2000 Program Highlights

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Plenary & Presidential Addresses

And God Said, “Let There Be Sociology!” (A18)
Saturday, 11:30 am–12:30 pm
Eileen V. Barker, London School of Economics

Eileen Barker, OBE, (Order of the British Empire), FBA (Fellow of the British Academy), is Professor of Sociology with Special Reference to the Study of Religion at the London School of Economics, (LSE). Her main research interest for over twenty-five years has been new religious movements and the social reactions to which they give rise. Since 1989 she has also investigated religious change in post-Communist countries and religious and moral pluralism in Europe. She has over 170 publications (translated into eighteen languages), which include the award-winning The Making of a Moonie: Brainwashing or Choice? (1984) and New Religious Movements: A Practical Introduction (1990).

In the late 1980s, with the support of the British Government and mainstream churches, she founded INFORM (Information Network Focus on Religious Movements), a non-profit based at the LSE which provides information about new religions. She advises governments and official bodies around the world. She is President-Elect of the Association for the Sociology of Religion and the only non-American to have been elected President of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. Barker is also this year’s recipient of the AAR’s Martin E. Marty Award for the Public Understanding of Religion.

The Future of the Academy (A69)
Saturday, 7:00 pm–8:30 pm
Ninian Smart, University of California, Santa Barbara

Ninian Smart is J. F. Rowny Professor of Comparative Religion, emeritus, at the University of California, Santa Barbara, where he taught for over twenty years. From 1968 to 1977 he was involved in two major projects: promoting the teaching of religious studies in schools and making the PBS series on the world’s religions called The Long Search. In 1979–80 he gave the Gifford Lectures at Edinburgh University. He has taught at numerous colleges and
universities the world over including Yale University, University of Cape Town, and United Theological College in Bangalore. He has received several honorary degrees, from such schools as the University of Chicago, University of Glasgow, and University of Middlesex. Of his books, the most vital for him are *Reasons and Faiths* (1958); *The Science of Religion and the Sociology of Knowledge* (1973); *Doctrine and Argument in Indian Philosophy* (2nd ed., 1992); *Dimensions of the Sacred* (1996); and (with Steven Konstantine) *Christian Systematic Theology in the World Context* (1991).

**For the Sake of Truth and Memory** (A151)
Sunday, 7:00 pm–8:00 pm
Deborah E. Lipstadt, Emory University

Deborah E. Lipstadt is Director of the Institute for Jewish Studies and Dorot Professor of Modern Jewish and Holocaust Studies at Emory University. Her latest book, *Denying the Holocaust: The Growing Assault on Truth and Memory* (1993), is the first full-length study of the history of those who attempt to deny the Holocaust. The book was the subject of front-page reviews in numerous national and international newspapers. In England, she and her British publisher were sued for libel by David Irving, one of the deniers she profiled. Lipstadt was a historical consultant to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, where she helped design the section of the museum dedicated to the American response to the Holocaust. She currently serves on the executive committee of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council. In her address, Lipstadt will talk about the recent trial.

**Special Topics Forums**

**Especially for Chairs: Resources for Promoting Majors and More** (A14=S4)
Saturday 8:45 am–11:15 am
*Sponsored by AAR/SBL Association of Department Chairs and the AAR’s Academic Relations Task Force*
Harry Y. Gamble, University of Virginia, Presiding

Departments frequently develop resources—printed brochures, web texts and graphics, and other documents—designed to make the case that every student’s education should include courses in religion. This session introduces new and updated materials, produced by the AAR’s Academic Relations Task Force, for promoting the religion major and encouraging enrollment in religion courses. Warren G. Frisina, Hofstra University, and other members of the task force will present web-based and printed materials. Mary Ann Hinsdale, College of the Holy Cross, Lynn Ross-Bryant, University of Colorado, Boulder, and Cherie Hughes, University of Oklahoma, will respond by discussing how they have developed their programs, highlighting both materials developed and strategies deployed. The format is designed especially for chairs and other unit heads to learn from the work of the task force and one another. Attendees are asked to bring several copies of the materials they use in their religion programs.
Framing the Other: American Print Media and Asian Religions (A19)
Saturday 1:00 pm–3:30 pm
Sponsored by the AAR’s Committee on the Public Understanding of Religion
Stewart M. Hoover, University of Colorado, Boulder, Presiding

This session will examine historical and contemporary examples of how the U.S. media covers Hinduism and Buddhism. Both are historical world religions as well as faith communities for a rapidly growing segment of the U.S. population. Thus the impact of journalistic representation on public opinion, cultural attitudes, and societal perceptions of these traditions is important, but often overlooked. Presenters are Sean McCloud, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill; Christopher Patrick Parr, Webster University; Stephen Prothero, Boston University; and Angela Zito, New York University.

Learning from the Field: Analyzing Experiential Methods That Shape Teaching and Learning (A20)
Saturday 1:00 pm–3:30 pm
Sponsored by the AAR’s Committee on Teaching and Learning
Yudit K. Greenberg, Rollins College, Presiding

This session will focus on the variety of pedagogical methods used in field-based learning in religious studies, theology, and the Bible. The panelists will describe and evaluate teaching practices that incorporate community-based learning with text-based learning and will offer models for this type of teaching and learning across the curricula. The panelists will speak about field-based methods in anthropology, theological field education, comparative religions, praxis-based theologies, and archeology. Panelists are Karen McCarthy Brown, Drew University; Michael I. N. Dash, Interdenominational Theological Center; and Eric Meyers, Duke University. Kathleen T. Talvacchia, Union Theological Seminary, NY, will respond.

AAR/SBL/ATS Grants Fair (A41)
Saturday 2:00 pm–5:00 pm
Sponsored by the AAR’s Program Committee, the SBL Research and Publications Committee, and the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada
Matthew C. Zyniewicz, Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada, Presiding

Program officers from foundations and funding agencies will be available to answer questions and distribute materials. This session is an opportunity to learn more about the funding process and the many different kinds of resources that are available to scholars in religion and the Bible. It is designed to be helpful for first-time applicants as well as those who have received grants in the past. There will be representatives from organizations that provide a wide variety of types of funding, including dissertation support, faculty leave grants, and project-level grants.

Race and the Study of Religion (A42)
Saturday 3:45 pm–6:15 pm
Sponsored by the AAR’s Committee on the Status of Racial and Ethnic Minorities in the
The civil rights, feminist, and ethnic consciousness movements have deepened the need for prolonged examination of race and religion. Non-Christian immigrants, legal controversies over the Religious Freedom Act, global information technologies, and cross-border working populations have destabilized religious and racial identities. The panel will discuss (1) how race is defined in relation to religion and religious belief; (2) how gender, sexual orientation, nationalism, and class factor into the race/religion equation; and (3) the primary values for theological and normative projects that focus on race and religion. The panelists are Jane Naomi Iwamura, University of Southern California; David Kyuman Kim, Harvard University; Luis Leon, Arizona State University; Jace Weaver, Yale University; and Judith Weisenfeld, Vassar College. Dwight N. Hopkins, University of Chicago, and Ada Maria Isasi-Diaz, Drew University, will respond.

Interested persons are invited to a reception (A67) hosted by the AAR’s Committee on the Status of Racial and Ethnic Minorities in the Profession directly following this session.

The Public Intellectual in the Schools: Religious Studies Scholarship and Secondary Education (A43)
Saturday, 3:45 pm–6:15 pm
Sponsored by the AAR’s Religion in the Schools Task Force
Jon Butler, Yale University, Presiding

How can religious studies scholars successfully improve public understandings of religious beliefs, practices and traditions in American education? One example of new efforts in this direction is the seventeen-volume Oxford University Press series, Religion in American Life. This series is the first on American religious history written explicitly for adolescent readers. Has it improved the understanding of religion in America by high school students who have used it? Do teachers find it a valuable resource? This panel discussion, led by the general editor of the series, two authors, and two secondary school teachers who have used the volumes, will examine these questions. The teachers will discuss their reaction to the books and will describe the sophistication achievable in secondary school curricula on religion. The authors will discuss their goals and strategies in producing exciting yet complex portraits of religious belief and practice for an adolescent audience.

A reception for secondary school teachers of religion will immediately follow this session.

AAR Annual Business Meeting (Continental Breakfast) (A76)
Sunday 7:30 am–8:45 am
Ninian Smart, University of California, Santa Barbara Presiding

AAR members are invited to join the AAR Board of Directors and executive staff for the annual business meeting of the Academy. A light breakfast will be provided.

The Scope of Our Art: The Vocation of the Teacher (A77)
Sunday 9:00 am–11:30 am
Sponsored by the AAR’s Academic Relations Task Force and the Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion
Lucinda Huffaker, Wabash Center, and L. Gregory Jones, Duke University, Presiding

“Vocation” might seem an odd way to describe the work of the teacher, yet conversations among scholars in higher education are exhibiting the term increasingly as faculty struggle to bring coherence to the interlocking, direct responsibilities of scholar-research and teaching. The burgeoning popularity of writers like Parker Palmer (The Courage to Teach, Let Your Life Speak) suggests that many of us are finding it helpful and important to think about the scholarly career as a persistent and consistent expression of our orientation toward life as a whole, that is, as a vocation. The scholars leading this forum are part of a group of theological school faculty who have met for a week each summer for three years at the Wabash Center to reflect on their vocation as teachers and scholars. They will present material that has emerged from the personal stories, dialogue, and debates of the three summer meetings. The moderator will facilitate an open discussion between and among panelists and the audience to try to model the collegial interaction around issues of teaching that the Wabash Center encourages. Main topics will include a teacher’s formative daily practices, the classroom as sacred and liminal space, and the relation of individual vocation to institutional mission.

The International Religious Freedom Act: Two Years Later (A102)
Sunday 1:00 pm–3:30 pm
Sponsored by the AAR’s Committees on International Connections and the Public Understanding of Religion
Rosalind I. J. Hackett, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Presiding

The 1998 International Religious Freedom Act (IRFA) puts religious persecution on the U.S. foreign policy agenda. In 1999 the first mandated annual report on religious freedom in 194 countries was produced by the U.S. State Department. This forum brings those who are involved in implementing the bill together with human rights experts and area specialists. They will address the following questions: Is IRFA an important human rights initiative or an example of U.S. exceptionalism and isolationism? Will the Annual Report be a useful tool for combating violations of religious freedom, or is it just another reference work? Does IRFA address a heretofore neglected arena of human rights, or is it privileging religious freedom? Is the Annual Report balanced, or does it overemphasize persecution of Christians? Does IRFA acknowledge cultural differences or is it promoting a Western understanding of religion? Is IRFA constitutional? Will IRFA help or hinder efforts to lessen human rights abuses? Panelists are Jeremy Gunn, Washington, D.C.; Mary McGee, Columbia University; Marat Shterin, London School of Economics; Winnifred Fallers Sullivan, Washington & Lee University; Bahia Tahzib-Lie, Human Rights Division, Netherlands Foreign Ministry.

Why Religion Matters: The Fate of the Human Spirit in an Age of Disbelief (A125)
Sunday, 3:45 pm–6:15 pm
Sponsored by the AAR’s Program Committee and HarperCollins Publishers
Barbara DeConcini, American Academy of Religion, Presiding
Despite all the talk and statistical evidence of religious vitality, professor of world religions Huston Smith argues that the human spirit is being severely circumscribed by the current reign of scientism, of media perceptions of worth and reality, of functional rather than humanizing education, and of the basic antireligious bias of government and law. This session will feature Smith in spirited dialogue with Mark Silk, Trinity College; Ian G. Barbour, Carleton College; Ursula Goodenough, Washington University; and Charles E. Winquist, Syracuse University.

Seductions and (False?) Prophets: Considering New Technologies (A183)
Monday 1:00 pm–3:30 pm
Sponsored by the AAR’s New Technologies Task Force
Vivian-Lee Nyitray, University of California, Riverside, Presiding

Greater efficiency in research and teaching! Better student learning outcomes! Leveling of the academic playing field and improved outreach to the disadvantaged! Such have been the promises of new technologies in academia. But what of the problems, particularly those of interest to scholars in theology and religion? This session will be a panel discussion on critical problems that new technologies pose for religious studies scholars in their research, teaching, and other professional activities. Panelists are Alfred Benney, Fairfield University; Brenda E. Brasher, Mount Union College; and June Elizabeth O’Connor, University of California, Riverside. Significant time will be allotted for questions and discussion from the floor.

A Conversation about Gender and Women’s Issues in the AAR and SBL (A232)
Tuesday, 9:00 am–11:30 am Bayou A
Sponsored by the AAR’s Committee on the Status of Women in the Profession, the AAR/SBL Women’s Caucus, and SBL Status of Women in the Profession Committee
Rebecca T. Alpert, Temple University, Presiding

The Status of Women in the Profession Committee of the AAR and the AAR/SBL Women’s Caucus invite the committees, groups, and program units whose work deals primarily with gender and women’s issues to a conversation about how to foster cooperation among us. The presence of so many groups concerned about these issues is cause for celebration. But the time has come for us to sit down together and think about how our work intersects and what projects we might like to work on jointly. The following groups will be represented from the AAR: Women and Religion Section, Feminist Theory and Religious Reflection Group, Lesbian Feminist Issues in Religion Group, Womanist Approaches to Religion and Society Group. From the SBL: Women in the Biblical World Section, Feminist Hermeneutics of the Bible Section, and the Committee on the Status of Women in the Profession. Everyone interested in the connections between gender and religious studies is invited to participate in this roundtable conversation.

Arts Series
A Musical Evening with Kate Campbell (A71)
Saturday, 8:30 pm–10:00 pm
Diane Apostolos-Cappadona, Georgetown University, Presiding

Born in New Orleans, Campbell spent her early childhood in tiny Sledge, Mississippi, where her socially progressive preacher father opened his rural church to the Freedom Riders. It is all part of the journey for Campbell, and it has taken her down the road to an ever-deepening understanding of who she is as a Southerner. Her music is both a travel guide and trip diary, revealing her ties to the natural world (the famed Southern sense of place), a heart for social and economic justice, and the ineffable mysteries and complexities of faith. Campbell recently completed a new album called Wandering Strange. The mostly gospel CD contains eleven songs: four originals, six old hymns, and one song by Gordon Lightfoot. All of the hymns were written before 1903, and most of them are from the 1956 Baptist Hymnal. Like every Southerner worth her salt, Campbell knows a good story when she hears it. And in the retelling she opens the doors to one more corner of the world and invites the rest of us to come along for the ride.

For more information about Campbell or to listen to a sampling of her music, go to her website, www.katecampbell.com.

After Prophesy: Religious Movements on the Cusp of the Millennium with Victor Balaban (A230)
Monday 7:00 pm–8:00 pm
Diane Apostolos-Cappadona, Georgetown University, Presiding

“After Prophesy” is part of an ongoing photo-essay that seeks to combine documentary photography with academic study as a way to understand the dynamics of new religious movements as we enter a new era of globalization. Photographs that will be shown range from devotees of the Virgin Mary in Conyers, Georgia; Chen Tao, a Taiwanese UFO group that recently predicted the appearance of God in Garland, Texas; and celebrants of Holi in Benaras, India; to Evangelical Christian prophecy conferences; and the Peruvian millennialists the Israelites of the New Universal Covenant, who are hailing the Year 2000 as the time when a renewed Inca civilization will be restored.

Balaban is currently a research psychologist at Harvard’s Center for the Study of World Religions, as well as a professional photojournalist.
His work has been published both in academic journals and in mainstream magazines such as *Life, Harpers, The London Telegraph* and *DoubleTake*.

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**Tour**

**Tour of Nashville Area Houses of Worship** (A188)

Monday 1:30 pm–4:00 pm  
*Sponsored by the North American Religions Section*

This bus tour will include a number of sites in downtown Nashville, including the Ryman Auditorium and Downtown Presbyterian Church, as well as outlying sites such as the Fisk University Chapel and the Gonesh Temple. Your guides are Marty Bell, Belmont University; Jeanne Halgren Kilde, Macalester College; and Peter W. Williams, Miami University. There is a US $10 fee for this tour. Please use the reservation form in the Program Book or download the **form as a PDF here**.

Viewing documents in PDF format requires installation of the Adobe Acrobat Reader. Click on the icon below to get the free Acrobat Reader if you do not already have it installed.

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**Films**

*The Matrix* (A10)

Friday 7:00 pm–10:00 pm  
*Sponsored by the Religion, Film, and Visual Culture Group*

Tony S. L. Michael, University of Toronto, Presiding

The Wachowskis borrow heavily from Christianity and mythology to bring us a futuristic movie asking the fundamental question: Is anything real? In the near future, a computer hacker named Neo (Keanu Reeves) discovers that all life on Earth may be nothing more than an elaborate facade created by a malevolent cyber-intelligence, for the purpose of placating us while our life essence is “farmed” to fuel the Matrix’s campaign of domination in the “real” world. He joins like-minded Rebel warriors Morpheus (Laurence Fishburne) and Trinity (Carrie Ann Moss) in their struggle to overthrow the Matrix. A visually stunning movie (the film contains 417 computer-generated effects, led by visual effects supervisor John Gaeta), it offers dazzling choreography, complex narrative, and an extraordinary (although sometimes too obvious) concept of reality.

*The Matrix*, directed by Andy and Larry Wachowski, 1999, 136 minutes (Color, USA).

*The Sixth Sense* (A70)

Saturday 8:45 pm–11:00 pm  
*Sponsored by the Religion, Film, and Visual Culture Group*

Amir Hussain, California State University, Northridge, Presiding

Dr. Malcolm Crowe (Bruce Willis) is a renowned child psychologist who receives an award on
the same night that he is visited by a very unhappy ex-patient. After this encounter, Crowe struggles with a fear of being an inadequate doctor and takes on the task of curing a young boy with the same ills as the ex-patient. Cole Sear (Haley Joel Osment), the eight-year old boy “sees dead people.” Cole’s mother (Toni Collette) is at her wit’s end with what to do about her son’s increasing problems. Crowe is the boy’s only hope. But The Sixth Sense is not just about a boy who sees dead people: it expresses our own fears of dying, our last wishes to those who remain alive, and the need for punishment for those who have committed injustices. It is not necessarily a terrifying story, but the mystery that holds us in our seats is well played out. The reward at the end of the movie is worth the wait.

_The Sixth Sense_, directed by M. Night Shymalan, 1999, 106 minutes (Color, USA).

**Waking Ned Devine** (A152)
Sunday 8:30 pm–10:30 pm
Sponsored by the Religion, Film, and Visual Culture Group
Anne Moore, University of Calgary, Presiding
One of the suggestions made at last year’s Annual Meeting was that the AAR screen this sleeper-hit, so here it is by popular demand. When word reaches two elderly best friends (Ian Bannen and David Kelly) that someone in their tiny Irish village of Tulaigh Morh (population 52), has won the national lottery, they go to great lengths to find the winner so they can share the wealth. When they discover the “lucky” winner, local resident Ned Devine (Jimmy Keogh), they find he has died of shock upon discovering his win. Not wanting the money to go to waste, the villagers enter a pact to pretend Ned is still alive by having another man pose as him and then dividing the money among them. This movie is a light-hearted film that shows us the deeper meanings of good fortune.


**Battle for the Minds** (A231)
Monday 8:00 pm–10:00 pm
Sponsored by the AAR’s Committee on the Status of Women in the Profession and the AAR/SBL Women’s Caucus
Young Lee Hertig, United Theological Seminary, Dayton, Presiding
Religion, politics and sociology collide in this award-winning, critically acclaimed film. Battle for the Minds documents the rise of fundamentalism in America’s largest Protestant denomination and the subsequent impact of that rise on women. Dixie Petry, the director’s mother, made the decision late in life to enroll in seminary in order to become a pastor and dedicate her life to the ministry. She was the third generation in the family to attend the flagship Southern Baptist Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky. During Petry’s three years at Southern, Lipscomb listened to his mother describe her seminary experience. This film is her story.

_Battle for the Minds_, directed by Stephen Lipscomb, 1996, 52 minutes (Color and Black & White, USA).

Sessions on Professional Practices & Institutional Location
Awakening the Learner and the Teacher: Pedagogical Processes as Critique and Diversity  
(A44)  
Saturday 3:45 pm–6:15 pm  
*Sponsored by the Academic Teaching and the Study of Religion Section*  
See the [Online Program Book](#) for a longer description.

**The Scope of Our Art: The Vocation of the Teacher**  
(A77)

Rhetoric and Voice: Challenges to Classroom Cultures, Contexts, and Assumptions (A78)  
Sunday 9:00 am–11:30 am  
*Sponsored by the Academic Teaching and the Study of Religion Section*  
See the [Online Program Book](#) for a longer description.

Teaching the Students We Have: Changing Contacts, Shifting Pedagogies by Contexts (A158)  
Monday 9:00 am–11:30 am  
*Sponsored by the Academic Teaching and the Study of Religion Section*  
See the [Online Program Book](#) for a longer description.

Teaching Latina/o Religious Studies and/or Theology: Sharing our Resources (A173)  
Monday 9:00 am–11:30 am  
*Sponsored by the Hispanic American Religion, Culture, and Society Group*  
See the [Online Program Book](#) for a longer description.

**Seductions and (False?) Prophets: Considering New Technologies**  
(A183)

Studying Religion Where It Is Lived: Strategies for Experiential Learning and Teaching  
(A208)  
Monday 3:45 pm–6:15 pm  
*Sponsored by the Academic Teaching and the Study of Religion Section*  
See the [Online Program Book](#) for a longer description.

Religious Expertise in the Courtroom (A226)  
Monday 3:45 pm–6:15 pm  
*Sponsored by Law, Religion, and Culture Consultation*  
See the [Online Program Book](#) for a longer description.

**Receptions**

**AAR Donors Reception**  
(A66)  
Saturday 5:30 pm–6:45 pm  
Individuals whose generosity have allowed us to continue many of our special programs are invited to a reception hosted by the AAR Board of Directors.

**Reception for Racial and Ethnic Minority Members**  
(A67)  
Saturday 6:15 pm–7:00 pm
Interested persons are invited to a reception celebrating the contributions of racial and ethnic minority scholars in the Academy.

**Reception for Teachers of Religion in Secondary Schools** (A68)
Saturday 6:15 pm–7:00 pm
The AAR’s Religion in the Schools Task Force invites teachers of religion at the secondary school level to attend a reception in their honor.

**AAR/SBL Women’s Caucus Reception** (A72)
Saturday 9:00 pm–11:00 pm
The Bunting Institute, Harvard University; the AAR’s Womanist Approaches to Religion and Society Group; and the AAR/SBL Women’s Caucus invite interested persons to a reception honoring women’s contributions in the Academy.

**Reception for Religion Scholars in Part-time, Administrative, and Nonacademic Positions** (A73)
Saturday 9:30 pm–10:30 pm
The AAR’s Academic Relations Task Force and Board of Directors sponsor this conversation and reception to explore ways in which the AAR might better support members employed in part-time, administrative, or nonacademic positions.

**AAR/SBL Reception for Student Members** (A74=S53)
Saturday 10:00 pm–11:00 pm
AAR and SBL student members are invited to drop by an open house hosted by the AAR and SBL executive staffs.

**Retired Members Reception** (A150)
Sunday 5:30 pm–6:30 pm
All members of the AAR who are retired from full-time employment are cordially invited to an open house hosted by Ninian Smart, AAR president and Barbara DeConcini, AAR executive director.

**Lilly/NEH/Luce Teaching Fellows Reception** (A153)
Sunday 8:45 pm–10:00 pm
Sponsors, faculty and participants in the Lilly/NEH/Luce Teaching Workshops are invited to a reception in their honor.

**JAAR Editorial Board Reception** (A154)
Sunday 9:00 pm–11:00 pm
JAAR Editorial Board members are invited to a reception in their honor.

**International Members Continental Breakfast** (A157)
Monday, 7:30 am–8:45 am
All AAR international attendees are invited to an informational session and continental breakfast hosted by the AAR’s Committee on International Connections.
Reception for Program Unit Chairs and Steering Committee Members (A229)
Monday, 5:30 pm–6:45 pm
AAR program unit chairs and steering committee members are invited to a reception in their honor hosted by the AAR’s Program Committee.

Especially for Students

AAR Student Lounge
Saturday–Monday, 8:00 am–5:00 pm
The lounge is available for AAR student members to network with one another and meet AAR student liaison group members on a more informal basis, or simply as a place to relax between sessions.

Student Liaison Group Business Meeting (A17)
Saturday 9:00 am–10:45 am
Elizabeth Pullen, Drew University, Presiding
Appointed Student Liaison Group members will gather to discuss business.

Introduction to the AAR (A65)
Saturday 5:00 pm–6:15 pm
Elizabeth Pullen, Drew University, Presiding
This session provides an orientation to AAR structures, publication programs, and services. A brief presentation will be given and ample opportunity for questions and general discussion will follow. Panelists will include AAR Board of Directors members Rebecca S. Chopp, Emory University, and Mark Lloyd Taylor, Seattle University.

AAR/SBL Reception for Student Members (A74=S53)
Saturday 10:00 pm–11:00 pm
AAR and SBL student members are invited to drop by an open house hosted by the AAR and SBL executive staffs.

Student Member Planning Session (A182)
Monday 11:45 pm–12:45 pm
Elizabeth Pullen, Drew University, Presiding
AAR student members are invited to gather during the lunch hour to discuss ways the AAR can better serve its student members. All AAR student members are invited to participate.