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January 2018

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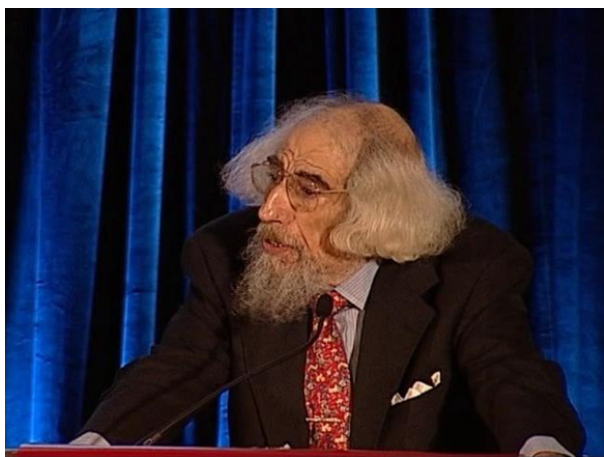
[Member Notes](#)

Publications Survey
Help Us Serve You Better!

2018 Regional Meetings
Calls for Papers:

We're always looking for new ways to improve services to AAR members. Take this [quick survey](#) to let us know what you think about our publications. Your response will help us make our publications program a more valuable part of your AAR membership.

In Memoriam Jonathan Z. Smith (1938-2017)



The influential historian of religion passed away on December 30, 2017.

Russell McCutcheon remembers the familiar and unfamiliar JZ Smith: "On the recent afternoon and early evening of New Year's Eve many of us were shocked to learn the sad news that Jonathan Z. Smith, arguably the world's most influential scholar of religion over the past fifty years, had died the previous day..."

[Read the full remembrance.](#)

[New-England Maritimes](#)

Deadline: January 17

[Pacific Northwest](#)

Deadline: January 19

[Eastern International](#)

Deadline: February 1

2018 Regional Meetings Open Registration:

[Mid-Atlantic](#)

[Midwest](#)

[New England-Maritimes](#)

[Southwest](#)

For more info on regional calls for papers, meeting dates and locations, and online registration, check our [regional page](#).

Member Notes: Major Books &



Call for Applications 2018 Mellon/ACLS Public Fellows Competition for Recent PhDs

Funded by a grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the ACLS is pleased to announce the 2018 Public Fellows competition. **The program places up to 25 recent humanities PhDs in two-year positions at nonprofits and government agencies.** Public Fellows participate in the core work of these partner organizations while benefiting from professional mentoring and other career building opportunities.

Each fellowship carries an annual stipend of **\$67,500**, individual health insurance, a relocation stipend, and \$3,000 toward professional development activities.

The AAR encourages the application of religious studies training to a diversity of careers, and we hope recent PhDs will apply for this opportunity. Learn more at the [ACLS website](#).

RSN | Guide for the Guild Female Graduate Students, Power Dynamics & Work-Life Balance

Publications

[Veli-Matti Karkkainen](#), Fuller Theological Seminary and University of Helsinki
A Constructive Christian Theology for the Pluralistic World, Eerdmans Publishing Co., 2013

Mohammad Hassan Khalil, Michigan State University
Jihad, Radicalism, and the New Atheism, Cambridge University Press, 2018

Matthew Kuiper, Missouri State University
Da'wa and Other Religions: Indian Muslims and Modern Resurgence of Global Islamic Activism, Routledge, 2018

[Sarah Stewart-Kroeker](#), University of Geneva
Pilgrimage as Moral and Aesthetic Formation in Augustine's Thought, Oxford University Press, 2017

Let your AAR colleagues know about your professional milestones!

[Submit your Member Note online.](#)



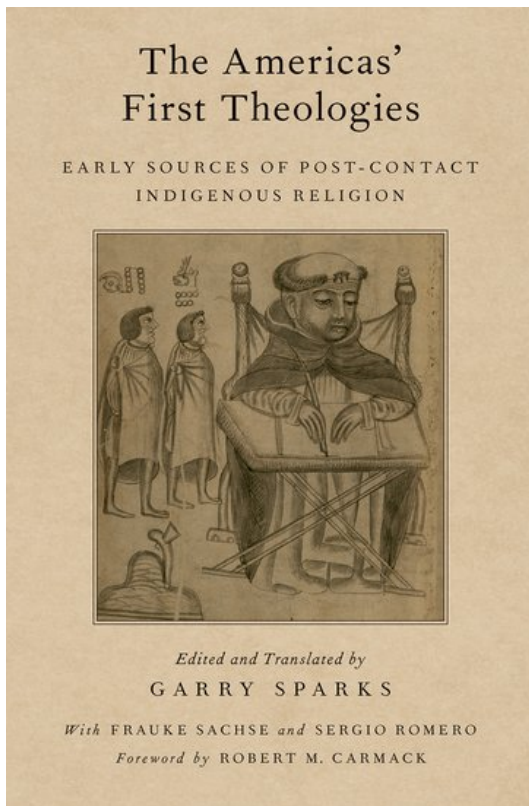
Kristi Slominski asks us to consider what discussion about “work-life balance” means when gender inequity, elitism, and a dwindling job market remain realities for female graduate students. [Read more.](#)



New in *Reading Religion* Recent Book Reviews

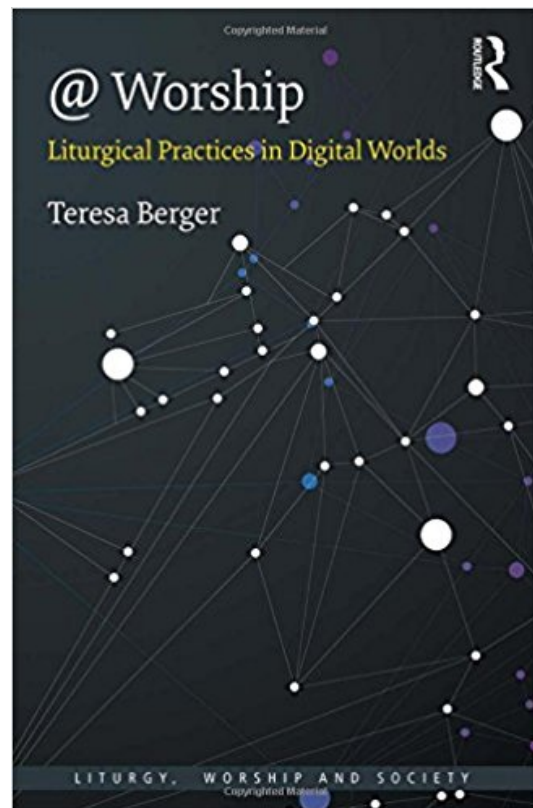
As an in-house publication of the AAR, [Reading Religion](#) provides a bi-weekly newsletter of links to recent book reviews and books that are up for review. *Reading Religion's* website allows scholars to search for books according to religious tradition, region, movement—and numerous other categories—and new reviews of scholarly titles are posted almost daily.

Through its robust offerings, *Reading Religion* serves as one of the best resources for anyone wishing to stay up-to-date on current scholarship in religion. Be sure to [sign up](#) for the *Reading Religion* newsletter to receive these updates in your inbox automatically!



The [latest title in the AAR's Religion in Translation series](#) consists of Dominican friar Domingo de Vico's *Theologia Indorum* and other texts, written in the 16th century in the K'iche' language, along with several contemporaneous responses from Mayan authors. [Reviewed by independent scholar Christopher Buck.](#)

If you've never tried worship on the web, [consult this monograph by Teresa Berger](#) to learn more. [Reviewed by Kyle Schiefelbein-Guerrero](#), who triangulates on this text with a PhD in liturgical studies and a position as director of digital learning at Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley.



The *Reading Religion* newsletter keeps you connected to the latest reviews and books in the field of religion. [Sign up](#) to receive this biweekly resource today!

Subscribe to Reading Religion

Nominate Someone (or Yourself)!

Martin E. Marty Public Understanding of Religion Award



RECOGNIZING
EXTRAORDINARY
CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE
PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING
OF RELIGION.

Established in 1996 and presented annually, the Martin E. Marty Award goes to those whose work has a relevance and eloquence that speaks not just to scholars but also more broadly to the public. The contribution can be any medium (e.g., books, films, TV, public speaking) so long as it is based on scholarship in religion. Self-nominations are welcome, and nominees need not be AAR members or academics.

The deadline to nominate is **January 25, 2018**. Nominations can be [submitted online](#) or through the mail with a hard copy of the form found [here](#).

Submit Your Nomination

Upcoming Nomination Deadline Religion & the Arts Award



The AAR award in Religion and the Arts is presented annually to an artist, performer, critic, curator, or scholar who has made a recent significant contribution to the understanding of the relations among the arts and religions, both for the academy and for a broader public.

Past winners include author Marilynne Robinson, painter Makoto Fujimura, miniaturist and digital artist Shahzia Sikander, and director Martin Scorsese. [Submit your nomination online](#) or visit [visit our website](#) for more information.

Deadline to submit nominations is **February 1, 2018**.

[Submit Your Nomination](#)

Submit a Title!

AAR Annual Book Awards



The American Academy of Religion seeks submissions for the annual book awards:

- **Best First Book in the History of Religions**
- **Awards for Excellence in the Study of Religion** (winners in four categories):
 - Analytical-Descriptive Studies
 - Constructive-Reflective Studies
 - Historical Studies
 - Textual Studies

The submission deadline for all book awards is **February 10, 2018**. You can find submission instructions and eligibility requirements [here](#). Physical submissions should be sent to the AAR executive office:

Sarah Levine
Attn: Book Awards
American Academy of Religion
825 Houston Mill RD NE STE 300
Atlanta, GA 30329

Questions and letters of nomination may be emailed to slevine@aarweb.org.

[See Eligibility Requirements](#)

Call for Nominations: AAR Board of Directors

The [Nominations Committee](#) is pleased to announce three positions up for election in 2018: **Vice President, Treasurer, and one At-Large Director**. Nominations for these positions must be received by **January 31, 2018**.

To learn more about the AAR Nomination and Election Process and view official job descriptions for board members, [visit our site](#).

Nominations may be submitted through the [online submission form](#). To be considered for any elected position, the following information is required:

- A brief biographical sketch of no more than 200 words
- A statement on your candidacy for the position, between 500 and 600 words (e.g., what objectives and goals you would bring to the position)
- A current curriculum vitae

Deadline for submissions is January 31, 2018.

Please send any questions to nominations@aarweb.org.

[Submit Your Nomination](#)

Upcoming Webinar Public Scholars Project



Webinar

Religious Studies & Journalism: Promising Venues for Public Scholarship

February 13, 2018
12–1 PM (EST)

Learn how scholars of religion can engage different publics through print and online journalism, both by communicating effectively with members of the media and producing original content. [Debra Mason](#), [Janet Saidi](#), and [Inés San Martín](#) will present. This free webinar will include extended Q&A.

February 13, 2018
12–1 PM (EST)

This Public Scholars Project webinar is a joint initiative of the AAR's Public Understanding of Religion Committee and the Newseum Institute's Religious Freedom Center.

[Register](#)



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