



e-Bulletin

American Academy of Religion

In This Issue

Religious Studies News — March Issue Now Available!

We are very pleased to announce the release of the March issue of *Religious Studies News*. The issue can be accessed by going online to www.rsonline.org.

In this issue, you will find news about the upcoming 2013 Annual Meeting, a wrap-up of the 2012 Annual Meeting, a new Spotlight on Theological Education on the topic of environmental justice and interreligious ecotheology, plus lots of other information from the AAR.

NEW MENTORING PROGRAM

AAR is introducing a new mentoring program! The one-year pilot [mentoring program](#) will commence November 2013 at the Annual Meeting in Baltimore. Thirty (30) doctoral students, non-tenured (i.e., pre-tenure, adjunct, contract) faculty, and/or post-doctoral fellows will be matched with participating senior scholars who will serve as mentors for a period of one year. The mentoring initiative was developed by the LGBTIQ Persons in the Profession Committee, the Status of Racial and Ethnic Minorities Committee, and the Status of Women in the Profession Committee. For more info and to apply, please see the [program guidelines](#). Deadline for application: **March 31, 2013**.

AMERICAN LECTURESHIP IN THE HISTORY OF RELIGION SERIES KICKS OFF IN ATLANTA

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The century-old American Lectureship in the History of Religions (ALHR) is undergoing a rebirth. John G. Gager, Jr., William H. Danforth Professor of Religion Emeritus, Princeton University, is delivering a week-long lecture series titled *Winners and Losers in the Making of Early Christianity* at Atlanta-area universities during the week of April 1–5. Gager retired from Princeton University in 2006 after a long career as a professor, author, and expert in Early Christianity.

Gager is the 2013 American Lecturer in the History of Religion — the first lecturer in ten years. The ALHR was established by a grant from the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) in 1891 to encourage path-breaking scholarship through a lecture and book series. AAR has administered the series since 1994. The list of ALHR lecturers, beginning in 1893, reads like a “Who’s Who” in the History of Religions.

Following the unexpected death of Willard G. Oxtoby, University of Toronto, the 2003 lecturer, the long-time series languished. AAR is pleased to relaunch the ALHR lectureship with a new structure and a streamlined academic format. Previously, the lecturer visited multiple cities over a nine month period. The new lecture series will occur in over the course of one week in a single North American city.

AAR is kicking off the new ALHR series in its hometown of Atlanta with Gager's lectures. Agnes Scott College, Georgia State University, Atlanta University Center, and Emory University will be hosting the lecture series the week of April 1-5.

- *A Tale of Two Stories: Winners and Losers in the Making of Early Christianity*
Monday, April 1, 7:00 pm-9:00 pm
Agnes Scott College, Alston Luchsinger Lounge
- *Turning the World Upside Down: An Ancient Jewish Life of Jesus*
Tuesday, April 2, 2:00 pm-4:00 pm
Georgia State University, Troy Moore Library, 9th Floor of General Classroom Building
- *Was the Apostle Paul the Father of Christian Anti-Judaism?*
Wednesday, April 3, 11:00 am-12:00 pm
Atlanta University Center, Robert Franklin Auditorium
- *The Apostle Paul in Jewish Eyes: Heretic or Hero?*
Thursday, April 4, 7:00 pm-9:00 pm
Emory University, Room 252 Candler School of Theology
- *Let's Meet Downtown in the Synagogue: Jews and Greeks in the Ancient World*
Friday, April 5, 5:00 pm-7:00 pm

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CALL FOR COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

Each year, members of the American Academy of Religion are invited to nominate persons to fill open positions on AAR Standing Committees, Task Forces, and Juries. This year, there are openings on the following groups:

- Academic Relations Committee
- American Lectures in the History of Religions Committee
- Excellence in the History of Religion Book Award Juries
- International Connections Committee
- Public Understanding of Religion Committee
- Research Grants Jury
- Status of LGBTIQ Persons in the Profession Committee
- Status of Racial and Ethnic Minorities in the Profession Committee
- Status of Women in the Profession Committee
- Teaching and Learning Committee
- Theological Education Committee

Nominations for positions on these groups must be made in writing, and must include:

1. A brief description of the nominee's academic and professional interests
2. A brief summary of the nominee's activity in the AAR
3. A statement describing the nominee's interest or promise for a particular assignment
4. A current copy of the nominee's curriculum vita

Members may nominate themselves. All nominees must be members in good standing of the AAR. Nominations must be received by **August 1, 2013**. Nominations may be e-mailed, faxed, or posted to:

Elizabeth Hardcastle
Service Coordinator
American Academy of Religion
825 Houston Mill Road NE
Atlanta, GA 30329
Fax: 404-727-7959
nominations@aarweb.org

John L. Esposito, President of the AAR, and the Board of Directors will review nominations and make selections during August and September 2013. Nominees will be notified of their status soon thereafter. If you have questions about particular assignments, please feel free to contact the AAR's Executive Staff, Board members, or Committee/Task Force chairs. Committee descriptions and rosters are available at www.aarweb.org/about_AAR/committees.

CALL FOR SPOTLIGHT ON TEACHING EDITOR

The American Academy of Religion seeks a Spotlight on Teaching editor. Spotlight on Teaching is a major teaching and learning initiative of the AAR and its Teaching and Learning Committee. Over the last several years, it has become a principal venue for exploring opportunities and challenges in teaching and learning about religions. Spotlight appears as a special supplement in the May and October issues of Religious Studies News. Each issue focuses on a particular theme, concern, or setting. The Spotlight Editor serves a four-year term as an ex-officio member of the AAR's Teaching and Learning Committee. All applicants must be members of the American Academy of Religion.

If you are interested in this position, please e-mail inquiries, nominations (self-nominations are encouraged), and application materials (a letter describing interests and qualifications, plus a current curriculum vita) by Word or PDF attachment to Elizabeth Hardcastle, Service Coordinator, ehardcastle@aarweb.org. The application deadline is **August 1, 2013**.

SPEAKING OF STUDENTS EDITOR POSITION - SEEKING APPLICATIONS

The AAR Student Director, Elonda Clay, seeks an editor for the Speaking of Students (S.O.S.) graduate student e-newsletter. The Speaking of Students editor will solicit articles for the January, April, July, and October issues of S.O.S based on established submission guidelines. The editor will work closely with the AAR Student Director, Graduate Student Committee, and the AAR Staff Liaison to the Graduate Student Committee. The editor will also submit an annual status report to the AAR Student Director.

The term of service is January 1, 2014, to December 31, 2015.
Qualifications include:

- 1) Current student membership in the AAR for at least one calendar year prior to applying
- 2) Previous editing experience
- 3) Current enrollment in a PhD program

To apply for this position, please send a brief statement of interest with biographical sketch and current CV to Elonda Clay at elonda.clay@gmail.com. All applications must be received by **November 1, 2013**.

CALL FOR FROM THE STUDENT DESK EDITOR — Deadline: October 31, 2013

The AAR Student Director is seeking a From the Student Desk editor. From the Student Desk is the feature student column of the *Religious Studies News*. For more information on how to submit your materials for the position, please click here to see our [announcement in the March issue of RSN](#).

Religious Studies News 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). To view *RSN*, visit www.rsnonline.org.

AAR ON LINKEDIN

AAR's presence on social media continues to expand with a [LinkedIn discussion forum](#) and [page](#). Join the conversation and receive updates on AAR's LinkedIn page. Of course, you can continue to receive important updates through these other social media channels:

- [AAR Facebook](#)
 - [AAR Twitter](#)
 - [LGBTIQ Persons in the Profession Committee Facebook](#)
 - [Status of Women in the Profession Committee Facebook](#)
 - [AAR Students Facebook](#)
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FREE TRIAL OFFERS FOR DEGRUYTER BOOKS AND JOURNALS ENDS TOMORROW!

AAR members can receive free trial offers for [DeGruyter Books and Journals](#) until **March 21**. Information on this offer and other special AAR members discounts with other fine publishers and journals is also [online](#).

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? [In the Field](#) is your resource for news of events and opportunities for scholars of religion and theological education, published online by the AAR.

ACADEMIC ABBY: Professional Advice from Your Colleagues

Do you have a question about life in academe that you are at a loss to answer by yourself but don't feel you can approach your colleagues with it? [Ask Academic Abby](#)! Academic Abby is able to answer questions large and small, from dealing with faculty dilemmas, to tenure issues, to work/life balance troubles. Questions can be submitted anonymously through an [online form](#). Members of the AAR Status of Women in the Profession Committee will respond to each question received. The question and answer will be posted on the [Status of Women in the Profession web page](#) and issues of [Religious Studies News](#).

ASK THE DIVA

If you are experiencing issues of special concern to LGBTIQ scholars of religion, the Diva can help! What questions do you have about graduate school, career development, teaching, etc.? Questions can be submitted anonymously through an [online form](#). Members of the LGBTIQ Persons in the Profession Committee will respond. Your confidentiality is assured; the answers can be e-mailed to you privately if you wish. With your permission, the questions and answers will be posted anonymously in [Religious Studies News](#).

AAR MEMBER NOTES

Books and Major Publications

[Mary Jeremy Daigler](#), Mt. St. Agnes Theological Center for Women
Incompatible with God's Design: A History of the Women's Ordination Movement in the U.S. Roman Catholic Church. Scarecrow Press (Rowman Littlefield Publ.) October 2013 release date.

[Grace Ji-Sun Kim](#), Moravian Theological Seminary
Colonialism, Han and the Transformative Spirit, New York: Palgrave Pivot, April 2013, release date. ISBN: 978-1-137-34668-1, ISBN10: 1-137-34668-X

[Ina Merdjanova](#), Trinity College

[*Rediscovering the Umma: Muslims in the Balkans between Nationalism and Transnationalism*](#), Oxford University Press, 2013, ISBN13: 9780199964031

[Eugene R. Schlesinger](#), Marquette University

"Use Your Allusion: How Reformed Sacramental Theology Makes Sense of Sacramental Language in John 3 and 6" *Westminster Theological Journal* 74 no. 2 (Fall 2012): 355-366

Career Transitions

[Christine J. Hong](#), Claremont School of Theology

Appointed Associate for Theology: Interfaith in the department of Theology, Worship, and Education for the Presbyterian Church(USA).

[William R. McAlpine](#), Ambrose University College

Promoted to Full Professor of Practical Theology at Ambrose University College.

Let your AAR colleagues know about your professional milestones! [Submit your Member Note online](#).
