

AAR Member News

ANNUAL MEETING ADVANCE RATE ENDS AFTER AUGUST 13

Browse the [online Program Book](#), see all the incredible sessions offered, and [register today](#) so you do not miss out.

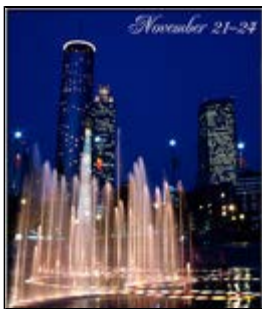


FEEDBACK NEEDED: DRAFT ACADEMIC FREEDOM POLICY POSTED AND OPEN FOR COMMENTS

As with the draft policy on responsible research practices, AAR president Thomas Tweed and executive director Jack Fitzmier invite your comments on the AAR's [draft statement on academic freedom](#). Your concerns and suggestions are valued and help in crafting a policy that reflects our professional values. Visit the [AAR website](#) for more information and options to submit your feedback.



ANNUAL MEETING NEWS



Print *Program Book* Mailed to All Registrants as of August 13

In addition to locking in those Advance Rate savings, Annual Meeting attendees must be [registered](#) by **August 13** in order to receive the print *Program Book*, which is mailed in early October. Check your mailing address on your registration confirmation email to ensure prompt delivery! Otherwise, you can check out the [online Annual Meeting Program Book](#).

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Employment Center Registration Opens for Employers

The AAR/SBL Employment Center is now open to [candidates](#) and [employers](#) for preregistration. The deadline for both candidates and employers to preregister is **October 30, 2015**. Preregister to receive full benefits! For further details, visit the [AAR/SBL Employment Services website](#).



Register for the Women's Mentoring Luncheon

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.

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

CALL FOR AAR OFFICER NOMINATIONS: Deadline September 1



The AAR Nominations Committee is pleased to announce that the Vice President, Program Unit Director, and one At-Large Director positions are up for election in **2016**. The nominations deadline has passed for the 2015 elected positions.

[Nominations](#) for the Vice President, Program Unit Director, and At-Large Director positions must be received by **September 1** of the year prior to the election year. Visit the [AAR website](#) for more information on the nomination process for these positions.

2016 REGIONAL CALL FOR PAPERS

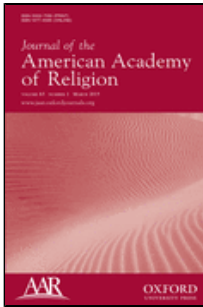
Plan to attend your [2016 regional meeting](#). The following Calls for Papers are open:

[Southeast \(SECSOR\)](#)

Deadline: **October 5, 2015**

[Southwest \(SWCRS\)](#)

Deadline: **October 15, 2015**



JAAR TABLE OF CONTENTS E-MAIL ALERTS

To sign up for free Table of Contents e-mail alerts for the *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*, or notice of the publication of Advance Access content, [click here](#) to go to the Oxford University Press Journals website. It's quick and easy to register a free account with OUP. (Please note that even if you are signed in as an AAR member to view JAAR content on the OUP website, you must still set up an account with OUP to receive the free e-mail alerts. The AAR does not share your e-mail with OUP; you will provide your e-mail address during the alert account setup.)

AAR GRANTS NEWS

AAR Collaborative International Research

Grants

The [2015-2016 Collaborative International Research Grants Online Submission System 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 \$5,000 will be reviewed by the AAR's [International Connections Committee](#) (ICC). Please direct inquiries to Dr. Amy L. Allocco, ICC Chair and Associate Professor of Religious Studies, Elon University, USA (aallocco@elon.edu).

The deadline to apply is **October 1, 2015**. Applications must be submitted via the [online proposal submission system](#). For information about the program, please visit the [AAR web site](#).

SEEKING NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2016 EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD

The [Teaching and Learning Committee](#) encourages and solicits nominations for the 2016 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 15, 2015**. Please contact Elizabeth Hardcastle at ehardcastle@aarweb.org with any questions.

2016 AAR AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

Are you an AAR member who is passionate about your profession and guild? Do you enjoy sharing your knowledge and enthusiasm? Do you think AAR membership is an important part of your professional life? If so, the AAR invites you to [join the AAR Ambassador Program!](#)

The AAR Ambassador program helps get information out to people about the study of religion and AAR programs. Ambassadors act as a point of contact for the AAR at your institution. It is a great way to volunteer in the AAR without leaving your office. [Apply](#) to be a 2016 AAR Ambassador today!

IN THE FIELD

Want to know more about events, calls, and other opportunities in the field of religion? AAR's [In the Field](#) is an AAR-member resource for news of events and opportunities for scholars of religion and theological education. Check it out!

ACADEMIC ABBY: Professional Advice from Your Colleagues



Academic Abby

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](#).

MEMBER NOTES

In Memoriam

Edward Ian Bailey, Centre for the Study of Implicit Religion and Contemporary Spirituality



Edward Bailey, a longtime AAR member, passed away April 22, 2015, at his home in Oxford, England. Born in 1935, Bailey, a graduate of Cambridge, the United Theological College in Bangalore, and Bristol University, was also a Church of England parish priest. His academic work focused on the idea of implicit religion or, in his words, "that 'everybody has a religion of some sort,' a faith by which they live, albeit as an unconscious core at the center of their way of life or being." His work on implicit led to the creation of the Centre for the Study of Implicit Religion and Contemporary Spirituality. Obituaries for Dr. Bailey can be read [here](#) and [here](#).

Awards and Accomplishments

Shira Kohn, Jewish Theological Seminary

Awarded the 2015 Taube/Koret Early Career Fellowship by the Center for Jewish History in New York for her research project "From German Jews to Jewish Greeks: Student Refugees in American Universities, 1933–1945."

Books and Major Publications

Bede Benjamin Bidlack, Saint Anselm College

In Good Company: The Body and Divinization in Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, SJ and Daoist Xiao Yingsou, Brill, 2015.

[Dyron Daugherty](#), Pepperdine University

To Whom Does Christianity Belong? Critical Issues in World Christianity, Fortress Press, 2015.

Daniel A. Morris, Augustana College

Virtue and Irony in American Democracy: Revisiting Dewey and Niebuhr, Lexington Books, 2015.

[Brooke Schedneck](#), Chiangmai University

Thailand's International Meditation Centers: Tourism and the Global Commodification of Religious Practices, Routledge, 2015.

In the News

[Grace Ji-Sun Kim](#), Earlham School of Religion

Read Grace Ji-Sun Kim's *Time* magazine article, "[Pope Francis Reminds the World to Care About Poverty](#)" (July 20, 2015),
cowritten with Reverend Jesse Jackson Sr.

Let your AAR colleagues know about your professional milestones!

[Submit your Member Note online.](#)