



Fostering Excellence  
In the Study of Religion

## American Academy of Religion

## In This Issue

Colleagues:

Greetings from the American Academy of Religion! I hope this finds you well and excited about starting another academic year. This month's e-bulletin contains a number of items, including important announcements about our 2009 Annual Meeting in Montréal, information on the second cohort of our Luce/AAR Summer Seminar on Theologies of Religious Pluralism and Comparative Theology, an announcement of a search for a new Editor of the *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*, and a call for submissions to our centennial focus issue for the *JAAR*.

With every good wish in this new academic year, and with thanks for your participation in the work of our Academy, I remain

Sincerely yours

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Jack Fitzmier'.

Jack Fitzmier  
Executive Director

### Table of Contents

1. [Annual Meeting News](#)
2. [Luce Summer Seminars](#)
3. [JAAR Editor Search](#)
4. [JAAR Call for Papers](#)
5. [In the Field Announcements](#)
6. [Receipts for Membership and Annual Meeting](#)

### Account Information

Name: [business]  
Member ID: [aar\_id]

[Log In](#)

## ANNUAL MEETING NEWS

### Preregistration Deadline

September 15 is the deadline for preregistration. After September 15, Annual Meeting registration rates increase to the Regular Registration rate. Hotels are still available with the specially discounted hotel room rates. Registration and housing is available [online](#).

If you have already registered, Annual Meeting name badge materials will be mailed to you in early September.

### Annual Meeting Job Center 2009

Registration for the Annual Meeting Job Center closes October 12. The Job Center is an efficient way for employers and candidates to communicate and participate in job interviews. Those who register by the deadline will receive full benefits. For more information, see [www.aarweb.org/jump/jobcenter](http://www.aarweb.org/jump/jobcenter).

### Help to Green our Annual Meeting Travel

The AAR is making it easy for members to purchase Renewable Energy Credits when traveling to the Annual Meeting. By simply clicking a box on the online registration page, members can choose to give \$15 to NativeEnergy. The AAR's Sustainability Task Force selected NativeEnergy because of its commitment to reducing greenhouse gases while supporting its sustainability projects. NativeEnergy helps you to assist Native American, farmer-owned, community-based renewable energy projects that create social, economic, and environmental benefits. These projects will displace electricity from fossil fuels and reduce other greenhouse gas emissions on your behalf, making up for the CO2 emissions you can't avoid. We encourage you to make this inexpensive commitment to helping make our meetings more environmentally friendly. The AAR will collect the funds and purchase the offsets immediately before the Annual Meeting.

### *Annual Meeting Program Book*

Check out the [Online Annual Meeting Program Book](#)! The print *Program Book* will be included in the tote bag at the Annual Meeting, available in the registration area of the Palais des Congrès in Montréal.

### **Religion and Media Workshop: "Texts, Scripts, and Codes: How Religions and Media Make the World We Live In"**

This year's annual Religion and Media Workshop will highlight how religious texts, scripts, and codes make and unmake political and cultural worlds. Interdisciplinary panels and discussions will interrogate how media texts translate religion for global publics, how media scripts religious identities, and how religious cultures code the

### Contact Us

825 Houston Mill Rd. NE  
Ste. 300  
Atlanta, GA 30329-4205

Tel: 404-727-3049  
Fax: 404-727-7959

[www.aarweb.org](http://www.aarweb.org)

transmission and reception of media objects. A multimedia presentation on the aftermath of the 2009 Iranian election will conclude the day's interdisciplinary inquiry into the mutual determination of religion and media in the modern world.

Small group discussions over a catered lunch will facilitate additional debate, discussion, and informal conversation. Don't miss this timely interdisciplinary event. Click [here](#) to access the workshop agenda. For additional questions about the Religion and Media Workshop, please contact Kaley M. Carpenter ([kaley.carpenter@villanova.edu](mailto:kaley.carpenter@villanova.edu)).

Already registered for the 2009 Annual Meeting and want to attend the Religion and Media Workshop? Call 1-800-575-7185. Not yet registered for the 2009 Annual Meeting? Click [here](#).

### **Tenth Anniversary of the AAR Excellence in Teaching Award Celebrated with Annual Meeting Special Topics Forum**

The AAR Teaching and Learning Committee invites you to register for a "Celebration of the Tenth Anniversary of the AAR Excellence in Teaching Award: A Participatory Workshop with Excellence in Teaching Award Recipients" on Saturday, November 7 from 9:00 AM-12:45 PM. The workshop will include a discussion of teaching strategies by past award recipients as well as roundtable working groups facilitated by the awardees. Workshop participants are expected to bring an example of a critical incident in teaching, a syllabus, and an example of a first assignment. Advanced registration is required. To reserve a space, contact Tina Pippin at [tpippin@agnesscottt.edu](mailto:tpippin@agnesscottt.edu).

### **Additional Meetings**

Institutions, departments, organizations, or persons who wish to hold a meeting during the Annual Meeting are invited to make an [Additional Meeting Request](#). The Additional Meeting information will be listed in the online *Program Book* and the printed *Annual Meeting Program Book* available onsite in Montréal.

### **Other Annual Meeting Announcements**

[Child care registration](#) for the Annual Meeting is now open! KiddieCorp child care is a service subsidized by the AAR for members with families attending the Annual Meeting.

Need a roommate? See who else is looking to share on the AAR [Roommate Finder](#). Or you can [Look Who's Coming](#) to the Meeting to see if your friends and colleagues are attending.

Check the [Annual Meeting pages](#) frequently to see news about AAR programming, Additional Meetings, things to do in Montréal, and much more!

### **2010 Atlanta Annual Meeting Registration and Housing**

Super Saver Registration will open for the 2010 Annual Meeting in

Atlanta, GA, during the dates of the 2009 meeting. If you register online on the AAR website between November 6, 2009 and March 31, 2010, you will receive a special discount on the 2010 Annual Meeting registration price and have a first shot at the hotels. Super Saver Registration will open Friday, November 6 at 9:00 AM. Register from any Internet location anywhere in the world to enjoy the savings. Computers will be available onsite in Montréal at the AAR booth and the Cyber Café in the Exhibit Hall for you to register for the 2010 meeting. You must be a 2010 AAR member to register for the 2010 meeting — so [renew your AAR membership](#) today!

### **LUCE SUMMER SEMINARS ON THEOLOGIES OF RELIGIOUS PLURALISM AND COMPARATIVE THEOLOGY**

The AAR is very pleased to announce the second Cohort of the Summer Seminars on Theologies of Religious Pluralism and Comparative Theology to theological educators. The goal of this seminar is to help faculty participants to formulate a working answer to the properly theological question, “What significance does my neighbor’s faith and tradition have for my own?” The application deadline is January 15, 2010. For information on this summer seminar and to apply, please click [here](#).

### **JAAR EDITOR SEARCH**

Professor Charles Mathewes will complete his term as Editor of the *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* at the end of 2010. The Academy is initiating a search for his successor. Professor Frank Clooney, longtime AAR board member, has agreed to chair the search. A link to the Editor's job description and directions for making nominations and applications is [online](#). The application deadline is September 1, 2009.

### **JAAR CALL FOR PAPERS**

#### **The AAR at 100: A Centennial Reflection**

The American Academy of Religion has been in existence for one hundred years. How has our understanding of religion changed in that time, and what can the past teach us about the future? We invite considerations of the implications of the trajectory of the AAR over the past one hundred years for future scholarship in the study of religion.

We are particularly interested in papers which address changes in the field of religious studies over the last twenty-five (or even one hundred) years. Possible topics might include, but are not limited to, the following:

- The effect of the rise of academic interest in religion outside of religious studies;

- The resurgence of religion in the world and its implications for understanding the religions;
- The increasing internationalization of the field;
- New subfields that have emerged in the last twenty-five years;
- The increasing interdisciplinary nature of scholarship;
- Islam's influence on the study of religion, or, the study of religion and its influence on Islam;
- The continual shift of the academic study of religion from theological schools to colleges/universities;
- The influence of social science methodologies (especially anthropology) on the study of religion;
- The flourishing of the science and religion dialogue, especially the nascent field of the cognitive neuroscience of religion; and
- The effect of philanthropic institutions on the study of religion.

*JAAR* invites proposals for a focus issue that explores what the AAR's past can teach us about what will be, or should be, its future. Deadline for submission is December 1, 2009.

Please submit papers to:

Journal of the American Academy of Religion  
 Department of Religious Studies  
 PO Box 400126  
 University of Virginia  
 Charlottesville, VA 22904-4126

Please direct queries to [jaar@virginia.edu](mailto:jaar@virginia.edu).

### ***IN THE FIELD* ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Are you interested in the latest happenings in the field of religion? Would you like to post an announcement of an event, award competition, or other news of importance in the field? If so, [\*In the Field\*](#) is your resource for news of events and opportunities for scholars of religion and theological education, published online by the AAR.

### **RECEIPTS FOR MEMBERSHIP AND ANNUAL MEETING**

Did you know that you can generate a receipt for your membership dues from your membership account? Simply log in to [My Account](#) using your last name and membership ID number. Select "Your Renewal History" or "Your Giving History" to generate receipts for the desired year.

Annual Meeting Housing and Registration receipts are mailed to members along with their name badges, or generated immediately if

you register onsite. To request a duplicate receipt, contact Experient at [aarreg@experient-inc.com](mailto:aarreg@experient-inc.com) or call them at 1-800-575-7185 (+1-330-425-9330 if outside the United States or Canada).