# religiousstudies AAR EDITION EDITION

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# 2005 Member Calendar See page 2

### religiousstudies AAR NEWS

Religious Studies News—AAR Edition is the newspaper of record for the field especially designed to serve the professional needs of persons involved in teaching and scholarship in religion (broadly construed to include religious studies, theology, and sacred texts). Published quarterly by the American Academy of Religion, RSN is received by some 10,000 scholars, by departments enrolled in the Academic Relations Program, and by libraries at colleges and universities across North America and abroad. Religious Studies News—AAR Edition communicates the important events of the field and related areas. It provides a forum for members and others to examine critical issues in education, pedagogy (especially through the biannual Spotlight on Teaching), research, publishing, and the public understanding of religion. It also publishes news about the services and programs of the AAR and other organizations, including employment services and registration information for the AAR Annual Meeting.

For writing and advertising guidelines, please see www.aarweb.org/ publications/rsn.asp.

# 2005 CALL FOR PAPERS

Annual Meeting Call for Papers	
General Information	3
Deadlines	3
Guidelines for Submitting Proposals	
Methods of Submission	
Sections	
Groups	
Participant Forms	
Seminars	
Consultations	
Election Results	18
2004 Annual Report	
A Message from the President	21
Centennial Strategic Plan	21
A Message from the Executive Director	22
Governance and Structure	23
Members	24
Meetings	25
Outreach	25
Publications	26
Grants & Awards	27
The Department	27
Teaching and Learning	
The Profession	
Resources	
Benefactors	31

### 2005

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Subscriptions for individuals and institutions are available. See <a href="https://www.aarweb.org/publications/rsn">www.aarweb.org/publications/rsn</a> for more information.

Deadlines for submissions:

January: October 15
March: December 15
May: February 15
October: July 15

Advertising

For information on advertising, please see www.aarweb.org/publications/rsn.

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### **2005 Member Calendar**

Dates are subject to change. Check www.aarweb.org for the latest information.

#### January

Religious Studies News—AAR Edition January issue, including the Annual Meeting Call for Papers, results of the officer elections, and the 2004 Annual Report.

**January 1.** Annual term of membership begins for the AAR's 9,500 members, the largest and most inclusive association of religion scholars in the world.

**January 21.** Martin E. Marty Public Understanding of Religion Award nominations due. For more information, see <a href="https://www.aarweb.org/awards/marty/">www.aarweb.org/awards/marty/</a>.

**January 21–22.** Religion in the Schools Task Force meeting, Atlanta, GA.

**January 28–29.** Committee on the Public Understanding of Religion meeting, Washington, D.C.

(More information on AAR committee meetings can be found at www.aarweb.org/meetings/meetings.asp.)

#### **February**

**February 5–6.** Committee on Teaching and Learning meeting, Atlanta, GA.

**February 5–6.** Committee on Status of Women in the Profession meeting, Atlanta, GA.

**February 5–6.** International Connections Committee meeting, Atlanta, GA.

**February 15.** Submissions for the May 2005 issue of *Religious Studies News* due. For more information, see *www.aarweb.org/ publications/rsn/default.asp.* 

**February 25.** Nominations Committee meeting, Washington DC.

**February 25–26.** Executive Committee meeting, Atlanta, GA.

(More information on AAR committee meetings can be found at <a href="https://www.aarweb.org/meetings/meetings.asp">www.aarweb.org/meetings/meetings.asp</a>.)

### March

Religious Studies News-AAR Edition March issue.

Journal of the American Academy of Religion, March 2005 issue. For more information on AAR publications, see www.aarweb.org/ publications or go directly to the JAAR home page hosted by Oxford University Press, www3.oup.co.uk/jaarel/.

**March 1.** 2005 Annual Meeting proposals due to Program Unit Chairs.

**March 1.** Book award nominations due from publishers. For more information see www.aarweb.org/awards/bookrules.asp.

**March 3–4.** Mid-Atlantic regional meeting, New Brunswick, NJ.

**March 4–6.** Status of Racial and Ethnic Minorities in the Profession Committee meeting, Atlanta, GA.

**March 5.** Religion and Disabilities Task Force meeting, Atlanta, GA.

March 11–13. Southeast regional meeting, Winston-Salem, NC.

**March 12–13.** Southwest regional meeting, Dallas, TX.

**March 12–14.** Western regional meeting, Tempe, AZ.

**March 19**. Committee on Publications meeting, New York, NY.

(For more information on regional meetings, see www.aarweb.org/regions/meetings.asp.)

#### **April**

**April 1.** Notification of acceptance of Annual Meeting paper proposals by Program Unit Chairs.

**April 1–2.** Upper Midwest regional meeting, St. Paul, MN.

**April 2–3.** Academic Relations Task Force meeting, Atlanta, GA.

**April 6–7.** National Humanities Day. National Humanities Day is an advocacy event organized by the National Humanities Alliance and co-sponsored by the AAR and more than 20 organizations to promote support for the National Endowment for the Humanities. For more information, see www.nhalliance.org.

**April 8–9.** Rocky Mountain–Great Plains regional meeting, Denver, CO.

**April 8–9.** Midwest regional meeting, Chicago, IL.

**April 15.** Executive Committee meeting, Philadelphia, PA.

**April 15.** Regional Secretaries meeting, Philadelphia, PA.

**April 16–17.** Spring Board of Directors meeting, Philadelphia, PA.

**April 29–May 1.** Pacific Northwest regional meeting, Seattle, WA.

(For more information on regional meetings, see <a href="https://www.aarweb.org/regions/meetings.asp">www.aarweb.org/regions/meetings.asp</a>.)

#### May

Religious Studies News—AAR Edition May issue.

Spotlight on Teaching Spring 2005 issue. Annual Meeting Registration materials mailed with RSN.

**May 1.** Nominations (including self-nominations) for committee appointments requested. For more information, see <a href="https://www.aarweb.org/membership/volunteering.asp">www.aarweb.org/membership/volunteering.asp</a>.

**May 6–8.** Eastern International regional meeting, Montréal, QC, Canada.

**May 15.** Annual Meeting registration & housing opens for 2005 Annual Meeting. **May 15.** Registration for the Employment

Information Services Center opens. **May 30.** Annual Meeting Additional Meeting

requests due for priority consideration. (For more Annual Meeting information, see www.aarweb.org/annualmeet/2005/default.asp.)

#### **June**

Journal of the American Academy of Religion June 2005 issue.

**June 15.** Membership renewal deadline for 2005 Annual Meeting participants.

#### July

July 1. New fiscal year begins.

**July 15.** Submission deadline for the October issue of *Religious Studies News—AAR Edition*. For more information, see

www.aarweb.org/publications/rsn/default.asp.

**July 31.** Deadline for participants to request audiovisual equipment at the Annual Meeting.

#### August

Annual Meeting Program goes online.

**August 1.** Change of address due for priority receipt of the 2005 Annual Meeting Program Book.

**August 1.** Research Grant Applications due. For more information, see <a href="https://www.aarweb.org/grants/default.asp">www.aarweb.org/grants/default.asp</a>.

**August 15.** Membership renewal period for 2006 begins.

**August 31.** Regional development grant applications due to regional secretaries.

#### September

Journal of the American Academy of Religion September 2005 issue. For more information on AAR publications, see www.aarweb.org/ publications/default.asp or go directly to the JAAR home page hosted by Oxford University Press, www3.oup.co.uk/jaarel/.

Annual Meeting Program Books mailed to members.

**TBA.** Program Committee meeting, Atlanta, GA.

**TBA.** Regions Committee meeting, Atlanta, GA.

**September 9.** Executive Committee meeting, Atlanta, GA.

#### October

Religious Studies News—AAR Edition October

Spotlight on Teaching Fall 2005 issue.

**October 1–31.** AAR officer election period. Candidate profiles will be published in the October *RSN*.

**October 15.** January 2006 *Religious Studies News* submission deadline.

**October 15.** Excellence in Teaching award nominations due. For more information, see *www.aarweb.org/awards/teaching.asp.* 

October 21. EIS preregistration closes.

#### **November**

November 1. Research grant awards announced.

**November 17.** Executive Committee meeting, Philadelphia, PA.

**November 18.** Fall Board of Directors meeting, Philadelphia, PA.

**November 18.** Chairs Workshop at the Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA. Free for departments enrolled in the Academic Relations Program. For more information, see <a href="https://www.aarweb.org/department/acadrel.asp">www.aarweb.org/department/acadrel.asp</a>.

November 19–22. Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA. Held concurrently with the Society of Biblical Literature, comprising some 8,500 registrants, 200 publishers, and 100 hiring departments.

**November 21.** Annual Business Meeting. See the Annual Meeting Program Book for exact time and place.

### December

ing, Atlanta, GA.

Journal of the American Academy of Religion December 2005 issue.

**December 1.** New program unit proposals due. **December 9–10.** Program Committee meet-

**December 15.** Submissions for the March 2006 issue of *Religious Studies News* due. For more information, see

www.aarweb.org/publications/rsn/default.asp. **December 31.** Membership renewal for 2006 due. Renew online at www.aarweb.org/dues.

### And keep in mind throughout the year...

Regional organizations have various deadlines throughout the fall for their Calls for Papers. See <a href="https://www.aarweb.org/regions/default.asp">www.aarweb.org/regions/default.asp</a>.

In the Field. News of events and opportunities for scholars of religion. In the Field is a members-only online publication that accepts brief announcements, including calls for papers, grant news, conference announcements, and other opportunities appropriate for scholars of religion. Submit text online at www.aarweb.org/publications/inthefield/submit.asp.

Openings: Employment Opportunities for Scholars of Religion. Openings is a members-only online publication listing job announcements in areas of interest to members; issues are viewable online from the first through the last day of each month. Submit announcements online, and review policies and pricing, at www.aarweb.org/openings/submit.asp.

### **Call for Papers**

### **General Information**

### **Meeting Location**

The 2005 AAR Annual Meeting and Book Exhibit will be held at the Philadelphia Marriott and Pennsylvania Convention Center in Philadelphia, PA, November 19–22.

Future Annual Meeting locations include:

2006 – Washington, D.C., November 18–21 2007 – San Diego, CA, November 17–20

2008 – Chicago, IL, October 25–28 2009 – Montreal, QC, November 7–10

2010 – TBA

2011 – San Francisco, CA, November 19–22

### **Registration and Housing**

You must be registered for the meeting in order to secure a room in the Annual Meeting hotel at our specially negotiated hotel rates (which are often half the published room rate for the property). When you receive your preregistration information in the May issue of *Religious Studies News—AAR Edition* (or online), carefully review and follow the instructions in order to secure your housing. Although registration may be completed without submitting your housing request, you are encouraged to submit both together.

#### **Questions about the Call**

The work of the program unit is coordinated by the chair(s) and a steering committee who design the sessions and make the decisions about which proposals will eventually be on the program. Each proposal is carefully refereed, usually in a "blind" procedure (i.e., without the name of the proposer being provided to the referees). All proposals, abstracts, and completed participant information (as well as any questions you may have) should be sent to the individual(s) named in this Call.

Please inquire with the appropriate unit chair about the amount of time granted for your presentation, and by what date the respondent (if any) must receive your completed paper.

### Questions about the Annual Meeting

Concerns of a general nature may be sent to the AAR executive office to the attention of the Annual Meeting Program Director, 825 Houston Mill Road NE, Suite 300, Atlanta, GA 30329, USA; W: 404-727-3049; F: 404-727-7959; annualmeeting@aarweb.org.

### **Additional Meetings**

Organizations, persons, or program units wishing to plan receptions and other meetings before, during, or after the Annual Meeting should go online to www.aarweb.org after March 15, 2005. This Web site will have information regarding guidelines, necessary forms, and costs to request Additional Meeting space at the Annual Meeting and/or how to announce your event in the Annual Meeting Program Book.

Questions should be directed to Conferon, Inc. at 314-997-1500 after April 1, 2005. Written requests can be sent to Conferon, Inc., 4 Cityplace Drive, Suite 480, St. Louis, MO 63141-7062, or aarsbl@conferon.com.

The deadline for priority scheduling of Additional Meeting requests is May 30, 2005. Requests after that date will be accommodated as space allows.

### 2005 Calendar of Deadlines

#### March 1, 2005

Deadline for proposals, participant forms, and abstracts to be received by program unit chairs.

#### April 1, 2005

Notification of acceptance (or not) of proposals by program unit chairs. All program participants must renew/establish 2005 AAR memberships in order to participate on the program.

#### April 7, 2005

Program unit chairs submit session request information (Program Book copy, abstracts, participant forms) to AAR executive office online.

#### May 15, 2005

Annual Meeting and hotel registration opens. Forms available online and in the May *Religious Studies News—AAR Edition*.

#### May 30, 2005

Deadline for submission of Additional Meeting request forms. Forms are available online at *www.aarweb.org/annualmeet* starting March 15.

#### June 15, 2005

Deadline for participants to renew their AAR membership and be preregistered for the meeting. Names of participants not registered will be removed from the Program Book.

#### September 2005

Annual Meeting Program Books mailed to members.

#### November 19-22, 2005

AAR Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA.

### Guidelines for Submitting Proposals

**Step 1:** Note acceptable method(s) of submission and the persons to whom it should be sent.

**Step 2:** Submit all materials by one method only (if you submit your proposal via e-mail, you must not fax your participant form — the participant form must be sent via e-mail as well).

**Step 3:** Follow all instructions for submission requirements as outlined below, both general guidelines and those specific to your method of submission.

**Step 4:** Note the difference between paper and panel proposals.

**Step 5:** Be prepared to fulfill your AAR membership requirement if accepted onto the program. This must be done no later than June 15, 2005, or you may jeopardize your participation on the program in November

#### **General Guidelines**

#### Participation at the Annual Meeting

All participants on the AAR program must be current (2005) members of AAR. Membership in SBL does not fulfill this requirement. All participants must also be preregistered for the Annual Meeting by June 15, 2005. Any participant who is not a current 2005 AAR member or preregistered for the Annual Meeting by June 15, 2005, will have his/her name removed from the printed Program Book and will jeopardize his/her participation on the program in November.

N.B. All 2004 and 2005 members receive this Call. To inquire about your 2005 membership status, please see www.aar-web.org/membership.

#### **Participation Limits**

Each member may appear on the Annual Meeting program (AAR and/or SBL side) a total of **two times** in any capacity (e.g., present a paper, be a panelist, be a respondent, or preside over a session). The only exception is for business meeting presiders.

Further, it is not appropriate to present the same material in two separate sessions, no matter the convention for describing them. If you are proposing the same idea to two different program units, you must be prepared to choose in which you will present if you are accepted onto both.

#### **Multiple Submissions**

To foster broad participation and to facilitate the work of unit chairs, the Program Committee allows but does not encourage multiple submissions of proposals. The total limit on such submissions is two. These may consist of the same proposal submitted to two different program units, or two different proposals to two different units.

A Program Participant Form must accompany each proposal, and the other program units to which you submitted proposals must be indicated. While failure to disclose multiple submissions may well result in the rejection of all submissions, disclosure of multiple submissions will not jeopardize full consideration of each. The deadline for receipt of all submissions is March 1, 2005.

#### **Proposal Requirements**

You are required to submit both a proposal (not more than 1,000 words) and an abstract (not more than 150 words) of your presentation. This holds regardless of your method of submission or the type of proposal you are making. Only proposals will be evaluated in the selection process, but if your proposal is accepted for the Annual Meeting, the abstract will be included in the Book of Abstracts.

### **Proposals**

The proposal should state, as fully as you can, the proposal's purpose and how the argument will proceed. Provide enough context to show that you are aware of the basic literature in the field and summarize the argument of your presentation. Be specific about what sort of contribution your proposal will make. Bear in mind the nature of the program unit to which you are applying, particularly as reflected in the Call for Papers.

Failure to submit a proposal, an abstract, and/or participant form(s) may disqualify a submission from consideration. Further, submitting a proposal in a method other than those noted after each program unit's call will result in disqualification.

#### Paper vs. Panel

The Annual Meeting program has three types of sessions: paper sessions, panel sessions, and poster sessions.

A session with separately announced paper titles is considered a "paper" session. Paper proposals are more often submitted individually and arranged into session by the chair(s) and steering committee of a program unit.

#### Arts, Literature, and Religion Section

Charles Mathewes, University of Virginia, Presiding

Theme: Evil and Negativity

Barbara E. Galli, McGill University Facing Evil: The Parable of the Ring in the Hands of Abraham Abulafia and Gotthold Ephraim Lessing Eric Boynton, Allegheny College Ivan's Rebellion: Love and the Excess of Evil

Anita Houck, Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame

Comic Theodicies: Laughter and Divine Responsibility in Modern Literature

Alyda Faber, Atlantic School of Theology Reading the Letters and Journals: Virginia Woolf's "Poetics of Reality"

A **"panel"** is a session with one announced theme and a list of participants who address that theme but do not present

separate formal papers. Panel proposals are generally submitted as prearranged session proposals.

#### Roman Catholic Studies Group

Rodger Payne, Louisiana State University, Presiding

**Theme:** Catholicism and Civil Rights in the 20th-Century South

#### Panelists:

Gregory Nelson Hite, University of Virginia

Charles R. Gallagher, Milwaukee, MI Andrew S. Moore, Middle Tennessee State University

Justin Poche, University of Notre Dame

#### Responding:

Peter A. Huff, Centenary College of Lousiana

### **Poster Session Proposals**

The AAR is accepting proposals for poster sessions. A poster session presents research or discourse on a topic by combining graphics and text on a 4' x 8' board. The poster session presenter is available during an assigned session time in order to interact on a one-to-one basis with the attendee viewing the poster. A well-planned poster communicates its message in a visually and textually powerful way, allowing the attendee to grasp the information quickly.

Poster session proposals should consist of a short description of the topic and focus of the research, one abstract, and a single participant form for all involved. Submissions will be reviewed and evaluated for acceptance onto the program by members of the AAR Program Committee. Submissions can be made online through the OP3 system before the March 1 deadline.

For more information on poster sessions, please visit the AAR Web site at www.aarweb.org.

### Prearranged Session Proposals

Members may wish to submit a prearranged session in its entirety, complete with a presider, respondent, and participants. You will note in the Call that some program units use this procedure more than others (Religions and South Asia Section and Japanese Religions Group, for instance). Special considerations go into the submission of such a session. The coordinator of a prearranged session must submit a proposal that lists all the participants (presider, participants, and respondent [if desired]). Pre-arranged sessions can either be for paper or panel sessions.

Submissions for a **panel** session should include a single proposal detailing the focus of the session, one abstract, and a single participant form for all involved. (A separate participant form is not required when using OP3.) Submissions for a **paper** session must include each

See **GUIDELINES**, p.4

#### **GUIDELINES**, from p.3

presenter's original paper proposal and abstract in addition to the necessary forms; one participant form for each participant. (A separate participant form is not required when using OP3.) Failure to send in a complete prearranged proposal may disqualify an entry. Units reserve the right to accept prearranged session proposals in full or in part.

#### Abstracts

Along with your proposal and completed participant form, you must submit an abstract of your proposed presentation in electronic format. Even if you are submitting your proposal via surface mail or fax, you must also send one copy of your abstract electronically in addition to the print copies. If possible send the abstract in the body of an e-mail with the subject heading: "Abstract for [supply your name]." Barring in the body of an e-mail, you may also send it virus-free on disk, or via e-mail as an attachment. Please note some program units will not accept attachments.

Use the following guidelines for format:

- WordPerfect, MSWord, RTF, PDF, or ASCII text format.
- For transliterated characters, please describe them to the best of your ability after the text of your abstract, under "Diacritical Marks." The "Diacritical Marks" portion will not be included in your word count. These can include italics, macrons, under-or over-dots, etc. (i.e., add macrons over the first and second "a" in Yogacara; put a slash through the "o" in Søren). For non-Western characters, please use universal embedded fonts.
- The abstract should have the exact same title as your paper, followed by your name and then the name of your institution (please include city name if more than one school or campus bears the name) or city, state, or province, or write "Independent Scholar."
- The body of the abstract may be no more than 150 words in length. Successful proposals with abstracts longer than 150 words will be shortened.
- Do not use footnotes; any present will
- Please scan your abstract for viruses before sending.

#### **Participant Forms**

The Program Participant Forms (see page 8) are designed to provide the information necessary to respond to your proposal and to organize the Annual Meeting. It is important that these forms be filled out clearly and completely by the participant. Please use the participant form appropriate for your method of submission (see below). Ensure that the title of your proposal exactly matches the title you use on the participant form in order for the two to be positively matched.

### Methods of **Submission** (Specific Guidelines)



Please go online to www.aarweb.org for full submission instructions. Separate participant forms are not required with OP3, as your participant information is integrated in the online form. NB: Do not place your name or other identifying remarks in the body of the proposal field in OP3; this may endanger the blind review process of the unit and acceptance of your proposal may be jeopardized.

### E-mail



Submit your 1,000-word proposal and 150-word abstract within the BODY of ONE single e-mail. Locate the online "Participant Form for E-mail Submission" at www.aarweb.org/annualmeet for your participant form. Be sure you use the exact same title on the "Participant Form for Email Submission" as you do on the emailed proposal. Proposals received without the Participant Forms will be disqualified. Participant Forms received without proposals or abstracts will also be disqualified.

If you are requested by the program unit to submit a copy to both co-chairs or steering committee members, follow the instructions listed. If no one person is specified, send your complete proposal to either one of the co-chairs.

### E-mail w/Attachments ${\cal U}$



Submit your 1,000-word proposal, 150-word abstract, and Participant Form as attachments in one single e-mail. Please locate the "Participant Form for E-mail Attachment

Submission" at www.aarweb.org/annualmeet for your participant form; this will require the use of MSWord. If you are unable to use MSWord or the "MSWord Form" online, please locate the "Participant Form for E-mail Submission" at www.aarweb.org/annualmeet for your participant form. Be sure you use the exact same title on the "Participant Form for Email Submission" as you do on the attached proposal you e-mailed. Proposals received without the Participant Forms will be disqualified. Participant Forms received without proposals or abstracts will also be disqualified.

If you are requested by the program unit to submit a copy to both co-chairs or steering committee members, follow the instructions listed. If no one person is specified, send your complete proposal to either one of the co-chairs.

### Fax 🗐



Submit one (1) copy of the proposal, including abstract (with your name and institution listed). Submit one (1) copy of the participant form. Be certain you include a current e-mail address on your participant form. Notifications of acceptance/rejection will be sent out via e-mail.

- 1. Use plain white paper, 8.5" x 11" (or A4) with one-inch margins.
- 2. Do not use institutional or other letterhead.
- 3. Use a computer and printer, preferably a laser printer. (Handwritten proposals cannot be accepted.)
- 4. Use the following format:
  - a. Type title of proposal.
  - b. Below the title, type name of presenter, a comma, and a complete name of institution. If there is no institutional affiliation, list city, state, or province, or write "Independent Scholar."
  - c. Type body of proposal double-spaced. Proposals should not exceed 1,000 words.

If you are requested by the program unit to submit a copy to both co-chairs or steering committee members, follow the instructions listed. If no one person is specified, send your complete packet to either one of the co-chairs. Remember to include an e-mail address on your proposal. If you do not use e-mail, include a fax number so the Program Unit Chair can

send the notification regarding your acceptance/rejection onto the program. Send one electronic copy of your abstract to the same person to whom you are sending your proposal. See above under Abstracts.

### Surface Mail



Unless otherwise instructed in the Call itself, submit six (6) copies of the proposal, including (1) copy with your name and institution listed, and five (5) copies which are "blind," (i.e., your name and institution are not listed anywhere on the proposal). You need only submit one (1) copy of the participant form. Be certain you include a current e-mail address on your participant form. Notifications of acceptance/rejection will be sent out via e-mail.

- 1. Use plain white paper, 8.5" x 11" (or A4) with one-inch margins.
- 2. Do not use institutional or other letterhead.
- 3. Use a computer and printer, preferably a laser printer. (Handwritten proposals cannot be accepted.)
- 4. Use the following format:
  - a. Type title of proposal.
  - b. On one copy of the proposal, below the title, type name of presenter, a comma, and a complete name of institution (please include city name if more than one school or campus bears the name). Or, if you are not affiliated with any school, list city, state, or province, or write "Independent Scholar." Do not list this information on the other five copies of the proposal.
  - c. Type body of proposal double-spaced. Proposals should not exceed 1,000 words.

If you are requested by the program unit to submit copies to both co-chairs or steering committee members, follow the instructions listed. If no one person is specified, send your complete packet to either one of the co-chairs. Remember to include an e-mail address on your proposal. If you do not use e-mail, include a self-addressed stamped envelope with appropriate postage for the country from which the Program Unit Chair will send the notification regarding your acceptance/rejection onto the program. Send one (1) electronic copy of your abstract to the same person to whom you are sending your proposal. See above under Abstracts. 2

# SECTIONS

#### Academic Teaching and the **Study of Religion Section**

Joe Favazza, Rhodes College, W: 901-843-3907, favazza@rhodes.edu. Sid Brown, University of the South, W: 931-598-1529, sbrown@sewanee.edu.

We seek presentations that discuss philosophies and strategies for effective teaching and learning, and that model pedagogical creativity, analysis, and "best practices." We strongly urge presenters to feature active and engaging methods of teaching in their sessions, and to indicate in their proposals how they plan to do so. We particularly seek proposals on the following themes: 1) For a teaching and learning "street fair" or "marketplace," we invite posters, exhibits, and/or interactive displays that will excite and educate others about a breakthrough moment in the classroom or a great course. 2) Dealing with freedom, politics, pluralism, and "combustible issues" in the religious studies classroom (e.g., negotiating clashing

political opinion in the classroom, fostering critical thinking in emotionally charged contexts). 3) Comparative models and strategies of teaching and learning religion in other cultural contexts, especially Eastern and Central Europe. 4) Proposals for a possible co-sponsored session, with the Wabash Center and the Caucus of Scholars at Religiously Affiliated Institutions, on creative and effective course design and pedagogy when teaching a religious studies/theology course as part of an institution's general education requirement. 5) Proposals for a possible co-sponsored session with the Religion, Media, and Culture Consultation on teaching religion and the media (e.g., teaching religion with or through the media, the media as a "religious text," and/or the media as a mediating structure of knowledge about religion). 6) Finally, we invite new professors (those who have taught four years or fewer) to present on "What I wished they'd told me about teaching and how I learned better" — reflections on the implementation-surprise-change feedback

persons who are registered for the Annual Meeting.

Sections are the most inclusive type of program unit, aimed at

reflecting the major areas of academic interest of the members of the Academy and at addressing the continuing agenda of the various subfields within the study of religion. Attendance at sessions of sections (as well as any of the other program units) is open to all

loop that is so much a part of a living peda-

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#### Arts, Literature, and Religion **Section**

Jennifer L. Geddes, University of Virginia, jlg2u@virginia.edu. S. Brent Plate, Texas Christian University, b.plate@tcu.edu.

The Arts, Literature, and Religion Section invites proposals for papers and for prearranged sessions on the following topics: literature of trauma and/or suffering; literary utopias and dystopias, especially in urban settings; fiction and poetry from Central and Eastern Europe; postcolonial literature; aesthetics and sacramental theology; East and West coast poetics; hip hop culture; literature and the arts related to revolution, war, and pacificism; sacramental theology and aesthetics; Angels in America (film and theater versions); orality and literacy in a multimedia age; the art of Samuel Bak (for a joint session with SBL's Theory, Reading, Bible Group); Tantric art and literature (for a joint session with Tantric Studies Consultation). Proposals for papers or panels on other topics related to religion, literature, and the arts (including music, theater, and/or drama, as well as medieval, Renaissance, Baroque, or Romantic arts and literature) are also invited. Please send proposals to both program units when responding to a joint call for papers.

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#### **Buddhism Section**

Anne M. Blackburn, Cornell University, amb242@cornell.edu. Peter N. Gregory, Smith College, pgregory@email.smith.edu.

Papers are invited on the following topics (interested proposers are urged to communicate, at least initially, with the contact persons indicated): 1) Vinaya/discipline: old texts, modern regulations, and regional manifestations. Contact Jeff Samuels, jeffrey.samuels@wku.edu or Tom Borchert, taborche@midway.uchicago.edu. 2) Buddhism in the southern capital: heian and kamakura developments of Nara Buddhism. Contact Robert Rhodes, rhodes@res.otani.ac.jp. 3) Seeing through images. Contact Bruce Williams, bwilliam@library.berkeley.edu. 4) Rituals across traditions. Contact Bruce Williams, bwilliam@library.berkeley.edu. 5) The demonic, saints, and death in Buddhism. Contact Mariko Walter, mnwalter@ptd.net. The section co-chairs also welcome proposals for individual papers, panels, or full paper sessions on any other topic concerning the history, doctrine, practice, and culture of Buddhism in or across any geographical areas. All submissions will be considered by the section steering committee through a blind refereeing process.

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### Christian Systematic Theology Section

David S. Cunningham, Hope College, P.O. Box 9000, Holland, MI 49422-9000, USA; W: 616-395-7320; F: 616-395-7490; cunningham@hope.edu. Cynthia Rigby, Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, 100 E. 27th ST, Austin, TX 78705-5797, USA; W: 512-472-6736; F: 512-479-0738; crigby@austinseminary.edu.

General theme: theological aesthetics in systematic perspective. We invite scholarly papers pursuing constructive work on the category of beauty within the classical systematic loci. Presenters are encouraged to include visual and/or aural representations of their argument. Five sessions are planned. 1) Revealed beauty: the revelation of God's beauty in particular cultural forms. Papers will explore how both the doctrine of revelation and the vision of God that emerges from it are shaped by differing cultural understandings of the beautiful. 2) Music and the spirit. How does the Holy Spirit shape the human experience of music, and how might Christian pneumatology be reformulated in light of that experience? 3) Mary and divine creativity: considerations of the history, theology, and iconography of Mary as aesthetic keys to understanding and formulating the Christian doctrine of God. 4) Theological responses to The Beauty of the Infinite by David Bentley Hart (Eerdmans, 2004). 5) Beauty in thought, prayer, and action: theological reflections on the relationship between mysticism and social activism. This last session is co-sponsored with the Religion, Social Conflict, and Peace Group; please submit proposals to both units. Please note: In all cases, we seek constructive (not merely descriptive) proposals that are both informed by the historical Christian traditions and directed to the contemporary contexts in which theology is pursued. Proposals should focus on the constructive argument to be presented and describe it in detail. For future planning, we are choosing general themes two years out; in 2006 it will be mission and discipleship in an age of globalization.

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### Comparative Studies in Religion Section

Selva J. Raj, Albion College, Department of Religious Studies, Albion, MI 49224, USA; W: 517-629-0400; F: 517-629-0286; sraj@albion.edu. Mary N. MacDonald, Le Moyne College, Department of Religious Studies, 1419 Salt Springs RD, Syracuse, NY 13214, USA; W: 315-445-4364; F: 315-445-4540; mnmacd@aol.com.

The Comparative Studies in Religion Section provides the opportunity for significant cross-traditional and/or cross-cultural inquiry. We seek proposals that provide occasion for comparative inquiry seriously engaging two or more religious traditions around a common topic and that also reflect critically on the conceptual tools employed in the inquiry. While we accept individual paper proposals, we strongly encourage group proposals either in the form of thematic sessions (maximum four presenters, a presider, and a respondent) or as panels (maximum six presenters). Thematic paper session proposals must include both an abstract and individual paper proposals. Panel proposals must include a two-page abstract and a list of the panel members. The steering committee reserves the right to add individuals to any group proposal. Proposals must be made through the online system unless alternative arrangements have been made with one of the co-chairs well in advance of the deadline. The 2005 meeting includes a focus on contributions of Central and Eastern European scholars and scholarship in the study of religion. Therefore, session organizers are strongly encouraged to consider such scholars and scholarship in their proposals. Themes proposed for the 2005 meeting, with organizers identified in parentheses, are: religions and human rights (Grace Kao, gkao@vt.edu); eugenics in comparative perspective (William LaFleur, lafleur@mail.sas.upenn.edu); rulers and religion (Mark MacWilliams, mmacwilliams@ stlawu.edu); contemporary psychological approaches to the comparative study of religions (Shubha Pathak, spathak1@uchicago.edu); rituals online (Mark MacWilliams, mmacwilliams@stlawu.edu); and comparativists and the study of religion (Mary N. MacDonald, mnmacd@aol.com). Please contact the organizer of the session in which you would like to participate.

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#### **Ethics Section**

Gloria Albrecht, University of Detroit Mercy, *albrecgh@udmercy.edu*. Darryl Trimiew, Colgate Rochester Crozier Divinity School, *dtrimiew@crcds.edu*.

The Ethics Section invites proposals from all religious traditions that provide ethical analysis and response to the following themes. 1) Papers that explore the relationship of specific rituals to ethical attitudes, judgments, and debates. Papers from all religious traditions are encouraged. This session is being co-sponsored with the Ritual Studies Group. Proposals for co-sponsored sessions should be sent to both sponsors. 2) Papers that provide an ethical analysis of the effectiveness of the moral message of the religious left in public discourse. 3) Papers that provide an ethical reassessment of civil liberties in light of the war against terrorism, drugs, and crime. This theme may include an ethical analysis of torture. 4) Papers that provide an ethical analysis of the impact of current public policies on the moral agency of women: for example, policies related to welfare, housing, health, education, and so forth. 5) Papers that provide an ethical analysis of the political advocacy of black

### **Membership Current?**

You must be a current AAR member in order to participate on the program. You must also be registered for the 2005 meeting. Persons who do not meet the membership and registration requirements by June 15, 2005, will not appear in the Program Book. To renew your membership, use the form on page 14 or go online to <a href="https://www.aarweb.org/membership">www.aarweb.org/membership</a>. Annual Meeting registration opens May 15th.

churches and governmental threats to that advocacy. Papers of particular excellence on other topics, particularly related to the role of religious and moral discourse in the public arena, are also invited.

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### History of Christianity Section

Anne Clark, University of Vermont, aclark@zoo.uvm.edu. Amy DeRogatis, Michigan State University, derogatis@cal.msu.edu.

The History of Christianity Section seeks to present innovative and engaging research on the history, culture, and development of Christianity from its origins to the present, while at the same time promoting interdisciplinary dialogue among the fields of history, ritual studies, art history, anthropology, and historical theology. We seek proposals for individual papers or entire panels on the following topics: theorizing the relationship between past and present — why study the history of Christianity; Christianity and empire; Christianity under hostile governments; Christian responses to non-Christian ritual; teaching global Christianity (possible co-sponsorship with Academic Teaching and the Study of Religion Section); Christianity in Eastern Europe; holy wars, holy memories; pacifist traditions; intermarriage in the history of Christianity; medicine and Christian bodies; Eastern Orthodoxy as other; the ideal of the early church in Christian history; deconversion and apostasy in Christian history; history of exegesis. We will consider proposals on other topics as well. Papers should be conceived for an effective 20-minute presentation. All proposals must be submitted online via OP3 and will be evaluated by blind peer review of the section steering committee.

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### North American Religions Section

John Corrigan, Florida State University, Religion Department, Dodd Hall, Tallahassee, FL 32306-1520, USA; W: 850-644-8094; F: 850-644-7225; *john.corrigan@fsu.edu*. Diane Winston, Annenberg School for Communication, University of Southern California, 3502 Watt WAY, 332B Los Angeles, CA 90089-0281, USA; W: 213-821-5388; F: 213-740-8624; *dianewin@usc.edu*.

The North American Religions Section encourages the use of diverse sources and multiple approaches to the study of religions in North America. In most sessions, we seek to stimulate comparative discussion around particular themes across a range of traditions. Most years we also devote one session to new work on a particular religious tradition and another session to a recently published book of outstanding merit in the field. The section

welcomes submissions for individual papers, panels, and sessions on any topic relevant to the study of religions in North America. We propose the following areas in particular for the 2005 meeting: 1) religion in Philadelphia, including papers or entire sessions on the African Methodist Episcopal Church, Father Divine, Reconstructionism, Quakers, Jewish Publication Society, abolitionism, Sun Ra, MOVE, the revival of 1858, and the Enlightenment; 2) religion and teenagers; 3) American religious discourses (and the social/cultural/political uses of these discourses) about terrorism/evil/moral values; 4) ethnography and history in the study of American religions; 5) the Civil War; 6) material culture; and 7) sessions that incorporate site visits.

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### Philosophy of Religion Section

Tom Carlson, University of California, Santa Barbara, tcarlson@religion.ucsb.edu.

The Philosophy of Religion Section welcomes proposals for individual papers, paper sessions, or panels related to the following topics: 1) questions of humanity and personhood in light of current science and technology; 2) political theology, religious violence, and the question of tolerance; 3) philosophy of religion and the work of Philip Quinn; 4) Islamic philosophy and philosophy of religion; 5) Martin Heidegger's The Phenomenology of Religious Life; 6) philosophy of religion and thinkers from Eastern or Central Europe (esp. Slavoj Zizek, Leszek Kolakowski, Jan Patocka, Julia Kristeva, Mircea Eliade); 7) feminist philosophy of religion. We will also consider proposals on topics not listed here.

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### Religion and the Social Sciences Section

Douglas Hicks, University of Richmond, *dhicks@richmond.edu*.

Proposals are invited in relation to the following themes: 1) social scientific approaches to religion and race; 2) contemporary psychological approaches to the comparative study of religion; 3) social scientific analyses of religious discourse and religious participation in politics and the public sphere; 4) intersections of law, religion, and sexuality; 5) negotiating boundaries: religion and migration. Other proposals are welcome that employ social scientific methodologies in the study of religious or theological questions or that apply religious/theological methodologies to social scientific questions.

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(continued on p.6)

### Religion in South Asia Section

Tazim Kassam, Syracuse University, Department of Religion, 501 Hall of Languages, Syracuse, NY 13244, USA; W: 315-443-5722; tkassam@syr.edu. Parimal G. Patil, Harvard University, Study of Religion, 12 Quincy ST, Cambridge, MA 02138, USA; W: 617-384-8938; ppatil@fas.harvard.edu.

We invite proposals for fully developed paper sessions or panels on any aspect of religion in South Asia, including field research, textual studies, and pedagogy. Proposals with a multireligious or interreligious dimension and those concerned with parts of South Asia other than India are especially welcome. Given the special international focus of the 2005 Annual Meeting, we encourage contributions from colleagues in Central and Eastern Europe. Proposals must be made through the online system. Individual paper proposals are not accepted. Topics suggested for the 2005 Annual Meeting are listed below; this list is by no means exhaustive or definitive. Teaching Hinduism in the survey course (John Cort, cort@denison.edu); can Hindus talk to Muslims? (Phyllis Herman, phyllis.k.herman@csun.edu); Vastu (Laurie Patton, lpatton@emory.edu); word and image in South Asian religions (Karline McLain, kmclain@mail.utexas.edu); media and the transformation of religion (Deepak Sarma, deepak.sarma@case.edu); religion and money (Whitney Kelting, w.kelting@neu.edu); vanishing village deities (Venkatakrishna Sastry, sastry\_bvk@hindu-university.edu); public ceremonial and political ritual (Richard Davis, rdavis@bard.edu); dialogue, debate, and verbal contest (Tamar Reich, treich@ucalgary.ca); personal law vs. uniform civil code (Purushottama Bilimoria, p.bilimoria@ unimelb.edu.au); web-based education (Kuldip Gupta, gupta@hindu-university.edu); yoga and ecology (Chris Chapple, cchapple@lmu.edu); aesthetics and ethics in South Asian religions (Emily Hudson, ehudson@learnlink.emory.edu); media representations of Hinduism (M. K. Sridhar, sridhar@hindu-university.edu); Sikh identity (Susan Prill, sprill@hamilton.edu); embodied religion and performance (Linda Hess, lionda@stanford.edu); sacred and profane love in mystical traditions (Daniela Rossella, ghezziem@tin.it); the Bhakti movement says who? (Jack Hawley, jsh3@columbia.edu); South Asian religions and the Web (Andrew Fort, a.fort@tcu.edu); South Asian students studying South Asian religions (Pankaj Jain, pankaj-jain@uiowa.edu); can North American religionists talk to South Asians? (Robin Rinehart, rineharr@lafayette.edu).

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### **Annual Meeting AV Requests**

Every attempt will be made to meet all requests for AV equipment. However, due to the high cost of technical electronic AV equipment, (computers, LCD projectors, Internet, software, etc.) only presentations which necessitate the use of such equipment will be granted access to it. All AV requests must be received at the time of your proposal. AV requests received after the deadline cannot be accommodated.

### Study of Islam Section

Nelly Van Doorn-Harder, Valparaiso University, Department of Theology, Valparaiso, IN 46383-7493, USA; pieternella.hardervandoorn@valpo.edu. Omid Safi, Colgate University, Department of Philosophy & Religion, 13 Oak DR, Hamilton, NY 13346, USA; osafi@mail.colgate.edu.

The Study of Islam Section encourages paper proposals in all areas of Islamic studies, but successful proposals will reflect theoretical and methodological sophistication and self-awareness, as well as innovative examination of Islamic societies and texts. As in all years, we welcome submissions dealing with the Qur'an, Islamic law, Sufism, gender and sexuality constructions, engagement with modernity, teaching Islam, interfaith, and other areas of general interest. This year's areas of focus will be: 1) Pedagogy and the challenges of teaching Islam from the point of view of various disciplines (for example, history, religious studies, anthropology, etc.). 2) Contemporary Muslim intellectuals and Islamic thought. (Panel proposals about one or more specific thinkers, such as for example Soroush, are welcome.) 3) African-American Islam. 4) Islam in public discourses. The focus of papers can be on topics such as: How is Islam being presented in the media? Are there ways for scholars of Islam to influence this discourse? 5) Developing shared conversations: Judaism and Islam in interaction. 6) Textual readings of Qur'an and Bible. (This can possibly be a joint panel with SBL). 7) In view of the 2005 AAR focus on Eastern Europe, all topics on Islam in Eastern Europe. 8) We also welcome proposals for book panels, for example on the latest scholarship in Qur'anic studies.

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#### **Study of Judaism Section**

Randi Rashkover, York College of Pennsylvania, W: 410-415-5839, \*\*rrashkov@ycp.edu.\*\* Martin Kavka, Florida State University, \*\*mkavka@mailer.fsu.edu.\*\*

In keeping with the international focus on Eastern Europe at next year's Annual

Meeting, we invite proposals on Judaism in Eastern Europe, past or present, from any methodological approach or subfield in the study of Judaism. We also invite proposals on the following topics: 1) portrayals of Judaism in literature; 2) religious violence; 3) ancient Jewish sources and modern Jewish thought (either the use of ancient Jewish sources in modern Jewish thought or the constructive aspects of scholarship on ancient texts); 4) Judaism and space/territory; 5) Islamic interpretations of Jewish texts; 6) Orthodox Jewish feminism; 7) and the construction of Judaism in the thought of the Frankfurt School or psychoanalytic theory. Additionally, we are hoping to co-sponsor a panel with the Nineteenth-Century Theology Group on constructions of the religious "other" in 19th-century religious thought. As always, we are also eager to receive paper and panel proposals on other issues and topics.

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### Theology and Religious Reflection Section

Paul Lakeland, Fairfield University, Department of Religious Studies, North Benson RD, Fairfield, CT 06824, USA; W: 203-254-4000 x2492; pflakeland@mail.fairfield.edu.

The Theology and Religious Reflection Section invites proposals for the 2005 program on the following themes: 1) The relationships between varieties of evangelical religion and social change. We hope to present a panel or set of papers in which the speakers will respond from various sectors of evangelicalism (conservative evangelicalism, Hispanic evangelicalism, Sojourners evangelicals, etc.). 2) In light of the rhetoric of recent religio-political discourse, the possibility that we are seeing the emergence of a new form of civil religion. 3) The relationship between violence and images of God, especially "beyond Girard," perhaps considering the work of Eugen Drewermann, Walter Wink, Leo Lefebure, and others. 4) The relationship between religious language and public discourse, or religious language and economics. 5) The relationships

between religion and empire. 6) Do the Religious Right and the Religious Left employ different aesthetics? How do they imagine the beautiful? 7) Progressive Christianity and the secular Left. 8) Langdon Gilkey on Tillich and on Niebuhr, for a possible joint session with the Tillich Group. Please send proposals to both program units when responding to a joint call for papers. Additionally, the Theology and Religious Reflection Section welcomes paper and panel proposals which address the intersections of theological and religious reflection with philosophical and political issues, and with questions of literary, cultural, and critical theory.

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#### **Women and Religion Section**

Jung Ha Kim, Georgia State University, Department of Sociology, Atlanta, GA 30303, USA; W: 404-651-1847; H: 770-814-8584; F: 404-651-1712; socjhk@panther.gsu.edu.

Individual and group (panel/paper) proposals are welcome on any aspect of the study of women and religion. This year the section especially seeks proposals on the following themes (in random order): 1) women and religion in Philadelphia; 2) women and religion in Eastern Europe; 3) methodologies in the study of the Goddess; 4) interfaith dialogue on "authoritative" texts/texts; 5) women, sacrifice, and war; 6) Katherine of Siena and the canonization of Kateri Tekawihtha; 7) women hymn writers; 8) women and religious performance. Proposals should reflect critical awareness of the importance of race, sex, ethnicity, religious identity, class, sexuality, and/or nation to analysis on women and religion. The section especially invites proposals that facilitate dialogue across religious traditions and/or among various groups or specialists in the study of women and religion, broadly construed. Presentations that are multidisciplinary or innovative in format, that address emerging areas of scholarship or public interest, or that concern the intersection of scholarship and activism are particularly encouraged. Proposals should specify to which area of the call, if any, they respond and should state the importance of the proposed subjects or approaches to the study of women and religion.

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# **GROUPS**

### **African Religions Group**

Samuel K. Elolia, Emmanuel School of Religion, Johnson City, TN 37601, USA; W: 423-926-1186; eloliak@esr.edu.
Cynthia Hoehler-Fatton, University of Virginia, Department of Religious Studies, Charlottesville, VA 22904-4126, USA; W: 434-924-6314; chh3a@virginia.edu.

Papers are invited on the following themes: 1) Issues in the historiography of

African religions. Topics may include the historical dimension of African indigenous religions; representations of indigenous religions in historical studies of Africa; challenges, methodologies and resources in the historiography of African religions. 2) African religions in the neo-diaspora. Topics can include religions in new African immigrant communities — religions such as Pentecostalism, Sufism, or African independent Christianity. We invite discussion of

Groups are established to encourage the exploration of an emergent area of study or methodology, to cultivate the relation between the study of religion and a cognate discipline, or to pursue a long-range and broad research project. More focused than sections and less restricted in participation than seminars, groups are expected to experiment with the format of sessions at the Annual Meeting.

migration, globalization, and translocality and contemporary African religions. 3) With the Afro-American Religious History Group, we will co-sponsor a session on the American Methodist Episcopal Church and Africa. Topics may include AME missionaries in Africa; the importance of Africa in the vision of the

AME; the works of A. G. Miller, especially *Elevating the Race*.

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### Afro-American Religious History Group

Debra Mubashshir Majeed, Beloit College, Department of Philosophy & Religious Studies, 700 College ST, Beloit, WI 53511, USA; W: 608-363-2318; F: 608-363-2194; mubashsh@beloit.edu. Moses N. Moore, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ 85287, USA; W: 408-965-8671; F: 408-965-5139; moses.moore@asu.edu.

Consistent with AAR's Eastern European initiative and Philadelphia as the site of our 2005 Annual Meeting, we invite proposals for individual papers or full panels on the following general themes: 1) the American Methodist Episcopal Church and Africa; 2) black religions and the body; 3) the methodological contributions of DuBois to African-American religious historiography; 4) sacred images: black religious iconography in/and the African diaspora; 5) material culture within the African-American religious experience; 6) the historic relationship between African Americans and Quakers; 7) the violence/nonviolence debate within black religions. We encourage interdisciplinary presentations that incorporate the use of video, film, or other multimedia formats. Submissions will be accepted via OP3 and e-mail attachment.

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### Anthropology of Religion Group

Rebecca Norris, Merrimack College, Department of Religious Studies, 315 Turnpike ST, N. Andover, MA 01845, USA; W: 978-837-5000 x4521; rsnorris@sachsnorris.com. Shawn Landres, University of California, Santa Barbara, 12851 Evanston ST, Los Angeles, CA 90049-3712, USA; W: 310-472-1127; shawn@landres.com.

This year we propose the general themes of displacement and re-placement. "Displacement," from urban divination and New Age initiation rituals to Pennsylvania puja, considers religion disembedded from expected contexts. "Re-placement" encompasses the search for religious "roots," including reappropriation and reconstruction of indigenous religious practices and historical traditions, as well as intellectual and familial genealogies. And what are the methodological considerations of displacement — what do we do when theory or data doesn't "fit"? We also invite proposals for a co-sponsored session with the Religion, Media, and Culture Consultation addressing ethnographies of performance and audience, with media broadly understood. We encourage submissions from scholars using anthropology to study diverse traditions, regions, and eras; in 2005 we hope to contribute especially to the focus on Central and Eastern Europe.

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#### Asian North American Religion, Culture, and Society Group

Duncan Williams, University of California, Irvine, Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, W: 949-824-1603, duncanw@uci.edu. Su Yon Pak, Union Theological Seminary, W: 212-280-1396, spak@uts.columbia.edu.

We invite papers and panels addressing:
1) critical commentaries on recent publications in Asian North American religious studies; 2) evangelicalism and evangelical theology in Asian North American contexts; 3) local Philadelphia and regional Asian North American religions and cultures, including new immigrant communities; 4) new theories, methods, and research on Asian North American religions. Submissions via the AAR's Online Paper/Panel Proposal System (OP3) is preferred, though proposals sent through email attachments to the co-chairs are also acceptable.

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### Bioethics and Religion Group

Aline Kalbian, Florida State University, Department of Religion, Tallahassee, FL 32306, USA; W: 850-644-9878; akalbian@fsu.edu. Paul R. Johnson, D'Youville College, 280 Getzville RD, Snyder, NY 14226-3542, USA; W: 716-829-8176; johnsonp@dyc.edu.

We invite papers on the general topic of access to health care services. More specifically we seek papers that address religious, ethical, and justice-related issues surrounding such access. Topics might include: 1) cultural, social, and economic barriers to access; 2) medical insurance, Medicaid, and Medicare; 3) the cost of prescription drugs; 4) the Internet and medical information; 5) gender and access to health care; and 6) access to health services from the perspectives of the disabled. Proposals that address questions of access on both a domestic and global level are encouraged, as are those engaging the world's religious traditions on this issue.

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### **Black Theology Group**

Anthony B. Pinn, Rice University, 6100 Main ST MS 15, Houston, TX 77005, USA; W: 713-348-2710; F: 713-348-5486; pinn@rice.edu. Stacey Floyd-Thomas, Brite Divinity School, Texas Christian University, 2800 South University DR, TCU 298130, Fort Worth, TX 76129, USA; W: 817-257-7140; F: 817-423-3132; s.floyd-thomas@tcu.edu.

For 2005, the Black Theology Group is calling for papers that explore the implications that theories of existence have for furthering

### Member ID Number

You can find your membership ID number on any of the official paperwork that comes from the AAR. The top line of the address label has your ID number. It is a single letter followed by five (5) numbers (e.g. Z12345).

If you are a 2004 or 2005 member, the label on this Call for Papers has your ID number on it. If it is not there, please go to www.aarweb.org/membership and you can request to have your ID number e-mailed to you immediately.

black theological discourse. We are particularly interested in papers that bring black theology into dialogue with process studies, deconstructionist theories (i.e., poststructuralism, postcolonialism, and postmodernism), and existentialism (e.g., Kierkegaard). Topics covered may include theodicy, construction of the body, aesthetics, and cultural representation. In addition to individual papers, we welcome proposals for full panels. We are co-sponsoring a session with the Kierkegaard Group.

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### Bonhoeffer: Theology and Social Analysis Group

Lisa Dahill, Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, dahill@carnegiefoundation.org. Lori Brandt Hale, Augsburg College, hale@augsburg.edu.

For 50 years, the legacy of Bonhoeffer has provided resources for those seeking theological-ethical paradigms of faith engaged with politics. Now, emerging from the 2004 U.S. elections, a different faithpolitical agenda is manifest; it includes the cooptation of the writings and legacy of Bonhoeffer to provide a "Christian" justification for the war in Iraq. We solicit proposals that will analyze this use of Bonhoeffer's legacy on textual, historical, and theological/ethical grounds, making particular use of the new edition of Bonhoeffer's Ethics. Proposals might address the distinctiveness of, and role of discernment in, Bonhoeffer's ethics, or how his pacifism shaped his conspiracy participation. We also invite proposals on the "quest for the historical Bonhoeffer," with attention to the role Bethge played as primary interpreter of Bonhoeffer.

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### **Chinese Religions Group**

Daniel B. Stevenson, University of Kansas, Department of Religious Studies, Smith Hall, 1300 Oread AVE, Lawrence, KS 66045, USA; W: 785-864-7258; F: 785-864-5205; dbsteve@ku.edu. Chun-Fang Yu, Columbia University, Department of Religion, 624 Kent Hall, New York, NY 10025, USA; W: 212-854-5546; F: 212-854-5922; cy2126@columbia.edu.

We invite proposals related to all aspects of Chinese religious practice and thought, both historical and contemporary. Though individual proposals are acceptable, panel proposals or closely related paper proposals have a greater chance of acceptance. For 2005 we welcome proposals relating to the following topics: 1) appropriation of Chinese religious traditions and practices in East Asia at large, including interactions across cultural and political boundaries; 2) issues of approach, resource, and pedagogy in the teaching of Chinese religions (e.g., teaching China in a World Religions or Asian Religions course); 3) rhetorical strategies in ritual text and performance; 4) religion and the state in contemporary China (e.g., sanction and proscription, legal and discursive parameters of "religion," "healing science," and "depraved cult"). Submission by the OP3 system is strongly encouraged.

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### **KEY TO SYMBOLS:**

= Surface mail







 $\mathcal{Q}$ = E-mail with attachment

### **Christian Spirituality Group**

Arthur G. Holder, Graduate Theological Union, 2400 Ridge RD, Berkeley, CA 94709, USA; *aholder@gtu.edu*. Wendy Wright, Creighton University, 319 N. 36th AVE, Omaha, NE 68131, USA; *wmwright@creighton.edu*.

We welcome proposals that explore the relationship between the academic study of Christian spirituality and its practice, as well as proposals that employ multidisciplinary perspectives. We invite proposals (including those for complete prearranged sessions) on the following themes: 1) the "Peaceable Kingdom": the religious experiment among Quakers and other Christian groups in Pennsylvania history; 2) "I'm spiritual AND religious" (how Christian communities and institutions engage persons in the spiritual quest); 3) Christian practices of spiritual guidance (models, traditions, innovations); 4) spirituality of Pierre Teilhard de Chardin (for the half-centenary of his death); 5) spiritual practices in Eastern Christianity (co-sponsored session with Eastern Orthodox Studies Group), with papers on the Jesus Prayer and Hesychasm especially welcome, also iconography, pilgrimage, liturgy, etc.

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#### Comparative Studies in Hinduisms and Judaisms Group

Kathryn McClymond, Georgia State University, P.O. Box 4089, Atlanta, GA, 30302-4089, USA; W: 404-651-0727; kmcclymond@gsu.edu.

This group seeks to bring together scholars of Hinduism and Judaism to generate responsible and insightful comparative conversation with the intention of developing an alternative paradigm to the Protestant-based paradigms that have tended to dominate the academic study of religion. For the 2005 sessions we invite papers on the following themes: 1) practices associated with death and dying; 2) mothers and mothering; 3) representations of Hindu and Jewish religious identity in film (co-sponsored with the Religion, Film, and Visual Culture Group). Presenters need not have expertise in both Hindu and Jewish traditions.

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(continued on p.8)

#### **Confucian Traditions Group**

Edward Slingerland, University of Southern California, Department of Religion and East Asian Languages and Cultures, MC: 0355, Los Angeles, CA 90089-0355, USA; W: 213-740-8508; slingerl@usc.edu.

The Confucian Traditions Group welcomes proposals on all aspects of the Confucian tradition. For the 2005 meeting, proposals concerning archaeological texts, novel directions in Confucian studies, and the relevance of Confucianism to contemporary issues (including nativism or Chinese nationalism, issues of human rights and democracy, and attitudes toward economic concerns) are particularly welcome. Full paper session or panel proposals are preferred.

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### **Critical Theory and Discourses on Religion**

Steven Engler, Mount Royal College, Humanities, 4825 Richard RD SW, Calgary, Alberta, T3E 6K6, CANADA; sengler@criticaltheory.org. Kocku von Stuckrad, University of Amsterdam, History of Hermetic Philosophy and Related Currents, Oude Turfmarkt 147, NL - 1012 GC, AMSTERDAM; stuckrad@criticaltheory.org.

Submissions are invited on the following themes: 1) gender, war, and nationalism; 2) religion and the senses (the place of smell, touch, etc., limitations of visuality, anthropology of the senses); 3) Tomoko Masuzawa's The Invention of World Religions; 4) reflections on the academic/media discourses that framed religion's role in the 2004 election; 5) contested sciences: the plurality of forms of knowledge (religious vs. scientific claims, art/literature/experience as knowledge, etc.). Consistent with the international focus of the 2005 meeting, proposals addressing Central and Eastern European issues and approaches are especially wel-

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#### **Eastern Orthodox Studies** Group

James Skedros, Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, jskedros@hchc.edu. Paul Gavrilyuk, University of St. Thomas, Saint Paul, plgavrilyuk@stthomas.edu.

The Eastern Orthodox Studies Group invites proposals for papers on the following three topics: 1) all aspects of the thought and life of 20th-century Orthodox theologians from Eastern Europe; 2) theology, history, and practice of Patristic and Byzantine hymnography; and 3) spiritual practices in Eastern Christianity (co-sponsored session with Christian spirituality Group), with papers on the Jesus Prayer and Hesychasm especially welcome, as well as papers on iconography, pilgrimage, liturgy, etc.

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### **Europe** and the **Mediterranean in Late Antiquity Group**

David T. Frankfurter, University of New Hampshire, W: 603-862-3015, davidtf@cisunix.unh.edu.

We invite submissions for two sessions that address any of the Mediterranean or Near Eastern religious traditions of late antiquity: 1) "The Uses of Comparison: Within, Across, and Beyond the Mediterranean World" asks how we speak about Western vs. Eastern, or regional religious forms (like Egyptian vs. Syrian, or Babylonian vs. Palestinian), by means of comparison, as well as how scholars have drawn on modern comparanda (from anthropology or European history) to understand ancient materials. 2) "Rituals of Reading" will cover the various liturgical, processional, magical, and contemplative rites that surrounded the public and private reading of texts in antiquity: what did it mean to "read" a text, to oneself or others, and in what types of performative or gestural contexts did reading take

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### **Evangelical Theology Group**

Anthea Butler, Loyola Marymount University, One LMU DR, Suite 3700, Los Angeles, CA 90045, USA; abutler@lmu.edu.

The theme for 2005 is "Evangelical Engagement with Scripture in Relationship to Theological and Ethical Issues." Proposals can be submitted in two topic areas: 1) "Evangelical Ethics and

Values." Proposals should reflect how evangelical interpretations of scripture formulate and inform Evangelical ethics in relationship to family, social, and political values. 2) "Evangelical Theology and Scripture." Proposals should address the use of scripture in developing an evangelical systematic theology, or how evangelicals use scripture to interpret or refine traditional biblical theologies. We also solicit proposals for potential joint sessions on evangelicalism and theology in Asian North American contexts (Asian North American Religion, Culture, and Society Group) and worship and popular culture among Evangelicals, vis-à-vis Tillich's theology of culture (Tillich: Issues in Theology, Religion, and Culture Group).

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### **PARTICIPANT FORM 2005**

(PREARRANGED SESSION)



The session organizer or chair must fill out this form in its entirety.

Names and institutions will appear in the Program Book as indicated below (please include city name if more than one school or campus bears the name). If you are not affiliated with an institution, list city, state, or province, or write "Independent Scholar."

(PLEASE PRINT IN BLUE OR BLACK INK.)

Postal Code	Country
Home Phone	
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3b. OTHER PROGRAM UNITS in which above participate or to which they are also sendi (list participant name and program unit):	
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Also available at www.aarweb.org/annualmeet for download

### Religious Studies News — AAR Edition

### Feminist Theory and Religious Reflection Group

Liora Gubkin, California State University, Bakersfield, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, 9001 Stockdale HWY, Bakersfield, CA 93311, USA; W: 661-664-2314; *lgubkin@csub.edu*. Rosemary Carbine, College of the Holy Cross, Box 109A, One College ST, Worcester, MA 01610, USA; W: 508-793-2384; *rcarbine@holycross.edu*.

Papers and panel proposals are invited that critically engage feminist theory and religious reflection. Preference is given to proposals with substantial argument, and to those engaging cross-cultural perspectives, especially Eastern European. We invite, in particular, papers and panels on the following: 1) feminist possession of self: autonomy, choice, control, consent; 2) subjectivity vs. agency: theories of religious being; 3) examining feminist redemption; 4) imagining, claiming,

and envisioning moral values: strategies of feminist prophecy post-November 2004; 5) the steering committee will convene a panel on the topic "what is feminist theory to/for religion scholars?" The panel will consist of invited and submitted statements.

Submissions of 500-word statements to this panel will be considered.

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### Gay Men's Issues in Religion Group

Donald L. Boisvert, Concordia University, W: 514-848-2424 x4153, dlb@alcor.concordia.ca.

The Gay Men's Issues in Religion Group explores the intersections of gay male experience and religion, broadly conceived. This

year, we are particularly interested in receiving proposals for papers on the following topics: 1) the potentially queer intersections of religious post-coloniality and gay male relationships, or the globalization of commodified queer desire; 2) ethnographic and/or phenomenological investigations of the ritualized or otherwise "religious" aspects of gay male sociality; 3) Asian/Pacific Islander and especially Chinese religious traditions; 4) queer approaches to Islamic traditions; 5) rhetorical or cultural analyses of the role religion plays in the construction of queer sexualities and gender performances in public/political discourse. We also welcome proposals for topics not listed here and from all religious traditions. Proposals from Eastern European scholars are especially encouraged.

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# AAR

### **PARTICIPANT FORM 2005**

(INDIVIDUAL PROPOSALS)

Responding

Panelist (untitled presentation)

Presiding at a Business Meeting

NOTE: No individual may participate in the program more than two times.

Each presenter, panelist, respondent, and presider must fill out a form in its entirety.

It is very important that the participant fill out this form. Name and institution will appear in the Program Book as indicated below (please include city name if more than one school or campus bears the name). If you are not affiliated with an institution, list city, state, or province, or write "Independent Scholar."

(PLEASE PRINT IN BLUE OR BLACK INK.)

Name		
Institution		
Mailing Address		
City State/Province	Postal Code	Country
Office Phone	Home Phone	
Summer Phone	E-mail	
TITLE OF YOUR PROPOSAL (if presenting a paper):	4. AUDIO-VISUAL REQUIREMENTS (note n Slide Projector w/Screen & Carous Extra Carousel(s) Overhead Projector w/Screen	,
2. PROGRAM UNIT to which you are submitting this proposal:	Extra Screen  VCR or DVD Player w/Monitor (circle one)  Cassette or CD Player (circle one)  Computer: □ Windows □ Mac	
2b. OTHER PROGRAM UNIT to which you are submitting this proposal, if any:	Other:	
2c. OTHER PROGRAM UNIT to which you are submitting another proposal or in which you are participating, if any:	Audio-Visual requests must be submitted at the sam <u>Late requests cannot be accommodated.</u> The execut attempt to honor the AV requests of our members. Use cleared, through the appropriate program unit of office to confirm the availability of the equipment of the scheme of the scheme of the scheme of the same of the	rive office makes every  Unusual requests should thair, with the executive r set-up of space.
(Completed participant form(s) must accompany each submission.)		
<ul><li>3. YOUR ROLE in this session:</li><li>Presiding</li><li>Presenting (titled paper)</li></ul>		

Also available at www.aarweb.org/annualmeet for download

Hinduism Group

Sushil Mittal, James Madison University, W: 540-568-6137, *mittalsx@jmu.edu*. Balu Balagangadhara, Ghent University, W: 329-264-3704, *balu@ugent.be*.

We invite panel proposals on any aspect of Hinduism in the world. We welcome proposals from scholars in other fields who wish to enter into dialogue with Hinduism based on their research. We equally encourage scholars of Hinduism to widen their dialogical perspectives. We also welcome proposals for joint sessions with other AAR units. Proposals must be made through the online system. Individual paper proposals are not accepted. Topics suggested for the 2005 meeting are: how to speak for Hinduism (Balu Balagangadhara, balu@ugent.be); Hinduism and science (Jonathan Edelmann, jonathan.edelmann@ theology.oxford.ac.uk); Bankimcandras Anandamath (Rachael McDermott, rmcdermott@barnard.edu); Basham's The Wonder That Was India (Sushil Mittal, mittalsx@jmu.edu); Hindu occidentalism (Sushil Mittal, mittalsx@jmu.edu); Madhva dialectics (Deepak Sarma, deepak.sarma@ case.edu); diaspora of yoga practice (Frederick Smith, frederick-smith@ uiowa.edu); and Bhagavata Purana (Kenneth Valpey, kvalpey@ochs.org.uk).

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### Indigenous Religious Traditions Group

Jacob K. Olupona, University of California, Davis, African American & African Studies, 2201 Hart Hall, Davis, CA 95616, USA; W: 530-752-8354; H: 530-758-7977; F: 530-752-9704; jkolupona@ucdavis.edu.

The Indigenous Religious Traditions Group invites proposals on: 1) Categories and models scholars use to study indigenous religion. Often Western categories are inadequate to explore the deeper meanings of indigenous religion. This panel will explore the relevance and limitations of Western-derived categories and new categories derived from indigenous traditions, language, and experience. 2) Issues of violence and aggression, war, peace, and justice, as they relate to indigenous worldviews, culture, and contemporary society. Indigenous people are often the bellwether of these issues. How do the issues of war and peace relate to the contemporary life and society of indigenous peoples? What relates these traditions to the changing culture and society of our contemporary world that takes cognizance of indigenous religions and social policy?

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### **KEY TO SYMBOLS:**









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### **KEY TO SYMBOLS:**







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### **Islamic Mysticism Group**

Vincent J. Cornell, University of Arkansas, King Fahd Center for Middle East and Islamic Studies, 202 Old Main, Fayetteville, AR 72701, USA; W: 479-575-4157; vcornell@uark.edu. Carl W. Ernst, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, Department of Religious Studies, CB #3225 205 Howell Hall, Chapel Hill, NC 27599, USA; W: 919-962-3924; cernst@email.unc.edu.

The Islamic Mysticism Group encourages proposals in all areas that broadly fall under the rubric of Islamic mysticism. These include, but are not limited to, Sufism, Isma'ili, and broader Shi'i esoteric thought; some aspects of Islamic philosophy; and allegorical interpretations of the Qur'an. The group welcomes papers covering all geographical areas and all chronological periods. We encourage proposals and presentations that incorporate critical discussions of research methodologies current in the field. This year we are particularly interested in papers or panels on the following subjects: 1) Sufism and the modern; 2) critical studies of hagiography; 3) mysticism and aesthetics; 4) mysticism and metaphysics; 5) Sufi psychology; 6) Sufi reform doctrines and networks; 7) techniques of mystical pedagogy; and

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### **Japanese Religions Group**

8) Sufism and Hindu-Muslim relations.

Paula Arai, Carleton College, W: 507-646-7164, parai@carleton.edu. James Ford, Wake Forest University, W: 336-758-4191, fordj@wfu.edu.

The Japanese Religions Group invites proposals on the following topics: 1) Japanese religions in the media; 2) teaching Japanese religions; 3) material culture; 4) performance arts; 5) narrative genre. Proposals that integrate theoretical and methodological discussions of their work that might appeal to a broader cross-section of the academy are highly encouraged. Submissions on other topics will also be considered and we are open to cosponsorship of panels appropriate to our unit's mission. Creative formatting (not just 20-minute oral presentations) is encouraged. Proposers are encouraged to propose whole sessions but individual papers will certainly be considered. Please submit all proposals online.

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### Kierkegaard, Religion, and Culture Group

Marcia C. Robinson, Syracuse University, Department of Religion, 501 Hall of Languages, Syracuse, NY 13244-1170, USA; W: 315-443-5726; mrobin03@syr.edu. Lee Barrett, Lancaster Theological Seminary, 555 West James ST, Lancaster, PA 17603, USA; W: 717-393-0654 x103; lbarrett@lts.org.

Two sessions are planned, one of which is to be a joint session with the Black Theology Group. Session one: We invite papers that explore Kierkegaard from the perspective of contemporary virtue ethics or contemporary virtue ethics from a Kierkegaardian perspective. This might cover unity of the virtues, relation of act to disposition, weakness of will, and emotions and passions. Session two: We invite proposals that utilize Kierkegaardian and black theological conceptions of existence to explore human suffering and the problem of evil. For example, a paper using a Kierkegaardian approach might focus on Toni Morrison's Beloved through the lens of anxiety or despair. This joint session is meant to be a conversation; proposals might consider the ease and difficulty of such a venture. For this session, contact Marcia Robinson (above) and Stephen G. Ray (Black Theology Group), Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, 1044 Alta Vista RD, Louisville, KY 40205, USA; W: 502-992-9376; sray@lpts.edu.

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### **Korean Religions Group**

Jin Y. Park, American University, jypark@american.edu.

Korean Religions Group invites papers on "Religion and Politics" which can include, but is not limited to, the topics of religion and reunification, religion and war, religion and cultural politics, religion and international politics, and religion and gender politics in the context of Korea. The topic can also include political implication of religious rituals, spirituality and politics, religion and student movements, and Korean religions and globalization. Papers on other topics and panel proposals are also welcome.

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### Latina/o Religion, Culture, and Society Group

Benjamin Valentin, Andover Newton Theological School, 210 Herrick RD, Newton Centre, MA 02459, USA; W: 617-964-1100 x245; bvalentin@ants.edu.

Paper and panel proposals are invited on the following two themes: 1) political, liberationist, cultural, or post-colonial theology? assessing the fundamental commitments of U.S. Latino/a theology; and 2) sexual diversity and Latino/a religious communities/traditions. The first session allows for proposals that critically and creatively analyze questions regarding the nature/character of Latino/a theology or the fundamental guiding commitments of this theology (e.g., its political vision, its theoretical commitments, its methodologies, its overall theological aspirations, etc.) The second session permits for any range of proposals that address issues regarding sexual diversity among Latinos/as (e.g., sexual orientation and Latino/a religion, gay/lesbian/feminist issues and the Latino/a churches or religious communities, etc.).

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### Law, Religion, and Culture Group

Natalie B. Dohrmann, Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, University of Pennsylvania, 420 Walnut ST, Philadelphia, PA 19106, USA; W: 215-238-1290; dohrmann@sas.upenn.edu. Jason Bivins (North Carolina State University), 217 East Knox CIR, Durham, NC 27701, USA; W: 919-515-6140; jcbivins@unity.ncsu.edu.

The Law, Religion, and Culture Group invites papers concerning, but not limited to, the following topics: 1) religion and the judiciary, in the U.S. and elsewhere, given heightened attention to the regulation of religion in secular states; and 2) the project of a "genealogy of the secular" as it pertains to law, human rights, and juridical discourse. This may include comparative explorations of any historical or contemporary legal secularisms in any culture, e.g., the emergence of secularism as a juridical discourse in the modern West, the relationship between secular law and secularization more broadly, or the notion that secularism may itself be a "religion." We are especially interested in interdisciplinary, historical, and cross-cultural work.

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### Lesbian-Feminist Issues and Religion Group

Gayle Baldwin, University of North Dakota, gayle\_baldwin@und.nodak.edu. Elizabeth Say, California State University, Northridge, elizabeth.say@csun.edu.

The Lesbian-Feminist Issues in Religion Group invites proposals on the following topics: 1) Strategic responses to the use of a politics of values in the 2004 election, especially as this relates to issues of sexuality; the use of sexuality to motivate religious communities to cross traditional political lines, e.g., communities of color, working class, and the economically disenfranchised. 2) The erosion of civil rights in the current religio-political climate. 3) How heterosexism distorts issues of race, gender, and class in religious communities. 4) Lesbian life and religious identity in Eastern Europe. 5) The potential for activism within our religious systems and structures. 6) We also encourage thoughtful, well-developed ideas on any range of topics falling under the rubric of lesbian feminist issues and religion.

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### Men's Studies in Religion Group

David Livingston, Mercyhurst College, W: 814-824-2502, *dlivingston@mercyhurst.edu*. Mark Justad, Vanderbilt University, W: 814-322-0882, *mark.justad@vanderbilt.edu*.

Submissions are sought for two sessions:
1) "Religious Reflection on Masculinities in Context." Responses to Soft Patriarchs, New Men: How Christianity Shapes Fathers

and Husbands are especially encouraged. Papers from various religious traditions engaging masculinities and nationality, race, class, sexual orientation, social roles, etc., also sought. Possible themes: war, empire, aging, embodiment, fathering, sports, and global economics.

2) "Masculinities and Disabilities" (joint

session with the Religion and Disability Studies Group). This session will explore issues related to the intersections of religion, disability studies, and the critical study of men and masculinities. Possible themes: men, disabilities, and religion; the disabled male body and theologies of embodiment; construction(s) of disabled men within religious traditions; gendered images of disability; religious impacts on male/disabled identity; implications of the "Disabled Christ."

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### **Mysticism Group**

Neil Douglas-Klotz, Edinburgh Institute of Advanced Learning, Edinburgh, SCOTLAND; W: +44-131-466-1506; ndk@eial.org. June McDaniel, College of Charleston, Department of Philosophy & Religion, Charleston, SC, USA; W: 843-953-5956; mcdanielj@cofc.edu.

We focus on the philosophical, theological, psychological, historical, theoretical, comparative, cross-cultural, and transnational nature of mysticism, religious experience, and spiritual practice. Creative, imaginative, and scholarly proposals with a clear methodology are invited for 2005 on: 1) shared mystical experiences (in community); 2) mysticism in Central and Eastern Europe; 3) mystical experiences: natural or supernatural?; 4) how are mystical experiences transmitted?; 5) mystical marriage; and 6) late 19th-/early 20thcentury approaches to mysticism, East and West, for a session co-sponsored with the Nineteenth-Century Theology Group. For a full description of the co-sponsored session and the focus of papers desired, which will be prepublished online and in print, see www.eial.org/AARMysticismCall.htm.

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### Native Traditions in the Americas Group

Michael McNally, Carleton College, Northfield, MN 55057, USA; W: 507-646-5953; *mmcnally@carleton.edu*. Ken Mello, University of Vermont, W: 802-656-0230, *kenneth.mello@uvm.edu*.

We invite individual paper and group proposals on any aspect of Native traditions of the Americas. On the occasion of the meeting in Philadelphia, we especially encourage proposals exploring: 1) Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) Studies, including studies of Native peoples and the Constitution; 2) sovereignty, patriotism, the nation state, and Native American religio-political traditions of peoplehood and governance; 3) a critique of modern Western analytic conventions

### **E-mail Notifications**

Remember to include an e-mail address on your proposal. If you do not use e-mail, include a self-addressed stamped envelope with appropriate postage for the country from which the Program Unit Chair will send the notification about your acceptance/rejection onto the program.

applied to Native traditions; and/or 4) militarization, environmental racism, ecology, and Native lands (for a possible joint session with the Religion and Ecology Group). Proposals must be submitted electronically either by OP3 or by e-mail w/attachment to both co-chairs.

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### New Religious Movements Group

Sarah M. Pike, California State University, Chico, W: 530-898-6341, spike@csuchico.edu.

Proposals are invited on the following topics: 1) NRMs in Central and Eastern Europe; 2) NRMs in Pennsylvania, and particularly in Philadelphia; 3) the overlap of, tensions between, or historical emergence of Neopagan and New Age movements; 4) NRMs and science fiction/fantasy, especially children's literature; 5) NRMs and their sacred texts; 6) new religions and Tantra (to be co-sponsored with the Tantric Studies Consultation, so please submit to both of us). Also, we welcome papers on all aspects of the study of NRMs.

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### Nineteenth-Century Theology Group

Walter Wyman Jr., Whitman College, Walla Walla, WA 99362, USA; wyman@whitman.edu. Mark Hadley, McDaniel College, Westminster, MD 21157, USA; mhadley@mcdaniel.edu. Neil Douglas-Klotz, Edinburgh Institute for Advanced Learning, Edinburgh SCOT-LAND; ndk@eial.org. Harvey Hill, Berry College, Mt. Berry, GA 30149, USA; hhill@berry.edu.

1) "Ernst Troeltsch as Historian of Protestantism": papers exploring the significance of "Protestantisches Christentum und Kirche in der Neuzeit," "Protestantism and Progress," and Troeltsch's shorter essays on Luther, Calvin, and the Reformation. Walter Wyman serves as the contact for this session. 2) "Judaic Interpretations of Christianity/ Christian Interpretations of Judaism" (joint session with the Study of Judaism Section): on how major figures of 19th-century religious thought formulated the religious "other." Mark Hadley serves as the contact for this session. 3) "Late 19th-/Early 20th-Century Approaches to Mysticism, East and West" (joint session with Mysticism Group). See groups' Web sites for expanded call. Neil Douglas-Klotz and Harvey Hill both serve as the contacts for this session.

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### Person, Culture, and Religion Group

Pamela Cooper White, Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia, W: 800-286-4616 x7375, pcooper@ltsp.edu. Kathleen Bishop, Madison, NJ, W: 973-514-1185, Kbish87@aol.com.

Please do not contact PCR chairs directly to submit papers — use OP3 system only. Proposals are invited on 1) the psychodynamics of religious violence. Topics might include the psychodyamics of aggression; otherness, hybridity, and the role of the other; war and holy war; etc. 2) the psychology of anomalous experience and the non-

unitary self. How, historically and in current theory, has psychology attempted to explain the unexplainable? Proposals might engage classical and relational psychoanalysis; self psychology and intersubjectivity theory; Jungian and transpersonal psychology; neuropsychology; etc. 3) (co-sponsored with Wesleyan Studies) Proposals employing social-scientific, historical, and/or theological approaches to such categories as conversion, sanctification, social holiness, and/or other transformations in Wesleyan traditions (see, for example, Haartman's new psychoanalytic study Watching and Praying). Other proposals on psychology and religion welcome. For contact information and details, see the PCR Web site: pcr-aar.home.att.net.

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### Platonism and Neoplatonism Group

Willemien Otten, Utrecht University, W: +011-31-30-253-1843, wotten@theo.uu.nl. Gregory Shaw, Stonehill College, W: 508-565-1355, gshaw@stonehill.edu.

"Neoplatonism, Dead or Alive: Is Neoplatonism a Living Tradition?" Scholarly consensus agrees that Neoplatonism begins with Plotinus (3rd century CE), but there is no agreement as to its end. Did the closing of the Athenian school under Damascius (6th century CE) mark the demise of Neoplatonism in the strict sense, forcing it to survive solely in Christian, Jewish, and Muslim expressions? Or did the tradition go underground, surfacing only when cultural conditions allowed? Or does a combination of these scenarios apply? We invite papers that will address the question of whether Neoplatonism constitutes a living tradition today, either within the dominant religions of the West or in new, lesser known communities or individuals that have claimed a direct link with the neoplatonic teachers of late antiquity.

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### Pragmatism and Empiricism in American Religious Thought Group

Frederick J. Ruf, Georgetown University, Theology Department, Washington, DC 20057, USA; W: 202-687-6233; H: 301-891-6845; rufb@georgetown.edu. David Lamberth, Harvard Divinity School, 45 Francis AVE, Cambridge, MA 02138, USA; W: 617-495-9578; H: 978-462-5303; david\_lamberth@harvard.edu.

We are seeking papers or panel proposals for 2005 that take up the following topics (in no particular order): 1) reevaluating classical pragmatism: the critiques of Royce and Santayana; 2) pragmatism, empiricism, and evolution; 3) pragmatism, empiricism, and cognitive science; 4) pragmatism and pluralism (religious, ontological, epistemological); 5) the relevance of Brandom to contemporary pragmatism and religious thought. Other paper or panel proposals relevant to pragmatism and empiricism in American religious thought are also welcome. Please complete proposals online, or e-mail to both co-chairs.

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### **Checklists**

### **Prearranged Paper/Panel Session Proposals**

- Proposal being sent via proper method
- ☐ Current 2005 Memberships for all participants including presider
- ☐ Completed Prearranged Session Participant Form listing all participants including presider (not necessary in OP3)
- ☐ Proposal (1,000 words or fewer, double-spaced)
- ☐ For paper sessions: individual abstracts for all participants
- ☐ For panel session: single abstract for the entire session
- ☐ Abstract(s) in an electronic format (150 words or fewer)

#### **Individual Proposals**

- Proposal being sent via proper method
- ☐ Current Membership for 2005
- ☐ Completed Participant Form (not necessary in OP3)
- ☐ Proposal (1,000 words or fewer, double-spaced)
- ☐ Abstract, in an electronic format (150 words or fewer)

### Reformed Theology and History Group

Katherine Sonderegger, Virginia Theological Seminary, ksonderegger@vts.edu. Robert Sherman, Bangor Theological Seminary, rsherman@bts.edu.

"Altering the Image of God? Defining the Human in an Age of Genetic Engineering." The Reformed Theology and History Group invites papers addressing questions that arise in our brave new world of genetic engineering. We welcome proposals, employing various methodologies, which address questions such as: Is there a distinctively Reformed definition of the "human" as the imago dei? Does genetic engineering threaten to alter, even sacrifice, that image? Can Reformed traditions provide guidance that is faithful to Reformed commitments and responsive to our capacity to change the building blocks of life? Does genetic knowledge of ourselves affect our understanding of God's sovereignty and/or human free will? How might Reformed traditions offer a cautionary, practical, and/or creative voice of faith to the ethics of bioengineering?

SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED VIA:



### Religion and Disability Studies Group

Deborah Creamer, Iliff School of Theology, 3700 E. Jewell AVE #C-205, Denver, CO 80210, USA; W: 303-765-3178; H: 303-758-2611; F: 303-777-0164; dcreamer@iliff.edu. Kerry Wynn, Southeast Missouri State University, 1609 Price DR, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701-3045, USA; W: 573-651-2273; H: 573-651-6651; F: 573-651-2272; kwynn@semo.edu.

1) Disability Studies speaks of disability in paradoxes. The Social Model shows how disability is socially constructed while the Medical Model places the "problem" within the individual. We seek proposals that develop or critique religious or theological models of disability that provide a third way that embrace both the social and individual realities of the disabled experience. 2) "Masculinities and Disabilities" (joint session with the Men's Studies in Religion Group). This session will explore issues related to the intersections of religion, disability studies, and the critical study of men and masculinities. Possible themes: men, disabilities, and religion; the disabled male body and theologies of embodiment; construction(s) of disabled men within religious traditions; gendered images of disability; religious impacts on male/disabled identity; implications of the "Disabled Christ."

SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED VIA:







### **Religion and Ecology Group**

Laurel D. Kearns, Drew University, W: 973-408-3009, *lkearns@drew.edu*. Beth Blissman, Oberlin College, W: 440-775-8055, *beth.blissman@oberlin.edu*.

The Religion and Ecology Group invites all paper proposals exploring (inter)relationships between religions, cultures, and environments. We encourage thematically coherent session proposals and/or panels, and welcome all individual paper proposals related to the following themes: globalization and ecofeminism(s); religious freedom, nature religions, and ecological issues; militarization, environmental racism, and native lands; nature-based recreation as religious practice; environmental justice; eco-religious communities and bioregionalism; ecological religious practice and issues in the Northeast/USA or Eastern Europe; African-American religious response to environmental challenges; religious anti-environmentalism; Quakers, Mennonites, peace churches, and ecology; yoga and ecology; tantric worlds and landscapes; religious responses to creationism; space, ethics, and religion. Visit www.religionandnature.com/aar for more information, additional suggestions, and complete contact information for scholars interested in organizing sessions.

SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED VIA:



### Religion and Popular Culture Group

Gary M. Laderman, Emory University, Department of Religion, Atlanta, GA 30322-0001, USA; W: 404-727-4641; gladerm@emory.edu. Sarah McFarland Taylor, Northwestern University, Department of Religion, 1860 Campus DR, 4th Floor, Evanston, IL 60208-0850, USA; W: 847-491-4361; sarah@northwestern.edu.

(continued on p.12)

Themes we would like to consider for our sessions: 1) globalized popular cultures; 2) politics, patriotism, and the culture of fear; 3) religion and parody; 4) animals; 5) dark side of the sacred; 6) religious dimensions of technology; 7) class analysis and popular culture; 8) religion and dance; 9) other interesting topics.

#### SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED VIA:



### **Religion and Science Group**

Greg Peterson, South Dakota State University, greg.peterson@sdstate.edu. Lisa Stenmark, San Jose State University, lstenmark@earthlink.net.

The Religion and Science Group is requesting papers and/or panels on the following topics: 1) space exploration and human purpose (including the ethics of exploration and its significance for how we think of human personhood and community); 2) responses to the work of Philip Clayton on emergence and theology; 3) Christian, Hindu, Muslim, and feminist/womanist perspectives on panentheism; 4) Eastern European or Orthodox approaches to religion and science; 5) pragmatist and empiricist approaches to cognitive science, evolution, or complexity (as part of a joint session with the Pragmatism & Empiricism in American Religions Group); and 6) science and religion reflections on the film What the Bleep Do We Know?

#### SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED VIA:



### Religion in Latin America and the Caribbean Group

Nelson Maldonado-Torres, University of California, Berkeley, *nmt@uclink.berkeley.edu*. Jeanette Reedy Solano, California State University, Fullerton, *jsolano@fullerton.edu*.

1) Religion, politics, and activism: reflections on the role of religion in politics today, especially but not uniquely in Cuba, Brazil, and Venezuela. Sub-topics include: activist spirituality and evangelicals and the political process. We also invite reflections on Mon. Romero's activism and legacy. 2) Sexuality, religion, and health. Topics related to the connection between sexual mores, the religious ideology behind them, and the lived expression of this relationship in the health of Latin Americans. Race as factor. 3) Liberation in non-Christian traditions in Latin America and the Caribbean. 4) Reevaluating popular religion. Critical readings of popular religious rites in Latin America and/or their transnational reenactment in the U.S. 5) With Latina/o Religion, Culture, and Society Group (invited authors panel), Latin Americans, and transnational religiosity: new paradigms.

SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED VIA:







### Religion, Film, and Visual Culture Group

Tony S. L. Michael, University of Toronto, 180 Beatrice ST, Toronto, ON M6G 3G1, CANADA; W: 416-971-3137; F: 416-978-3305; tmichael@ chass.utoronto.ca. Amir Hussain, California State University, Northridge, Department of Religious Studies, #8316, 18111 Nordhoff ST, Northridge, CA 91330-8316, USA; W: 818-677-2741; H: 818349-5349; F: 818-677-7112; amir.hussain@csun.edu.

We invite proposals for panels on the following: 1) the Left Behind series of books and movies; 2) metaphysics and philosophy and film; 3) film as cult or cult films (perhaps as part of a larger panel on cinema going as religious practice, or the culture of how films are received); 4) film, Internet, and religion (on Web-based communities that exist around films and how certain films are treated as religion); or 5) recent books on religion and film. We also invite co-sponsorship with the Comparative Studies in Hinduisms & Judaisms Group on film representations of Jewish and Hindu religious identity; with the Study of Islam Section on Muslim identity; with the Childhood Studies Consultation on films about or targeted to children; or with the Religion and Media Workshop.

SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED VIA:



### Religion, Holocaust, and Genocide Group

Oren Baruch Stier, Florida International University, Department of Religious Studies, DM301C, Miami, FL 33199, USA; W: 305-348-6729; F: 305-348-1879; stiero@fiu.edu. Katharina von Kellenbach, St. Mary's College of Maryland, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, St. Mary's City, MD 20686, USA; W: 240-895-4277; F: 240-895-4436; kvonkellenbach@smcm.edu.

The group is committed to examining the religious dimensions of the Holocaust and/or other episodes of genocide in all their manifestations. Keeping in mind that 2005 marks both the 90th anniversary of the Armenian genocide and the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II, we are interested in proposals cognizant of methodological issues surrounding the study of perpetrators as well as victims. We especially invite proposals addressing the following questions: 1) Is there a "right" to or "ethical task" of forgetting? 2) What are the religious dimensions of testimony/testifying and/or the performances/ritual enactments that surround testimonies? As the international focus for 2005 is Central and Eastern Europe, we especially welcome proposals from scholars working in and/or researching on the region.

SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED VIA:







### Religions, Medicines, and Healing Group Linda L. Barnes, Boston University Scho

Linda L. Barnes, Boston University School of Medicine, W: 617-414-4534, *lbarnes@tiac.net*. Suzanne J. Crawford, Pacific Lutheran University, W: 253-535-8107, *crawfosj@plu.edu*.

Papers should demonstrate strong critical reflection on theoretical and methodological dimensions of the study of religions, medicines, and healing. Nontextual resources (e.g., visual, audio, and/or performative media) welcome. Women and minority scholars encouraged to apply. 1) Papers invited addressing the theme "Healing Emotions." Attention should be given to culturally/religiously constructed understandings of emotions; related explanatory models of affliction; and pertinent healing traditions and practices. Examples may be historic and/or contemporary, reflecting lived religion, and can

involve any religious tradition. 2) A central issue in medical anthropology involves defining and theorizing meanings of "efficacy," related to healing. Papers are invited for a second session that define and analyze meanings of healing efficacy from religious studies perspectives. Examples may reflect different meanings of efficacy within a given tradition, or interactions between traditions.

SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED VIA:







### Religions, Social Conflict, and Peace Group

Marla Selvidge, Central Missouri State University, selvidge@kc.rr.com. Susan Windley-Daoust, Saint Mary's University of Minnesota, swindley@smumn.edu.

We invite paper proposals on two topics; 1) religions working together toward peace and justice. We seek proposals presenting contemporary case studies on specific social conflicts, and how the conflict addressed has been actively engaged by two or more religious groups joining forces. The conflict addressed in the case study and analysis may be civil, local, regional, international, or transnational in nature. 2) Christian mystical theology and social activism: how does Christian mysticism warrant the project of social engagement? We invite both methodological and systematic reflections on this question. This session will be co-sponsored by the Christian Systematic Theology Section.

SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED VIA:



### Religious Freedom, Public Life, and the State Group

Barbara A. McGraw, Saint Mary's College of California, 1170 Bollinger CYN, Moraga, CA 94556-2736, USA; W: 925-377-0333; H: 925-631-0945; F: 925-376-5625; bmcgraw9@mac.com.

The Religious Freedom, Public Life, and the State Group invites proposals on all aspects of the relationship between religion and the state, both domestic and international, historic and contemporary, and employing a diversity of methods. Possible topics include religion and politics (including political discourse); religion and the courts (including court decisions); and religion and legislation. This year we especially seek proposals addressing two topics: 1) religion and the politics of values; and 2) American empire and religion (see the Open and Relational Theologies Consultation call for papers for more on this co-sponsored topic). Submissions generally within the purview of our group are also welcome.

SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED VIA:



#### **Ritual Studies Group**

Nikki Bado-Fralick, Iowa State University, nikkibf@iastate.edu. Donna Seamone, McMaster University, seawater@golden.net.

We invite proposals on the following topics: pedagogy in the ritual studies classroom (in non-sectarian university settings); ritual and the courts; negotiating and planning rituals; civic rites; symbols, tools, and literalism in ritual; ritual and imitation/ritual and mimetic action; ritual life in Central and Eastern Europe. Individual paper and panel proposals are

welcome. Papers should attend to theory and method in the study of ritual. Additionally, in conjunction with the Ethics Section, we seek papers exploring the relationship of specific rituals to ethical attitudes, judgments, and debates. (Papers from all religious traditions are encouraged.) Proposals are invited which address reevaluating popular religious rites in Latin America/U.S. for a joint panel with the Religion in Latin America and the Caribbean Group. Please submit proposals for co-sponsored sessions to both the Ritual Studies Group and the cosponsoring section/group.

SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED VIA:



### Roman Catholic Studies Group

Jeff Marlett, College of St. Rose, Department of Religious Studies, 432 Western AVE, Albany, NY 12203, USA; *marlettj@mail.strose.edu*. Vincent J. Miller, Georgetown University, Theology Department, Washington, DC 20057-1135, USA; *millerv@georgetown.edu*.

The group encourages proposals for individual papers or full sessions concerning theological, historical, and cultural studies of Catholicism. Session proposals may be edited. Particular interests: 1) 40th anniversary of the close of Vatican II: analyses of its implementation in the U.S.; reconsidering typologies of generational/ ideological responses to the Council; reconsidering timelines of reform in light of preconciliar social and liturgical movements; changes in devotion, spirituality, culture. 2) 50th anniversary of John Tracy Ellis's critique of Catholic intellectual life in America; various publics and alienations of Catholic intellectual life; relationship between theology and broader Catholic intellectual culture. 3) Catholicism and politics — analyses of public Catholicism in the U.S., particularly in light of the 2004 elections; the construction of abortion as a "Catholic" issue. 4) Colonial Catholicism, Philadelphia, Catholicism, and freedom.

SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED VIA:







### Schleiermacher Group

Julia A. Lamm, Georgetown University, lammj@georgetown.edu. Brent Sockness, Stanford University, sockness@leland.stanford.edu.

This will be the second year of the group's reexamination of Schleiermacher's magnum opus, The Christian Faith. In 2004 we focused on Part I. This year we shall focus on the first half of Part II (specifically, propositions 62-112). In 2006, Part II as a whole; in 2007, the Introduction. Proposals are invited on the following: the doctrines of sin, the person and work of Christ, and regeneration and sanctification; the role and placement of these doctrines within the larger structure of the dogmatic system; method and implications; etc. Different and novel avenues of approach are encouraged (historical, constructive, comparative, structural), as are papers that seek to continue the conversation from 2004 and set forth issues for future sessions.

SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED VIA:



### **Scriptural Reasoning Group**

Rachel Muers, University of Exeter, Department of Theology, The Queen's DR, Exeter EX4 4QH, UNITED KINGDOM; W: +44-1392-264240; r.e.muers@exeter.ac.uk. Peter Ochs, University of Virginia, 1617 St. Anne's RD, Charlottesville, VA 22901, USA; W: 434-924-6718; F: 434-924-1467; pwo3v@virginia.edu.

Sessions of the Scriptural Reasoning Group bring together Jewish, Christian, and Muslim thinkers for reflection on a theme through the study of scriptural texts. Each paper should present in detail a single, brief scriptural passage (drawing on both textual scholarship and the scripture's reception history) and suggest how it addresses the contemporary reader's interest in the theme. Participants will be expected to submit draft papers in July, and to revise their papers in conversation with each other. This year we invite proposals in the following areas: 1) prophecy and the rejection of prophecy; 2) scripture and democracy; 3) learning and teaching (possibly, but not necessarily, developing ideas from our 2004 session).

SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED VIA:







### Theology and Continental Philosophy Group

Ellen Armour, Rhodes College, armour@rhodes.edu. Jeffrey Bloechl, College of the Holy Cross, jbloechl@holycross.edu.

We invite proposals that consider the contributions of continental philosophy to theologies concerned with radical democracy and/or bearing witness in a time of political upheaval. Proposals might address these issues through a response to questions of borders and boundaries, nomadism and sedentarism, or theory and activism, among others. Proposals from scholars working in any religious tradition are welcome. We particularly solicit proposals that consider these topics (or others that link religious thought and continental philosophy) via engagement with Islam.

SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED VIA:





#### Tibetan and Himalayan Religions Group

José I. Cabezón, University of California, Santa Barbara, *jcabezon@religion.ucsb.edu*. Kurtis R. Schaeffer, University of Alabama, *kschaeff@bama.ua.edu*.

The mission of the Tibetan and Himalayan Religions Group is to create an environment that promotes conversation between different approaches to the study of Tibetan and Himalayan religions. Five panel proposals for the 2005 meeting were suggested at the business meeting of the 2004 meeting: 1) Buddhist kingship in Tibet; 2) divination in Tibetan religion; 3) conceptions of Tibet as sacred place; 4) the impact of Indian material culture on Tibetan religion; 5) contributions of foreign visitors to Tibetan religion. Paper submissions to the above panels are welcome, as are complete panel proposals or individual paper proposals on other topics relating to Tibetan and Himalayan religions. Please address queries to José I. Cabezón and Kurtis R. Schaeffer.

SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED VIA:



### Tillich: Issues in Theology, Religion, and Culture Group

Robison B. James (University of Richmond), 7914 Alvarado RD, Richmond, VA 23229, USA; W: 804-288-2142; F: 804-287-6504; rjames@richmond.edu. Mary Ann Stenger (University of Louisville), 7214 Heatherly SQ, Louisville, KY 40242, USA; W: 502-852-0457; F: 502-852-0078; masten01@louisville.edu.

Papers using the theology/philosophy of Paul Tillich (or relating to his thought) are invited on these themes: 1) public theology and democracy; 2) God, being, and God beyond being; 3) Langdon Gilkey on Tillich and on Niebuhr (possible joint session with the Theology and Religious Reflection Section); 4) worship and popular culture, including among Evangelicals, vis-à-vis Tillich's theology of culture (possible joint session with Evangelical Theology Group); 5) black and/or womanist theology; 6) academic teaching and the study of religion. Tillich-related papers on other themes will be considered, with specific themes for sessions determined by the merit of proposals received. A winning student paper will receive the \$300 Annual Tillich Prize. Please respond to both program units when proposing a paper for a joint session.

SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED VIA:











#### **Wesleyan Studies Group**

Sarah Lancaster, Methodist Theological School in Ohio, *slancaster@mtso.edu*. Steve McCormick, Nazarene Theological Seminary, *stevemccormick@earthlink.net*; *smccormick@nts.edu*.

The group is open to any proposals providing historical or constructive engagement with the Wesleys or Wesleyan/Methodist traditions. This year we particularly solicit papers in these areas: 1) joint session with Person, Culture, and Religion Group: Papers are invited which explore conversion, sanctification, social holiness, or other forms of transformation in Wesleyan traditions from social scientific, historical, and/or theological perspectives (see, for example, Keith Haartman's new psychoanalytic study, Watching and Praying). 2) pan-Methodism: Papers are invited which study the relationship between the AME, CME, AME Zion, Union American ME, and UMC. Examples include but are not limited to distinctive doctrinal emphases, the relation between Wesleyan and black theology, historic divisions, and possibilities and/or obstacles to union.

SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED VIA:



\* New Program Unit \*

### Western Esotericism Studies Group

Allison Coudert, University of California, Davis, apcoudert@ucdavis.edu. Wouter J. Hanegraaff, University of Amsterdam, w.j.hanegraaff@uva.nl.

The Western Esotericism Studies Group at the AAR invites proposals for papers dealing with European and American esoteric traditions (alchemy, astrology, Hermeticism, Kabbalah, magic, mysticism, Rosicrucianism, secret societies) and their ramifications in art history, history, literature, politics, and religion. We welcome

scholars from a wide range of perspectives, including critical theory, anthropology,

American studies, art history, history, history of religions, literature, philosophy, religious studies, sociology, and the full range of academic disciplines and fields that bear upon this area of study. Because the AAR will be meeting in Philadelphia, close to Bryn Athyn, we welcome papers dealing with Swedenborgianism and related currents. Consistent with the international focus of the 2005 meeting, proposals addressing Central and Eastern European issues and approaches are especially welcome.

SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED VIA:



### Womanist Approaches to Religion and Society Group

Evelyn L. Parker, Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University, W: 214-769-2069, eparker@smu.edu. Linda E. Thomas, Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, W: 773-256-0778, lthomas@lstc.edu.

The group invites papers or panels exploring 1) black women's religious experience; 2) interdisciplinary implications on black women's religious experience; 3) womanist sacred texts in literature and performance; 4) the black body as icon; 5) violence and metaphysics; and 6) reflections on the life of Alice Walker.

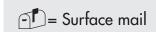
SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED VIA:

















 $\mathcal{G}$  = E-mail with attachment

# **SEMINARS**

#### **Zen Buddhism Seminar**

Gereon Kopf, Luther College,
Department of Religion and Philosophy,
700 College DR, Decorah, IA 52010,
USA; kopfg@luther.edu. Jin Y. Park,
American University, Department of
Philosophy and Religion, 4400
Massachusetts AVE NW, Washington,
DC, 20016, USA; W: 202-885-2919; F:
202-885-1094; jypark@american.edu.

Topic: Zen thought. What is Zen thought or Zen ideology? How are Buddhist con-

cepts of dependent co-arising, causality, karma, or enlightenment interpreted in Zen Buddhism? Is enlightenment sudden or gradual? What is Buddha nature or one mind? What is Zen ethics? How do we evaluate the legacy of Suzuki or Critical Buddhism?

SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED VIA:



Seminars are highly specific projects driven by a collaborative research agenda leading toward publication. They are expected to eventuate in publication(s). They are strictly limited in duration (five years) and membership (20). Members agree to continue the work of the seminar between Annual Meetings through correspondence, exchange of papers and bibliographies, and on listservs, etc. The single session at the Annual Meeting is devoted to consideration of previously distributed papers and to foster collaborations in a public setting that allows auditors to gain insight into the project, the process, and the people involved. While no new papers are presented at the session, auditors are welcome to attend.

# The AAR solicits nominations for the **Ray L. Hart Service Award**.

This award is given to persons whose dedication and service have made significant contributions to the AAR's mission of fostering excellence in the field of religion. Please send nominations to bdeconcini@aarweb.org.

### **KEY TO SYMBOLS:**





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# CONSULTATIONS

### Animals and Religion Consultation

Laura Hobgood-Oster, Southwestern University, hoboster@southwestern.edu. Paul Waldau, Tufts University, paulwaldau@aol.com.

Proposals are invited on the following themes (throughout, "animals" refers to "other-than-human animals"): animals in specific religious traditions (Hinduism, Judaism, Eastern Orthodoxy, Amish, Native North American, etc.); animals/icons/images in popular culture/religion (for possible joint session with Religion and Popular Culture Group); South Asian traditions and animals; teaching religion and animals; comparing animals (thematic) in two or more traditions; sacrifice — "secular" (scientific research, factory farming, food production, etc.) and "religious"; globalization and animals (zoos, animals as capitalist product rather than sacred, etc.); animals in theology; relevance of animals to other general categories in religious studies; Matthew Scully's Dominion; animal iconography and American civil religion (monuments, symbols, etc.); ranking moral concern among animals (hierarchies); androcentric biases and ecological hermeneutics.

SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED VIA:







#### Augustine and Augustinianisms Consultation

Robert P. Kennedy, St. Francis Xavier University, Department of Religious Studies, Antigonish, Nova Scotia B2G 2W5, CANADA; *rkennedy@stfx.ca*. Kim Paffenroth, Iona College, Department of Religious Studies, 715 North AVE, New Rochelle, NY 10801, USA; *kimpaffenroth@msn.com*.

Papers are invited on the theme "Augustine and Community." We are seeking a diversity of approaches, including but not limited to historical, sociological, and theological analyses of Augustine's communities: 1) the Church (especially in Africa), monastic life, family, friendship(s); 2) Augustine's thought on the common good, on the civitas, on the "massa"; 3) receptions of Augustinian notions related to community, both historical and contemporary, including questions of historiography (especially in recent work by Peter Brown).

SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED VIA:



### Childhood Studies and Religion Consultation

Marcia Bunge, Christ College, Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, IN 46383, USA; marcia.bunge@valpo.edu. Bonnie Miller-McLemore, The Divinity School, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN 37240, USA; bonnie.miller-mclemore@vanderbilt.edu.

We invite proposals for the following sessions: 1) "Orphans and Adoption as Matters of Sex, Race, and Poverty: Interfaith Perspectives": explorations of diverse religious perspectives on orphans and adoption by scholars from all areas, with possible focus on Christian or Jewish grounds for adoption; Muslim care of orphans and prohibition of adoption; foster care; the role of gender or race in adoption; market aspects of U.S. adoptions from developing countries; wanted and unwanted children. 2) "Children, Women, War, and Politics" (co-sponsored with Women and Religion Section): Theoretical and practical religious explanations for and responses to children and women as victims, inheritors, and perpetrators of warfare, including such topics as child soldiers; inheritance of hatred and violence; war orphans; and healing of various wartime traumas.

SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED VIA:





The AAR Public Understanding of Religion Committee invites nominations and self-nominations for the Martin E. Marty Award for Contributions to the Public Understanding of Religion. The award is intended to bring greater recognition to scholars whose relevance and eloquence speak not just to scholars, but more broadly to the public as well. Nominees for this award do not have to be AAR members. Nominate online at <a href="https://www.aarweb.org/awards/marty">www.aarweb.org/awards/marty</a> or mail the name of nominee, his or her affiliation, and supporting information so that it is received by January 21, 2005, to Marty Nominations, AAR, 825 Houston Mill Road, Suite 300, Atlanta, GA 30329, USA.

\* New Program Unit \*

### **Contemporary Pagan Studies Consultation**

Wendy Griffin, Department of Women's Studies, California State University, Long Beach, CA 90840, USA; wgriffin@csulb.edu.

Proposals are invited on: 1) international approaches to quantifying numbers and demographics of Pagan practitioners, from census results or other data gathering techniques; 2) "believing" vs. "belonging" in contemporary Pagan communities; 3) contemporary Paganism in Eastern Europe (for a possible joint session with the New Religious Movements Group). We also welcome proposals on all aspects of the study of contemporary Paganism.

SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED VIA:



### Cultural History of the Study of Religion Consultation

Richard Jaffe, Duke University, richard.jaffe@duke.edu. Tisa Wenger, Arizona State University, tisa.wenger@asu.edu.

The Cultural History of the Study of Religion Consultation seeks proposals for papers or panels on the following topics: 1) the role of the courts and legal systems in developing concepts of religion in any part of the world; 2) how the cultural contexts in Consultations are exploratory opportunities to test the degree and breadth of interest among members of the Academy in areas and topics of academic interest not currently included in the concerns of existing sections, groups, or seminars.

communist and post-communist Central/ Eastern European countries have shaped local constitutions of religion and affected the field of religious studies more generally. We will also consider proposals on any subject that provides historical insight into the cultural invention and reinvention of "religion" and "religions" around the world. Submissions will be accepted online (OP3) or as e-mail attachments sent to either chair.

SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED VIA:





\* New Program Unit \*

#### **Daoist Studies Consultation**

Louis Komjathy, Department of Religion, Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma, WA 98447, USA; komjathy@plu.edu.

We invite paper proposals on "Daoist Studies: Problems and Prospects," a session that will explore the state of the field of Daoist studies and theoretical issues in Daoist studies, specifically new interpretative models for understanding and teaching Daoism. Please send paper proposals via e-mail.

SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED VIA:





(continued on p.16)

### GRADUATE SCHOOL OF RELIGION AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

#### FORDHAM UNIVERSITY

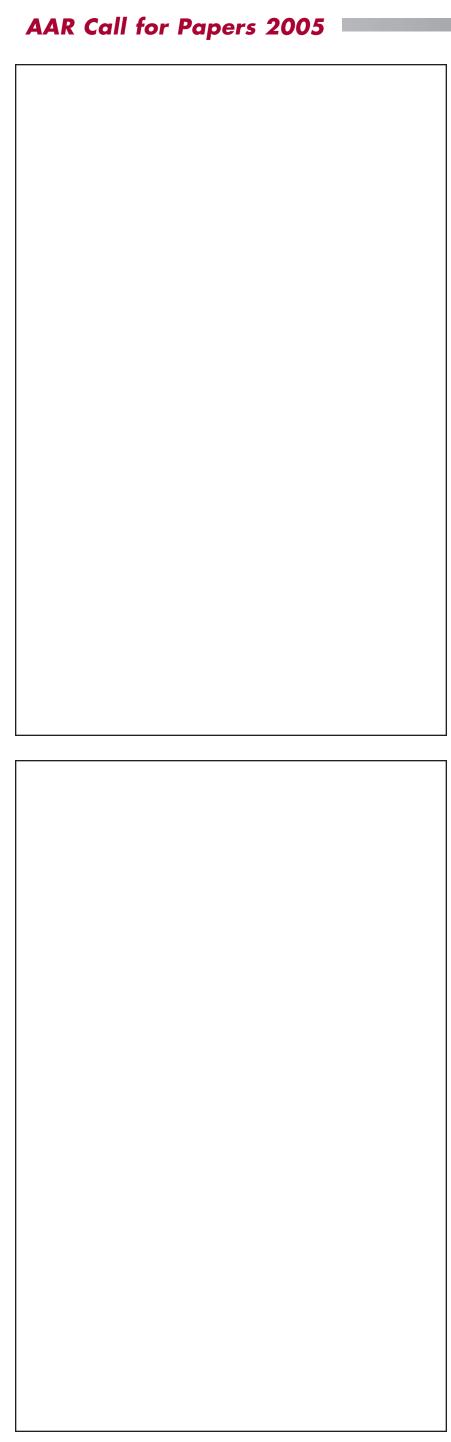
### **Assistant Professor of Pastoral Counseling**

Fordham University's Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education in New York City announces an opening for the full-time position of Assistant Professor of Pastoral Counseling. This will be a tenure-track teaching and research appointment with salary commensurate to rank and experience. Starting date: August 2005.

### **Expected qualifications:**

- 1. completed Ph.D. in Counseling or Clinical Psychology
- 2. competency for coursework in Developmental and Clinical
- 3. knowledge of and interest in pastoral/spiritual ministries essential
- 4. teaching and direction all graduate level
- 5. membership in or the interest in acquiring membership in American Association of Pastoral Counselors

Prospective candidates are invited to submit a letter giving expression to professional interests, accompanied by a current *curriculum vitae*. At the time of application candidates should also have requested three references of their choosing to submit letters of recommendation. Fordham is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Materials should be addressed to Dean, Rev. Anthony J. Ciorra, Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education, Fordham University, Keating Hall Rm. 307, 441 East Fordham Road, Bronx, NY 10458. Applications will be closed March 1, 2005.



\* New Program Unit \*

### Death, Dying, and Beyond Consultation

Christopher Moreman, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, 525 Rear School ST, Indiana, PA 15701, USA; *c\_moreman@hotmail.com*. Kathleen Garces-Foley (University of California, Santa Barbara), 610 Dulce DR, Oxnard, CA 93036, USA; *kgarcesfoley@hotmail.com*.

The focus of this consultation is broad, encompassing all aspects of the study of death, including, but not limited to: rituals of death and dying; beliefs in the afterlife; ethics; bereavement; psychology of dying; anomalous experiences with the afterlife; comparative studies of beliefs and/or rituals. The theme for 2005 is "Continuities and Discontinuities in Approaches to Death." Proposals examining questions such as how approaches to death have shifted historically and into the modern age; discussions of contemporary approaches to death and dying; the changing roles of medicine, science, and religion in the death process; or comparative studies across cultures or historical periods will be considered. Papers relating to any aspect of the study of death from any religious tradition or methodological approach will also be considered.

SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED VIA:







#### **Foucault Consultation**

Tom Beaudoin, Santa Clara University, Religious Studies Department, 500 El Camino Real, Santa Clara, CA 95053, USA; tbeaudoin@scu.edu.

The Foucault Consultation welcomes proposals for papers or panels in two primary areas: 1) Exploring Foucault's work on Islam, especially in the context of his writings concerning Iran; we also welcome more general engagements with Islamic studies that are informed by Foucault. 2) On constructive philosophies and theologies of religion "after" Foucault; for example, how scholarship in philosophy or theology of religion proceeds from perspectives strongly informed and animated by Foucault. In addition, papers or panels on any topic that relate Foucault to religious or theological inquiry will be considered.

SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED VIA:



\* New Program Unit \*

### Liberal Theologies Consultation

Christine Helmer, Claremont Graduate University, *christine.helmer@cgu.edu*.

Papers are welcome that define "liberal" in the relation of liberal theologies to historical and cultural questions: for example, how theology — whether historical or constructive incorporates these questions into its method ology in such a way defining the enterprise as "liberal." Also invited are papers relating liberal theologies to various methods in the study of religion, which might include contributions to developments in religion, possible risks involved in such an endeavor, and an analysis of the parameters constituting "liberalism" in religion(s). Papers may also address the question of "liberal" in the relation of theologies to politics: for example the historical development of this relation since the Enlightenment, the politics of "liberalism" or the political implications of liberal theologies, or liberal theologies in view of contemporary politics.

SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED VIA:



### Open and Relational Theologies Consultation

Thomas Jay Oord, Northwest Nazarene University, *tjoord@nnu.edu*.

For our session "Theologies of Mission in a Pluralistic Age," we seek proposals considering the contributions open and relational theologies might make to interreligious dialogue. Are there limits to how "open" an open and relational theology should be to other traditions? What might an open and relational theological apologetic be in a pluralistic age? We are also cosponsoring the session "American Empire and Religion" with Religious Freedom, Public Life, and the State Group. We encourage descriptive and prescriptive proposals. Does the United States act as an empire? If not, how not? If so, in what ways is it imperialistic? Upon what resources might religious traditions draw to answer these questions? Does religion in America embrace or oppose global domination?

SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED VIA:







\* New Program Unit \*

#### Queer Theory and LGBT Studies in Religion Consultation

Melissa M. Wilcox, Religion Department, Whitman College, 345 Boyer AVE, Walla Walla, WA 99362, USA; W: 509-527-5247; F: 509-527-5039; wilcoxmm@whitman.edu.

The Queer Theory and LGBT Studies in Religion Consultation invites proposals for papers that explore the intersections of LGBT studies and queer theory with the study of religion. We are especially interested in the following topics: 1) comparisons across genders in LGBT religious studies; 2) applications of queer theory to any aspect of the study of religion; 3) the potential impact of religious studies on the future development of queer theory; and 4) developing bisexual and/or transgender studies in religion.

SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED VIA:



\* New Program Unit \*

### Religion and Sexuality Consultation

Catherine Roach, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, New College, Box 870229, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487, USA; croach@nc.ua.edu. R. Marie Griffith, Princeton University, Department of Religion, 1879 Hall, Princeton, NJ 08544, USA; griffith@princeton.edu.

We invite proposals on religion and sexuality, broadly conceptualized but focused on questions of why and how sex matters to religious persons, communities, or traditions. Topics may be historical or contemporary, and we especially encourage interdisciplinary approaches, interest in gender (broadly defined), and strong attention to theoretical and methodological issues. A multiplicity of topics and practices will be considered, examples of which may include polygamous relationships and complex marriage; debates over "free love" and celibacy; LGBT communities; prostitution and other forms of sex work; sex mysticism; censorship; pornography; erotica; sexual abuse scandals; or other current controversies in religion and sexuality. We welcome innovative program formats that allow for in-depth discussion, such as a round-table panel on the state of research in the area of religion and sexuality, or cross-cultural approaches to the topic.

SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED VIA:



### Religious Studies News — AAR Edition

### Religion, Media, and Culture Consultation

Stewart M. Hoover, University of Colorado, Boulder, *hoover@colorado.edu*. Michele Rosenthal, University of Haifa, *rosen@research.haifa.ac.il*.

The Religion, Media, and Culture Consultation invites proposals for papers and panels in three broad areas for 2005: 1) the role of media and transnational media flows in interreligious conflicts and peace building efforts; 2) ethnographies of performance and audience, with media broadly understood, for a possible co-sponsored session with the Anthropology of Religion Group; 3) teaching religion with and through the media, teaching about the media as a "religious text," and/or the media as a mediating structure of knowledge about religion, for a possible co-sponsored session with the Academic Teaching and the Study of Religion Section. While we prefer proposals on the above themes, the consultation will also consider proposals or panels that focus upon any aspect of the intersections between religion, media, and culture.

SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED VIA:



### Sacred Space in Contemporary Asia Consultation

Steven Heine, Florida International University, Institute for Asian Studies, DM 300, University Park, Miami, FL 33199-0001, USA; W: 305-348-1788; F: 305-348-6586; heines@fiu.edu. Pamela D. Winfield, Meredith College, 2429 Greenway AVE, Raleigh, NC 27608-1305, USA; W: 919-760-8308; winfield@meredith.edu.

"Map and Reality: Evolving Sacred Spaces in Asia." This consultation solicits various methodological approaches to topics such as: 1) UNESCO World Heritage Sites (especially their early modern history and religious context before WHS designation, conservation, the effects of international recognition, contemporary economics and relations amongst males/females, pilgrims, tourists, vandals, clerics, local communities, government officials). Other rele-

vant areas of inquiry will also be considered. 2) Issues of authenticity and authority. What constitutes a "real" religious site in Asia and who decides? 3) Projecting Asia (the use of Asian sacred space in classic and contemporary film, television, or other popular media). 4) Recycled, reconfigured, or reconstructed sacred spaces in Asia or other host countries.

SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED VIA:







\* New Program Unit \*

### Signifying (on) Scriptures Consultation

The Signifying (on) Scriptures Consultation will be presenting a prearranged session at the 2005 Annual Meeting.

#### **Tantric Studies Consultation**

Glen Alexander Hayes, Bloomfield College, Department of Religion, 467 Franklin ST, Bloomfield, NJ 07003, USA; W: 973-748-9000 x236; glen\_hayes@bloomfield.edu.

The Tantric Studies Consultation invites papers and prearranged panels dealing with recent research in Tantric studies, including but not limited to the following topics: 1) Tantra, sexuality, and gender; 2) Tantric art and literature (cosponsored with the Arts, Literature, and Religion Section); 3) Tantra and New Religions (co-sponsored with the New Religious Movements Group); 4) a selected century of Tantric traditions across Asia; 5) misconceptions of Tantra and Tantric Studies; and 6) Bhairava. A central concern of the consultation is the collaboration of scholars in Tantric Studies that crosses the traditional boundaries of research based on geographic regions, specific traditions, and academic disciplines. It seeks to be a cross-cultural and cross-disciplinary enterprise. Graduate students and unaffiliated scholars are especially welcome to submit proposals.

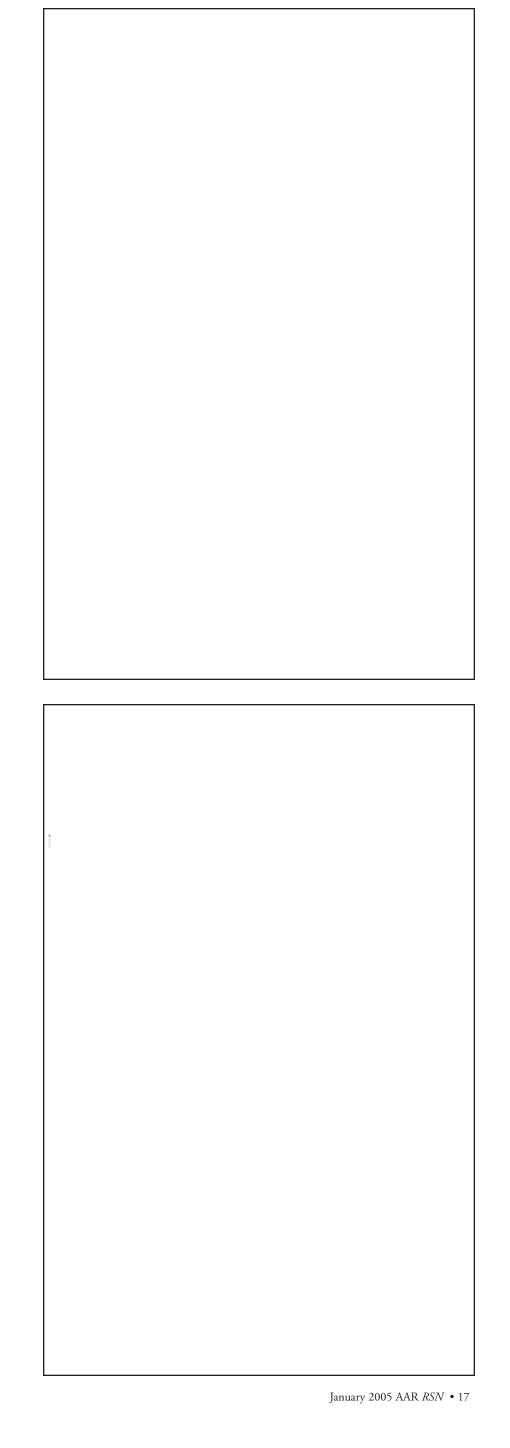
SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED VIA:



The Committee on Teaching and Learning seeks nominations for the 2005 AAR Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Nominations of winners of campus awards, or any other awards, are encouraged.

Procedures for the nomination process are outlined on the AAR Web site at www.aarweb.org/awards/teaching.asp.



# The American Academy of Religion is pleased to announce the results of the elections for 2005. A total of 1,524 votes were cast.

President: Hans Hillerbrand

President-Elect: Diana Eck

Vice President: Jeffrey Stout

Secretary: Michelene Pesantubbee

# Tariq Ramadan Session Videotapes Now Available

Islamic scholar Tariq Ramadan's 2004 AAR Annual Meeting plenary address "Islam in the West: The North American Context" is now available on videotape.

Great for general classroom presentation and to stimulate timely discussion with students.

Limited supply VHS tapes, priced at cost at \$14 (includes domestic shipping). To order, call the AAR at 404-727-3049 or send an e-mail to *videotape@aarweb.org*.

# Future AAR Annual Meeting Dates and Sites

2005

November 19–22 Philadelphia, PA

2006

November 18–21 Washington, D.C.

2007

November 17–20 San Diego, CA 2008

October 25–28 Chicago, IL

2009

November 7–10 Montreal, QC

**2010** 

TBA

**2011** 

November 19–22 San Francisco, CA

Please renew your membership now, and consider making an additional contribution to the AAR's Academy Fund.

Membership dues cover less than 30 percent of programs and services.

Renew online at www.aarweb.org/renewal.

Or contact us at TEL: 404-727-3049 E-MAIL: membership@aarweb.org.

Please see the Membership page, www.aarweb.org/membership.



### Departments and programs enrolled in the Academic Relations Program receive resources for strengthening the study of religion. These include:

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- Chairs Annual Meeting Workshop
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### **Annual Meeting**

• Priority access to the headquarters hotel

### **Information and Survey Resources**

• Survey reports

### **EIS Center Services**

- Discounted fees
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### ENROLLMENT -&

Enrollment fees are based on the size of faculty, measured as full-time equivalents. Further information can be found at <a href="https://www.aarweb.org/department/acadrel.asp">www.aarweb.org/department/acadrel.asp</a>.

FTE Faculty	Fee
1–5	\$250
6–12	\$350
13 or more	\$500

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For more information, contact: Carey J. Gifford AAR Director of Academic Relations cgifford@aarweb.org 404-727-2270.



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# ANNUAL REPORT

### A Message from the President



Dear AAR colleagues,

During my term as president I have been privileged to serve with generous and productive colleagues who

devote much time and attention to the advancement of our professional organization. Over and over, in chairing meetings of the full Board of Directors as well as those of the Board's Executive Committee, I have been struck by the deep and abiding dedication that our colleagues bring to this important collegial service.

This year the American Academy of Religion has continued to move forward with the implementation of its Centennial Strategic Plan. One aspect of that implementation, the April 2003 Board decision to hold independent annual meetings after 2007, offers all of us an opportunity to rethink the structure and format of our yearly gathering. We are all familiar with our present time-block system, a planning format that builds the program on the basis of time slots that can accommodate four or five sequential papers or presentations. Do we want to reaffirm this format into the future? Or

do we want to experiment with other formats? In the last decade, pressure on program space has mounted every year. The growth of existing program units has been constrained and new initiatives struggle to find a place on the program. With the additional space offered by stand-alone meetings, can we relieve some of this evermounting pressure? Can we also plan prospectively to expand out programming into previously underrepresented areas of our field?

These questions and concerns prompted the Board to authorize the formation of a Task Force on the Annual Meeting. As I undertook the work of creating this Task Force, I felt supremely fortunate in being able to attract a major scholar in our field and a past AAR president, Judith Berling, to the leadership of this initiative. In consultation with the Executive Committee and our Executive Director, Judith and I solicited the participation of a superb group of colleagues: Jon Brockopp, Frank Clooney, Bill Dyrness, Kwok Pui Lan, Steve Tipton, and Emily Townes. The Task Force has proven to be remarkably productive and their creative and insightful report will be the subject of wide discussion within our Academy. As this discussion proceeds, I look forward to the fullest possible participation of our membership.

Two other goals of our Centennial Strategic Plan seek (a) "to advance publication and scholarly communication in the field" and (b) "to contribute to the public understanding of religion." Work toward the realization of these goals is already well launched. The various forms of scholarly and professional communication that our organization supports continue to grow and to reach new audiences. Our arrangements with Oxford University Press have offered enhanced distribution for our successful series and contributed to their further expansion. As we thank Glen Yocum for his years of editorial leadership, our Journal of the American Academy of Religion moves now through its transition to a new editor in January 2006, Charles Mathewes. Our quarterly newsletter, Religious Studies News, draws members and AAR staff into a collaborative venture that spans all scholarly areas and professional venues of our field. The semi-annual Spotlight on Teaching, under the able editorial direction of Tazim Kassam, has energized pedagogical exploration and development. A more recent online venture, Religionsource (www.religionsource.org), has garnered widespread acclaim from journalists and quickly achieved an impressive usage record as a database of experts in the many areas and aspects of the study of religion. These various forms of communication afford us opportunities for both

scholarly exchange and the broader dissemination of our multiple areas of expertise. They increase our ability to connect with an audience well beyond that of our students and colleagues.

All of these new and continuing initiatives attest to the vitality and the visibility of our Academy. They draw us together in collaborative ventures that advance our field and that support our vocations as scholars and teachers. None would be possible without the volunteer leadership and service demonstrated by so many of our colleagues and without the superb professional support that Barbara DeConcini and her staff unstintingly provide. We owe them our gratitude and appreciation and, in the name of the entire membership of the AAR, I would like to end this letter and my year as president with a very sincere word of thanks to them all. :

Jane M. Cenliffe

Jane Dammen McAuliffe

### Centennial Strategic Plan 2004–2009

### Vision

The American Academy of Religion (AAR) is the preeminent scholarly and professional society in the field of religion, recognized as the field's leader in critical scholarship; teaching and learning about religion; and resources for pedagogy, programs, the professoriate, and the public understanding of religion.

### Mission

In a world where religion plays so central a role in social, political, and economic events, as well as in the lives of communities and individuals, there is a critical need for ongoing reflection upon and understanding of religious traditions, issues, questions, and values. The American Academy of Religion's mission is to promote such reflection through excellence in scholarship and teaching.

As a learned society and professional association of teachers and research scholars, the American Academy of Religion has over 9,500 members, most of whom teach in more than 1,500 colleges, universities, seminaries, and schools in North America and abroad. The Academy is dedicated to furthering knowledge of religions in all their forms and manifestations. This is accomplished through Academy-wide and regional conferences and meetings, research support, publications, professional development and outreach programs, and member services.

Within a context of free inquiry and critical examination, the AAR welcomes all disciplined reflection on religion — from both within and outside of communities of belief and practice — and seeks to enhance its broad public understanding.

### Goals

To accomplish this mission, the AAR sets forth the following goals:

- 1. To promote research and scholarship in the field of religion.
- 2. To foster excellence in teaching and learning in the field.
- 3. To facilitate our members' professional development.
- 4. To develop programming and participation in AAR regional groups.
- 5. To advance publication and scholarly communication in the field.
- 6. To contribute to the public understanding of religion.
- 7. To welcome into our conversation the various voices in the field of religion and to support and encourage diversity within the Academy.

- 8. To enhance awareness of the international context for the study of religion and to increase involvement in the AAR by scholars and teachers from around the globe.
- 9. To advance and secure the future of the academic study of religion.

### **Strategic Objectives**

As we prepare for the Academy's centennial in 2009, 100 years from the founding of its predecessor organization, we identify the following strategic objectives. The attention given to these objectives simply highlights them for special focus within the AAR's continuing commitment to current and ongoing programs and services.

#### 1. To attract new members to the AAR.

The notable growth of the AAR membership over the past ten years still leaves many scholars and teachers in the field of religion unaffiliated with the AAR. Both the field and the Academy will be stronger and intellectually richer if these colleagues choose to join our ranks.

### 2. To enhance the role of the AAR in the profession.

As a professional association, the AAR includes among its primary responsi-

bilities collecting and analyzing data about the field; monitoring trends in the profession that affect individuals and departments (e.g., the increasing use of adjunct teachers, the erosion of tenure, the growing corporate culture in college and university administration); keeping members apprised of such developments; and taking action whenever appropriate on behalf of the field and its professors.

### 3. To enhance the identity of the AAR within the larger scholarly community.

As the field of religion continues to develop and to change its contours, there is growing interest and need to relate the field to cognate fields. At the same time, we have not yet made a thoroughly convincing case for our field within the liberal arts setting, among college and university administrators and colleagues.

#### 4. To clarify the identity and mission of the AAR vis-à-vis other scholarly societies in religion, holding stand-alone annual meetings beginning in 2008.

Currently the number of scholarly societies dedicated to the study of

See CENTENNIAL PLAN, p.22

### A Message from the Executive Director



My words of greeting in the Annual Report usually address one or other of the past year's major activities. This year, I am taking as my inspiration Jane McAuliffe's gener-

ous words about the AAR Executive Office staff. Many, if not most, of our members identify the AAR with the Annual Meeting. But, as these annual reports aim to display, the Academy is engaged in a broad array of programs and services for members. The 12 people I recognize and celebrate here are the folks who make it all happen. They are the unsung gold medalists of the Academy, the cream in our coffee, the salt in our stew — you get the idea! So let me introduce you to the extraordinary and extraordinarily devoted members of the executive office team.

**Kyle Cole** is Associate Director of *Religionsource*, a position he has held since 2001. He is our chief media officer. Before joining the AAR staff, Kyle was a journalism professor at Baylor University, having earned the PhD in journalism at the University of Missouri. A Texan by birth, he has lived in Atlanta for the past three years. When he is not working, Kyle is an outdoorsman. He's also enjoying being a newlywed.

Joe DeRose is Director of Membership and Technology Services, a position he has held since 1999. He manages all AAR databases, the Web site (which he designed), and technological solutions. He came to the AAR from Emory University's Department of Medicine, where he did similar work on a much smaller scale for the Board Review Course in Internal Medicine. A native Atlantan, Joe earned the BA in Political Science (Emory University), but his technological wizardry is self-taught (or perhaps a direct infusion from above?). Joe keeps active by bicycling to work every day. He is an explorer whether it's a new hiking trail with his dog or a new country halfway around the world.

**Toby Director** joined the staff this year as an Administrative Assistant. She has extensive experience in multiple areas

including accounting, law, business management, education, nonprofit administration, and parenting. She is a CPA with education at Emory University (BBA), Georgia State (MBA), and Yale Law (Masters of Studies of Law), as well as doctoral work. She has served on the faculty of Emory Business School and Georgia Institute of Technology. Her greatest accomplishment, however, has been raising her four children — each a year apart in age — into caring, responsible young adults.

Carey J. Gifford is Director of Academic Relations, a position he has held since 2002. He spearheads programs for departments and institutions, conducting periodic surveys of the field, providing resources for teaching and learning and for department leadership, editing RSN, and supporting the Academic Relations, Teaching and Learning, and Publications Committees. Before joining the AAR, Carey worked for 13 years in nonprofit association management, and prior to that was Senior Editor at Abingdon Press. He earned the MDiv at Yale Divinity School and the PhD at Claremont Graduate University. He is a Certified Association Executive and a degree candidate in a counseling program. Raised in Arizona, he has lived in the South for 35 years. When he is not working, he enjoys his extended family, reading, and watching movies.

Ina Ferrell is Accounting Manager. She joined the AAR in February 2000. Ina earned the Certificate in Accounting at Mercer University. Before coming to AAR, she worked in the accounting department at Scholars Press; at the Aetna Life & Casualty Insurance Company (20+ years) as rating specialist, audit examiner and supervisor; and at Rich's Department Store (10+ years) as bookkeeper. At the AAR her responsibilities include the full range of financial operations for an annual budget in excess of \$2 million. Ina is a native Atlantan. In her spare time, she likes to dabble in writing and enjoys doing fun things with her family.

John Harrison is our Director of Finance and Operations. Before realizing that religion's up and industry's down, John worked for ten years in the pulp and paper industry as a conference planner and director of international activities. Prior to that, he was a YMCA director (five years). John grew up in Atlanta in the 1960's, attended

high school in Germany, earned the BS (biology and psychology) at the University of Georgia, and the MBA at Georgia State. John teaches an occasional Sunday school class, but spends most of his time outside of work with his wife and two young children.

Steve Herrick manages the AAR's government and media relations in his role as Director of External Relations and Religionsource. Before joining the AAR staff in 1994, he worked for Amnesty International in New York City and Atlanta, managed food stores in Oregon, and taught middle school social studies in Dallas. He earned the MA in political science, focusing on religion and law, and the BA (Texas Christian University) in history and German. He enjoys swimming in lakes and reading literary nonfiction.

**Myesha D. Jenkins** is Administrative Supervisor, a position she has held since 2002. She's the one who manages all our administrative support operations. She is staff liaison for the Task Force on Student Planning, Student Liaison Group, and Book Award Juries. Before joining the AAR, Myesha worked as a lead client advocate and shelter manager at two metro Atlanta domestic violence shelters. She earned the BA (religion and history) at Emory University and the MDiv at Princeton Theological Seminary. Myesha is currently pursuing a degree in Nursing at Georgia State University. Her research interests include the interface between religion and health and ethical issues in death and dying. She has lived in Atlanta all her life and loves the city's wonderful foliage and diversity. When not working, she enjoys family time with her very energetic six-year old daughter, Vashti, and her loving and supportive husband, Larry. She finds time to volunteer in the inpatient unit of the local community hospital's cancer center.

Aislinn Jones has been the Annual Meeting Program Director since January 2002. She manages the myriad logistical, planning, and programming details of coordinating a meeting for 8,800 attendees. Aislinn is a graduate of the University of Georgia (public relations) and is currently completing her dissertation for the PhD in Religious Studies (University of Stirling). Before returning to graduate school, she was a Web developer for IBM. A rare beast known as the

native Atlantan, Aislinn is pleased that working at the AAR allows her to live near her family and friends. In all of her spare time, Aislinn is interested in travel, greyhound and feline rescue, sewing, and other crafting projects.

Allya Macdonald has been working as an Administrative Assistant for the AAR Executive Office since 2003. She has a BA in religion and philosophy from the University of Georgia. Before coming to the AAR, Allya worked at Borders Books & Music and Emory University Bookstore. She is currently completing an assistantship in pottery at the Callanwolde Fine Arts Center in Atlanta. She is planning to pursue a MFA degree in ceramic arts in 2006.

Shelly Roberts is the Academic Relations Program Manager. She works primarily on the production of *Religious Studies News—AAR Edition* and on directing the annual Employment Information Services Center. She is from Tallahassee, Florida and earned a BA at Florida State University in International Affairs, with a concentration in Southeastern European studies. Shelly worked for five years as the office manager of Young Actors Theater, also in Tallahassee, before she came to the AAR two years ago. In her spare time, she likes to read nonfiction books, garden, and cook gourmet meals.

Susan Snider joined the AAR in 2001 as Administrative Assistant for the Religionsource project. She maintains the Religionsource scholar database and Web site. Before joining the AAR, Susan worked for Scholars Press, owned an antiques business, and worked in banking. She's a graduate of Wesleyan College, with a BA in philosophy and religion and theatre. Born in Florida, Susan moved to Atlanta in 1980.

It is my pleasure and privilege to sing their praises to you. Without them, not.

Yours,

Barbara DeConcini Executive Director

Barbara & Concin

### **CENTENNIAL PLAN**, from p.21

religion is growing, and on a global scale. Some have a general focus; others very specific areas of interest. In order to insure a fruitful interaction with these societies, it is important that the AAR have a clearly defined identity and mission of its own.

5. To foster scholarly interaction among all approaches to the study of religion, including the ethical and theological perspectives that arise within particular religious traditions. Our objective is to welcome reflection from within and among particular religious traditions into our conversation.

As the Academy continues to grow in size and scope, it is important that the AAR stand-alone meeting not be mis-

understood as a gesture in favor of any single approach to the study of religion. The AAR must make ever clearer its mission to welcome critical reflection from all scholarly vantages and perspectives, from both within and outside of living faith traditions.

### 6. To enhance the international dimension of the AAR.

By its nature, the academic study of religion is an international enterprise. What is more, enhancing the AAR's international connections is increasingly important for the work of religion scholars and the flourishing of the field itself in today's interconnected world.

7. To diversify the Academy's leadership and nurture leaders for the future.

At the same time that colleges and universities are decreasing their historical support of scholarly societies, the AAR's growth and ambitious programming need more dedicated and competent volunteers to provide intellectual and strategic leadership. As the field's contours continue to change and succeeding generations of scholars and teachers join the Academy, it is important to nurture and cultivate new cadres of leaders, both regionally and Academy-wide, and to foster greater racial, ethnic, and gender diversity in the field and the Academy. To remain vital, the AAR must regularly review organizational structures to assure access and openness to change, as well as continuity and tradition.

8. To prepare for the AAR's centennial in 2009.

The forthcoming AAR centennial offers the opportunity to strengthen the institutional memory of the Academy and to take steps to maximize continuing leadership and service in the field far into the future.

### 9. To enhance the financial security of the AAR.

The AAR's continued striving toward excellence as the leading scholarly and professional association in the field of religion is related to the financial resources available to imagine and undertake these and other emerging objectives.

### **Governance and Structure**

### 2004 Board of Directors

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Diana Eck, Vice President, Harvard University

Susan E. Henking, Secretary, Hobart and William Smith Colleges

Barbara DeConcini, Treasurer, American Academy of Religion

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Linda L. Barnes, Boston University

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Joyce Burkhalter Flueckiger, Emory University Tazim Kassam, *Spotlight* Editor, Syracuse University

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Laurie Louise Patton, Emory University

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Terrence W. Tilley, University of Dayton

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Debra Mubashshir, Beloit College

Wade Clark Roof, University of California, Santa Barbara

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F. Rachel Magdalene, Appalachian State University

J. Eric Pridmore, Drew University

### **Awards for Excellence**

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Martin Riesebrodt, University of Chicago Steve Wasserstrom, Reed College

#### Constructive-Reflective Studies

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Julia A. Lamm, Georgetown University
Dale S. Wright, Occidental College

### Historical Studies

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### Best First Book in the History of Religions

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John Carman, Harvard Divinity School Wendy Doniger, University of Chicago

Thomas P. Kasulis, Ohio State University

Ursula King, University of Bristol Gerald J. Larson, Indiana University emeritus, UCSB emeritus

### Research Grant Jury

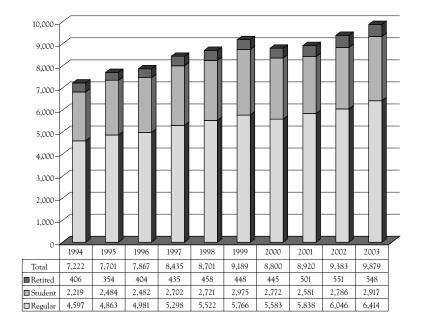
Ellen T. Armour, Rhodes College John Berthrong, Boston University

Kathleen M. Erndl, Florida State University R. Marie Griffith, Princeton University

Patricia O'Connell Killen, Pacific Lutheran University

### **Membership Trends**

AAR membership has grown substantially since 1994, with 2003 membership figures over 35 percent higher than at the beginning of this ten-year period. A small decline in membership in 2000 (probably related to the dissolution of Scholars Press and, with it, the joint AAR/SBL membership on a single form) was reversed in 2001. The 2003 membership was the highest in the AAR's history. Regular membership typically accounts for about 64 percent of the total; student membership has been steady at or near 30 percent; and the remainder of the membership is in the retired category. AAR memberships run for the calendar year.



### **Access and Disability Issues**

### AAR Report on Disability Issues

The AAR benefits from its Task Force on Religion and Disabilities, which was chartered by the Board in 2002 to advise the organization on issues of accessibility. At its 2003 meeting, the AAR Board extended the tenure of the Task Force until 2006.

The AAR also benefits from executive office staff who are familiar with disability issues, including one who is disabled and two others who have worked with disabled persons for many years.

While this report focuses on the AAR's broad commitment to accessibility issues as well as recent innovations, a page containing detailed information about specific aspects of the AAR's work is maintained separately from this report, and can be found at www. aarweb.org/other/accessibility/default.asp.

### **Improvements in 2004**

The AAR redoubled its efforts to ensure Annual Meeting accessibility to persons with disabilities by sending the chair of the Task Force on Religion and Disabilities, along with the staff liaison to that task force, to San Antonio this spring. Their trip was intended to identify accessibility problems and to familiarize themselves with the environment. This expedition resulted in recommendations to the Annual Meeting Program Director that will benefit members with disabilities.

The AAR also augmented Annual Meeting information online with a page that describes the accessibility environment in San

Antonio: www.aarweb.org/annualmeet/2004/accessibility.asp. This page details the AAR Taxi Reimbursement Policy, provides disability-specific transit information, and lists services that may be important to persons with disabilities. It is expected that this will be a regular part of the Annual Meeting pages in the future.

### Communications with Members

The AAR has found many virtues in online communications with members, including the benefit to the environment (avoiding the waste of paper) and the lower cost (keeping dues down and focusing resources on areas that benefit members). Prime among these benefits, however, is that persons with visual impairments can access materials as easily as nondisabled members. Further, while many materials continue to be produced in print because print versions remain useful to our members, duplication of those materials on the Web site directly benefits AAR members who are visually impaired. We are pleased to report that all AAR print publications -JAAR, Religious Studies News—AAR, Spotlight on Teaching, the membership directory, and the Annual Meeting program book — are available online at or before the time of publication.

The AAR has established policies pertaining to its Web site to keep it accessible to persons with visual impairments.

The AAR has advised its front-office staff on receiving calls via telecommunications devices for the deaf (TDDs).

### **AAR Office's Efforts to Improve the Environment**

This is the first of what is expected to be an annual report on the AAR's commitment to, and progress on, environmental issues as they affect our operations. It is hoped that this report will provide us with benchmarks for improving this commitment, as well as information on progress we have made.

#### Infrastructure

The American Academy of Religion is headquartered at the Luce Center, which the AAR owns jointly with the Society of Biblical Literature. During the building's planning and construction, the AAR worked with the architects to create an environment that is functional, attractive, and of low impact to the environment.

The building itself is set in woodland, and as few trees as possible were dislodged for its construction. No tree with a diameter greater than four inches was removed. The building is shaded by the tall trees surrounding it, and further shade against the midday sun is provided by wide overhangs above the windows on each floor, thereby decreasing air conditioning needs and electrical consumption. It is lit with energy efficient lights; except for security lights, the building is darkened at night. Each office has individual climate control, so that air conditioning or heating for portions of the building not in use can be turned off. While the building has elevators to provide full accessibility to wheelchairs, its atrium is designed to encourage the use of stairs. The parking lot was constructed with buffers to minimize water runoff, and the grounds — where they are landscaped

at all — are landscaped with plants that require amounts of water appropriate for the local climate. For dry periods, the area in the immediate vicinity of the building is equipped with an automated watering system, allowing us to keep the plants healthy while taking water only for a brief time at a late hour, in compliance with Georgia's voluntary outdoor watering restrictions.

### Communications to Members and Others

The AAR has made the decision to benefit the environment by prioritizing membership communications in electronic format — Web site updates and e-mail notices — in lieu of printed communications. To that end, we do the following:

- The AAR Web site provides as much interactivity as possible, allowing members to retrieve and update information without using paper. (Paper options for membership records still exist, of course, for members who lack access to the Internet or who simply prefer to use paper.)
- Communications that are not of longterm interest are produced online, such as *Openings* and *In the Field*. (Publications that members might wish to read at their leisure are printed on paper and mailed.) The AAR uses a monthly e-Bulletin to communicate timely information to members without exhausting any nonrenewable resource.

• For 2004, we inaugurated a system of sending the first membership renewal message by e-mail, with follow-up when necessary by surface mail. It is hoped that this will substantially reduce our use of paper in this membership cycle.

For print versions of the membership renewal mailing, we use materials with an eye on environmental responsibility:

- All paper used in the inserts and envelopes contains some recycled content.
- All inks used in the printing are soy based.
- The envelopes do not contain the cellophane window, so they can be recycled in regular white paper bins.

### **Corporate Culture**

### Reducing and Reusing

The AAR strongly encourages an environmental commitment among its employees. Products that can be reused are retained and restored to inventory. Most AAR employees print routine office communications (if they must print them at all) on the back sides of fax transmissions or other materials that have been acted upon and discarded. The AAR has provided its employees with PDAs and laptop computers, the portability of which allows these employees to avoid wasting paper in printing materials that can better be carried in

electronic format. All contracts that the AAR signs with hotels for the Annual Meeting contain the provision that all excess foodstuff be donated to local charities.

### Recycling

The AAR participates in all available Emory University recycling programs, including white paper, colored paper, and magazine/newspaper recycling. On its own, the AAR collects and recycles aluminum cans. And toner cartridges are returned to the manufacturer for recycling.

### Alternative Transportation

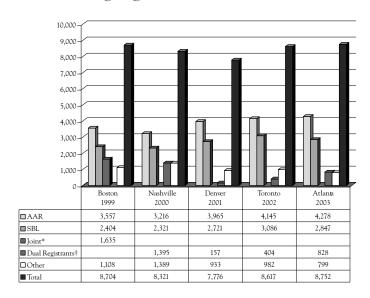
As an affiliate of Emory University, the AAR is eligible to participate in the Emory University Alternative Transportation Program. Several of the AAR's 13 employees participate in one or more alternative transportation programs, including carpooling, telecommuting, using public transportation, and bicycling. Another employee drives a hybrid car to minimize his impact on the environment. Additionally, the AAR has set up IT infrastructures to make it easier for employees to telecommute; several AAR employees telecommute one or more days a week.

Through 2004, AAR employees who are enrolled in alternative transportation programs have been eligible to use the Emory University fleet of Ford Th!nk electric vehicles. Where possible, office errands have been completed using these vehicles.

### **Annual Meeting**

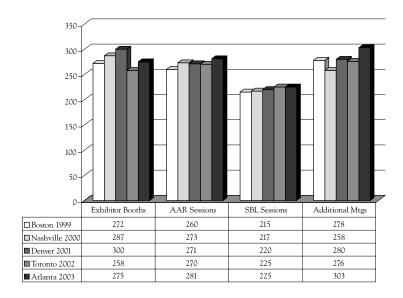
The AAR Annual Meeting is the largest scholarly conference on religion and, for the four days of the conference, the largest religion "bookstore." The meeting is large both in size and in complexity, from the number of registrants, sessions, and exhibitors to the number of special workshops and conferences of related scholarly organizations. Currently, the AAR program structure is comprised of 14 sections, 52 groups, 2 seminars, and 13 consultations, for a total of 81 program units. Plenary lectures, arts events, business meetings, professional development sessions, and a whole range of special events for various constituencies enhance the program. Eighteen scholarly organizations have formal ties with the Academy, and some 86 others hold their meetings at the AAR conference.

### Annual Meeting Registration, 1999–2003

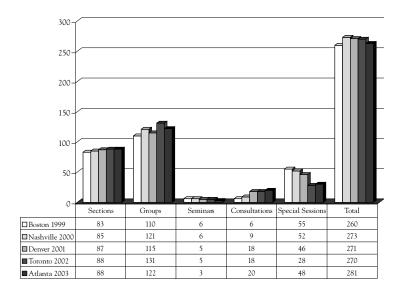


- \* Joint AAR/SBL was discontinued in 2000 due to the closing of Scholars Press.
- † Registrants who are members of AAR and of SBL.

Exhibit Booths, AAR Sessions, Additional Meetings, 1999–2003



Annual Meeting Sessions by Program Unit, 1999–2003



### **2005 Regional Meetings**

#### Eastern International

May 6–8 McGill University Montreal, Canada

#### Mid-Atlantic

March 3–4 Hyatt Regency New Brunswick, NI

#### Midwest

April 8–9 DePaul Center Chicago, Illinois

#### New England-Maritimes

In 2005, the region will co-sponsor various conferences proposed by regional members.

#### Pacific Northwest

April 29–May 1 Seattle University Seattle, Washington

#### Rocky Mountains-Great Plains

April 8–9 University of Denver Denver, Colorado

#### Southeast

March 11–13 Adams Mark Hotel Winston-Salem, NC

#### Southwest

March 12–13 Harvey Hotel, DFW Dallas, TX

#### Upper Midwest

April 16–17 Luther Seminary St. Paul, MN

#### West

March 12–14 Arizona State University Tempe, AZ ❖

# Future AAR Annual Meeting Dates and Sites

2005 Philadelphia, PA, November 19-22

2010 777

2006 Washington, D.C., November 18-21

2010 TBA

2007 San Diego, CA, November 17–20

2011 San Francisco, CA, November 26–29

2009 Montreal, Canada, November 7–10

2008 Chicago, IL, October 25-28

### Outreach

### **Resources for Media**

The AAR operates Religionsource, which provides referrals to journalists seeking informed sources on religion topics and provides scholars with tips on how to be a good source for journalists. The Pew Charitable Trusts has awarded the AAR a two-year \$560,000 renewal grant to continue Religionsource through September 2005.

This year, the AAR responded to more than 1,500 queries from journalists, including queries from ABC News, Associated Press, Boston Globe, Chicago Tribune, Christian Science Monitor, Congressional Quarterly, Dallas Morning News, (Toronto) Globe and Mail, Los Angeles Times, Miami Herald, National Public Radio, The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer, Newsweek, New York Times, Religion News Service, Reuters News Service, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Time, Washington Post, and Wall Street Journal.

The AAR promoted Religionsource at seven annual conventions of various journalist associations, and Religionsource has been added to the search engine directories of Google.com, Ansme.com, Any Search Info (search-info.com), InternetResources.com, NetServe.com, Just-Religion-Links.com, and LTN.net (Spanish-language search engine).

At the annual meetings of the AAR, the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, and the Canadian Society for

the Study of Religion, Religionsource provided workshops on how scholars can serve as good sources for journalists.

### **Public Advocacy**

Nine AAR members and staff participated in Humanities Advocacy Day, meeting with members of Congress representing Georgia, New York, North Carolina, Virginia, and Wisconsin to advocate increasing the National Endowment for the Humanities budget.

Executive Director Barbara DeConcini serves on the Board of Directors of the National Humanities Alliance, whose mission is advocacy for the humanities and social sciences at the federal and public policy levels.

For the third year in a row, 18 professors on a Fulbright program sponsored by the University of California, Santa Barbara Religion Department visited the AAR executive offices in Atlanta for an orientation to the evolution of the field of religion in North America and the role of the AAR in the field. The professors were from faculties of law, language, and the humanities at universities in Africa, Asia, and Eastern Europe.

The AAR has developed plans for an enhanced government relations program aimed at increasing policy makers' understanding of and appreciation for the field and the work of religion scholars.

### **Publications**

The Academy has enjoyed a healthy year of publishing. Oxford University Press continues to publish JAAR and AAR monographs in five series. We also offer a grant program to fund the translation of projects for publishing in the Texts & Translations Series. During this past year we have published 7 new titles and have placed 13 new titles under contract. We have also published two issues of Spotlight on Teaching (Teaching about Religions, Medicine, Healings, and Teaching about Religion and Violence) and four issues of our newspaper of record, Religious Studies News-AAR Edition.

### Series and Editors

### Academy Series

Kimberly Rae Connor Interdisciplinary Studies College of Professional Studies University of San Francisco 2130 Fulton ST San Francisco, CA 94117-1047 **USA** 

PHONE: 415-422-2869 FAX: 415-422-5036 E-MAIL: connork@usfca.edu

#### Cultural Criticism Series

Iacob N. Kinnard Iliff School of Theology 2201 South University BLVD Denver, CO 80210

PHONE: 303-765-3164 FAX: 303-777-0164 E-MAIL: jkinnard@iliff.edu

#### Reflection and Theory in the Study of Religion Series

James Wetzel Department of Philosophy and Religion Colgate University 13 Oak DR Hamilton, NY 13346

PHONE: 315-228-7683 E-MAIL: jwetzel@colgate.edu

### Teaching Religious Studies Series

Susan Henking Department of Religious Studies Hobart & William Smith Colleges Geneva, NY 14456-3382 USA

E-MAIL: henking@hws.edu

#### Texts and Translations Series

Mark Csikszentmihalyi 1108 Van Hise Hall 1220 Linden DR University of Wisconsin-Madison Madison, WI 53706-1557

E-MAIL: macsikszentm@facstaff.wisc.edu

#### Publication Committee Chair

Francis X. Clooney Department of Theology Boston College Chestnut Hill, MA 02467-3806 PHONE: 617-552-3883 FAX: 617-552-8228 E-MAIL: clooney@bc.edu

### OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS

### **New Monographs**

Nikki Bado-Fralick. Coming to the Edge of the Circle.

Mark Bosco, S. J. Graham Greene's Catholic Imagination.

Terry Godlove, editor. Teaching Durkheim.

Elizabeth Teresa Groppe. Yves Congar's Theology of the Holy Spirit.

Livia Kohn. The Daoist Monastic Manual: A Translation of the Fengdau Kejie.

Thomas W. Selover, translator. Hsieh Liang Tso and the Analects of Confucius.

Randall Styers. Making Magic: Religion, Magic & Science in the Modern World.

### Monographs under **Contract**

Carol S. Anderson, editor. Teaching About Women and Religion.

Linda Barnes and Ines Talamantez, editors. Teaching Religion and Healing.

Catherine Bell, editor. Teaching Ritual.

David G. Bromley, editor. Teaching New Religious Movements.

Arnfridur Gudmundsdottir. Meeting God on the Cross: Feminist Christologies and the Theology of the Cross.

Joy Ann McDougall. Pilgrimage of Love: Moltmann on the Trinity and Christian Life.

Carolyn Jones Medine and Theodore Louis Trost, editors. Teaching African American Religion.

Christian Moevs. Love, Mind and Matter in Dante's Comedy.

Habibeh Rahim. The Rasa 'El of Abdallah

Sara L. Rappe, trans. Damascuis' Problems and Solutions Concerning First Principles.

Lucian Turcescu. St. Gregory of Nyssa and the Concept of Divine Persons.

John Wall. Moral Creativity: Paul Richoeur and the Poetics of Modern Life.

Donna Yarri. The Ethics of Animal Experimentation.

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IOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF RELIGION

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Charles Mathewes, University of Virginia (2006 Editor Designate)

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#### **PRODUCTION EDITOR**

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John K. Roth, Claremont McKenna College

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Richard Valantasis, Iliff School of Theology Manuel A. Vasquez, University of Florida

Miroslav Volf, Yale Divinity School

Jace Weaver, University of Georgia

Dale S. Wright, Occidental College

The AAR editors invite and encourage members to contact them about research projects and publishing plans. Grant funds are available to subvent translation projects.

### **Grants and Awards**

### **Research Grant Awards**

In the past 12 years, the Academy has awarded well over half a million dollars in research grants to members. Here are this year's awardees.

Paula Arai, Carleton College Healing Buddhist Women: Japanese Rituals of Transformation

Robert M. Baum, Iowa State University Messengers of God: Diola Women Prophets in a West African Religious Tradition

Gudrun Buhnemann, University of Wisconsin–Madison Tantric Iconology of Nepal

Jacob Paul Dalton, McMaster University Beyond Anonymity: Paleographic Analyses of the Dunhuang Manuscripts

Nicola Denzey, Harvard Divinity School and York University, Toronto Gendering the Journey: Women's Lives and Deaths from the Catacombs of Rome 200–400 CE

Paul C. Kemeny, Grove City College The First Moral Majority: The New England Watch and Ward Society and Moral Reform Politics in Late Nineteenthand Early Twentieth-Century America

Lance D. Laird, Boston University School of Medicine The Profession of Islam and the Health Care Profession in Boston

Charles William Miller, University of North Dakota The Bible in the Pacific: Ideology, Interpretation, and Colonialism in 19th Century Hawai'i

Vijaya Rettakudi Nagarajan, University of San Francisco Trees in Temples and Temples in Trees: Sacred Groves and the Commons in Tamil Nadu, India

Diana Walsh-Pasulka, University of North Carolina, Wilmington Child Immortality in the Nineteenth Century United States

### **Book Awards**

The American Academy of Religion offers Awards for Excellence in order to recognize new scholarly publications that make significant contributions to the study of religion. These awards honor works of distinctive originality, intelligence, creativity, and importance; books that have a decisive effect on how religion is examined, understood, and interpreted.

### Awards for Excellence 2004



#### Analytical-Descriptive

David H. Brown. Santería Enthroned: Art, Ritual, and Innovation in an Afro-Cuban Religion. University of Chicago Press, 2003.



#### Historical

Alan Bray. The Friend. University of Chicago Press, 2003.



#### Constructive-Reflective

Jeffrey Stout. Democracy and Tradition. Princeton University Press, 2004.



#### Best First Book in the History of Religions

Edward Slingerland. Effortless Action: Wu-wei Conceptual Metaphor and Spiritual Ideal in Early China. Oxford University Press, 2004

### **Excellence in Teaching Award**

Timothy Renick, Georgia State University

### Martin E. Marty Public Understanding of **Religion Award**

Huston Smith, Syracuse University, emeritus

#### Media Awards

### News Outlets over 100,000 Circulation

First Place Laurie Goodstein, The New York Times **Second Place** G. Jeffrey MacDonald, Religion News Service

Ron Grossman, Chicago Tribune Third Place

### News Outlets under 100,000 Circulation

First Place John Dart, Christian Century **Second Place** Julie Marshall, The Daily Camera Third Place Jane Lampman, Christian Science Monitor

### **Opinion Writing**

First Place Douglas Todd, Vancouver Sun **Second Place** Steven Waldman, Beliefnet Third Place Bill Tammeus, Kansas City Star 🛰

### The Department

### **Academic Relations Program**

#### Guides to the Study of Religion

With the support of the Lilly Endowment, we completed five guides to promote, interpret, describe, and map the undergraduate and graduate study of religion. All are posted on the AAR Web site.

- The full results of our graduate survey of academic doctoral programs in the U.S.; the resultant data and extensive analysis, along with several analytical articles published in RSN.
- ❖ The full data and comprehensive analysis of the undergraduate survey, together with several analytical articles published in RSN. The second survey of undergraduate programs will be conducted in 2005-2006.
- ❖ A comprehensive online searchable database of over 100 programs in the U.S. and Canada offering academic doctoral degrees in religion and theology. The guide is searchable by institution type, type of doctoral degree, fields of study, religious affiliation, Carnegie classification, key word, AAR region, and state or province. This promises to fulfill the need of undergraduate faculty for resources to advise their students regarding advanced study in the field.
- ❖ An online finding list of nearly 900 undergraduate departments and programs of religion at accredited colleges and universities in North America.



- The Why Study Religion Web site, directed to youth between the ages of 17 and 23, with the intention of creating awareness of and interest in the study of religion at the college and university level. The Web site contains:
- Lively text written to appeal to 17-to 23-year-old students and uninitiates to the field of religion
- Use of graphics, color, and photos placed throughout the 45-page site
- A navigation system that is easy and transparent

The Web site is organized around seven concepts: Why Study Religion? What Is Religion? Some Misconceptions about Studying Religion. Pressing Issues in the Study of Religion. What Will I Study? Where Can I Go with the Study of Religion? Where Do I Start?

### **Leadership Workshops**

The Academic Relations Task Force sponsored a workshop on Scholarship, Service and Stress: The Tensions of Being a Chair at the 2003 Annual Meeting. Twenty-three chairs discussed these topics with the panelists:

- Identity and Leadership: Laurie Patton, Emory University
- Professional Identity: Ellen Armour, Rhodes College; Joel Gereboff, Arizona State University; Patricia Killen, Pacific Lutheran University
- Leadership Styles and Department Cultures: Terrence Tilley, University of Dayton; Karen Jo Torjesen, Claremont Graduate University

• Discernment: Laurie Patton, Emory University

In San Antonio the Task Force will sponsor a workshop on Being a Chair in Today's Consumer Culture: Navigating in the Knowledge Factory. Our panelists will be Elizabeth Say, Gerald Vigna, William Mahony, Steve Friesen, Robert Neville, and Carol Anderson.

In the spring of 2005 we will be conducting chairs workshops at the Eastern International and Rocky Mountains-Great Plains regional meetings.

### **Teaching and Learning**

### Spotlight on Teaching Virtual Teaching and



This year's two issues of Spotlight on Teaching address Teaching about Religions, Medicines, and Healing, and Teaching with Site Visits. These issues are available on our Web site along with the full publication run of the series.

### **Learning Center**

The Center posts articles on pedagogy (JAAR, the Carnegie Foundation Perspectives, Advocacy in the Classroom: Problems and Possibilities) and several new resources from the Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion. We are in the process of making available: the work of 20 teaching workshops; a section in support of religion in the schools; results of AAR projects, sponsored by the Carnegie Endowment, for secondary teachers who include religion in their syllabi; and a searchable image database. Developed by the Teaching and Learning Committee, and under the guidance of the Center Editor, Nicola Denzey, the Center's objective is to make scholarly contributions to teaching available to the entire field.

### The Profession

### The Job Market in Religion

The AAR administers the Employment Information Services for the field, providing opportunities for communication between employing institutions and candidates through *Openings Online* and the EIS Center at the Annual Meeting.

Openings Online appears monthly, offering the most comprehensive listing available of faculty and administrative positions. The EIS Center serves hundreds of interested candidates and employers by centralizing information about position announcements and candidate qualifications onsite at the

Annual Meeting. The Center also facilitates the interview process by providing semi-private space in the Interview Hall, arranging access to private interview rooms, administering a message center for communication between job candidates and employers, and mounting programs on career development.

The 2003 EIS Center saw 405 candidates and 98 employers register, looking to fill a total of 121 positions. The ratio of registered candidates to registered positions was 3.35:1.

Each year, AAR gathers statistics on the use of the Center. Candidates and positions registered with the EIS Center do not rep-

resent all jobs in religion, nor even all jobs advertised in *Openings*. They do, however, provide some indicator about the state of the job market.

The EIS Center has always requested that registered candidates and employers select job classifications from a provided list. Candidates select the classifications that they consider to be their specialties, and employers select the classifications that best fit the description of the available position. Beginning in 2003, we required that candidates and employers designate one classification as the primary choice. Now, by including only the primary choice in the annual EIS statistics, we are able to report more accurately. This revised method of

reporting means that the 2003 job classification statistics are not comparable to the EIS statistics of the past.

The AAR attempts to gather data on the results of searches that participated in the EIS Center. These data include whether the position was filled, whether the appointee was interviewed at the EIS Center, and the rank, position type, education, gender, and ethnicity of the appointee. Analysis of the resulting data will form a picture of the religion job market beyond the interview process. These data are still being collected and are not yet available for publication.

JOB CLASSIFICATIONS	POSITIONS	CANDIDATES	RATIO
Asian Religions (general or not listed separately)	3	2	1.5:1
East Asian Religions (general or not listed separately)	4	3	1.3:1
South Asian Religions (general or not listed separately)	6	5	1.2:1
Buddhism	1	7	1:7
Hinduism	1	6	1:6
Islam	7	8	1:1.1
Judaism	1	5	1:5
Hebrew Bible	9	48	1:5.3
Catholic Studies	1	2	1:2
Catholic Theology (all areas)	8	8	1:1
Christian Ethics	5	25	1:5
Christian Studies	3	1	3:1
Christian Theology (general or not listed separately)	7	23	1:3.3
Christian Theology: Practical/Praxis	0	8	0:8
Christian Theology: Systematic/Constructive	5	35	1:7
Early Christian Literature/ New Testament	13	40	1:3.1
History of Christianity/ Church History	3	24	1:8
Missiology	1	0	1:0
Old Testament	4	9	4:9
Pastoral Care	1	4	1:4
Preaching/Ministry	2	0	2:0
Comparative Religions	3	6	1:2
History of Religion (general)	0	5	0:5

	POSITIONS	CANDIDATES	RATIO
Introduction to Religion	0	2	0:2
Philosophy of Religion	1	16	1:16
Religion/Theology: Two or More Subfields	6	11	1:1.8
Religious Ethics	3	10	1:3.3
World Religions	6	0	6:0
Arts, Literature & Religion	0	5	0:5
Central and South American and Caribbean Religions	1	1	1:1
Critical Studies/Theory/ Methods in Religion	1	5	1:5
Gay/Lesbian Studies in Religion	0	1	0:1
Indigenous/Native/ Traditional Religions	0	0	0:0
New Religious Movements	0	0	0:0
North American Religions	3	15	1:5
Racial/Ethnic Minority Studies in Religion	1	3	1:3
Social Sciences and Religion (e.g., Religion & Society, Anthropology, Economics, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology)	1	7	1:7
Women's Studies in Religion	1	4	1:4
Administration (e.g., president, dean, director, program director, coordinator)	1	0	1:0
Editorial	0	0	0:0
Library	0	0	0:0
Other	8	4	2:1
Not Reporting	0	47	0:47
Total	121	405	1:3.3

### **Analysis**

As can be noted in the previous charts, the five subfields with the most positions available (in descending order) are:

- Early Christian Literature/New Testament
- Hebrew Bible
- Catholic Theology (all areas)
- Islam
- Christian Theology (general or not listed separately)

The five primary subfields of candidates (again in descending order) are:

- Hebrew Bible
- Early Christian Literature/New Testament
- Christian Theology: Systematic/Constructive
- Christian Ethics
- History of Christianity/Church History

Also noteworthy are some of the ratios of employer classifications to candidate classifications. However, it is important to remember that only primary classification choices are shown. Many jobs fall under classifications that candidates are less likely to use to describe their primary field, but may well select as a secondary or tertiary specialization (e.g., World Religions or Christian Studies). The classifications with the highest job to candidate ratio are:

- World Religions
- Preaching/Ministry
- Missiology
- Administration
- Christian Studies

EMPLOYERS	
Total Registered	98
Preregistered	76
Registered Onsite	22
Positions Available	121
Ratio of Positions to Candidates	1:3.35

CANDIDATES	
Total Registered	405
Preregistered	331
Registered Onsite	74
Female Participants	144
Male Participants	261
Ratio of Female to Male	1:1.8

### **Resources**

### Independent Accountant's Report

To the Finance Committee American Academy of Religion Atlanta, Georgia

We have audited the accompanying statements of financial position of the American Academy of Religion as of June 30, 2004, and the related statements of activities and changes in net assets, and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the management of the American Academy of Religion. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. The prior year summarized comparative information has been derived from the Academy's June 30, 2003 financial statements and, in our report dated August 28, 2003, we expressed an unqualified opinion on those financial statements.

We conducted our audit in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the American Academy of Religion as of June 30, 2004 and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The additional information on page 14 is presented for the purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

August 27, 2004

Jones and Kolb, Certified Public Accountants

	2004	2003 (Memo only)
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,009,270	\$ 1,065,629
Marketable securities	5,468,879	4,824,918
Accounts receivable, net		
Shared annual meeting		6,352
Other	11,480	15,601
Shared Luce Center	627	17,797
Pew grant receivable	343,000	114,000
Prepaid expenses	45,748	40,570
Furniture and equipment, net	31,713	32,886
Share of Luce Center assets, net	2,212,231	2,240,150
Total assets	\$ 9,122,948	\$ 8,357,903
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 95,969	\$ 123,115
Accrued vacation	60,868	55,832
Deferred revenue - memberships	294,997	291,979
Deferred revenue - annual meeting	420,727	381,408
Total liabilities	872,561	852,334
Net Assets		
Unrestricted	5,782,302	5,167,927
Temporarily restricted	1,368,085	1,237,642
Permanently restricted	1,100,000	1,100,000
Total net assets	8,250,387	7,505,569
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 9,122,948	\$ 8,357,903

	Unrestricted	l Temporari Restricted	•	anently cricted	Total 2004	Total 2003 (Memo Only)
REVENUES AND GAINS						
Membership dues	\$ 633,188	\$ -	\$	- \$ (	633,188	\$ 576,142
Grants		569,779		5	569,779	363,035
ARP dues	5,000				5,000	2,321
Annual meeting	947,722			Ģ	947,722	915,369
Employment information services	145,204			;	145,204	99,654
Label sales	63,364				63,364	48,947
Advertising and publications	15,567				15,567	7,870
Royalties	4,053				4,053	2,621
Book sales	21,479				21,479	29,698
Contributions	32,523	3,323			35,846	28,828
Luce Center rental income	106,798			!	106,798	124,588
Interest and dividend	ds 79,172	38,191		1	117,363	159,644
Net assets released from restrictions	634,775	(634,775)				
Total revenues and gains	\$ 2,688,845	\$(23,482)		\$ 2,6	665,363	\$2,358,717

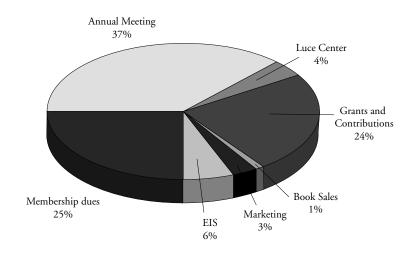
### **AAR Annual Report**

	Unrestricted	l Tempora Restricte	rily Permane d Restrict		Total 2003
EXPENSES					
Research and publications	\$ 274,365	-	-	\$ 274,365	\$ 170,646
Member services	263,270			263,270	249,452
Professional development service	es 225,006			225,006	232,304
External relations	462,323			462,323	465,237
Annual meeting	612,231			612,231	542,456
Luce Center expens	es 134,224			134,224	135,294
General and administration	282,861			282,861	294,025
Fundraising	76,378			76,378	66,061
Total expenses	\$2,330,658			\$2,330,658	\$2,155,475
Change in net ass before investment gains		(23,482)		334,705	203,242
Investment gains	256,188	153,925		410,113	51,655
Change in net assets	614,375	130,443		744,818	254,897
Net assets Beginning of the year	5,167,927	1,237,642	1,100,000	7,505,569	7,250,672
Net assets End of the year	\$5,782,302 \$	\$1,368,085	\$1,100,000	\$8,250,387	\$7,505,569

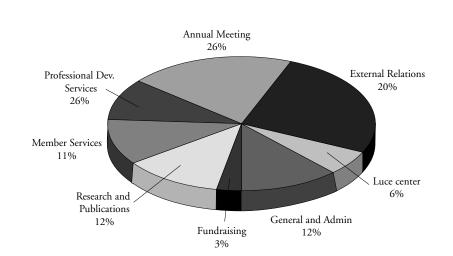
	2004	2003 (Memo only)
Cash flows from operating activities		
Change in net assets	\$ 744,818	\$ 254,897
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:		
Depreciation	69,498	69,930
Unrealized (gain) loss on investments	(410,113)	(57,761)
Change in marketable securities	(10,959)	(31,127)
(Increase) decrease in receivables	(201,357)	244,735
(Increase) decrease in prepaid expenses	(5,178)	26,994
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable	(27,146)	(12,503)
Increase (decrease) in accrued vacation	5,036	
Increase (decrease) in deferred revenue	42,337	47,984
Total adjustments	(537,882)	288,252
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	206,936	543,149
Cash flows from investing activities		
Acquisition of equipment	(10,476)	(26,061)
Purchase of marketable securities	(252,819)	(1,973,653)
Proceeds from sales of marketable securities		1,706,358
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	(263,295)	(293,356)
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(56,359)	249,793
Cash and cash equivalents Beginning of year	1,065,629	815,836
<b>Cash and cash equivalents</b> End of year	\$1,009,270	\$1,065,629

[Note: Audit reports are accompanied by many pages of footnotes, giving further information and describing the accounting methods used. Please contact the AAR for these footnotes.]

### Sources of Revenue



### Distribution of Expenses



# The AAR deeply appreciates our contributors for their support during fiscal year 2004.

The Academy expresses our gratitude to the following foundations which have supported our work during the last several years. Special appreciation goes to the boards and executive staffs of:

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AAR's development activities are a crucial part of our programs and services. Members' generous contributions to the Academy Fund year after year support programs and important initiatives for our members and the field. In 2004 membership dues accounted for less than 25 percent of our annual budget. We are grateful for all contributions, whether they come in with membership renewals, annual meeting registrations, direct mail solicitations, or are spontaneous gestures of generosity. Most donors do not restrict their gifts, though the AAR also welcomes contributions directed to special programs.

This following list reflects donations received from July 1, 2003, through June 30, 2004. We strive for accuracy in our records. Please notify the AAR office of any incorrect listings.

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