



e-Bulletin

American Academy of Religion

In This Issue

GET INVOLVED: VOTE, VOLUNTEER, AND INVEST IN YOUR AAR!

2013 Elections Are Open

Check your inbox for a special e-mail about the AAR elections. All current members are eligible to vote — choose the direction you wish to see the AAR take in the future! Elections are being held for Vice President, Program Unit Director, At-Large Director, and Student Director. Voting ends on **October 24, 2013**.

Renew for 2014

Remain a part of your professional guild by [renewing](#) your 2014 AAR membership! AAR members receive print and online access to JAAR, Religious Studies News, and reduced registration rates at the Annual Meeting. Renew your membership for calendar year 2014 at www.aarweb.org/join2014.

AAR Ambassador Program

AAR is developing a grassroots Ambassador program to help get information out to people about the study of religion and AAR programs. We want to give Ambassadors the tools to effectively educate and inspire people to get the most out of their AAR membership.

The program will be launched in stages with ambassadors being a point of contact for the AAR in your department or professional space. Help us spread the word about the AAR by applying to be an ambassador in your area. Apply [online](#) today.

WordPress Users: A Request from AAR Executive Director Jack Fitzmier

Our staff is working on several in-house technology projects, one of which

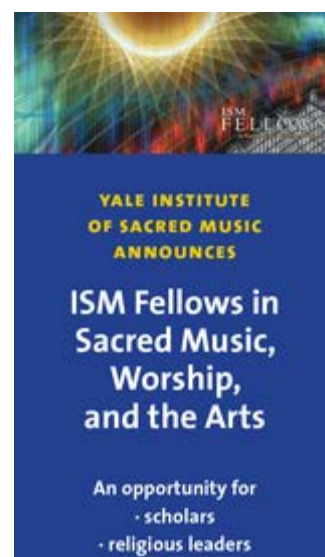
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involves the open source platform WordPress. If you have expertise in WordPress (especially in the administrative "back end" of the system) and would be willing to lend a hand to these AAR efforts, kindly contact me at jfitzmier@aarweb.org. The tasks at hand would not require travel, would not involve a lot of time (perhaps 3-4 hours a week on an occasional basis), and would be greatly appreciated. Thanks!

ANNUAL MEETING NEWS

Name Badge Deadline

Save some time in Baltimore and register by this **Friday, September 27**, in order to receive your name badge in the mail. Those who register after this date will have to pick up the name badge at registration. Avoid the lines and register for the Annual Meeting today!

Housing

Hotel rooms are filling up fast. AAR has arranged special discounts on hotel rooms in Baltimore — but only if you make your hotel reservation before **October 31!**

Focus on Employment

The AAR and SBL have teamed up to present a series of sessions focused on academic, alt-ac, and non-academic employment. The goal of these sessions is to open a dialogue about the changing nature of academic employment and to reflect upon the realities of the current job market.

Check out these [great sessions](#):

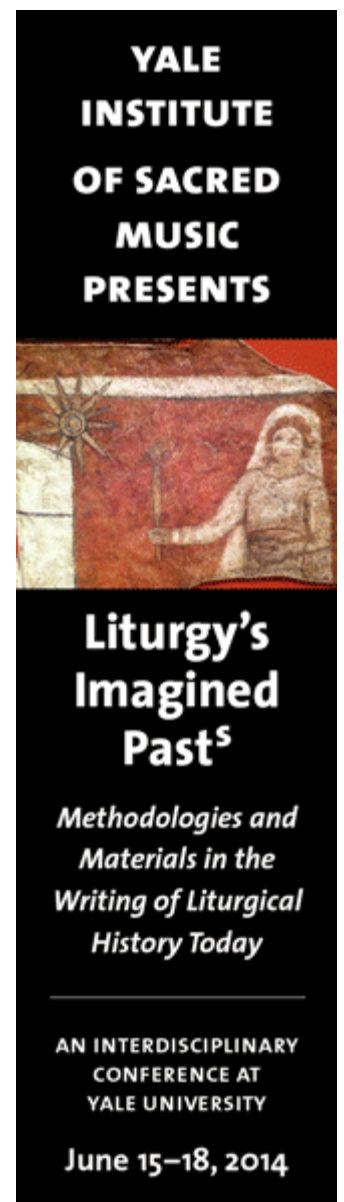
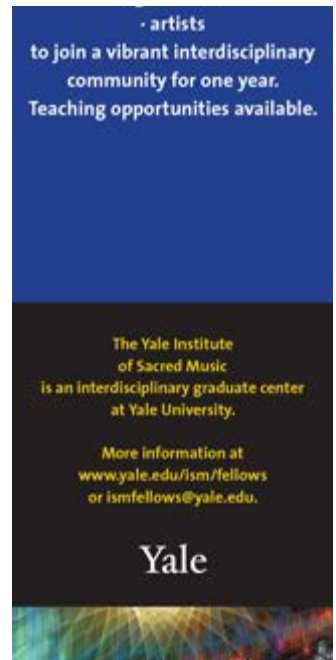
Employment Beyond the Academy (A23-142, Saturday - 11:00 AM-12:00 PM)

The crisis in the academic job market in one sense presents a serious challenge to those pursuing doctoral studies in religion today — but it also presents opportunities for creatively rethinking the value and potential of expertise in religion in today's world.

Job Market Realities, Strategies, and Opportunities (A23-201, Saturday - 1:00 PM-3:30 PM)

What is the status of the job market, within and outside of the academy, for those holding or pursuing graduate degrees in religious studies and theology?

Shifting Sands of the Academy: Examining Trends in Higher Education (A23-339, Saturday, 4:00 PM-6:30 PM)



This session will examine the future of the profession in the twenty-first century with an eye toward questions of ethics and justice for colleagues, for higher education, for graduate students, and for the study of religion in higher education more broadly.

Effective Self-Marketing and Interviewing (A24-145, Sunday, 9:00 AM-11:30 AM)

How do you promote yourself? How do you identify career opportunities and use them to further your ultimate career goals? Learn some answers!

Career Opportunities in Two-Year Colleges and/or Community Colleges (A24-233, Sunday, 1:00 PM-2:30 PM)

Approximately one-third of the American higher education professoriate teaches at community colleges. What are the particular challenges and rewards of teaching at a community college and how do you go about finding community college jobs?

Tips for Finding Academic Employment: Beyond Publish or Perish (A24-250, Sunday - 3:00 PM-4:00 PM)

This presentation will focus on what is distinct about teaching at a private, undergraduate, liberal arts college and how it is different from a large public university, what the work of a professor is like at each one, how to know which is better for you, and what hiring committees at each might expect.

"Alt-Ac Jobs": What It Means and How to Get One (A24-286, Sunday, 4:00 PM-6:30 PM)

This session will focus on finding and securing nonteaching employment within an academic institutions, government, and nongovernmental organizations.

The Ins and Outs of Adjunct, Part-time, and Contingency Employment (A25-144, Monday, 9:00 AM-11:30 AM)

Department administrators and long-term adjunct employees will speak about the various matters related to adjunct, part-time, and contingent employment.

From CV to Resume (A25-241, Monday, 1:00 PM-3:30 PM)

When pursuing an alternative-academic career or a nonacademic career, you will need to submit a resume, not a curriculum vitae. How are these two documents the same and how are they different? What are the common pitfalls when converting your CV to a resume?

New Annual Meeting Sessions

AAR THATCamp: The Humanities and Technology Camp (Friday, 9:00 am-5:00 pm)

If you are interested in how technology is changing—or can change—the work of religious studies scholars, then we invite you to attend the first ever [THATCamp](http://aar2013.thatcamp.org) on Friday, November 22nd at the 2013 AAR Annual Meeting. THATCamp, or The Humanities and Technology Camp, exists to bring scholars and technologists of every skill level together to learn how to integrate digital technology into their teaching and research. Topics covered may include academic blogging, social media in the classroom, digital research methods, web-based class projects, and online publishing. THATCamp is free and open to everyone, but participants must register at <http://aar2013.thatcamp.org>.



Honoring the Legacy and Life of Otto Maduro (1945-2013) (A24-287, Sunday - 3:00 PM-4:30 PM)

Otto Maduro was Professor of World Christianities and Latin American Christianities at Drew University Theological School (Madison, NJ), and the 2012 President of the AAR. He was born in Venezuela and earned two masters degrees and a PhD from Catholic University in

Louvain, Belgium. His publications included over 200 articles published in a dozen languages, five books in five languages, including the influential texts *Marxismo y Religión*, *Religion and Social Conflicts*, and *Mapas para la Fiesta*, to be published in English in 2014. His teaching, mentoring, and scholarly work emphasized epistemologies, Pentecostalism, LGBT and Latino/a liberation, inequalities, and the sociology of religion through the theories of Marx and Pierre Bourdieu. An internationally renowned public intellectual who lectured widely, the media frequently sought his comments on religious and global events. This session will celebrate Dr. Maduro's legacy as a scholar, teacher, colleague, public intellectual, and lover of life.



Remembering Robert N. Bellah (1927-2013) (A24-333, Sunday - 5:00 PM-6:30 PM)

Robert Bellah's work spans the humanities, social sciences, and comparative studies to embrace the global diversity and coherence of religion. It reveals the roots of religion in human evolution and the religious roots of forms of popular nationalism, global markets, and human rights evident in multiple modernities now emerging around the world. By asking what our deep past can tell us about the kind of life human beings have imagined was worth living, Bellah continues to illuminate the underlying moral visions through which we seek common ground on

questions of our common good. Please join students, colleagues and friends of Robert Bellah in sharing memories of his life and work.



Templeton Prize Lecture (A24-406, Sunday - 7:00 PM-8:00 PM)

Theme: Exploring the Spiritual Relevance of Ubuntu: The Legacy of Archbishop Tutu

Desmond Tutu, the former Anglican Archbishop of Cape Town, is one of the world's most revered religious figures and a global leader on the comprehensive spiritual

relevance of Ubuntu. Archbishop Tutu has been awarded the 2013 Templeton Prize for his life-long work in advancing spiritual principles such as love and forgiveness, which has helped to liberate people around the world. He has been recognized for his deep faith and commitment to prayer, worship and the life of the Spirit. His teachings combine the theological concept of Imago Dei, that all human beings are shaped in the image of God, with the traditional African spirit of Ubuntu, "a delicate network of interdependence" in which humanity achieves personhood only through other people.

Archbishop Tutu will deliver an exclusive pre-recorded video presentation in conjunction with a dialogue with Rev. Mpho Tutu, his daughter, Anne Atkins, author and BBC Radio 4 presenter and commentator and John M. Templeton, Jr., President and Chairman of the John Templeton Foundation. This special event will honor Archbishop Tutu and present new John Templeton Foundation grants focused on Ubuntu.

NEH Returns to the AAR Annual Meeting

The National Endowment for the Humanities offers grants to scholars and others engaged in humanistic research and teaching. Twenty-six grant programs support individuals, teams, and institutions doing work for other scholars, students, or the general public. Fundable projects include research for monographs, scholarly editions, creating or revising a class, preserving or digitizing archival collections, professional development for teachers, museum exhibits and documentaries. The NEH has a long record of supporting important scholarship in religious studies, including a variety of disciplinary approaches and religious traditions. This year's annual meeting will feature a NEH grant workshop, where program officers will discuss grant opportunities, hold a mock review panel, and offer suggestions for writing a successful grant application. The workshop will be on Saturday at 9 AM (A23-101).

Program officers will also be available to talk one-on-one about grant programs and possible applications. Visit the NEH booth (#1718) in the

exhibit hall or write Daniel Sack at dsack@neh.gov. More information on the NEH and grant programs is at neh.gov.

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.
