



The AAR & SBL Annual Meetings begin in less than two weeks, and we've got everything you need to know to make your time at the conference smooth, meaningful, and fun.

## Annual Meeting Badges Sent via E-mail

In an effort to ensure all attendees receive their Annual Meeting name badge without having to wait in long lines, name badges will no longer be sent via postal mail. Instead, you should have received an e-mail on November 4 with a special link that will allow you to print your name badge and tote bag ticket to bring with you to San Antonio. If you bring these items to the Annual Meeting, you will not need to stand in line for registration. If you do not receive the name badge, e-mail [reg@aarweb.org](mailto:reg@aarweb.org) to have it sent again.

## Guides to the Annual Meeting

Please check out the [Guide to the 2016 AAR Annual Meeting](#). For the veteran and first-time attendee, this guide has everything you need to know about preparing for the Annual Meeting. There are also two additional guides for [New Members or First-Time Attendees](#) and [International Members](#).

## Annual Meeting Housing Has Ended!

Registered and forgot to book a hotel room? Contact [reg@aarweb.org](mailto:reg@aarweb.org) for hotels that are still offering the conference rate. If you haven't [registered](#) for the Annual Meeting, complete it prior to contacting AAR for housing needs.

## Session Updates

Look for program updates or changes in the [Online Program Book](#), the Mobile App, and in the *Annual Meetings At-A-Glance*, which will be inside your tote bag on site in San Antonio.

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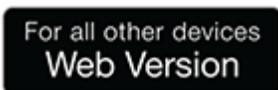


## Mobile App

The free [SBLAAR16 Mobile App](#) for Android and iOS is available for download using the links or QR codes below.



All other smart phones can access the web version at the following link or QR code:



<http://ativ.me/agh>



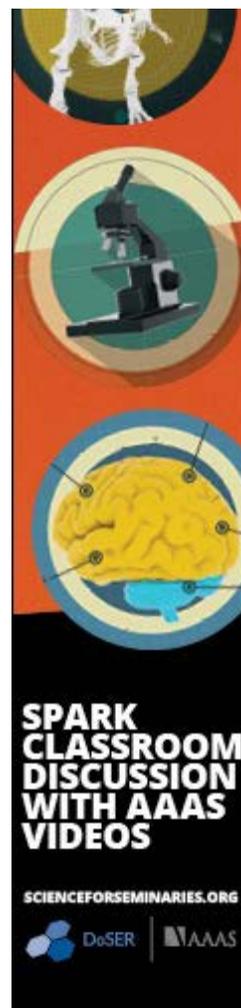
Also note that we have an Online Planner (which you can find on the [AAR's site](#) or the [SBL's site](#)) that interfaces with this year's mobile app. Construct your personal schedule from the comfort of your computer and then sync that information to the app on your mobile device by logging in on both devices.

If you've downloaded the app, you can add personal meetings to the planner by tapping Schedule, then tapping the gear cog at the top right of your screen, and selecting Add Meeting from the drop-down.

If you are having technical difficulties with the mobile app, please consult this [FAQ](#) or contact us at [support@aarweb.org](mailto:support@aarweb.org).

## Exhibit Hall

There are over 130 exhibitors in the Exhibit Hall this year, and many offer special discounts on books and items purchased during the Annual Meetings. Each exhibitor has a booth with representatives from the company or press. The *Program Book* contains the index of exhibitors and a map of the Exhibit Hall, which can also be found [online](#). An interactive map is available on the mobile app.



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[Click for More Info](#)

Be sure to schedule some time to browse the Exhibit Hall—some book titles may not be available for purchase overseas. The Exhibit Hall will be located in the Convention Center, Exhibit Hall 1.

## Tour Information

Several tours are available at the Annual Meeting. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information about the tours, [click here](#).

- Yoga Class
- San Antonio Museum of Art
- Briscoe Western Museum of Art
- 1950s and 60s LGBTIQ Pre-Stonewall Sites
- Historical Houses of Worship Tour

## Workshops

Several workshops are available at the Annual Meeting. Registration is limited, so sign up soon:

- Leadership: Strategies for Successful Program Assessment
- Religion and Media: (Im)migration and Religion
- Teaching Religion and Disability Studies

For more information about the workshops listed above [click here](#).

- New! How to Engage News Media and Social Media Workshop  
([P18-215](#)) Consider different ways that you as a scholar can contribute to the public good through engaging news media, using social media, and publishing in non-traditional venues. Through a series of exercises, participants will explore the possibilities and pitfalls of three common roles that religion scholars can play: activist, commentator, policy specialist. Register now!

## Meeting and Networking with Colleagues

Meeting and networking with colleagues is the number one response people list as the reason to attend the Annual Meetings. Here are a few opportunities on how to meet the people you wish to see:

### Look Who's Coming and Social Media

The AAR website allows you to search for friends and colleagues who might be attending the Annual Meetings. Go to [Look Who's](#)

**Click for More Info**

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Visit the HarperOne booth 630 at the AAR Annual Meeting

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\*11/3 to 11/17  
US only

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[dornsife.usc.edu/religion](http://dornsife.usc.edu/religion)

University of Southern California

[Coming](#) to see who's coming to the Annual Meetings!

Take your Annual Meetings experience to the web!

Use **#SBLAAR16** to continue the conversation on [Twitter](#) or the AAR's [Facebook](#) page. Be sure to read our [best practices for social media](#) at the meeting.

### **LGBTIQ Roundtable Luncheon (A19-142)**

Saturday, 11:45 a.m.–12:45 p.m., Convention Center – 205 (2nd Level – West)

All students and junior scholars who identify outside of normative gender histories and/or sexualities are welcome to join us for an informal lunch. No fee or preregistration is required. Please bring your own lunch; a cash-and-carry station will be available near the room for those wishing to buy their lunches onsite.

### **Contingent Faculty Breakfast (A21-2)**

Monday, 7:30 a.m.–8:45 a.m., Convention Center – 225A (2nd Level – East)

Adjunct, contingent, and contractual faculty members as well as their allies are invited to a continental breakfast hosted by the AAR's Contingent Faculty Task Force. Join in conversations about life in non-tenure-track positions, unionization efforts, para-academic work, and more with colleagues and friends, and speak with members of the task force about how the AAR can help meet the needs of this ever-growing segment of teachers and researchers in higher education. [RSVP online](#).

*Pick up an #academiclaborjustice ribbon for your badge at the AAR Membership Desk outside Exhibit Hall 1 to show and tweet your support.*

### **Women's Mentoring Luncheon (A20–151)**

Sunday, 11:45 a.m.–12:45 p.m., Convention Center – 225A (2nd Level – East)

Each year, the Status of Women in the Profession Committee 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. Registration is required and the lunch costs \$13. Click [here](#) for more information on the Mentoring Lunch, including registration information.

## **Connecting Conversations Luncheon for Scholars and Students with Disabilities (A21-148)**

Monday, 11:45 a.m.–12:45 p.m., Convention Center – 225A (2nd Level – East)

The Status of People with Disabilities in the Profession Committee will host a luncheon for scholars and students with disabilities, as well as anyone interested in disability issues in the Academy. Lunch is \$13. If you would like to add this event to your registration, please contact the AAR Registration Bureau at [reg@aarweb.org](mailto:reg@aarweb.org).

## **Applied Religious Studies Reception (A20-403)**

Sunday, 8:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., Marriott Rivercenter – The Bar (Lobby Level)

AAR members who apply their degrees to work outside of the academy and students who are interested in an alternative career path are welcome to meet and greet each other at this reception hosted by the AAR's Applied Religious Studies Working Group. Please RSVP by e-mailing [annualmeeting@aarweb.org](mailto:annualmeeting@aarweb.org).

## **Drop by and Say "Hello!"**

Feel free to drop by AAR booth #301 to meet your regional coordinator or an AAR ambassador. Find out how you can become more involved in the AAR throughout the year!

## **AAR Full Paper Submission Program**

The [full text of papers](#) for more than twenty sessions is being made available to AAR members in advance of the 2016 Annual Meeting. During these sessions, presenters will briefly summarize their arguments, with the bulk of the time given over to discussion. These papers are available only for the few weeks leading up to the Annual Meeting. After **November 22**, they will be removed from the website. These pages and documents are inaccessible to search engines such as Google, so please do not share these files elsewhere.



## **Print *Program Book* in the Mail**

If you opted in to receive the *Annual Meeting Program Book* by mail on your registration before August 28, they are in the mail! If you do not receive one and a paper copy is desired, you can pick up one onsite. Otherwise, you can check out the [online Annual Meeting](#)

[Program Book.](#)

## Accessibility Information

Have difficulty getting around? Need a little extra assistance? Want tips for navigating a city you may have never been to? Visit <https://www.aarweb.org/annual-meeting/accessibility-information-for-annual-meetings> for more information.

## All Gender Restrooms



ALL PERSON, ALL ACCESS restrooms are available throughout the San Antonio Convention Center, on the second and fourth floors of the Grand Hyatt, on the third floor of the Marriott Rivercenter next to Conference Room 16, on the second floor of the Marriott Riverwalk across from the Bowie room, and on the

fifth floor of the Hilton Palacio del Rio by the doors to the Garden Terrace. AAR recognizes that there are members of our community who may feel more comfortable in an all-gender restroom. The all-gender restrooms are marked with special signage during the Annual Meetings.

## Giveaways, Contests, Author Signings, Coffee, and Helping Others at the Annual Meeting

### Drop a Business Card and Enter to Win in the Exhibit Hall!

Plan to visit the AAR booth (#301) and drop off your business card to enter four drawings:

- The 2016 AAR Award Winning Books
- The 2016 AAR Program Books under Discussion
- Free 2017 AAR membership
- Free 2017 Annual Meetings registration

### Instagram Photo Contest

AAR and SBL will be hosting an Instagram photo contest during the 2016 Annual Meetings in San Antonio! Start looking for the items listed below, snap a photo with your phone, iPad or other



device, and upload it to Instagram using the following hashtag #SBLAAR16. Winners will be chosen daily. Prizes such as gift cards and a 2017 Annual Meeting registration will be available to the winners!

How to play:

1. Make sure your Instagram profile is public so we can see your picture.
2. Snap a photo at the locations listed below to enter. Add the hashtag #SBLAAR16 to the description or in your comments.
3. Winners will be contacted via Instagram daily so be sure to check your account!

Snap a photo:

- At the Annual Meetings Welcome Banner, of your Tote Bag or *Program Book*
- With your favorite session author, presenter, or panelist
- Your favorite spot on the Riverwalk
- Buying a book in the Exhibit Hall
- Best snack or meal you've had all day
- Get a selfie with a new friend
- With props at our Instagram photo area in the back of the Exhibit Hall
- San Antonio landmarks
- Selfie at a sponsor's booth (for a list, look in the *Program Book*)
- Shoefie! Take a photo of your shoes with your favorite convention center carpet

### Author Book Signings

Visit the author book signing booth in the back of the Exhibit Hall, at the end of aisle 700! Participating authors include:

Angela D. Sims	<i>Lynched: The Power of Memory in a Culture of Terror</i>
Meraj Mohiuddin	<i>Revelation: The Story of Muhammad</i>
Scott Kugle	<i>Where Sun Meets Moon: Gender, Eros, and Ecstasy in Urdu Poetry</i>
Kristy Nabhan-Warren	<i>Ethnographies of Religion: A New UNC Press Book Series</i>
Amir Hussain	<i>Muslims and the Making of America</i>

Paul Hedges	<i>Towards Better Disagreement: Religion and Atheism in Dialogue</i>
Albert J. Raboteau	<i>American Prophets: Seven Religious Radicals &amp; Their Struggle for Social and Political Justice</i>
Leigh Eric Schmidt	<i>Village Atheists: How America's Unbelievers Made Their Way in a Godly Nation</i>
Beverly Roberts Gaventa	<i>When in Romans: An Invitation to Linger with the Gospel According to Paul</i>
N. T. Wright	<i>The Day the Revolution Began</i>
Kathleen M. Higgins	<i>Artistic Visions and the Promise of Beauty: Cross-Cultural Perspectives</i>
Morny Joy	<i>Women, Religion, and the Gift: An Abundance of Riches</i>

The signing schedule is available [online](#).

### **Complimentary Coffee Breaks**

Complimentary coffee will be served in the back of the Exhibit Hall on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday at 11:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., and on Tuesday morning at 8:30 a.m.

### **2016 Soap Drive, San Antonio**



At the Annual Meeting in San Antonio, we are collecting **unused/unopened** hotel soaps, shampoos, conditioners, and other toiletry items that families and homeless in need might find useful. Take your donations to the Registration area in the Convention

Center and look for the soap drive bin! More information about this initiative can be found [online](#).

### **Internet Access**

Need to check your e-mail or use the web? Free Wi-Fi is available in the San Antonio Convention Center. All the hotels have Internet access available in their business centers or guest rooms. The hotels may charge a fee to access the Internet in the guest rooms, and that information can be found [on the Hotel Amenity Chart](#).

If you need a computer, the Cyber Cafe, located in the Exhibit Hall in the San Antonio Convention Center, offers computers with

Internet connections.

## **Lounges, Places of Worship, Nursing, and Recovery Meetings**

- **Prayer Room**, Marriott Riverwalk - Valero – For people of all faiths who need a moment of prayer, quiet reflection, or meditation.
- **Women's Lounge**, Convention Center – 221A (2nd Level – East) – Featuring special programming sponsored by the Women's Caucus. Nursing mothers may find it a welcome private space.
- **Student Lounge**, Convention Center – 225D (2nd Level – East) – Special programming sponsored by the Graduate Student Committee.
- **International Members Lounge**, Marriott Riverwalk - Bonham

### **Places of Worship**

There is a nondenominational prayer and reflection space located at Marriott Riverwalk - Valero. For a list of local religious services, see [here](#). Please note, this is not a comprehensive list of places of worship in San Antonio.

### **Nursing Mothers**

Nursing mothers are welcome to nurse wherever they feel comfortable. A more private space for nursing is the AAR's Women's Lounge, located in the Convention Center – 221A (2nd Level – East).

### **Academy Anonymous Recovery Meetings**

Academy Anonymous Recovery Meetings (AARM) will provide daily open discussion meetings for those seeking some serenity and support amid the craziness of the conference. Members of any 12-step fellowship or with any identification (alcoholic, addict, food or sex or gambling issues, Al-anon, co-dependent, etc.) are all welcome. AARM is not affiliated with AA, NA, or any of the other 12-step fellowships. Specific location and times can be found in the program book. For any questions, please contact Kathleen McMahan at [kmcghan@aarweb.org](mailto:kmcghan@aarweb.org).

### **Food at the Annual Meeting**

The Rivercenter Mall can provide fast and inexpensive meal options

for attendees and is open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 6 p.m. The easiest way to get to the food court is to exit the Marriott Rivercenter in the rear of the building on the lobby level, as if you're going to the Riverwalk. Once exiting the Marriott, turn right and travel a short distance directly into the food court.

There are several breakfast and lunch [restaurants located near the Convention Center](#) and surrounding hotels; a more [complete list](#) of downtown restaurants is also available. For ADA options, see <https://www.aarweb.org/annual-meeting/accessibility-information-for-annual-meetings>.

Jewish Shabbat meals and services will be available at the conference. Advance registration and payment is required for meals. For information or to register, please e-mail [shabbat@sbl-site.org](mailto:shabbat@sbl-site.org).

## Show Your Badge

The city of San Antonio is offering discounts at local restaurants and attractions. A list of all the discount offers is [here](#).

## AAR/SBL Employment Center Registration is Still Open



It's not too late to register for the AAR & SBL Employment Center! Registration is open to [Employers](#) through the Annual Meeting. Although you may register on site, Employers are highly encouraged to register before the Meeting in order to guarantee interview space and to avoid long wait times. Complimentary registration for the Employment Center is still open for [candidates](#). For further details, visit the [AAR/SBL Employment Services website](#).

## AAR Program Highlights

### Plenary Sessions on 2016 Theme, "Revolutionary Love"

Join AAR President Serene Jones for a plenary panel on Love and Hate in American Religion (A19-144); her presidential address on Revolutionary Love (A19-400); and plenary addresses from Michelle Alexander (A20-150), Julián Castro (A21-146), and William Barber (A21-403). Session descriptions, participants, and times are [here](#).

For a complete list of other sessions focused on the presidential theme, see the [Annual Meeting Program Book](#).

### **American Lectures in the History of Religions Presents Fatemeh Keshavarz**

As the culmination to the Lecture Series, the ALHR has now teamed with the AAR to provide a final lecture from each series at the Annual Meeting. This year brings Professor Fatemeh Keshavarz (University of Maryland), who will be presenting a lecture from the 2016 Notre Dame/Chicago Series entitled *Unsilencing the Sacred: Poetic Conversations with the Divine*. The presentation will be a general summation of her October lectures on the verbal/poetic exchanges with the Divine. Join us on Sunday from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Convention Center-Stars at Night 4.

### **Graduate Student Committee Presents Special Topics Forum and Various Roundtables**

The Graduate Student Committee will be hosting a special topics forum this year entitled *Re-Imagining the Intellectual as a Revolutionary Social Force*. The panel will examine various ways in which scholars following traditional or nontraditional career paths can engage the public, specifically through digital scholarship. The forum will take place on Monday morning from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Grand Hyatt-Lone Star D (2nd level). Also, be sure to check out the program book for all the student lounge roundtables being held throughout the Annual Meeting this year!

### **Annual Meeting Workshop: How to Engage News Media and Social Media**

([P18-215](#)) Consider different ways that you as a scholar can contribute to the public good through engaging news media, using social media, and publishing in non-traditional venues. Through a series of exercises, participants will explore the possibilities and pitfalls of three common roles that religion scholars can play: activist, commentator, policy specialist. [Register](#) now!

### **Seminar on Promoting Religious Literacy College-Wide**

To position colleges to be better at graduating religiously literate students, the AAR will develop guidelines for colleges to draw upon in identifying the religion-related knowledge and skills that all associate's and bachelor's degree students ought to gain prior to graduation. Attend the [Annual Meeting session](#) to learn more.

## **Chaplaincy Programming at the Annual Meeting**

The Annual Meeting will feature [four sessions related to chaplaincy](#), including two film discussions and panels: a one-hour version of the PBS award-winning film *Chaplains*, on chaplains in military, prison, police, hospital, and corporate settings; and the national premier of *After Fire*, on women military veterans who struggle with moral injury. Both sessions include their films' directors.

## **Need Help?**

If you have questions about the program, your membership, or events at the Annual Meeting, the staff at the AAR Member Services desk, located in the Registration area of the Convention Center, will be able to assist you. You can also seek help at the AAR booth #301 in the Exhibit Hall.

You might find the answer to your question on the Annual Meetings [Frequently Asked Questions](#) page.