

AAR Speaking of Students

CONTENTS

- [Note from the Student Director – Bhakti Mamtora](#)
- [New AAR Regional Student Reps: Laura Jurgens and Priyanka Ramlakhan](#)
- [Annual Meeting Roundtables for Students, Special Topics Forum](#)
- [2017 Regional Meeting CFPs](#)
- [Student Member Facebook Pages](#)

Note from the Student Director, Bhakti Mamtora



The Graduate Student Committee is excited to announce the program for our events during the AAR Annual Meeting in November 2016. Our Special Topics Forum titled, *Reimagining the Intellectual as a Revolutionary Social Force*, is one of the highlights of our programming for this year. This panel brings together a range of scholars whose work seamlessly weaves together humanities, digital media, and new technologies. In addition, the GSC will also host a series of Student Lounge Roundtables that touch topics like grant-writing, teaching and alt-ac careers. A synopsis of these events is provided here. We look forward to seeing you in San Antonio, TX!

If you have any suggestions or concerns feel free to send us a message. You can find our contact information here: www.aarweb.org/about/graduate-student-committee.

Welcome to New AAR Regional Student Representatives

Every year, approximately half of the regions elect a new student director. The regional student directors serve on the regional board and national Graduate Student Committee for two years. This summer, we are pleased to announce two new additions:

[Pacific Northwest Region – Laura Jurgens](#)



Laura Jurgens is a PhD candidate in the Department of Classics and Religion at the University of Calgary. Before moving to Calgary, Laura lived in Nova Scotia (and yes, she does miss the rain). Laura completed her bachelor of arts with honors at St. Francis Xavier University and Master of Arts at Saint Mary's University. Laura's primary research interests include: the Protestant Reformation, Martin Luther, women and the

Reformation, gender studies, and history. As student director for the Pacific Northwest Region, Laura is looking forward to helping build a stronger sense of community between Graduate Students through promotion and communication. In addition, she hopes to help create more awareness about what the AAR has to offer at the regional and national levels.

Southeast Region – Priyanka Ramlakhan



Priyanka Ramlakhan is a doctoral student in the Department of Religion at the University of Florida. Her areas of specialization include teaching South Asian religions, global Hinduism, diaspora, transnationalism, and globalization. As student director, Priyanka looks forward to strengthening a network that fosters dialogue and visibility for students of the southeast region.

Special Topics Forum for Student Members , San Antonio 2016

Re-Imagining the Intellectual as a Revolutionary Social Force

Daniel Randazzo and Chase L. Way, Presiding

Monday - 9:00 AM–11:30 AM, Grand Hyatt-Lone Star D (2nd Level)

How can Religious Studies re-imagine the intellectual as a revolutionary social force? This panel seeks to address this question by examining the various ways in which scholars following traditional or nontraditional career paths can engage with the public. In particular, the panel explores how digital scholarship—across new media platforms—can provide ample opportunity for public engagement, career advancement, and move the field of religious studies forward.

Panelists:

Richard Newton, Elizabethtown College

Andrew Henry, Boston University

Ken Chitwood, University of Florida

Kelly Gannon, Emory University

Student Lounge Roundtables, San Antonio 2016

This year's Annual Meeting will feature several [Student Roundtables](#) on various topics, aimed at serving Student Member needs, and organized and hosted by members just finishing (or just finished) their degrees.

- *Valuing Your Work, Working Your Values: Why You Do What You Do* hosted by Raj Balkaran
- *Playing the Grant Roulette: When and How to Play the Grant-Game in Higher Education* hosted by Dustin D. Benac
- *The Work-Life Balance in Academia: Balancing Graduate School with Family* hosted by Elissa Cutter
- *Do _____ women really need saving?: Teaching Across Cultures Amidst Development Discourse* hosted by Dimple Dhanani
- *Alt-Ac Employment and Recruitment from an HR Perspective* hosted by Jessica Ehinger
- *Teaching Living Religions in Environments of Potential Controversy* hosted by Aaron Ricker
- *Graduate Student Teaching: In the Classrooms and with your Peers* hosted by Candace Mixon and Trosper Shorey
- *Time-Saving Resources and Strategies for Teaching* hosted by Kristy L. Slominski and Brett J. Esaki
- *Embedded and Embodied: The Ethics of Virtual Ethnography* hosted by Kayla Wheeler

[Register](#) for the 2016 Annual Meeting!

2017 Regional Meeting CFPs

Open calls for papers for the 2017 AAR regional meetings include the following:

- [Southeast Region](#) (meeting March 3–5, 2017, Raleigh, NC)
- [Western Region](#) (meeting March 10–12, 2017, Los Angeles, CA)

Facebook Pages for Student Members

Our [Student Members and Friends of the American Academy of Religion](#) Facebook page is available for all members and friends of the AAR. Members can post calls for papers, job listings, requests for more information, forthcoming publications, and more.

You can also stay connected with students and events in your region by "liking" your regional Facebook page:

- [Student Members of the AAR EIR](#)
- [Student Members of the AAR Midwest Region](#)
- [Student Members of the AAR New England-Maritime Region](#)
- [Student Members of the AAR Pacific Northwest Region](#)

[Student Members of the AAR and SBL Rocky Mountain-Great Plains Region](#)

- [Student Members of the AAR Southeast Region](#)
- [Student Members of the AAR Upper Midwest Region](#)
- [Student Members of the AAR Western Region](#)
- [American Academy of Religion, Mid-Atlantic Region](#)