

AAR Election Results

The 2016 Election results are [announced!](#)

Laurie Patton has been elected Vice President, Kathryn McClymond has been elected Program Unit Director, and Leela Prasad has been elected as an At-Large Director. Congratulations!



Laurie Patton
Vice President



Kathryn McClymond
Program Unit Director



Leela Prasad
At-Large Director

Join for 2017 Today!



Don't miss a beat: [renew](#) your membership for 2017. Make sure your access remains uninterrupted to all your member benefits, including print and online access to *JAAR*, *Religious Studies News*, *Reading Religion*, and reduced registration rates to the Annual Meeting. **AAR members saved \$170 on registration costs in 2016.** [Renew your membership](#) for calendar year 2017 today!

Keshavarz Delivers 2016 ALHR Series

The [American Lectures in the History of Religions](#) (ALHR) welcomes [Dr. Fatemeh Keshavarz](#), University of Maryland, to speak in Notre Dame, Indiana, and Chicago from October 24–28, 2016. Dr. Keshavarz's lecture series is entitled *Unsilencing the Sacred: Conversations with the Divine*.



The lectures explore the works of poets such as Omar Khayyam, Hafez of Shiraz, Sa'di, Jalal al-Din Rumi, and 'Attar of Nishabur. All lectures are open to the public.

The remaining lectures include *"Do the Stars in Heaven Speak?" Rumi, a Poet for the 21st Century* (Thursday, October 27, at Elmhurst College) and *Hubbub in the Wine House: The Mutinous Voice in 'Attar and 'Iraqi* (Friday, October 28, at the University of Chicago). More information is on the [AAR website](#).

What to learn more about Dr. Keshavarz? Read a [wide-ranging interview](#) with Keshavarz in *Religious Studies News*.

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. To learn more about the project and opportunities for input, go to the [project's webpage](#) or attend its Saturday afternoon [session](#) at the 2016 Annual Meeting.

AAR Publications

Reading Religion Newsletter



[Sign up](#) for the AAR's *Reading Religion* newsletter and every two weeks a list of new books received and new reviews published will be sent to your e-mail inbox. Click on the books that interest you, and you're in. Easy to subscribe, easy to unsubscribe, and therefore nothing to lose.

[Subscribe](#) today!

Religious Studies News

The latest from *Religious Studies News*:

- [Jacob Neusner \(1932–2016\), Prolific Author and President of the AAR in 1969](#) by Aaron Hughes, University of Rochester
- [Christianity in the Kingdom of Kongo: An Interview with Cécile Fromont](#), audio interview available in *RSN* and in *RSN's* podcast feeds in [Google Play](#) and [iTunes](#)
- [Yes, Your E-mails to Congress Matter: A Message from the National Humanities Alliance](#) by Robert Bowen, Governmental Affairs Associate, NHA

- [Letting Go of Our Children: Taking My Son to College](#) by Grace Ji-Sun Kim, Earlham School of Religion
- [Interview with Joanne Maguire Robinson, 2016 AAR Excellence in Teaching Award Winner](#) interviewed by Lerone Martin, chair, Committee on Teaching and Learning
- [Work-Life Balance or Proportion?: What's In a Word?](#) by Maria Liu Wong, City Seminary of New York

New Release in AAR Teaching Religious Studies Series

Todd Lewis and Gary DeAngelis's [Teaching Buddhism: New Insights on Understanding and Presenting the Traditions](#), ISBN: 9780199373093, published by Oxford University Press. AAR members receive a 30% discount on all AAR/OUP series titles. Sign in to [Member Discounts](#) on the AAR website and click the link to OUP.



New in Paperback

From the AAR Academy Series with Oxford University Press, [Types of Pentecostal Theology: Method, System, Spirit](#) by Christopher A. Stephenson, ISBN: 9780190634322. Get your 30% discount by signing in to [Member Discounts](#).



@OUPReligion Launch

New from Oxford University Press: Follow [@OUPReligion](#) on Twitter for the latest religion news and insights.

Applications Now Accepted for International Research Grants



The International Dissertation Research Grants program is 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. Grants are intended to help candidates complete their doctoral degrees by offsetting costs of travel, lodging, and other dissertation research-related expenses. Deadline is December 1st.

Additional information can be found [here](#). For any questions, please contact Kathleen McMahan at kmcghan@aarweb.org.

AAR Employment Status Survey

The AAR knows that more now than ever before, graduates with degrees in religious studies and theology lead diverse professional lives. We also know that they are in varying positions of employment security.

We invite you to take our [Employment Status Survey](#).

The survey will help us better understand the educational and career paths of religious studies graduates. With it, we hope to not only learn more about faculty (full- and part-time; tenure, tenure-track, and non-tenure track), but also members who work in careers—by choice or by necessity—outside academia. This data will help us identify employment trends, better understand the job market for religious studies graduates, and develop programs to serve the membership with career options and during career transitions. Of course, the survey is anonymous—no individual's responses will be made public. We do intend to share aggregate results.

At the end of the survey, you will have the opportunity to enter into a drawing to win one of twelve \$50 Amazon giftcards, one of five AAR memberships, or an Apple iPad.

The survey will take between five and twenty minutes, depending on your career track.

Contingent Faculty and Allies at the Annual Meeting

Adjunct, contingent, and contractual faculty members and 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.

Monday, November 21

7:30 – 8:45am

All are welcome. Please [RSVP online](#).

Stop by the Membership Desk to pick up a #academiclaborjustice badge ribbon to show your support for labor justice in the academy, and use the hashtag throughout the Annual Meeting to share your thoughts.

2017 Regional Meeting Calls for Papers

Plan to attend your [regional meeting](#) next year. The following Calls are open:

- [Eastern International](#)
Deadline: February 15
- [Mid-Atlantic](#)
Deadline: December 16
- [Pacific Northwest](#)
Deadline: December 30
- [Rocky Mountain-Great Plains](#)

Deadline: November 4

- [Upper Midwest](#)

Deadline: January 6

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

Jacob Neusner (1932–2016), Bard College, Emeritus



Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus of the History and Theology of Judaism and Senior Fellow, Institute of Advanced Theology at Bard College, Jacob Neusner died Saturday, October 8, 2016, at the age of 84. Longtime member and President of the AAR in 1969, Professor Neusner earned the PhD from Columbia University and his rabbinical degree from the Jewish

Theological Seminary. He began teaching at Bard College in 1994 and also taught at Dartmouth College, Brown University, and the University of South Florida. Professor Neusner was an internationally renowned scholar and author of more than 900 books. [Read the obituary](#) written by Aaron Hughes, University of Rochester, for *Religious Studies News*.

(Photo: Emily Darrow/Bard College)

Books and Major Publications

Yountae An, Lebanon Valley College

The Decolonial Abyss: Mysticism and Cosmopolitics from the Ruins, Perspectives in Continental Philosophy, Fordham University Press, 2016.

Amanda Baugh, California State University, Northridge

God and the Green Divide: Religious Environmentalism in Black and White, University of California Press, 2016.

[Edward Curtis](#), Indiana University, Indianapolis

Muslim Americans in the Military: Centuries of Service, Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2016.

Leanna Fuller, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

When Christ's Body is Broken: Anxiety, Identity, and Conflict in Congregations, Pickwick Publications, 2016.

[Mimi Hanaoka](#), University of Richmond

Authority and Identity in Medieval Islamic Historiography: Persian Histories from the Peripheries, Cambridge University Press, 2016.

Jacqueline Hidalgo, Williams College

Revelation in Aztlán: Scriptures, Utopias, and the Chicano Movement, Palgrave Macmillan, 2016.

[Hamid Mavani](#), Bayan Claremont

Abdolali Bazargan's *In the Presence of the Sublime Qur'an: Commentary on Part 30*, edited by Hamid Mavani, translated by Mohammad Fani and Amir Douraghy, 2016.

Scott Mitchell, Institute of Buddhist Studies

Buddhism in America: Global Religion, Local Contexts, Bloomsbury Academic, 2016

Darla Schumm, Hollins University

Coedited with Michael Stoltzfus, Georgia Gwinnett College, *Disability and World Religions: An Introduction*, Baylor University Press, 2016.

Tom Simpson, Phillips Exeter Academy

American Universities and the Birth of Modern Mormonism, 1867–1940, University of North Carolina Press, 2016.

[Lavanya Vemsani](#), Shawnee State University

Krishna in History, Thought and Culture: Encyclopedia of the Hindu Lord of Many Names, Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2016.

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

AAR Dates and Deadlines

- Oct 28 [Employment Center Advance Registration](#)
- Nov 4 [Rocky Mtn-Great Plains CFP](#)
- Nov 17 [Annual Mtg Regular Rates](#)
- Dec 1 [Int'l Dissertation Research Grants Submissions](#)
- Dec 16 [Mid-Atlantic Region CFP](#)

