



## Registration Rates Increase after May 18



[Register today](#) at the lowest rate all year with your AAR member discount for the 2017 AAR Annual Meeting. **Rates go up after May 18, 11:59 PM Eastern Daylight Time.** AAR has arranged special hotel rates with Boston hotels; book early to get your preferred hotel.

## Additional Meetings Reservation System is Open

Reserve your reception, editorial meeting, or other business event at the Annual Meeting today through the [online Additional Meeting reservation system](#)! **May 26** is the deadline to submit your request for the first round of scheduling, and those will be published in the online and print Annual Meetings Program Book. Secure your reservation early as space is limited.

## Workshops and Programming at the Annual Meeting

Need more incentives to register for the '17 Annual Meeting? The following special programs are just a few that can be added to your registration:

### Leadership Workshop: Digital Media and Communications

Friday, November 17, 1:00 pm-5:00 pm

Featured ever more prominently in the religion chair's job description and day-to-day agenda is the necessity to "market" the department to a diverse audience of prospective students, community members, and peers. Yet the expertise required to develop and maintain websites, create promotional materials, and use social media to the department's advantage is rarely the preserve of academics serving as short-term administrators. This leadership workshop will be led by a web design and communications expert from a college of arts and sciences in a major public university; commentary and responses will be offered by select faculty from a diverse array of institutions. The workshop will provide practical tools and tips to improve digital media and communications skills for those charged with promoting the academic study of religion in their academic units. It will also produce a "Top 10 Tips for Department of Religious Studies Marketing and Communication" to be made available as an online resource for members of the AAR. Registration costs \$55 per person.

To register for this workshop, choose "Leadership Workshop" when registering for the Annual Meeting. If you have already registered for the Annual Meeting, you may contact [reg@aarweb.org](mailto:reg@aarweb.org) to reserve a space in the workshop.

### Workshop: Confronting Islamophobia *New!*

Friday, November 17, 8:00 am-5:30 pm

Anti-Muslim bigotry and racism have risen to epidemic proportions in the United States. The AAR recognizes the importance of equipping a broader array of religion scholars, particularly but not exclusively those with little expertise in Islam, with knowledge, tools, and strategies to challenge anti-Muslim prejudice in the public square. The workshop's co-leaders are: Todd Green, associate professor of religion, Luther College; and Homayra Ziad, scholar of Islam, Institute for Islamic, Christian, and Jewish Studies.

Among the topics addressed in the workshop: What political and cultural factors, practices and

policies drive anti-Muslim bigotry in the United States? How does Islamophobia intersect with racism and with other forms of religious bigotry? Who are the casualties of Islamophobia? What are the tropes and tactics employed by the professional Islamophobia Industry, and how does knowledge of these shape strategies to counter the rhetoric? How can we use our scholarly training in religion, irrespective of specialization, to unpack Islamophobic discourse, and what knowledge of Islam, if any, is required? What are the risks involved in speaking out against Islamophobia, and how can we best protect ourselves from harassment?

The workshop is \$40 per person and [advance registration](#) is required. Because seating may be limited, it is recommended that you register by July 30.

**Academic Labor and Contingent Faculty Luncheon *New!***  
Saturday, November 18, 11:45 am-12:45 pm

Part-time, full-time, and all non-tenure track faculty and their allies are invited to join the Academic Labor and Contingent Faculty Working Group for a luncheon focused on *What Can Non-Tenure Track Faculty Career Growth Look Like?*. In addition to getting to know one another, we will be discussing best practices for career growth, identifying and overcoming obstacles to scholarship, and providing other up-to-date information on areas of concern. Registration costs \$13 per person and is limited to 60 people.

To register for this luncheon, choose "Academic Labor and Contingent Faculty Luncheon" in the "Options" section when registering for the Annual Meeting. If you have already registered for the Annual Meeting, you may contact [reg@aarweb.org](mailto:reg@aarweb.org) to reserve your lunch.

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Other Annual Meeting Workshops include

- Theological Education – Resisting Injustice in the Age of Trump
- Comparative Hagiology – Cross-cultural Approaches to Religious Life Writings
- THATCamp – The Humanities and Technology Camp
- Religion and the Media – Between Fake News and Natural Media
- Brand You – Creating Your Own Brand For Academic Survival
- Rethinking Islamic Studies – Islam and Justice
- Ethnography and Theology – The Use of Ethnography for Theological Research
- Teaching Religion and Disability Studies – Engaging Curriculum and Pedagogy with Intersectionality and Communities
- The Public Scholars Project – Practical Skills for the Public Scholar
- Ecology – Integrating Ecology and Justice
- Teaching Hindiusm – Teaching Tales: Narrative and Pedagogy in the Hindu Studies Classroom

[Full descriptions](#) of each workshop are available on the AAR website. Registration for all, excluding Confronting Islamophobia (see above), can be completed via the Annual Meeting registration process. Attendees can also register for the Women's Mentoring Lunch, LGBTIQ Luncheon, People with Disabilities Luncheon, and Contingent Faculty Luncheon. Already registered for the meeting but want to add one or more of these programs? E-mail [reg@aarweb.org](mailto:reg@aarweb.org).

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## Survey: Status of Women in the Profession Mentoring Lunch

The Status of Women in the Profession Committee recommends policies and practices to ensure the full access and academic freedom of women in the Academy and particularly seeks to enhance the status of women in the profession. As such, we have just completed our Work-Life Balance project and are looking towards our next projects and refocusing our commitments to women in the guild.

Each year, we cosponsor a mentoring lunch with the Status of Racial and Ethnic Minorities Committee, and we would like your help making this time together during the Annual Meeting as useful as possible. *We are interested in hearing from people who have attended the lunch but especially from those who have not so that we can cull ways we may be more responsive to our constituency's needs.* SWP seeks to be inclusive of transgender and intersex people in our understanding of "women" so we hope that all identifying as women or with female gender expression will feel free to take our brief survey so that we can input your thoughts in our planning for this annual meeting.

Access the short survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AARSWPSURVEY>.

## 2017 Annual Meeting Travel Grant Winners

### Religion and the Arts Travel Grant

The AAR is pleased to announce that Yohana Agra Junker Souza of Graduate Theological Union is the winner of the [Religion and the Arts Travel Grant](#). This grant is designed for a graduate student studying Religion and the Arts who is without institutional support to attend the AAR Annual Meeting. The jury evaluated each application based on need, active record of membership and involvement in AAR activities, and promising contributions to religion and the arts at this year's Annual Meeting.

### Annual Meeting Travel Grants

The AAR is pleased to announce the winners of our [Annual Meeting Travel Grants](#). These grants are designed to aid members, especially students, contingent faculty, and international members, to attend the Annual Meeting. For these 27 grants for 2017, the AAR received 104 applications. The jury was impressed with the qualifications and achievements represented in the applicant pool, and exercised great care in evaluating each application to identify candidates based on active records of membership and involvement in the AAR, and candidates with the most promising contributions to this year's meeting.



The 27 grantees are

Elizabeth Anderson, Episcopal Divinity School  
Torang Asadi, Duke University  
Isa Babur, Iqdir University, Turkey  
Alease Brown, Stellenbosch University  
Stephanie Budwey, Kirchliche Hochschule, Wuppertal, Germany  
Jessica Couch, University of Georgia  
Laurens de Rooij, University of Cape Town  
Marco Derks, Utrecht University  
Martin Ganeri, University of London, University of Oxford  
Gary Gardiner, University of the West Indies  
Enoch Gbadegesin, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife  
Jeremy Guida, Santa Barbara, CA  
Steven Harris, Hamilton, Ontario  
Ally Kern, Claremont School of Theology  
Minji Lee, Rice University  
Jingjing Li, McGill University  
Sarah MacDonald, Emory University  
Baiju Markose, Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago  
Robert Overy-Brown, Claremont Graduate University  
Jesse Perillo, DePaul University /Central Michigan University  
Jyoti Raghu, University of Oxford  
Anne Read, University of Waterloo  
Matthew Robertson, University of California, Santa Barbara  
Rachael Shillitoe, University of Worcester  
Kris Trujillo, University of California, Berkeley  
Jason Winslade, DePaul University  
Stephanie Yuhas, Naropa University

### Jurors

The AAR would like to thank the members of the jury for both grants: Christopher Duncanson-Hales, Alex Hwang, Davina Lopez, Matthew Lynch, Evelyn Parker, and Michelene Pesantubbee for their hard work in evaluating all of the applications to reach these decisions.