



2017 WORKSHOP RESERVATION FORM

No.	Workshop	Friday, Nov. 17	Cost
___	Theological Education – <i>Resisting Injustice in the Age of Trump</i>	9:00 am – 3:00 pm	\$40
___	Comparative Hagiology – <i>Cross-cultural Approaches to Religious Life Writings</i>	9:00 am – 4:00 pm	\$25
___	THATCamp – <i>The Humanities and Technology Camp</i>	9:00 am – 5:00 pm	\$15
___	Religion and Media – <i>Between Fake News and Natural Media</i>	11:00 am – 6:00 pm	\$75
___	Brand You – <i>Creating Your Own Brand for Academic Survival</i>	1:00 pm – 4:30 pm	\$45
___	Leadership – <i>Digital Media and Communications</i>	1:00 pm – 5:00 pm	\$55
___	Ethnography and Theology – <i>The Use of Ethnography for Theological Research</i>	1:00 pm – 5:00 pm	\$35
___	Teaching Religion and Disability Studies – <i>Engaging Curriculum and Pedagogy with Intersectionality and Communities</i>	1:00 pm – 5:00 pm	\$35
___	The Public Scholars Project – <i>Practical Skills for the Public Scholar</i>	2:00 pm – 5:00 pm	\$40
___	Ecology – <i>Integrating Ecology and Justice</i>	2:30 pm – 5:30 pm	\$30
___	Teaching Hinduism – <i>Teaching Tales: Narrative and Pedagogy in the Hindu Studies Classroom</i>	3:30 pm – 6:00 pm	\$35

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Payment Method: Check (payable to AAR) Visa MC Am Ex Discover

Credit Card Number: _____

Expiration: _____ CID: _____

Signature: _____

Workshops fill up quickly and are first-come, first serve! Return the form with payment by November 1, 2017 to AAR Registration and Housing, 825 Houston Mill Rd. NE, Suite 300, Atlanta, GA 30329, fax to +1-404-935-5321, email reg@aarweb.org, or register online while completing the registration process at <https://www.aarweb.org/annual-meeting/registration-housing>. If you've already completed registration, please send in the form or simply email reg@aarweb.org.

Theological Education

Resisting Injustice in the Age of Trump

Friday, November 17, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

This workshop is designed to advance the work initiated in Miguel de la Torre, ed. *Faith and Resistance in the Age of Trump* (Orbis, 2017) where a diverse group of scholars reflect on a wide range of issues pertaining to how individual scholar/teachers of religion and religious communities of various types think about and engage in praxes of resistance to many of the false assumptions and unjust policies of the Trump Administration. It is intended to provide participants with an opportunity to engage with one another and brainstorm about strategies of resistance in a variety of different spheres of their work, including research and writing, classroom and online teaching, use of social media, broader civic education and advocacy, and community organizing for social justice.

The structure of the workshop will be arranged around a series of units focusing on such relevant themes as the environment, gender and sexuality, economics, and race and ethnicity. Each unit will offer participants relatively brief input from a featured presenter or presenters, followed by more extensive time for facilitated small and large group discussion.

In addition to providing a forum for timely and potentially transformative professional exchange, the overall goal of the workshop will be to identify a series of “best practices” which will, in turn, be shared with the attendees of the Special Topics Forum of the Theological Education Committee and eventually be published for even wider consumption in the Spring 2018 edition of “Spotlight on Theological Education” of *Religious Studies News*.

To this end, workshop participants are strongly encouraged to bring with them a list of related practices of resistance in which either they or their institution is currently engaged.

The cost for attending the workshop is \$40, which includes a coffee break and the entire day of sessions. Registration is limited to the first 70 participants.

Panelists:

Miguel A. De La Torre, Iliff School of Theology

Jacqueline Lewis, Middle Collegiate Church

Joerg Rieger, Vanderbilt University

Roger S. Gottlieb, Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Marie Alford-Harkey, Religious Institute

Jacqueline Hidalgo, Williams College

Comparative Hagiology

Cross-cultural Approaches to Religious Life Writings

Friday, November 17, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Massimo Rondolino, Carroll University, Presiding

This workshop is to serve as foundation for the development of a collaborative project on the cross-cultural comparative study of hagiographical sources. Thus, at one level, the workshop seeks to pioneer large-scale collaboration as a research model for the humanities (a field that rests heavily on individual work or, at most, two scholars co-authorship or edited volumes). At another level, the workshops will also engage the participating scholars in (1) the definition of a theoretical framework for the comparative and cross-cultural study of religious life writings beyond the confines of its historically original Christian domain, and (2) the identification of underlying dynamics for the creation and promotion of hagiographic narratives across cultural boundaries.

The cost for attending the workshop is \$25, which includes a coffee break and the entire day of sessions. Registration is limited to the first 30 participants.

THATCamp

The Humanities and Technology Camp

Friday, November 17, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Michael Hemenway, Iliff School of Theology, University of Denver, Eric Smith, Iliff School of Theology, and Candace Mixon, University of North Carolina, Presiding

The advent of digital technology and social media has not only transformed how today religious communities function, they have also changed how scholars teach about and conduct research on religion more broadly. If you are interested in how technology is changing—or can change—the work of scholars of religion, then we invite you to attend the THATCamp AAR & SBL unconference taking place the day before the AAR & SBL conferences begins. THATCamp brings together scholars to explore the role of technology in humanities scholarship. This is not a conference for techno-elites, it is a conference for every one of all skill levels. If you are new to digital humanities, come and learn. If you are a seasoned pro, come and share. We look forward to seeing you there!

The cost for attending the unconference is \$15, which includes the entire day of sessions and a coffee break. Registration is limited to the first 100 participants. You can find more information at www.THATCampAARSBL.org, where you can review session proposals submitted by your peers prior to the event and join us for conversation about technology and digital scholarship, including the opportunity for you to present your own proposals for sessions. We look forward to seeing you in Boston!

Religion and Media

Between Fake News and Natural Media

Friday, November 17, 11:00 am – 6:00 pm

The Religion and Media Workshop is a day-long seminar designed to foster collaborative conversation at the cutting edge of the study of religion, media, and culture. This year's workshop will explore how to respond to the changing relations between religion and media due to changing assumptions regarding the 'fake' and the 'natural/real.'

A core assumption for many has been that journalism is the bedrock of democracy.

- If so, what then happens in a time of fake news? What is the relation of alternative facts to religion? Is willingness to believe fake news a new form that religion is taking in this new media environment? Or is fake news simply a new twist on old problems, including propaganda and ideology?
- Second, what happens when media cease to be articulated against the natural, so that we relate to 'nature' and 'media' as environments which we do not frame as mediated? How can we develop practices of seeing nature as a fertile source of meaning that mediates the human and the technological? What do we need to help us think the links between diffuse technological infrastructures, specific media platforms, and the 'natural' conditions of life in the Anthropocene?

The workshop will not be structured as traditional paper sessions, but rather as a workshop. Three to five readings will be circulated to participants before the event. Because of the nature of this year's workshop, it is essential that all participants commit to doing the readings ahead of time and prepare to participate in seminar-style conversation.

The cost for attending the workshop is \$75, which includes lunch and the entire day of sessions. Registration is limited to the first 70 participants.

Panelists:

M. Gail Hamner, Syracuse University
Ann M. Burlein, Hofstra University
Kathleen Foody, College of Charleston
John Durham Peters, Yale University
Stewart Hoover, University of Colorado
Deborah Whitehead, University of Colorado

Brand You

Creating Your Own Brand for Academic Survival

Friday, November 17, 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Paula L. McGee, Memphis Theological Seminary, Presiding

The academic marketplace has changed dramatically. With the influx of on-line education, social media, and more disciplines, subcategories, and institutions than ever—in order to be successful, the academic scholar has to be intentional about branding him/herself. The new identity in the global marketplace is branded identity. Branding is no longer limited to just commercial products. With the over-saturated media world, branding starts from the photo on your department website, your CV, and even the titles and course descriptions on your syllabi. Knowing how to create your own brand can be beneficial for senior and junior faculty, as well as the first year graduate student. How you tell your story, and describe yourself and your work can determine whether you get published or considered for a tenure track position. More important, in the academic global marketplace if you do not brand yourself, others will do it for you with or without your permission.

A few workshop scholarships are available for graduate students and independent scholars. Please forward a statement of 50 words or less why you would like a scholarship to Paula McGee at pmcgee@memphisseminary.edu prior to registering.

The cost for attending the workshop is \$45, which includes a coffee break and the entire afternoon of sessions. Registration is limited to the first 60 participants.

Leadership

Digital Media and Communications

Friday, November 17, 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Joanne Maguire Robinson, University of North Carolina, Charlotte, Rosalind Hackett, University of Tennessee, Presiding

Featured ever more prominently in the religion chair's job description and day-to-day agenda is the necessity to "market" the department to a diverse audience of prospective students, community members, and peers. Yet the expertise required to develop and maintain websites, create promotional materials, and use social media to the department's advantage, is rarely the preserve of academics serving as short-term administrators. Often, institutional support for an individual department's communication efforts is in short supply. This Leadership Workshop will be led by a web design and communications expert from a college of arts and sciences in a major public university; commentary and responses will be offered by select faculty from a diverse array of institutions. The workshop will provide practical tools and tips to improve digital media and communications skills for those charged with promoting the academic study of religion in their academic units. It will also produce a "Top 10 Tips for Department of Religious Studies Marketing and Communication" to be made available as an online resource for members of the AAR.

The cost for attending the workshop is \$55, which includes a coffee break and the entire afternoon of sessions. Registration is limited to the first 50 participants.

Panelist:

Jeremy Brent Hughes, University of Tennessee

Responding:

Rebekka King, Middle Tennessee State University

Brian Britt, Virginia Tech University

Kathryn McClymond, Georgia State University

Ethnography and Theology

The Use of Ethnography for Theological Research

Friday, November 17, 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Natalie Wigg, University of Toronto, Jonas Idestrom, Church of Sweden Research Unit, Uppsala, Sweden, Christian Scharen, Auburn Theological Seminary, Mary McClintock Fulkerson, Duke University, Presiding

This workshop is for theologians and ethicists currently using ethnography in their research. At least half of our time will be spent in small groups (maximum four people) to workshop participants' projects with an experienced group leader. Following each period of small group conversation, participants will generate questions/issues that a panel consisting of a junior and senior scholar in the field will debate in plenary discussion. In the past, our workshops have focused on the intersection of social sciences and theology; this year's asks questions about the use of ethnography for theology/ethics from a distinctly *theological* perspective. This particular workshop is open both to people who have attended our workshops before and those who have not.

When you register, please also submit a précis (500 words max.; doc. not pdf.) of your current project to Natalie Wigg-Stevenson and Jonas Idestrom (natalie.wigg@utoronto.ca and jonas.idealstrom@svenskakyrkan.se) by June 15. Your précis should include the question with which you are struggling in your current work, and how you hope to address that question at the workshop. If you are a graduate student, please also note where you are in your program.

Admission is offered on a first-come-first-served basis. Once the workshop is full, we will begin a waitlist. Please contact Natalie or Jonas directly to add your name to this list.

*****Participants who have not submitted their précis by June 15 will lose their spot in the workshop, and will not receive a refund*****

The cost for attending the workshop is \$35, which includes a coffee break and the entire afternoon of sessions. Registration is limited to the first 40 participants.

Panelists:

Angela R. Cowser, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary

Tone Stangeland Kaufman, Norwegian School of Theology

Karen Kilby, Durham University

Peter Ward, Durham University

Teaching Religion and Disabilities Studies

Engaging Curriculum and Pedagogy with Intersectionality and Communities

Friday, November 17, 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

In this interactive workshop, we will explore curriculum resources and teaching methods that incorporate disability studies as a component intersectional human identity in relation to various fields of theological and religious studies. This workshop will also discuss and develop strategies for how this incorporation of disability studies in the classroom offers opportunities for community engagement based learning with communities of faith and non-religious communities beyond the boundaries of a traditional classroom. Anyone interested in exploring ways to incorporate disability studies into their curricula is welcome; previous experience teaching disability studies is not necessary for participation in the workshop.

Goals of the workshop include:

- Developing skills to discover new curriculum content for including disability studies in a wide variety of courses
- Considering how to incorporate disability studies content to your courses in a manner that takes advantage of intersectional identity in relation to other historically marginalized populations
- Pedagogical insights for extending the classroom experience to communities beyond the classroom
- Planning for community engaged learning that connects disability studies, theology, and religion in with lived experiences
- Networking with colleagues to share resources and experiences

The cost of the workshop is \$35, which includes the entire afternoon of sessions and a coffee break. Registration is limited to the first 30 participants.

Panelists:

Kirk VanGilder, Gallaudet University

Nick Shrubsole, University of Central Florida

Raedorah Stewart, Wesley Theological Seminary

Mary Jo Iozzio, Boston College

The Public Scholars Project

Practical Skills for the Public Scholar

Friday, November 17, 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Emma Tomalin, University of Leeds, Benjamin Marcus, Newseum Institute, Presiding

Co-sponsored by the AAR Committee on the Public Understanding of Religion and the Newseum Institute Religious Freedom Center

In this extraordinary time of political and social unrest, scholars of religion are frequently called upon – or feel compelled – to share their knowledge and perspective with those outside the academy. In this role as public scholars, they may speak with journalists, write for a broad audience, engage with policymakers or elected officials, meet with religious communities or local schools, or more. At this workshop, participants will work with professionals from government, the media, advocacy groups and others in a series of case studies, simulations and conversations designed to hone the practical skills of the public scholar.

In this three-hour workshop, participants will be given the opportunity to participate in two practically focused sessions of 80 minutes each, following a short introductory session. A range of professionals have been invited to facilitate 5 sessions.

When you sign up for the workshop, please email Steve Herrick (sherrick@aarweb.org) to indicate your preferences for sessions (label them 1-5, with 1 for the most preferred). There are 10 spaces per session and each session will run twice during the afternoon.

The cost of the workshop is \$40, which includes the entire afternoon of sessions. Registration is limited to the first 50 participants.

Liz Kineke, CBS

How to Respond to Requests for Information from Journalists

Vanessa Zoltan, Harvard University

Learning How to Speak for Camera and Radio

Simran Jeet Singh, Trinity University

The Effective Use of Social Media

Susan Brooks Thistlethwaite, Chicago Theological Seminary

Writing for the Internet

Evan Berry, American University

Bridging the Gap between Policy and Academic Research

Ecology

Integrating Ecology and Justice

Friday, November 17, 2:30 pm – 5:30 pm

Mary Evelyn Tucker, Yale University, John Grim, Yale University, Presiding

The call to bring together concerns for environmental degradation and the attendant human suffering has been growing over many years. This came to even fuller expression with Pope Francis' encyclical, *Laudato Si: On Care for Our Common Home* (Our Sunday Visitor, 2015). There he called for an "integral ecology" bringing together people and the planet. This workshop will highlight some key issues of integral ecology such as water, air, soil, food, as well as the role of women and building sustainable communities. Environmental justice issues will be explored through the lens of both principles and practice. Contemporary North American movements, such as Standing Rock and Black Lives Matter, will be discussed along with analogous movements in Asia and Latin America.

The cost of the workshop is \$30, which includes the entire afternoon of sessions and a coffee break. Registration is limited to the first 100 participants.

Panelists:

Willie Jennings, Yale University

Jace Weaver, University of Georgia

Kim Heup Young, Kangnam University

Cynthia Moe Loebeda, Graduate Theological Union

Frederique Apffel Marglin, Smith College

Grove Harris, Temple of Understanding

Heather Eaton, St Paul's University

Erin Lothes, College of St. Elizabeth

Teaching Hinduism

Teaching Tales: Narrative and Pedagogy in the Hindu Classroom

Friday, November 17, 3:30 pm – 6:00 pm

Arti Dhand, University of Toronto, Presiding

Milton Singer remarks that the very tissues of Hindu culture are comprised of purāṇic themes (1972). This insight applies to pervasive Hindu narratives as a whole, whether originating in Vedic or modern times. This Roundtable probes the utility of teaching Hinduism through use of narrative works, ranging from stories within Upaniṣadic literature, to epic and purāṇic narratives, to the continued legacy of 17th century hagiographies expressed through Marathi novel, drama, and film, to the array of modern novels, comics and graphic novels. Narrative encodes ideology. As such, it is by discussing and decoding uniquely Hindu tales that we encounter the multitude of values, concerns, conundrums and tensions comprising the ever-unfolding tradition we call Hinduism. While emphasizing “teaching through tales,” this pedagogical Roundtable also touches on our own “tales about teaching”, i.e., anecdotes pertaining to the efficacy of implementing specific strategies in the college classroom.

The cost of the workshop is \$35, which includes the entire afternoon of sessions and a coffee break. Registration is limited to the first 50 participants.

Panelists:

Steven Lindquist, Southern Methodist University

Bruce M. Sullivan, Northern Arizona University

Vishwa Adluri, Hunter College

Joydeep Bagchee, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität

Elizabeth Rohlman, University of Calgary

Raj Balkaran, University of Toronto

Jeffrey Brackett, Ball State University

Shana Sippy, Carleton College