

## The Public Scholars Project

### Practical Skills for the Public Scholar

*Friday, November 17, 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm*

Emma Tomalin, University of Leeds, Benjamin Marcus, Newseum Institute, Presiding

Co-sponsored by the AAR Committee on the Public Understanding of Religion and the Newseum Institute Religious Freedom Center

In this extraordinary time of political and social unrest, scholars of religion are frequently called upon – or feel compelled – to share their knowledge and perspective with those outside the academy. In this role as public scholars, they may speak with journalists, write for a broad audience, engage with policymakers or elected officials, meet with religious communities or local schools, or more. At this workshop, participants will work with professionals from government, the media, advocacy groups and others in a series of case studies, simulations and conversations designed to hone the practical skills of the public scholar.

In this three-hour workshop, participants will be given the opportunity to participate in two practically focused sessions of 80 minutes each, following a short introductory session. A range of professionals have been invited to facilitate 5 sessions.

When you sign up for the workshop, please email Steve Herrick ([sherrick@aarweb.org](mailto:sherrick@aarweb.org)) to indicate your preferences for sessions (label them 1-5, with 1 for the most preferred). There are 10 spaces per session and each session will run twice during the afternoon.

The cost of the workshop is \$40, which includes the entire afternoon of sessions. Registration is limited to the first 50 participants.

Liz Kineke, CBS

*How to Respond to Requests for Information from Journalists*

Vanessa Zoltan, Harvard University

*Learning How to Speak for Camera and Radio*

Simran Jeet Singh, Trinity University

*The Effective Use of Social Media*

Susan Brooks Thistlethwaite, Chicago Theological Seminary

*Writing for the Internet*

Evan Berry, American University

*Bridging the Gap between Policy and Academic Research*