



e-Bulletin

American Academy of Religion

In This Issue

2014 AAR OFFICER ELECTIONS ARE OPEN!

Elect the future leaders of the AAR! The Vice President, Secretary, and At-Large Director positions are to be filled during this election. The successful candidates will take office at the conclusion of the 2014 Annual Meeting. This is a wonderful opportunity to influence the governance of the AAR, so please cast your vote for the candidates now.

Please [click here](#) for information and to view the candidate statements. Voting is open to members through **October 22, 2014** (12:00 PM Eastern Time).

All members should have received an email with a link to the 2014 AAR elections ballot. If you have not yet received a link to the ballot, please notify us via e-mail at nominations@aarweb.org. Be sure to include your full name and the e-mail address to which you would like the link to the ballot sent.

Thank you for your participation!

RENEW FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2015 TODAY!

[Renew](#) your 2015 AAR membership! Make sure your access remains uninterrupted to all your member benefits, including print and online access to *JAAR*, *Religious Studies News*, and reduced registration rates at the Annual Meeting. Renew your membership for calendar year 2015 at <https://www.aarweb.org/join2015>.

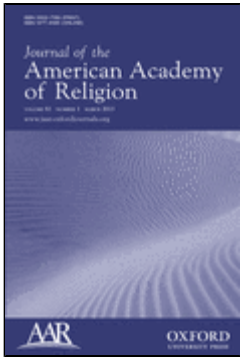
JAAR NEWS

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Dates & Deadlines:

- **October 5:** [Western Region CFP deadline](#)
- **October 6:** [Southeastern Region CFP deadline](#)
- **October 15:** [Southwest Region CFP deadline](#)
- **October 21:** [Deadline for Annual Meeting housing rates](#)
- **October 22:** [AAR Elections Close](#)
- **October 27:** [Deadline for Employment Center](#)



JAAR Media Reviews: Call for Submissions

Since 2012, the Journal of the American Academy of Religion has included brief review essays (about 5,000 words) on topics related to media and its place in the study of religion. These are decidedly not reviews of individual films, television shows, video games, music, etc., nor straightforward interpretations of them as formal texts.

Rather, we are interested in the following nonexclusive, sometimes overlapping, topics.

- A recurring trope or theme that appears across a number of recent works. This may function as an overview of a few recent releases that arguably center on a certain issue, thus reflecting and reinforcing a general cultural trend.
- How and why particular work enters a broader cultural milieu (including social–economic–political dimensions), and what that tells us about our relations to religion in and through popular culture.
- An overview of a particular auteur, especially one who is still producing pertinent work, and the relevance of their work for the study of religion.
- Pedagogical implications. Reviews that show how and why media can be used in Religious Studies classrooms.

Any and all of these will clearly demonstrate the relation of the topic to the academic study of religion. For further information about these review essays, or to submit a review essay, please contact [John Lyden](mailto:johnclyden@gmail.com), johnclyden@gmail.com.

ANNUAL MEETING NEWS

Annual Meeting Housing

October 21 is the deadline to obtain our special conference rates for sleeping rooms at the Annual Meeting, and it's fast approaching! Don't miss out on potentially saving hundreds of dollars. If you haven't [registered](#) for the Annual Meeting, you may obtain housing during the process. If you have already registered, you may add housing by using the link in your registration confirmation email. If you don't have that email, you may have it sent to you by emailing reg@aarweb.org.

Pose a Question to President Jimmy Carter

During his panel, 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*,

[Registration](#)

- **October 31:** [Rocky Mountains/Great Plains Region CFP deadline](#)
- **November 15:** [Deadline to submit a question to President Carter](#)
- **November 16:** [Pacific Northwest Region CFP deadline](#)
- **January 15:** [New England-Maritimes Region CFP deadline](#)

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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. Warwick's Books will be selling *A Call to Action* **Monday, November 24, 8:30 AM–3:30 PM** only in Booth 1109 in the Exhibit Hall. Books cannot be purchased during the signing.

Release of PRRI/AAR National Survey on Religion, Values, and Climate Change (A22-145) - Saturday, November 22



What do Americans think about climate change, and how do religious and moral beliefs impact their opinions about science, human responsibility, and environmental policies? This panel will feature the release of a new national public opinion survey, conducted by Public Religion Research Institute (PRRI) in collaboration with the AAR. The survey of 3,000 Americans is one of the largest surveys on religion and climate change ever conducted.

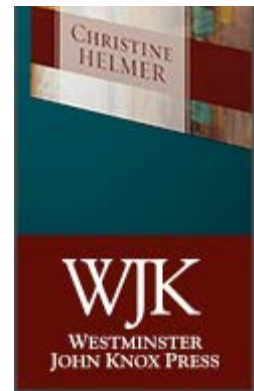
The survey explores a range of topics, including Americans' belief or skepticism about the reality of climate change; the roles that partisanship, religion, and media consumption play in the development of those views; whether Americans see climate change as a manageable problem or an imminent crisis; how committed Millennials are to the issue of climate change; and how important policies that address climate change are to different religious groups.

Panelists:

Robert P. Jones, Public Religion Research Institute, Washington, D.C., Presiding
Laurie Zoloth, Northwestern University
Willis Jenkins, University of Virginia
David P. Gushee, Mercer University
Laurel D. Kearns, Drew University

New Members Guide to the Annual Meeting

Is this your first time attending the AAR Annual Meeting? Check out our [new](#)



**Think, read,
write, pray...in a
place set apart.**

The **Collegeville Institute** is now accepting applications for the 2015/16 Resident Scholars Program.

Applications due:
January 12, 2015

The program brings together well-trained, creative, articulate men and women for careful thought in a place of inquiry and prayer. Applicants are encouraged to apply for either a semester or a full academic year. Several fellowships are available, including the Kilian McDonnell Fellowship in Faith and Culture, the Post-doctoral Fellowship, and the Pastoral Fellowship.

For more information about this and other programs, visit or call:

www.collegevilleinstitute.org
320-363-3366



[guide](#) to help first-timers navigate the San Diego meeting. Contains great information for seasoned attendees, too!

Employment Center Preregistration Deadline Is October 27



The AAR/SBL Employment Center remains open to [candidates](#) and [employers](#) for preregistration. Candidates who register with the Employment Center receive an Annual Meetings edition of Employment Listings, the opportunity to submit a CV for employer review, and access to confidential communication with registered employers. Employers who register advertised positions with the Employment Center can access the credentials of registered candidates, send and receive confidential communication with registered job seekers, use an interview booth, and (for an additional fee) reserve a Private Interview Room. The deadline for both candidates and employers to preregister is **October 27**. Preregister to receive full benefits! For further details, visit the [AAR/SBL Employment Services website](#).

Women's Mentoring Roundtable [Registration](#)

Each year, the Status of Women in the Profession Committee (SWP) organizes a luncheon during the Annual Meeting. Several mid-career and senior AAR scholars gather with newer and emerging scholars in the field to discuss pertinent issues like choosing an adviser, getting published, contract negotiation, and the challenge of balancing work and personal commitments. The lunch is cosponsored with the Status of Racial and Ethnic Minorities and the Women's Caucus. [Pre-registration is required](#) and the lunch costs \$13. Sorry, no refunds.

SWP is proud to announce an updated edition of the *Guide for Women in Religion: Making Your Way from A to Z* is being released at the Annual Meeting. Deeply discounted copies of the book are available to purchase with the luncheon registration for only \$15 each.

A list of the mentors and more information on the Mentoring Lunch is available on the [registration page](#).

REGIONAL MEETINGS – Call for Papers Deadlines Approaching

Several AAR Regions have posted their 2015 Call for Papers. Submit your proposal before the posted deadline!

- [Pacific Northwest](#)–**November 16**
- [New England-Maritimes](#)–**January 15**
- [Rocky Mountains/Great Plains](#)–**October 31**

- [Southeastern](#)—October 6
 - [Southwest](#)—October 15
 - [Western](#)—October 5
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AAR GRANTS NEWS

2014–2015 International Dissertation Research Grants

The 2014–2015 International Dissertation Research Grants [applications process is open](#). These 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.

For information about the program, please visit the [web page](#). The deadline is **December 1**.

IN THE FIELD ANNOUNCEMENTS

The following announcement and others are published in AAR's In the Field, a members-only resource for news of events and opportunities for scholars of religion and theological education. [Check it out!](#)

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. A program officer will be available at this year's annual meetings to talk one-on-one about grant programs and possible applications. Visit the NEH booth (#914) in the exhibit hall or write Daniel Sack at dsack@neh.gov for an appointment. More information on the NEH and grant programs is at neh.gov.

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



Academic Abby

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](#).



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](#).
