

AAR Member News

2017 Call for Papers is Open!

The 2017 AAR Annual Meeting [Call for Papers](#) is open! Proposals are submitted through [PAPERS](#), the AAR's Program Administration Proposal, Evaluation, Review, and Submission System. The deadline for submissions is **Wednesday, March 1, 2017, at 5:00 pm Eastern Standard Time**. [Instructions are available](#) for help using PAPERS.

New Report on Supporting Changing Research Practices of Religious Studies Scholars

Read [Supporting the Changing Research Practices of Religious Studies Scholars](#), a new report released on February 8, 2017, by Ithaka S+R, a nonprofit organization that provides research and guidance to the academic community. The project was sponsored by the American Theological Library Association with support from the American Academy of Religion and the Society of Biblical Literature.



Lynn Neal: 2017 Excellence in Teaching Award Winner



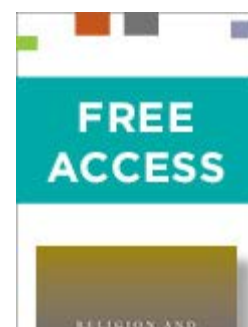
The Committee on Teaching and Learning is pleased to announce Lynn Neal is the recipient of the 2017 Excellence in Teaching Award. The AAR [Award for Excellence in Teaching](#) recognizes the importance of teaching and honors outstanding teaching in the field.

Dr. Neal, associate professor in the study of religions department at Wake Forest University, earned her PhD in

Have you renewed your membership? [Renew today](#) for calendar year 2017. Make sure your access remains uninterrupted to your member benefits, including reduced registration rates to the Annual Meeting.

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religious studies from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She teaches courses in American religious history, religion and popular culture, and religious intolerance. Her current research examines the intersection of religion and fashion.

Dr. Neal will be interviewed this summer for *Religious Studies News*, and will be the featured speaker at a Special Topics Forum sponsored by the Teaching and Learning Committee at the 2017 AAR Annual Meeting in Boston, November 18–21. For more information on Dr. Neal, please see her [teaching statement](#).

Congratulations to the 2017 International Dissertation Research Grant Awardees: Julie Chamberlain and Ayodeji Ogunnaike

The American Academy of Religion is pleased to announce the winners of its 2016–2017 International Dissertation Research Grants (IDRG) program:

Julie Chamberlain, George Washington University

International Dissertation Research Grant

Research destinations: Johannesburg and Cape Town, South Africa

Ayodeji Ogunnaike, Harvard University

Selva J. Raj Endowed International Dissertation Research Fellowship

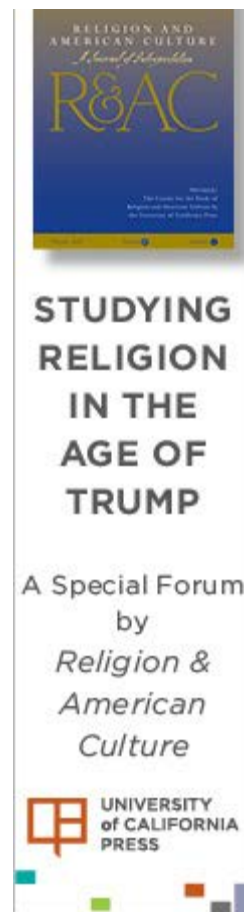
Research destination: Salvador, Brazil

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.

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, click [here](#).

Publication News

Margaret Kamitsuka Appointed AAR Academy Series Editor





Congratulations to Margaret Kamitsuka, associate professor of religion at Oberlin College, for her appointment as the new editor of the [AAR Academy Series](#), published by Oxford University Press. Dr. Kamitsuka will serve a five-year term as editor and serve on the AAR Publications Committee. Many thanks to outgoing editor, Aaron Hughes, professor of Jewish studies at the University of Rochester, for his five-year service as the series editor.

Photo credit: Jenna Manna

Vincent Lloyd Named AAR Reflection and Theory in the Study of Religion Series Editor



Vincent Lloyd, associate professor of theology and religious studies at Villanova University, has been named the new editor of the [AAR Reflection and Theory in the Study of Religion Series](#), published by Oxford University Press. Congratulations to Dr. Lloyd, who will serve a five-year term as editor and serve on the AAR Publications Committee. Special thanks to outgoing editor, Ted Vial, professor of theology and modern western religious thought at Iliff School of Theology, for his ten years of service as the series editor.

JAAR: Table of Contents E-mail Alerts

To sign up for free Table of Contents e-mail alerts for *JAAR*, or notice of new Advance Access content, visit the [Oxford University Press Journals website](#). It's quick and easy to register a free account* with OUP and select your alert options under *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*. [*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 OUP account setup.]



Careers outside Academe – Working with a Religion Degree

Where has your degree in religion or theology taken you? AAR's [Religious Studies News](#) highlights the paths members have taken to important and rewarding careers beyond academia. Share with other members the *what* you do and *how* you've put your religion degree to work in politics, nonprofits, consulting, healthcare, entrepreneurship, and more.

We want to hear all kinds of stories and which skills and strategies took you from a degree to a career. Tuve Floden, who has a PhD in Islamic studies, recently wrote about using his doctorate to [launch work in international development](#). Share your story and inspire fellow religion scholars—e-mail rsn@aarweb.org.

2017 Regional Meetings

Online registration is open for the following regions' conferences:

[Mid-Atlantic](#) – Deadline: March 1

[New England-Maritimes](#) – Deadline: April 8

[Southeast](#) – Deadline: March 2

[Southwest](#) – Deadline: March 10

[Upper Midwest](#) – Deadline: April 1

[Western](#) – Deadline: March 16

AAR Journalism Contest

Annually the AAR honors the best in-depth reporting on religion. The contest is open to all print and Web-based journalists at media outlets of any size. The deadline for submission is February 28, 2017. Visit the AAR website for [more information](#).

2017 NHA Annual Meeting and Humanities Advocacy Day



[Registration is open](#) for the National Humanities Alliance Annual Meeting and Humanities Advocacy Day to be held March 13–14 in Washington, DC. Connect with a network of humanities leaders, and visit members of

Congressional delegations from your state to advocate for federal support for the humanities. The deadline for registration is March 3, 2017.

Luce/ACLS Grants for Universities

The American Council of Learned Societies requests [proposals for grants](#) to be funded by the Luce/ACLS Program in Religion, Journalism & International Affairs. The deadline is March 23, 2017.



Member Notes

In Memoriam



William Doty (1939–2017), University of Alabama, Emeritus

William G. Doty, Professor Emeritus of Humanities and Religious Studies, University of Alabama, passed away on January 2, 2017, at the age of 77. Doty earned the PhD from Drew University and worked at several colleges before joining the UA faculty in 1981. He retired in 2001, and continued to teach and lecture for many years afterward. Known for his work on myth and mythology, Doty was a member of the AAR for more than 50 years. For information about the life of Professor Doty, please read the tribute, "[Readying the Ground for Us](#)," from his UA colleague, Russell McCutcheon.

Awards and Accomplishments

[Devaka Premawardhana](#), Colorado College
Dr. Premawardhana has been named a 2017 Emerging Scholar by the newsmagazine *Diverse: Issues in Higher Education*. He is one of only twelve "Under 40" minority scholars to be selected on the basis of originality of research, publishing achievements, and teaching record. His scholarship on global Christianity was profiled in the [January 2017 issue](#) of *Diverse*.



Book and Major Publications

[Deogracias Aurelio Camon](#), Commission on Biblical Apostolate - Diocese of Bacolod, Philippines
Christians in Community, Then and Now: Early Christian House Churches and Basic Ecclesial Communities, 2016.

Jeana Visel, Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology
*Icons in the Western Church: Toward a More Sacramental
Encounter*, Liturgical Press, 2016.

Let your AAR colleagues know about your professional milestones!

[Submit your Member Note online.](#)