

Annual Meetings 2014

San Diego, California November 22-25



American Academy of Religion

Table of Contents

THE COUNTDOWN IS ON!

The 2014 Annual Meeting is only weeks away! Get ready to join some 10,000 of your friends and colleagues in beautiful San Diego, California for an exciting Annual Meeting. This e-mail highlights the items you need to know before you arrive to assist you in having the best meeting experience possible.

GUIDES TO THE ANNUAL MEETING

Please check out the following guides to help you navigate this year's Annual Meeting. Each guide is packed with useful information on how to navigate the city and the Annual Meeting itself. You may wish to have a copy of these guides nearby as you arrive in San Diego.

Guide to the 2014 AAR Annual Meeting: For the veteran and the first-time attendee, this guide has everything you need to know about preparing for the Annual Meeting, finding your way between sessions, and opportunities to explore San Diego beyond the Annual Meeting.

New Member or First-Time Attendee? Get the Info You Need - The AAR Annual Meeting can be overwhelming. This guide provides some good, basic information about the Annual Meeting to assist you in navigating the meeting.

International Members - Helpful Tips and Info - The International Members Guide will help orient attendees traveling from outside the United States - and is worth a look for domestic travelers, too.

- [Guides for the 2014 AAR Annual Meeting](#)
- [New and Noteworthy in 2014](#)
- [Remember to Pack...](#)
- [Program and Session Updates](#)
- [Meeting and Networking with Colleagues](#)
- [Annual Meeting Services](#)
- [Beyond the Annual Meeting](#)
- [Need Help? Where to Get It](#)

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NEW AND NOTEWORTHY IN 2014

Free Wi-Fi!

A free wireless Internet network will be available throughout the entire San Diego

Convention Center. The network name is **SBL/AAR**, and it requires no password.

Mobile App

AAR and SBL have switched Mobile App vendors and have been working hard to finalize all of the features of the new app to give you the best experience. We anticipate sending out the launch announcement, with your unique login credentials, later today, so check your inbox!

Once the Mobile App is available, you will be able to create and customize your schedule, make notes about sessions, search for participants, and get interactive information about exhibitors.

The app will also allow users to search for sessions by keyword, by participant, and by program unit. Schedule changes are downloaded in the background when Internet access is available.

Hotel Update

Housing for the Annual Meeting is now closed. **October 21** was the deadline for the special conference rates. Unfortunately, we are no longer accepting reservations for housing, and you'll need to make your own arrangements. Should you want to stay at one of our conference hotels, they are not obligated to honor the special conference rates that were in effect prior to October 21. As of November 6, two of our hotels has been kind enough to extend the offer to book at our conference rate. Please know that this will not be offered indefinitely, and it's up to the hotel's discretion when to stop taking bookings. Contact reg@aarweb.org for up-to-date information.



Information on Jimmy Carter Plenary Address (A24-340) Monday, 4:00 p.m-5:30 p.m., Convention Center-20

In this session, President Carter will answer questions about his efforts to address climate change both during and after his administration, and his latest book, *A Call to Action: Women, Religion, Violence, and Power* (Simon and Schuster, 2014). Questions will be posed by Steven D. Kepnes, Colgate University and Mary Evelyn Tucker, Yale University, but additional questions may be [submitted online](#) before **November 15**.

This session will be followed by a book signing in Convention Center-23A. Warwick's Books will be selling *A Call to Action* **Monday, 8:30 a.m-3:30 p.m. in Booth 1109 in the Exhibit Hall. This will be the only chance to purchase the book**, and books cannot be purchased during the signing.

Annual Meeting Shuttles

We will **not** have a shuttle this year, so please bring your walking shoes and plan your day accordingly!

AAR Full Paper Submission Program

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Workshops &
Colloquies

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Joseph Sciorra

THE EXILED GENERATIONS
CARL L. KELL

NEW FROM
UT PRESS



START YOUR

The [full text of papers](#) for several sessions is being made available to AAR members in advance of the 2014 Annual Meeting. During these sessions, presenters will briefly summarize their arguments, with the bulk of the time given over to discussion. These papers are available only for the few weeks leading up to the Annual Meeting. After **November 24**, they will be removed from the website. These pages and documents are inaccessible to search engines such as Google, so please do not share these files elsewhere.

Gender-Neutral Restroom



ALL PERSON, ALL ACCESS restrooms are available on the Mezzanine level of the San Diego Convention Center across the hall from 14B and on the third (Aqua) level of the Hilton Bayfront, adjacent to Aqua A. AAR recognizes that there are members of our community who may feel more comfortable in an all-gender restroom. The all-gender restrooms are marked with special signage during the Annual Meetings.

Save 80%+ on a New Headshot!

Everyone needs a headshot, and you can get one for only \$37! You can quickly get your photo taken by a professional photographer while you are at the Annual Meeting on **November 23rd or 24th**, anytime between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. The photographer will be located at Booth #1105 in the SBL and AAR Exhibit Hall in the San Diego Convention Center. To see examples, learn more about what you will receive, and to preregister, please [click here](#).



Fun, Games, and Helping Others At the Annual Meeting

There are chances to play a game or win a prize at the Annual Meeting! Don't miss out on the fun.

Enter to Win in the Exhibit Hall!

Plan to visit the AAR booth (#705) and drop off your business card to enter four drawings:

- Books Under Discussion at the 2014 AAR Annual Meeting
- The 2014 AAR Award Winning Books
- Free 2015 AAR membership
- Free 2015 Annual Meetings registration in Atlanta

Animal Search and Rescue

The animals have escaped from the San Diego zoo! Help us find the animals hidden in Annual Meeting locations. If you find an animal, here are your next steps:

1. Alert the zookeeper by tagging the animal! Bring the animal by AAR booth #705 or take a picture and post it to Twitter or Facebook with hashtag **#SBLAAR14**.

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WITH A
BUZZ



THE MORNING BUZZ
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2. For every animal found and tagged, AAR will donate \$5 to [Project Wildlife](#), a San Diego wildlife protection agency.

3. Give the animal a new home—it is yours to keep!

Contribute to the Annual Meeting Soap Drive!

At the Annual Meeting in San Diego, we are collecting **unused/unopened** hotel soaps, shampoos, conditioners, and any other products listed here that families and homeless in need might find useful. More information about this initiative can be found [online](#).

Use Water and Energy Carefully During the AAR Annual Meeting!

The American West is suffering from one of the worst droughts in decades. In keeping with this year's focus on climate and sustainability, the AAR Board and Executive Staff urge our members to be intentional about saving water and energy during the San Diego Annual Meeting. You can make a positive impact by taking these simple actions:

- Reduce the time you spend in the shower
- Turn off the tap while shaving or brushing your teeth
- Reuse sheets and towels (all of the hotels have reuse programs—look for the details on a card placed somewhere in your room, or ask at the front desk)
- Turn the lights and other electrical devices off when you leave your hotel room
- Adjust the thermostat before leaving your hotel room
- Participate in our [carbon-offset program](#)
- Walk!
- Read the [San Diego Convention Center Green Meetings Fact Sheet](#)

REMEMBER TO PACK:

- **YOUR NAME BADGE!** If you registered by September 18, you should have received your name badge in the mail. Once you arrive in San Diego, pick up a name badge holder and then feel free to attend any Annual Meeting event; you do not need to come by registration. Those who registered September 19 and after will have to pick their badge up onsite. If you registered by September 18 and did not receive your badge in the mail, you can pick one up onsite.
- **YOUR PROGRAM BOOK!** *Program Books* were mailed to everyone who registered before August 14 and did not check the "Do not send me a *Program Book*" box. There is a very limited supply available onsite, so don't

Enter Group **AAR2014**
at top of order form
Or click here to go to
www.notsbene.com/aar2014
Order by 12/31/2014

Brand new NB 10 Just released!

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— Daniel Boyarin

leave your copy at home!

- Check out other helpful tips on what to pack for your trip [here](#).

Thank you to the 20% of AAR registrants who opted out of receiving a *Program Book* and the additional 16% of registrants who opted not to have a *Program Book* printed for them at all. This is a tremendous help in our quest to make the Annual Meeting greener!

PROGRAM AND SESSION UPDATES

Look for program updates or changes in the [Online Program Book](#), the Mobile App, and in the *Annual Meetings At-A-Glance*, which is stuffed inside your tote bag.

MEETING AND NETWORKING WITH COLLEAGUES

Meeting and networking with colleagues is the number one response people list as the reason to attend the Annual Meetings. Here are a few opportunities on how to meet the people you wish to see:

Look Who's Coming and Social Media

The AAR website allows you to search for friends and colleagues who might be attending the Annual Meetings. Go to www.aarweb.org/look-whos-coming to see who's coming to the Annual Meetings!

Take your Annual Meetings experience to the web! Use **#SBLAAR14** to continue the conversation on [Twitter](#) or the [AAR's Facebook](#) page.

AAR and SBL Member Reception (A22-411)

Saturday, 8:30 p.m.–10:00 p.m.

Convention Center - Ballroom 20 Lobby and Center Terrace

Come join the party with your friends and colleagues for fun and conversation at the AAR and SBL Members' Reception. Light refreshments, cash bar, and a Beach Boys cover band combine to make this a great way to catch up with old friends or dance the night away with new ones. Get into the spirit by wearing your resort casual attire! Come see the new surprises, including a photo booth and decorations to take home after the party, all with fantastic views of the San Diego Bay.

Women's Mentoring Luncheon (A23-148)

Sunday, 11:45 a.m.–12:45 p.m., Convention Center

Women who are graduate students and new scholars are invited to a luncheon with over thirty womanist, feminist, and LGBTIQ midcareer and senior scholars.

Lunch is \$13, [registration is required](#). SPACE IS LIMITED AND FILLING FAST - REGISTER TODAY!

LGBTIQ Roundtable Luncheon (A22–143)

Saturday, 11:45 a.m.–12:45 p.m., Convention Center - Ballroom 18

All students and junior scholars who identify outside of normative gender histories and/or sexualities are welcome to join us for an informal lunch. No fee or preregistration is required. Bring your own lunch!

Contingent Faculty Reception (A22–410)

Saturday, 6:30 p.m.–7:30 p.m., Grand Hyatt - AAR Suite

AAR members who work at colleges and universities on a contingent or contractual basis are welcome to meet and greet each other at this reception hosted by the AAR's new Contingent Faculty Task Force.

Students

The Graduate Student Committee has published a listing of [sessions of interest to student members](#) attending the Annual Meeting.

Special Events and Other Sessions of Note

The AAR Annual Meeting program is packed with exciting events, receptions, and opportunities. Use any of the specialized search tags in the [online Program Book](#) to discover a performance or event you want to attend!

Drop By to Say "Hello!"

Feel free to drop by AAR booth #705 to meet your regional coordinator or an AAR ambassador. Find out how you can become more involved in the AAR throughout the year!

ANNUAL MEETING SERVICES

Child Care

Childcare registration for the Annual Meeting is closed. KiddieCorp childcare is a service subsidized by the AAR and SBL for members with families attending the Annual Meeting.

Internet Access

Need to check your e-mail or use the web? Free Wi-Fi is available throughout the San Diego Convention Center. If you need a computer, the Cyber Cafe offers computers with Internet connections in the middle of the Exhibit Hall.

Lounges

- **Prayer Room, Convention Center-13** – For people of all faiths who need a moment of prayer, quiet reflection, or meditation.
- **Women's Lounge, Convention Center-14A** – Featuring special programming sponsored by the Women's Caucus. Nursing mothers may find it a welcome

private space.

- **Student Lounge, Convention Center-14B** – Special programming sponsored by the Graduate Student Committee.
- **International Members Lounge, Marriott Marquis-La Costa**

Nursing Mothers

Nursing mothers are welcome to nurse wherever you feel comfortable feeding your child. If you are looking for a more private space, you can use the AAR's Women's Lounge located in Convention Center-14A on the Mezzanine level (right behind Starbucks), or the nursing mothers' lounge located in the women's restroom located outside Hall E on the ground level.

Food at the Annual Meeting

If you are looking for something quick and easy, visit the food concessions area in the back of the Exhibit Hall in the San Diego Convention Center, Halls FG. Sandwiches, drinks, and snacks will be available during Exhibit Hall hours Saturday through Tuesday. Or if you'd like to venture out, see below or [click here](#) for a map of nearby restaurants to the Convention Center.

Accessibility

AAR members with disabilities or any attendees who may have difficulty getting around the meeting are encouraged to note this during registration. AAR will make every reasonable attempt to accommodate you, whether by arranging services such as sign language interpreters, assigning accessible hotel room space, or through the AAR's taxi reimbursement policy. You can visit the [Annual Meeting accessibility web page](#) to see a complete list of ways AAR will work with you to make your Annual Meeting accommodate your needs. Please contact Soraya Shahrak, Associate Director of Meetings, at SShahrak@aarweb.org if you have any questions.

BEYOND THE ANNUAL MEETING

Restaurants

San Diego has lots of great places to eat! Ask at your hotel concierge for recommendations, or [check out the list](#) provided by the San Diego Visitors Bureau. The [Guide to the AAR Annual Meeting](#) has lists of restaurants that can accommodate vegetarian/vegan, kosher, and halal diets.

Tours

As of November 6, the following Annual Meeting tours still have space available. For up-to-date information, e-mail reg@aarweb.org.

San Diego City Tour (Friday, 1:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m.) \$40

Vinyasa Yoga Class (Saturday 7:00 a.m.–8:00 a.m.) \$15

San Diego Harbor Cruise (Saturday 9:15 a.m.–12:30 p.m.) \$45

Biblical Art in the San Diego Museum (Monday 9:30 a.m.–1 p.m.) \$40

San Diego Zoo Trip (Monday 9:30 a.m.–1 p.m.) \$55

Balboa Park Transportation (Monday 9:30 a.m.–1 p.m.) \$30

Registration is on a first-come, first-serve basis. To sign up for a tour, fax in the [form](#) or e-mail reg@aarweb.org. Sorry, no refunds.

Show Your Badge

During the Annual Meetings, from November 22 through the 26, the San Diego Convention Center Corporation is offering discounts at local restaurants and attractions through the "Show Your Badge" program. Show your Annual Meeting badge for a discount at [participating locations](#).

Places of Worship

The [Guide to the AAR Annual Meeting](#) provides a list of nearby places of worship. Attendees of all faiths who need a moment of prayer, quiet reflection, or meditation are welcome to use the Prayer Lounge in **Convention Center-13**.

NEED HELP?

If you have questions about the program, your membership, or events at the Annual Meeting, the staff at the Member Services desk, located in the registration area of the San Diego Convention Center, will be able to assist you. You can also seek help at the AAR booth #705 in the Exhibit Hall.

You might find the answer to your question in the [Guide to the 2014 AAR Annual Meeting](#) or on the [Annual Meetings Frequently Asked Questions](#) page.

SEE YOU IN SAN DIEGO!