E-Bulletin



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American Academy of Religion

In This Issue

RELIGIOUS STUDIES NEWS: MAY ISSUE NOW AVAILABLE!



We are happy to announce the release of the <u>May issue</u> of *Religious Studies News*.

In it, you'll find information about the upcoming <u>Annual</u> <u>Meeting in San Diego</u> as well a

photo gallery and reports from the 2013 meeting in Baltimore. The <u>Features</u> section includes diverse group of articles: one about the 2014 Marty Award winner, Charles Taylor; another outlining the prevailing institutional racism in doctoral programs; and lastly, a report of a successful interreligious dialogue conference in Murfreesboro, TN, which was supported with funding from an AAR Regional Development Grant.

Finally, don't miss out on an interview with the AAR president, Laurie Zoloth, in the <u>News</u> section or a robust issue of <u>Spotlight on Teaching</u>, which focuses on the teaching of Asian American religions and religiosities.

AAR AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Charles Taylor Wins 2014 Martin E. Marty Award

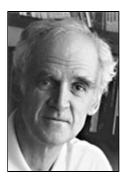
The Committee on the Public Understanding of Religion is pleased to announce Charles Taylor,

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Dates & Deadlines:

- May 22: <u>Annual Meeting</u>
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professor emeritus of political science and philosophy at McGill University, is the recipient of the 2014 Martin E. Marty Award for the Public Understanding of Religion. Professor Taylor will be interviewed by Miroslav Volf, professor of systematic theology at Yale Divinity School, at this year's Marty

Forum, Sunday, November 23, at the AAR Annual Meeting in San Diego. For the Committee's full announcement about this year's winner, please see <u>here</u>. The Marty Award recognizes extraordinary contributions to the public understanding of religion. The Committee encourages and <u>solicits nominations</u> for future Marty Award recipients.

2014 Religion and the Arts Award Winner: Makoto Fujimura



The Religion and the Arts Award Jury is pleased to announce that Makoto Fujimura is the winner of this year's Religion and the Arts Award. Fujimura is an artist and writer whose work represents a spiritual and bicultural contemplation of the world. As a Japanese American, he has fused western styles with traditional Nihongatechniques, and his work is

internationally recognized: he was a presidential appointee to the National Council on the Arts from 2003–2009 and he is the founder of the arts advocacy organization International Arts Movement (IAM). Much of Fujimura's art is deeply religious. His second book, Refractions: A Journey of Faith, Art and Culture, is a collection of essays by contributors of various religious and cultural backgrounds reflecting on art, faith, and the world. Since 2011, his four illuminations of the New Testament gospels have been displayed in museums, galleries, and universities across the US and Japan.

Fujimura will be the featured participant in a Special Topics Forum at this year's Annual Meeting in San Diego on Sunday, November 23, with AAR members Diane Apostolos-Cappadona, Pamela Winfield, and William Dyrness.

ANNUAL MEETING NEWS

Super Saver Registration Rate Ends on May 22!

<u>Register</u> today to receive the best price on the Annual Meeting! The 2014 member rate is deeply discounted. Annual Meeting registration rates increase after **May 22**, so lock in the savings today.

Translation Editor Ends

- June 6: JAAR Survey
 <u>Response Deadline</u>
- July 15: Work/Life Blog Post Deadline
- August 1: Individual
 Research Grants Deadline
- October 1: Collaborative
 International Research
 Grants Deadline

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EXPLORE BESTSELLERS IN ISLAM AND ISLAMIC STUDIES



<u>Check out the Annual Meeting brochure</u> for all the details on registration, housing, tours, workshops, and more!

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD!

JAAR Reader Survey—Tell Us What You Think!

Oxford University Press is implementing an important initiative to gather feedback from readers of the *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*. Please take a few minutes and <u>complete the survey</u> by **June 6**. Be sure to select "Journal of the American Academy of Religion" from the pull-down list of journals. Thank you!

Membership Task Force Seeks Members with Expertise in Membership Development and Marketing

The AAR Board of Directors is establishing a Membership Task Force charged with creating a comprehensive and ongoing membership development program. To accomplish that goal we will aim to define with some precision the known universe of individuals and institutions interested in the academic study of religion. We seek, therefore, the assistance of current AAR members whose scholarly work on the study of religion might be helpful in defining the AAR's potential market, as well as any member with expertise in marketing and/or membership development. Members with such a background who are willing to volunteer either as consultants or as members of the Task Force are encouraged to contact AAR Executive Director Jack Fitzmier at jfitzmier@aarweb.org or Membership Task Force Chair Warren Frisina at warren.frisina@hofstra.edu.

AAR RESEARCH GRANTS — APPLY FOR INDIVIDUAL AND COLLABORATIVE GRANTS!

Individual Grants

The 2014–2015 <u>Research Grants Online Submission System</u> is now open!

Each year the AAR awards grants of up to \$5,000 for individual and collaborative research projects. All applications must be <u>submitted</u> <u>online</u>; paper applications will not be accepted.

The deadline to apply is August 1, 2014. Visit the web page for more



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information.

Collaborative International Research Grants

The 2014-2015 <u>Collaborative International Research Grants Online</u> <u>Submission System</u> is now open!

The AAR's Collaborative International Research Grants program supports generative research collaborations between and among scholars located in different geographical regions who wish to pursue focused, joint projects in any area of the study of religion. Applications for awards ranging from \$500 to \$5000 will be reviewed by the AAR's International Connections Committee (ICC).

For information about the program, please visit the <u>web page</u>.

The deadline to apply is **October 1, 2014**. Applications must be submitted via the <u>online proposal submission system</u>.

Please direct inquiries to Dr. <u>Amy L. Allocco</u>, ICC Chair and Distinguished Emerging Scholar in Religious Studies, Elon University, USA, <u>aallocco@elon.edu</u>.

CALL EXTENDED! PERSONAL NARRATIVE BLOG POSTS ON WORK/LIFE BALANCE

The first round of blog submissions concluded on March 15. We are seeking a second round of submissions with a deadline extended to **July 15**!

The AAR Status of Women in the Profession Committee (SWP) invites you to participate in an examination of issues surrounding work/life balance. We are especially soliciting stories and/or strategies that draw others deeper into the complex challenges of and diverse visions for work/life balance. Stories may reflect upon both successful and unsuccessful navigations of career, family, community, and personal lives, and strategies can be in a plurality of institutional and career contexts as long as they speak to practices for self-care and wellness. Please follow this hyperlink for more information about SWP's journey toward creating a plurivocal and multipronged website.

With this invitation, we are specifically seeking stories and strategies that should address AAR members, but they need not be academic in

tone. These stories and strategies should be "blog-like" in that they fall within 500–750 words, and thus they should also be focused on a particular challenge, issue, or strategy. Please consult Mary Hunt's guide for blog posts, <u>"Like Falling Off a Blog,"</u> as you craft your pieces. Individuals may sign their names or share their work anonymously; the choice is up to you. Just let us know your preference. You should submit your story or strategy to Aislinn Jones at <u>ajones@aarweb.org</u> by **July 15**, **2014.** A panel of women will examine and edit these pieces, returning them for authorial review in the summer, with the goal of their being posted on a live website by **September of 2014**.

CALL FOR RELIGION IN TRANSLATION BOOK SERIES EDITOR

The AAR Publications Committee seeks a book editor for the Religion in Translation Series, which is sponsored by the American Academy of Religion and published in cooperation with Oxford University Press. The Religion in Translation series seeks to make available to research scholars and classroom teachers alike significant primary texts in English translation, important secondary scholarship on religious texts, and reprints of major theoretical works in the field of religious studies. Given this broad mandate, proposals are sought from all areas of the discipline that will bring to an English-speaking audience texts of major importance to the world's religious traditions, monographs that open up specific texts to wider audiences, and new translations of classic works of secondary scholarship that are perennially relevant to the understanding of religious phenomena, values, ideas, and practices. Books published in the series may be found <u>here</u>.

AAR Series Editors help set editorial policy, acquire manuscripts, and work with Oxford University Press in seeing manuscripts through to publication. Editors sit on the AAR Publications Committee for the duration of their five-year (renewable once) term. This is a volunteer position. All applicants must be members of the American Academy of Religion. Please e-mail inquiries, nominations (self-nominations are encouraged), and applications (a letter describing interests and qualifications, plus a current curriculum vita) by Word or PDF attachment to Kim Connor, Publications Committee Chair, <u>connork@usfca.edu</u>. The application deadline is **June 1, 2014**.

NOMINATIONS FOR 2015 EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD

The Teaching and Learning Committee encourages and solicits nominations for the 2015 Excellence in Teaching Award. Nominations of

winners of campus awards, or any other awards, are encouraged. Procedures for the nomination process are outlined on the <u>AAR</u> <u>website</u>. The deadline for nominations is **October 15, 2014**.

IN THE FIELD ANNOUNCEMENTS

In the Field is an AAR-member 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? <u>Ask Academic Abby</u>! 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 <u>online form</u>. 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 <u>Status of Women in the</u> <u>Profession web page</u> and issues of <u>*Religious Studies News*</u>.

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 <u>online form</u>. 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 <u>Religious Studies News</u>.

MEMBER NOTES

May Member Notes will be published in the May 20 edition of the e-Bulletin!

Let your AAR colleagues know about your professional milestones! <u>Submit your Member Note online</u>.