



e-Bulletin

American Academy of Religion

In This Issue

Spotlight on Theological Education

SPOTLIGHT ON THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION — March Issue Now Available

We are pleased to announce the release of the [March issue](#) of [Spotlight on Theological Education](#).

This issue focuses on issues in the area of globalization and theological education and includes an introduction to the new *Spotlight* editor, Jeanne Stevenson-Moessner.

WINNERS OF THE 2013–2014 INTERNATIONAL DISSERTATION RESEARCH GRANTS

The AAR is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2013–2014 International Dissertation Research Grants:



International Dissertation Research

Deanna Womack, Princeton Theological Seminary
Research destinations: Lebanon, Egypt, and Turkey

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Selva J. Raj Endowed International Dissertation Research Fellowship

Jaspreet Kaur, University of Oxford
Research destination: Los Angeles, California

The [annual grants](#), designed to support AAR student members whose dissertation research requires them to travel outside of the country in which their school or university is located, are intended to help candidates complete their doctoral degrees by offsetting costs of travel, lodging, and other dissertation research-related expenses.

**2014 AMERICAN LECTURE IN THE HISTORY OF RELIGION SERIES:
CATHERINE ALBANESE**



In an American Kaleidoscope: Revisiting Two Centuries of American Religious History

Kaleidoscopes mean connections and surprising collisions, instances of one thing bouncing off another in unexpected ways. This lecture series will explore two centuries of American religious history with an eye for the kaleidoscopic. The

lectures will uncover connections hidden in plain view as well as ironic collisions and reconfigurations—this mostly for the Anglo-Protestant "mainstream," and the spin-offs it never anticipated or thought it wanted. Lectures will focus on the long season of eighteenth-century revivals often called the Great Awakening, the religions of the American Revolution, God's time in American evangelicalism, new nineteenth-century religious women, and the high road from evangelicalism to mind cure. The lecture course covers the following themes:

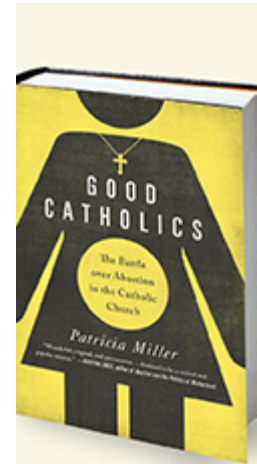
The Smell of Spirit: What Caused the Great Awakening and Was There One Anyway?

The Religions of the American Revolution and Why They Matter

When Is God's Time? Watching the Religious Clock in Antebellum America

Hiding in Plain View: The New Nineteenth-Century Religious Women

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The lectures will be held **April 7–11** at local institutions in the Atlanta metro area. Please [click here](#) to read more information about the ALHR lecture series and Catherine Albanese.

NEED A PROFESSIONAL MENTOR? CALL FOR MENTORING APPLICANTS

The American Academy of Religion (AAR) announces the continuation of the mentoring program piloted in 2013/2014. This program is an initiative of the four standing committees of the AAR: Status of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, & Queer Persons in the Profession (LGBTIQ); Status of Women in the Profession (SWP); Status of Racial and Ethnic Minorities in the Profession (CREM); and Status of People with Disabilities in the Profession (PWD). It grew out of successful mentoring lunches during the annual meetings, informal mentoring opportunities, and an expressed need by the members of these underrepresented groups. Thirty-five (35) post-comprehensive exam 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 beginning in November 2014 at the annual meeting in San Diego. The mentor will offer guidance with some of the following where possible: professional development/discernment, access to networks, strategizing about publication(s), job-seeking (including jobs outside the academy or outside the tenure track), the tenure and promotion process, and work/life balance.

More information on the mentoring program guidelines can be found [here](#). To apply, please complete [this form](#). Deadline for application: **April 30, 2014**.

SECOND ROUND! CALL 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, "[Like Falling Off a Blog.](#)" 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 ajones@aarweb.org 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 [here](#).

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, connork@usfca.edu. 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 [AAR website](#). The deadline for nominations is **October 1, 2014**.

IN THE FIELD ANNOUNCEMENTS

The American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) invites applications for the fourth competition of the Public Fellows program. This year, the program will place 20 recent PhDs from the humanities and humanistic social sciences in two-year staff positions at partnering organizations in government and the nonprofit sector. Fellows will participate in the substantive work of these organizations and receive professional mentoring, a stipend of \$65,000 per year, and individual health insurance. The deadline for the 2014 competition is **March 19, 2014**. More information is [here](#).

This announcement and others are posted in [In the Field](#), 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? [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](#).

MEMBER NOTES

Books and Major Publications

Lucy Bregman, Temple University

The Ecology of Spirituality: Meanings, Virtues and Practices in a Post-Religious Age, Waco: Baylor University Press, 2014.

[Todd Brenneman](#), Faulkner University

Homespun Gospel: The Triumph of Sentimentality in American Evangelicalism, Oxford University Press, 2014.

[John Hart](#), Boston University

Cosmic Commons: Spirit, Science, and Space, Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2013.

Marion Maddox, Macquarie University

Taking God to School: The End of Australia's Egalitarian Education?, Sydney: Allen & Unwin, 2014.

David Miller, Syracuse University (Emeritus)

Gods and Games: Toward a Theology of Play, has been republished as an electronic book by Stillpoint Digital Press in Mill Valley, California.

[S. Brent Plate](#), Hamilton College

A History of Religion in 5 1/2 Objects: Bringing the Spiritual to Its Senses, Beacon Press, 2014.

Jennifer Rapp, Deep Springs College

Ordinary Oblivion & the Self Unmoored: Reading Plato's Phaedrus and Writing the Soul, Fordham University Press, 2014.

[F. LeRon Shults](#), University of Agder

Iconoclastic Theology: Gilles Deleuze and the Secretion of Atheism, Edinburgh University Press, 2014.

Patrick Taylor, York University

Co-editor with Frederick I. Case, *The Encyclopedia of Caribbean Religions* (two volumes), University of Illinois Press, 2013.

Isaac Weiner, Ohio State University

Religion Out Loud: Religious Sound, Public Space, and American Pluralism, NYU Press, 2014.

Brian C. Wilson, Western Michigan University

Dr. John Harvey Kellogg and the Religion of Biologic Living, Indiana University Press, Fall 2014 (forthcoming).

Benjamin Zeller, Lake Forest College

Co-editor with George D. Chryssides, *The Bloomsbury Companion to New Religious Movements*, London: Bloomsbury, 2014.

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