







RELIGIOUS STUDIES NEWS IS BACK!



After an extended hiatus, the AAR is pleased to announce the return of **Religious Studies News!** With more content covering trends in the field, highlighting noteworthy

publications, and showcasing innovative pedagogy and methodologies, RSN is more relevant than ever. Don't miss any of the new articles covering topics ranging from the rhetoric of "work-life balance" from M. Gail Hamner to perspectives of contingent faculty from Kelly Baker and Hussein Rashid to an interview with John Corrigan on interdisciplinary research on religion and emotion. You'll also find an all-new issue of Spotlight on Teaching concentrated on new and alternative religious movements and with the option to download the entire issue as a full-text PDF.

RSN aims to be the voice of the AAR's diverse membership, so we welcome and invite your submissions. Got a great idea for an article, interview, photo essay, or multimedia? Check out the submission guidelines and pitch your idea online. We can't wait to hear from you.

2015 CALL FOR PAPERS NOW AVAILABLE!



The <u>Call for Papers</u> for the 2015 AAR Annual Meeting in Atlanta, GA is now online. Proposals may be submitted through the **Program** Administration Proposal, Evaluation, Review, and Submission (PAPERS) System. Please note and use

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the appropriate method of submission each Program Unit prefers. The deadline for all proposal submissions is **March 2**, **2015**, **4:59 PM Eastern Standard Time**.

2014-2015 INTERNATIONAL DISSERTATION RESEARCH GRANT AWARD WINNERS

The American Academy of Religion is pleased to announce the recipients of its 2014-2015 International Dissertation Research Grant program:



Elizabeth Anderson, Yale UniversityInternational Dissertation Research Grant

Research destinations: Rome, London, and India



Rakesh Peter Dass, Harvard University
Selva J. Raj Endowed International Dissertation
Research Fellowship
Research destination: United Kingdom

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.

Elizabeth Anderson will conduct research in Rome, London, and India, and Rakesh Peter Dass will travel to Oxford and Cambridge, England for his research.

The grants are awarded on a competitive basis by a panel of senior AAR members selected by the AAR President. For more information about our international dissertation research grant program, <u>click here</u>.

2014 AAR ANNUAL MEETING VIDEOS

Videos from the San Diego meeting are



META-RELIGION

RELIGION AND POWER IN WORLD HISTORY

JAMES W. LAINE







DANGEROUS GAMES

WHAT THE MORAL PANIC OVER ROLE-PLAYING GAMES SAYS



now <u>available</u>. Watch plenary sessions focused on climate change that included Jimmy Carter, Bill McKibben, and Rajendra Pachauri; see Laurie

Zoloth's presidential address to the members; watch the interview of Martin Marty Award winner Charles Taylor; hear Melissa Rogers and Shaun Casey discuss the US government's engagement with religious communities; and so much more.

HOW DO WE STUDY RELIGION AND EMOTION?



Free conference at the National Humanities Center, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, **February 19–20**, cosponsored by the AAR and Florida State University. For information and to register, please <u>see</u>

here.

REGISTER TODAY FOR THE XXI IAHR WORLD CONGRESS



Register by March 15 to get the best rate for the International Association for the History of Religions (IAHR) Congress to be held in Erfurt, Germany, August 23–29, 2015. For more information, see here. The AAR and its

membership are members of the IAHR.

HUMANITIES ADVOCACY DAY ON CAPITOL HILL



The National Humanities Alliance will hold its 2015 Annual Meeting and Humanities Advocacy Day **March 16**–

17 in Washington, D.C. The deadline for registration is **March 1**. Join your colleagues in communicating the value of humanities research, education, and programming to members of Congress. For more information, <u>see here</u>.

IN THE FIELD

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

GAMES SAYS ABOUT PLAY, RELIGION, AND IMAGINED WORLDS

JOSEPH P. LAYCOCK





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 <u>Status of</u> Women in the Profession web page and issues of *Religious* Studies News.

MEMBER NOTES

Books and Major Publications

Stephanie Budwey, Kirchliche Hochschule, Wuppertal Sing of Mary: Giving Voice to Marian Theology and Devotion, Liturgical Press, 2014.

Zev Garber, Los Angeles Valley College Teaching the Historical Jesus: Issues and Exegesis, Routledge (Taylor and Francis Group), 2015.

Paul Kolbet, Yale Divinity School The Harp of Prophecy: Early Christian Interpretation of the Psalm, edited by Brian Daley, S.J. and Paul Kolbet, Notre Dame: University of Notre Dame Press, 2015.

<u>Calvin Mercer</u>, East Carolina University

Religion and Transhumanism: The Unknown Future of Human Enhancement, Calvin Mercer and Tracy J. Trothen, Coeditors, Westport, CT: Praeger, 2015.

Martha Reineke, University of Northern Iowa Intimate Domain: Desire, Trauma, and Mimetic Theory, Michigan State University Press, 2014.