacted and consulted actual members of the Commission on Missions, or members of the Preparatory Commission on Missions, such as Msgr T. van Valenberg.

Contents: 4 boxes. This archive contains interesting and original 'insider' documentation regarding the redaction of various conciliar schemata, including *Schema XIII*, *De Fontibus Revelationis*, *De Ecclesia*, and especially *De Missionibus*. The latter material also contains a complete correspondence by Msgrs van Valenberg and van Kerckhoven for the years 1961-1965.

Inventory: None available.

Papers Msgr C. van Melckebeke (c.i.c.m.) — BE/938277/I.12

Biographical note: Msgr Carlos van Melckebeke (1898-1980) was ordained priest of the congregation of Scheut in 1922. In 1946 he was appointed missionary bishop of the diocese of Ningsia, China, a position he officially maintained until his death. In reality, however, Msgr van Melckebeke functioned as Apostolic Delegate after his expulsion from China in 1962. As one of few representatives of the Church of the Far East at the Second Vatican Council, van Melckebeke was a core member of the "Church of the Poor Group", an influential conciliar group organized by Msgr Gauthier.

Contents: 2 boxes. This archive consists only of official TPV-editions of conciliar documents, some of which contain handwritten annotations by van Melckebeke.

Inventory: None available.

Papers Msgr J. van Cauwelaert (c.i.c.m.) — BE/938277/I.13

Biographical note: Bishop Jan van Cauwelaert c.i.c.m. (1909-), son of the Belgian Minister of State Frans van Cauwelaert and a friar of the congregation of Scheut, was bishop of the diocese of Inongo (Democratic Republic of Congo) from 1959 until 1967. At the Second Vatican Council he was an active member of the Commission for the Discipline of the Sacraments. Van Cauwelaert was one of the leading Congolese missionary bishops at the Second Vatican Council, and made public interventions not only in the liturgy debate, but also regarding the schema on ecumenism.

Contents: 3 boxes. This archive contains only a few documents germane to the Second Vatican Council, mostly on liturgy, ecumenism and ecclesiology. It does, however, include van Cauwelaerts' complete and very rich correspondence from the conciliar era documenting conciliar, Congolese, and Belgian political and ecclesiastical history.

Inventory: None available. Msgr van Cauwelaerts letters have been arranged in chronological order.

Papers Msgr A. Creemers (o.s.c.) — BE/938277/I.14

Biographical note: Msgr André Creemers (1907-1971) was missionary bishop for the order the Holy Cross. Creemers was bishop of the diocese of Bondo (Democratic Republic of Congo) from its establishment in 1959, yet he had already been active as Apostolic Vicar in the area since 1934. Although present in Rome at the time of the Council, Msgr Creemers was never appointed member to a conciliar commission, and little is known concerning his participation to Vatican II.

Contents: 1 box. This archive consists of photocopied documents. Only a few are conciliar documents; most are correspondence concerning the affairs of his diocese.

Inventory: None available.

Papers Msgr V. Keuppens (o.f.m.) — BE938277/I.15

Biographical note: Msgr Victor Keuppens (1902-1981) was missionary bishop of Kamina-Kolwezi (Democratic Republic of Congo) from 1959 until 1974. At the Council, he contributed to the activities of the Comité permanent des ordinaires du Congo.

Contents: 5 boxes. The Keuppens archive contains conciliar material relevant to the redaction of various documents, a large part directly concern *De Activitate Missionali Ecclesiae*.

Inventory: An inventory of the Keuppens papers is not yet available.

Papers Fr. P. Fransen (s.j.) — BE/938277/I.16

Biographical note: Father Piet Fransen (1913-1983) was a Belgian Jesuit who studied philosophy and theology at the Jesuit theologicum of Leuven. After his

ordination in 1943, he obtained his doctoral degree at the Pontificia Università Gregoriana. Soon thereafter, Fransen became professor of dogmatics at the Leuven Jesuit institute. During the Second Vatican Council, when Karl Rahner was active in Rome, Fransen was called to replace him for some of his courses at Jesuit theological faculty of Innsbruck.

Contents: 1 box. The archive of Piet Fransen consists of 103 photographs (101 black and white, 2 colour) documenting the Second Vatican Council (ranging from portraits of bishops and theologians to photographic captures of general council sessions).

Inventory: None available.

Papers of Rev. J. Brouwers — BE/938277/II.1

Biographic note: Jan Brouwers (1918), was active as the secretary of the Dutch Bishops Conference and served as a theological advisor to the Dutch episcopate during the Council.

Contents: 14 boxes. The archive contains mostly materials reflecting the council participation of Dutch bishops and council periti. It also contains ample collections of *animadversiones* and *modi* connected to various documents.

Inventory: A full yet unpublished inventory is consultable at the Centre.

Papers Fr. Y.M. Congar (o.p.) — BE/938277/II.5

Biographic note: Yves Marie Congar (1904-1995), a French Dominican, was professor at the Centre d'études dominicaine Le Saulchoir. During the preparatory period of the Council he was a *consultor* to the Preparatory Theological Commission. At the Council, Congar was an official peritus, residing at the Pontificio Collegio Belga in Rome.

Contents: This archive consists of one of three original two-volume transcriptions of Congar's Council Notes and a copy of their official annotated publication, recently available as Y. CONGAR, *Mon journal du Concile*. Présenté et annoté par É MAHIEU, 2 vols., Paris, 2002.

Translatio Voluminis (bobina) Magnetici — BE/938277/III.4

Contents: The 'translation' – as has been sufficiently explained above – is one of three existing officially edited transcriptions containing all conciliar oral interventions and discussions. These volumes have proven very interesting for scholars given that they allow for cautious comparison with the *Acta Synodalia*, which in some cases have important lacunae. Since the *Translatio* volumes strictly follow the Council's chronology, no inventory is needed.

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