



Academy News

Contingent Faculty Director to Be Added to the AAR Board of Directors

The AAR membership has overwhelmingly approved a change to the Bylaws that designates a seat on the Board to representation for contingent faculty. Non-tenure-track positions are the norm in higher education, and adding a contingent faculty director is a step to ensure the interests of those faculty members are represented at the highest level of AAR's leadership.

The effort to secure the seat began in AAR's Contingent Faculty Task Force which has since become the Academic Labor and Contingent Faculty Committee.

Members will be able to vote on their first-ever contingent faculty director during elections later this fall.

We encourage Annual Meeting attendees to join us at the luncheon and sessions [sponsored and cosponsored by the ALCE](#):

- Contingent Faculty Luncheon: What Can Non-tenure-track Faculty Career Growth Look Like? (Saturday, 11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m.)
- Protecting the Vulnerable on Campus (Saturday, 4:00-6:30 p.m.)
- The Rapid Erosion of Tenure (Sunday, 1:00-2:30 p.m.)

Seeking Your Input: AAR's Draft Guidelines on Digital Scholarship

Digital publications and tools haven't merely changed how research is conducted, they have created new mediums for scholars to present and share information.

Given this exciting reality, a subcommittee of the AAR's Publishing Task Force has drafted a document to guide researchers, teachers, and administrators in evaluating digital scholarship in the study of religion. We invite AAR members to [read and comment on this proposal](#) before it is revised and sent to the Board of Directors for final review and possible adoption.

The comment period is open until August 31.

Webinar: Religion in Museums – Promising Venues for Public Scholarship

Thursday, September 14
12:00-12:45 p.m.

This free webinar will discuss how scholars of religion can engage museum staff to enrich collections, museum education, and more. Copresenters will include Yolanda Pierce, dean, Howard University

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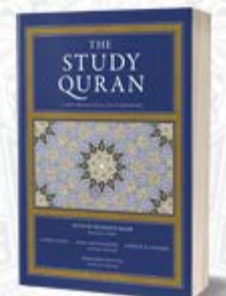
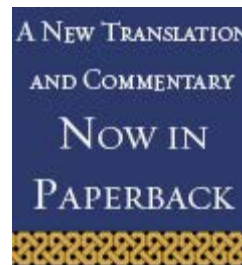
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"Should be on the shelves"

School of Divinity, and former curator & director of the Center for the Study of African American Religious Life at the Smithsonian NMAAHC; and S. Brent Rodriguez-Plate, associate professor, Hamilton College, and coeditor of *Religion in Museums: Global and Multidisciplinary Perspectives*; and Eric Williams, curator of religion, Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture. The webinar will include a presentation and extended Q&A.

This webinar is hosted by the Public Scholars Project, a joint initiative of the Public Understanding of Religion Committee of the American Academy of Religion and of the Religious Freedom Center of the Newseum Institute. Through seminars and other resources, the Public Scholars Project equips scholars of religion to effectively communicate in the public sphere. Register at <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/1a5f1525e71a9084c5b9141539e44ee6>

Nominations Sought for 2018 Excellence in Teaching Award

The Teaching and Learning Committee encourages and solicits nominations for the [2018 Excellence in Teaching Award](#). Nominations of winners of campus awards, or any other awards, are encouraged. Procedures for the nomination process are outlined on the AAR website.

The deadline for nominations is **October 15, 2017**. Please contact Amy Yandell at ayandell@aarweb.org with any questions.

2018 AAR Regional Meetings Call for Papers

The Southwest Region's Call for Papers is [open](#). Submit your proposals by October 15, 2017. Regional meetings are open to all AAR members; you may submit a proposal to any region's call for papers.

Please see the list of [2018 regional meeting dates and locations](#) and check back often for call updates.

2017 National Humanities Conference

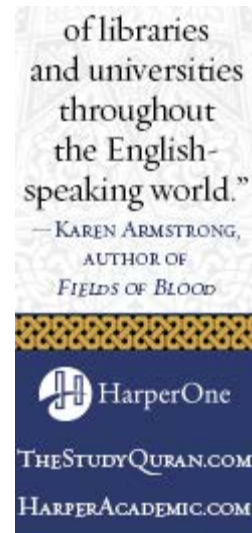


Registration is open for the 2017 [National Humanities Conference](#) in Boston. The conference, the second cohosted by the National Humanities Alliance and the Federation of State Humanities Councils, will bring together the humanities community to consider how, by leveraging our strengths, we can achieve broader public impact and showcase the fundamental role the humanities play in addressing both local and global challenges. Registration deadline: October 27, 2017.

Grants and Fellowships

Public Scholars Project Fellowships

As part of a joint initiative with the AAR Public Understanding of Religion Committee, the Religious Freedom Center of the Newseum Institute seeks accomplished, motivated, and collaborative researchers to join the next cohort of graduate Public





Scholars Project (PSP) Fellows associated with the Public Scholars Project. Unpaid PSP Fellowships are available to graduate students who will conduct academic research on site at the Religious Freedom Center of the Newseum Institute in Washington, D.C., and who are either eligible to receive academic credit for their fellowship experience or enrolled as a doctoral student in good standing.

Applications for spring 2018 fellowships are due October 1. Learn more or apply online at <http://www.newseum.org/about/jobs-internships/jobdetails/241/>.

AAR International Dissertation Research Grants and Selva J. Raj Fellowship

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.

The Academy will make two grants for the 2017-2018 academic year:

- one [international dissertation research grant](#) to a student working in any sub-discipline within religious studies, and
- one grant for the [Selva J. Raj Endowed International Dissertation Research Fellowship](#).

Only one application is required for either or both grants. Applicants should submit their materials through the online application form. The deadline to apply is December 1, 2017.

AAR Collaborative International Research Grants

The AAR's [Collaborative International Research Grants](#) program supports research collaborations among scholars located in different geographical regions. Applications for awards ranging from \$500 to \$5000 will be reviewed by the AAR's International Connections Committee (ICC).

The ICC encourages creative projects grounded in international research relationships that bring together scholars from disparate backgrounds and methodological approaches. Junior as well as more established scholars are encouraged to apply, as are independent scholars.

Applications should be submitted through the online application form. The deadline to apply is October 1, 2017.

ACLS Fellowship Competitions

The American Council of Learned Societies announces the [2017-18 ACLS fellowship competitions](#), which promote the full spectrum of humanities and humanistic social sciences research.



Publications

In the Public Interest



In her In the Public Interest column—even more relevant after this weekend's events in Charlottesville, VA—Jennifer Howe Peace [writes about the Academy's responsibility](#): "As scholars of religion, we have a particular role to play in identifying patterns of thought, dangerous stereotypes, and problematic sources of influence on our national ethos."

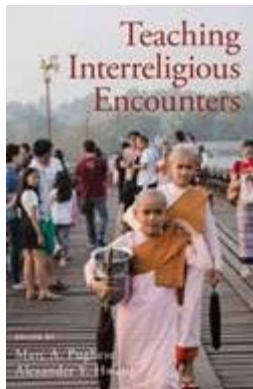
New in AAR/OUP Books

[Teaching Interreligious Encounters](#)

Edited by Marc A. Pugliese and Alexander Y. Hwang

AAR Teaching Religious Studies Series

The only book that addresses the pedagogies of religious pluralism from a multidisciplinary perspective. Designed for use by new teachers and seasoned scholars alike. ISBN: 9780190677565



[The Americas' First Theologies: Early Sources of Post-Contact Indigenous Religion](#)

Edited and translated by Garry Sparks
AAR Religion in Translation Series



Provides English translations of some of the earliest post-contact religious texts for the first time. Includes selections from the first original Christian theology written in the Americas and early indigenous texts written for the Maya that were influenced by this early theological treatise. ISBN: 9780190678302

AAR members receive a [30% discount](#) on all AAR/OUP series titles.

AAR Publications: Newsletter Subscriptions and Alerts

Sign up for free newsletters from [Reading Religion](#) and [Religious Studies News](#), and free e-Alerts from the [Journal of the American Academy of Religion](#). Keep up with the latest scholarship in the field of religious studies through your e-mail inbox!

Member Notes

Career Transitions

[David Harrington Watt](#), Haverford College

After working at Temple University for over thirty years, David Harrington Watt has now begun teaching at Haverford College where he is the Douglas and Dorothy Steere Professor of Quaker Studies.

Books and Major Publications

[Michael Altman](#), University of Alabama

Heathen, Hindoo, Hindu: American Representations of India, 1721-1893, Oxford University Press, 2017.

[Don Baker](#), University of British Columbia

Catholics and Anti-Catholicism in Chosŏn Korea, University of Hawai'i Press, 2017.

[Teresa Berger](#), Yale Divinity School

@ Worship: Liturgical Practices in Digital Worlds, Routledge, 2017.

Judith Casselberry, Bowdoin College

The Labor of Faith: Gender and Power in Black Apostolic Pentecostalism, Duke University Press, 2017.

Brandi Denison, University of North Florida

Ute Land Religion in the American West, 1879-2009, University of Nebraska Press, 2017.

Molly Farneth, Haverford College

Hegel's Social Ethics: Religion, Conflict, and Rituals of Reconciliation, Princeton University Press, 2017.

Timothy Gabrielli, Seton Hill University

Weaving the American Catholic Tapestry: Essays in Honor of William L. Portier, Wipf & Stock, 2017.

[Zev Garber](#), Los Angeles Valley College

HaMaskil Ba`eit Hazoth (The Maskil in Our Time: Studies in Honor of Moshe Pelli), Hakibutz Hameuchad Publishing House, 2017.

[Sarah Imhoff](#), Indiana University

Masculinity and the Making of American Judaism, Indiana University Press, 2017.

[Lee Irwin](#), College of Charleston

Reincarnation in America: An Esoteric History, Lexington Books, 2017.

[Amy Langenberg](#), Eckerd College

Birth in Buddhism: The Suffering Fetus and Female Freedom, Routledge, 2017.

[Andrew Loke](#), University of Hong Kong

The Origin of Divine Christology, Cambridge University Press, 2017.

[Rubén Rosario Rodríguez](#), Saint Louis University

Christian Martyrdom and Political Violence: A Comparative Theology with Judaism and Islam, Cambridge University Press, 2017.

Dale M. Schlitt, Oblate School of Theology

German Idealism's Trinitarian Legacy, State University of New York

Press, 2016.

Nanette Spina, University of Georgia
Women's Authority and Leadership in a Hindu Goddess Tradition,
Palgrave Macmillan, 2017.

Hans-Martien ten Napel, Leiden Law School
*Constitutionalism, Democracy and Religious Freedom: To Be Fully
Human*, Routledge, 2017.

[David Weddle](#), Colorado College
Sacrifice in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, New York University
Press, 2017.

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

Dates and Deadlines

August 24	Annual Meeting Advance Rates
August 24	Annual Meeting Program Book by Mail
October 1	Collaborative International Research Grants
October 15	Southwest Region CFP
October 15	Teaching Award Nominations
October 19	Annual Meeting Housing Closes
October 20	Annual Meeting Additional Meetings