Call for Papers 2001

This Call for Papers is issued to all AAR members.

The Annual Meeting will be held in Denver, Colorado
November 17-20, 2001

www.aarweb.org
annualmeeting@aarweb.org
2001 CALENDAR OF DEADLINES

March 1, 2001
Deadline for proposals, participant forms and abstracts to be received by Program Unit Chairs.

April 1, 2001
Notification of acceptance (or not) of proposals by Program Unit Chairs. Program Unit Chairs submit Program Book copy, abstracts and session requests to AAR executive office in paper form. All program participants must renew/establish 2001 AAR memberships.

April 7, 2001
Program Unit Chairs submit Program Book copy, abstracts and session requests online.

Mid-May 2001
Annual Meeting and hotel registration forms available.

Late-May 2001
Deadline for submission of Additional Meeting request forms.

June 15, 2001
Deadline for participants to be pre-registered for the meeting. Names of participants not registered will be removed from the Program Book.

September 2001
Annual Meeting Program Books mailed to members.

November 17-20, 2001
AAR/SBL Annual Meeting, Denver, CO

GENERAL INFORMATION

REGISTRATION AND HOUSING
You must be registered for the meeting in order to secure a room in an AAR/SBL hotel at our specially negotiated hotel rates (which are often half the published room-rate for the property). When you receive your preregistration information, carefully review and follow the instructions in order to secure your housing. Although registration may be completed without submitting your housing request, you are encouraged to submit both together.

WHOM TO CONTACT
The work of the program unit is coordinated by the chair(s) and a steering committee who design the sessions and make the decisions about which proposals will eventually be on the program. Each proposal is carefully refereed, usually in a “blind” procedure (i.e., without the name of the proposer being provided to the referees). All proposals, abstracts, and completed participant forms (as well as any questions you may have) should be sent to the individual(s) named in this Call.

Please inquire with the appropriate unit chair about the amount of time granted for your presentation, and by what date the respondent (if any) must receive your completed paper.

Concerns of a general nature may be sent to the AAR executive office to the attention of the Annual Meeting Program Director, 825 Houston Mill Road NE, Suite 300, Atlanta, GA 30329-4211, (O) 1-404-727-3049, FAX: 1-404-727-7959, annualmeeting@aarweb.org.

MEETING LOCATION
The 2001 AAR Annual Meeting will be held at the Colorado Conference Center, Denver, CO from November 17-20.

The 2002 Annual Meeting will be in Toronto, ON, November 23-26.
The 2003 Annual Meeting will be in Atlanta, GA, November 22-25.
The 2004 Annual Meeting will be in San Antonio, TX, November 20-23.

PARTICIPATION AT THE ANNUAL MEETING
All participants on the AAR program must be current (2001) members of AAR. Membership in SBL does not fulfill this requirement for 2001 or future meetings. All participants must also be pre-registered for the Annual Meeting by June 15, 2001. Any participant who is not a current 2001 AAR member or pre-registered for the Annual Meeting by June 15, 2001, will have his/her name removed from the printed Program Book and will jeopardize his/her participation on the program in November.

N.B. All 2000 and 2001 members receive this Call. To inquire about your 2001 membership status, please see www.aarweb.org/membership.

Each member may appear on the Annual Meeting program (AAR and/or SBL side) a total of two times in any capacity (e.g., present a paper, be a panelist, be a respondent, or preside over a session). The only exception is for business meeting presiders.

It is not appropriate to present the same material in two separate sessions, no matter the convention for describing them.

ADDITIONAL MEETINGS
Organizations, persons, or program units wishing to plan receptions and other meetings before, during, or after the Annual Meeting should contact Conferon, Inc. at 1-314-997-1500 after April 1, 2001. Conferon staff can send the guidelines, necessary forms, and costs to request a space at the Annual Meeting and announce your event in the Annual Meeting Program Book. Written requests can be sent to Conferon, Inc., 701 Emerson RD, STE 410, St. Louis, MO 63141. The deadline for priority scheduling of Additional Meeting requests is May 30, 2001. Requests after that date will be accommodated as space allows. No additional meeting of a programmatic nature (i.e., with names of presenters or titles) will be scheduled during the nine regular program unit time slots of the Annual Meeting.
GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING PROPOSALS
Proposals and abstracts should be submitted to the person(s) listed in the Call using the following guidelines and must be accompanied by the necessary materials. Failure to submit a proposal, an abstract, and/or participant form(s) may disqualify a submission from consideration. The deadline for receipt of submissions is March 1, 2001. Unless otherwise instructed in the Call itself, submit six (6) copies of the proposal (one copy with your name and institution listed; and five copies which are “blind,” i.e., your name and institution is not listed anywhere on the proposal).

TYPES OF PROPOSALS
The Annual Meeting program has two types of sessions: paper sessions and panel sessions. A “panel” is a session with one announced theme and a list of participants who address that theme but do not present separate formal papers. A session with a theme and separately announced paper titles/presentations is considered a “paper” session. For information regarding proposing a totally prearranged session, see below under “Session Proposals.”

INDIVIDUAL PROPOSALS
You are required to submit both a proposal (not more than two pages) and an abstract (not more than 150 words) of your presentation. Only proposals will be evaluated in the selection process, but if your proposal is accepted for the Annual Meeting, the abstract will be included in the Book of Abstracts. The proposal should state, as fully as you can, the paper’s purpose and how the argument will proceed. Provide enough context to show that you are aware of the basic literature in the field and summarize the argument of your presentation. Be specific about what sort of contribution your paper will make. Bear in mind the nature of the program unit to which you are applying, particularly as reflected in the Call for Papers. Please note the following instructions as you prepare your proposal, unless email submissions are accepted.

1. Use plain white paper 8.5” x 11” (or A4) with one inch margins.
2. Do not use institutional or other letterhead
3. Use a computer and printer, preferably a laser printer.
   Handwritten proposals cannot be accepted.
4. Use the following format:
   a. Type title of proposal.
   b. On one copy of the proposal, below the title, type name of presenter, a comma, and a complete name of institution. If there is no institutional affiliation, list city, state or province.
   Do not list this information on the other five copies of the proposal.
   c. Type body of proposal double-spaced. Proposals should not exceed two pages.

Submit six copies of your proposal to the person(s) named in the Call, one with your name and institution indicated and five without your name or institution. If you are requested by the program unit to submit copies to both co-chairs or steering committee members, follow the instructions listed. If no one person is specified, send your complete packet to either one of the co-chairs. Remember to include an email address on your proposal, if you do not use email, include a self-addressed stamped envelope with appropriate postage for the country from which the Program Unit Chair will send the notification regarding your acceptance (or not) onto the program.

SESSION PROPOSALS
Members may wish to submit a prearranged session in its entirety. Special considerations go into the submission of such a session. The coordinator of a prearranged session must submit a proposal that lists all the participants (presider, participants and respondent [if desired]). Submissions for panels should include a single proposal detailing the focus of the session, one abstract, and a participant form for each panelist, respondent and presider. Submissions for a paper session must include copies of each presenter's original paper proposal in addition to the necessary forms (session proposal, abstracts, and participant forms). Failure to send in a complete prearranged proposal may disqualify a session. Units reserve the right to accept prearranged session proposals in full or in part.

ABSTRACTS
Along with your proposal and completed participant form, you must submit an abstract. Submissions for the Book of Abstracts will only be accepted in an electronic virus free form. Please note some program units prefer particular formats.

1. Abstracts are requested for all presentations in the program, both papers and panels.
2. Abstracts must be in electronic form (email attachment, body of an email, or diskette), please also include a print copy for reference if not submitting the entire proposal via email. Use the following guidelines for format:
   - WordPerfect, MS Word, RTF, or ASCII text format.
   - Use SP fonts for all non-western characters or transliterated characters. These fonts can be downloaded from the AAR web-site at http://www.aarweb.org
   - Complete title of paper (no quotation marks should appear around the paper title and do not use italics), followed by Name of the author (as you wish it to appear), and Name of Institution (please include location if more than one school or campus bears the name) or city, state or province.
   - Body of Abstract may be no more than 150 words in length. Abstracts longer than 150 words will be shortened.
3. Do not use footnotes, any present will be deleted.
4. Do not fax abstract.
5. Please scan your abstract for viruses before sending.

PARTICIPANT FORM
The Program Participant Form (see page 15) is designed to provide the information necessary to respond to your proposal and to organize the Annual Meeting. It is important that this form be filled out clearly and completely by the participant. There is an electronic version of the participant form available on the AAR website at www.aarweb.org which you can fill out, print, and send.

POLICY ON MULTIPLE SUBMISSIONS
To foster broad participation and to facilitate the work of unit chairs, the Program Committee allows but does not encourage multiple submissions of proposals. The total limit on such submissions is two. These may consist of the same proposal submitted to two different program units, or a combination of different proposals.
A Program Participant Form must accompany each proposal, and the other program units to which you submitted proposals must be indicated. While failure to disclose multiple submissions may well result in the rejection of all submissions, disclosure of multiple submissions will not jeopardize full consideration of each.

**TAPING**

Audio taping of Annual Meeting sessions is a service provided to members when affordable arrangements can be made. The modest royalties received on the sale of the tapes are applied to defray the costs of housing provided by the AAR for the technicians and technical fees paid to the hotel. The AAR does not make money on this service. Some other information: 1) The audio taping company will assert no copyright. The copyright belongs to the presenter. 2) Tapes are available immediately at the Annual Meeting. 3) Order forms are available onsite at the Annual Meeting in the February issue of Religious Studies News-AAR Edition, and online, see link from www.aarweb.org. 4) Sessions are taped only when all participants (with the exception of the presider) in a given session agree to it.

**SECTIONS**

are the most inclusive type of program unit, aimed at reflecting the major areas of academic interest of the members of the Association and at addressing the continuing agenda of the various sub-fields within the study of religion. Attendance at sessions of sections (as well as any of the other program units) is open to all persons who are AAR or SBL members and who are registered for the Annual Meeting.

**Academic Teaching and the Study of Religion**

Academic Teaching and the Study of Religion. Christine M. Bochen, Department of Religious Studies, Nazareth College, 4245 East Avenue, Rochester, NY 14618, WO: 1-716-389-2728, cbochen@naz.edu; and Barbara A. B. Patterson, Department of Religion, Emory University, Atlanta, GA 30322, WO: 1-404-727-2541, patter@emory.edu. Please direct proposals and inquiries to either co-chair, preferably by email. We seek papers that discuss philosophies and strategies for effective teaching and learning, and we urge panelists to incorporate audience response, conversational, and interactive techniques in their presentations. This year the section particularly seeks proposals on the following themes: the scholarship of service-learning in the teaching of religion; teaching introductory courses; teaching and “difference” (e.g., courses in areas outside of one’s specialization, diverse or non-traditional settings and constituencies, pedagogies and methodologies that are shaped by and respond to different worldviews); specific skills, tools, and strategies for teaching and learning (e.g., writing, critical thinking, technology, discussion, old and new religious “classics,” case studies); challenges and successes of teaching early in one’s career; and proposals that incorporate special features of Denver or the Rocky Mountain west into the teaching of religion. In addition, the Academic Teaching and Study of Religion Section is cosponsoring a session with the Ethics Section. For this session we seek pro-posals that address, discuss, or demonstrate experimental and other pedagogical approaches to the teaching of ethics and social justice.

**Arts, Literature, and Religion**

Carolyn M. Medine, University of Georgia, Dept. of Religion, Peabody Hall, Athens, GA 30602-1625, WO: 1-706-542-5356, FAX: 1-706-542-6724, dr_cmjones@hotmail.com; and Mark Ledbetter, 228 Pine Grove Church Road, Culloden, GA 31016, WO: 1-912-992-9110, FAX: 1-912-477-3740, ledbetter@bumperspring.com. Papers are invited on the following: (1) Joint session with the Christian Spirituality Group on “Christian Spirituality and the Poetic Imagination”: papers should demonstrate (a) a clear sense of methodological and theoretical perspectives on the interpretation of poetic texts and/or (b) a clear focus on the work of a particular poet. Follow submission instructions for both units; (2) True West: images of the American West and of other frontiers in film, art, performance, and literature; (3) spiritual topography: sacred space and place: physical and imaginary landscapes; (4) the capricious divine: the unreliability of God: quirks, tricks, caprices, etc. of the divine; and (5) M. M. Bakhtin: his ethical and aesthetic philosophy and methodology and its relationship to literary and visual analysis. Please submit two (2) copies of the participant form and abstract and ten (10) copies of the proposal to Carolyn Medine. Email copies of the abstract—not as an attachment—to both Carolyn Medine and Mark Ledbetter.

**Buddhism**

Jacqueline Stone, Department of Religion, 1879 Hall, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ 08544, (O) 1-609-258-4482, jstone@princeton.edu; and/or John Strong, Department of Religion, Bates College, Lewiston, ME 04240, (O) 1-207-786-6311, jstrong@bates.edu. Papers are invited on the following topics: Buddhist teachings, including dharma, karma, and rebirth, are communicated to adepts, initially, with the per-sos named in parentheses: compassion discourses in the Mahayana (Bryan Phillips, bhp4m@unix.marin.virginia.edu; H.L. Seneviratne’s The Work of Kings: The New Buddhism in Sri Lanka (Bradley Clough, clough@bard.edu); Buddhism and medical practice (Janet Gyatso, jgyatso@umherst.edu); commodification of Buddhism (José Cabezon, jcabezon@edu); and political and religious legitimation of Buddhist prophecies (Veena Wallace, vwaller@humanitas.ucsd.edu): Buddhism on the Silk Road (Mariko Walter, mwalter@mailbox.une.edu); issues of identity and alterity in Buddhism (David Gray, dgray626@boston.com); and traditions surrounding kingship (Mark Blum, blum@sc.edu). In addition, the section co-chairs will be happy to receive proposals for individual papers, panels, or full paper sessions on any other topic concerning the history, doctrine, practice, and culture of Buddhist in or across any geographical areas. All submissions will be considered by the section steering committee through a blind refereeing process. Please submit the original proposal along with eight (8) copies (two more than generally requested).

**Comparative Studies in Religion**

Kay A. Read, Dept. of Religious Studies, DePaul University, 2320 No. Kenmore, Chicago, IL 60614, (O) 1-703-325-1280, kread@depaul.edu; and Carol Anderson, Dept. of Religion, Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo, MI 49006, (O) 1-616-337-7114, anderso@kzoo.edu. This section provides the site for significant cross traditional and/or cross cultural inquiry. We seek sessions that both: (1) provide occasions for comparative inquiry seriously engaging two or more religious traditions around a common topic; and (2) ensure that critical reflection is given to the conceptual tools therein employed. We encourage both individual papers, and group proposals either in the form of thematic sessions (maximum 4 presenters with 25-minute papers), or as panels (maximum 6 presenters with 15-minute presentations). Thematic session proposals must include both a two-page abstract, and individual paper proposals; and panel proposals must include a two-page overview summarizing its aims and indicating the panel members. The steering committee reserves the right to add individuals to either type of group proposal, and all sessions must have a respondent. The following themes have been proposed for next year: dreams (beliefs, practices, their ontological status, training necessary for interpretation, their depreciation in modern Western society; and the place of scholars’ own dreams); comparison and cognitive studies; discussions of comparative methods in Robert Neville’s three-volume work (The Human Condition, Ultimate Realities, and Religious Truth), or the methodological reactions to the Work of J.Z. Smith in A Magic Still Dwells: Comparative Religion in the Postmodern Age (Kimberly Patton and Benjamin Ray, editors); “What the Heck are the Chicago and/or Harvard Schools of Comparison Anyway?”, the internet and religion; sacrifice in cosmic and ritual images; holy and unholy spirit possession; twinning and twopship; and weeping in ritual imagination. Other topics fitting our goals are welcome. Please submit eight copies of your proposal to Kay Read.

**Ethics**

Pamela K. Brubaker, Dept. of Religion, HUM 3900, California Lutheran University, 60 W. Olsen Rd., Thousand Oaks, CA 91360, (O) 1-805-493-3873, brubaker@klanelu.edu; and Fred Glennon, Dept. of Religious Studies, Le Moyne College, 1419 Salt Springs Road, Syracuse, NY 13214, (O) 1-315-445-4343, glennon@mail.lemoyne.edu. Proposals are invited for papers or panels in all areas of religious ethics. This year the section particularly seeks proposals on religious and ethical strategies for transforming global capitalism, new uses of classical sources for doing ethics, the ethics of the political process, including the U.S. 2000 elections, the ethical implications of popular culture and media, and ethical issues raised by a focus on “family values.” In addition, the Ethics Section is cosponsoring a session with the Academic Teaching and Study of Religion Section. For this session we seek proposals that address, discuss, or demonstrate experimental and other pedagogical approaches to the teaching of ethics and social justice. Persons who did not present papers at any session of the Ethics...
Section at the 2000 Annual Meeting will be given preference. Those proposing panels should have secured in advance commitments to participate from all contributors and should submit Participant Forms for everyone. Direct inquiries to either co-chair, preferably by email. Please mail seven (7) copies of your proposal, along with all other required materials to Pamela Brubaker.

History of Christianity. Georgia Frank, Philosophy & Religion, Colgate University, 13 Oak Dr., Hamilton, NY 13346, (O) 1-315-228-7694, FAX: 1-315-228-7998 (attn: Frank), gfrank@mail.colgate.edu; and Anne Thayer, Lancaster Theological Seminary, 555 West James Street, Lancaster, PA 17603, (O) 1-717-290-8721, FAX: 1-717-393-4254, athayer@LTS.org. Papers are invited on the following themes: clothing and nakedness; solitude; poverty and wealth; representing childhood; preaching; mission and empire; magic, science, and knowledge. Proposals for complete sessions are also welcome. Please send one proposal (with your name) to Anne Thayer; then send the remaining 5 copies and program participant form to Georgia Frank. Please submit abstracts to gfrank@mail.colgate.edu in the body of an email message (not as file attachment or on diskette). Notifications will be done via e-mail.

North American Religions. Peter W. Williams, Dept. of Comparative Religion, Miami University, Oxford OH 45056, (O) 1-513-529-4305, williawp@miami.edu. The section encourages the use of diverse sources and multiple approaches to the study of religions in North America. In most sessions, the organizers seek to stimulate comparative discussion across a range of traditions around particular themes. Most years we also devote one session to work on a particular religious tradition and another to a recently published book of outstanding merit in the field. This year we welcome proposals for either individual papers or for panels. If you propose a panel, please be sure to note the distinction between paper sessions and panels, to provide summaries of each paper to be included. The section’s steering committee reserves the right to make changes in session proposals. All proposals should include a brief discussion of a methodological/interpretive component as well as description and narrative. The use of new technologies in presentations is welcome. Although we will be glad to consider proposals on any relevant topic, we would particularly welcome submissions this year which deal with (1) religion in the American West, both intermountain and Pacific Basin. This might include groups distinctive to the West, especially the Mormons; other groups which have a distinctive Western history, such as Catholics and Pentecostals; (2) themes relevant to the West, such as the intersection of religion with the construction of regional, racial and ethnic identities there; (3) exploration and mission; and intercultural contacts, especially those involving the Pacific Rim; (4) religion and American film in historical context; (5) war and violence.

Philosophy of Religion. Tom Kasulis, Comparative Studies, Ohio State University, 230 W. 17th Ave., 308 Dulles Hall, Columbus, OH 43210-1311, (O) 1-614-292-7892, H: 1-614-457-9756, kasulis.1@osu.edu. We invite paper proposals on the following topics: (1) Josiah Royce; (2) William James; (3) the messiah in postmodern contexts; (4) feminist philosophy of religion; (5) does morality need faith? (e.g., Kant, Dewey, Levinas, Non-Western thinkers); (6) religion and the art of living (e.g., Robert Bellah, Pierre Hadot, New Age philosophical interpretations, Siddhayoga, Thomas Merton). In addition, proposals are also invited for full sessions (presider, presenters, respondent) on any topic relevant to the field. Those wishing to be considered as presenters or presiders for any of the above topics and who are not submitting paper proposals are invited to submit an appropriate Participant Form stating such, attaching a paragraph explaining your appropriate background, expertise, and interest in the topic.

Religion and the Social Sciences. Glen Stassen, Fuller Theological Seminary, Box 235, 135 N. Oakland, Pasadena, CA 91182, (O) 1-626-304-3733, H: 1-626-296-1635, gstassen@fuller.edu; and Elizabeth Bounds, Candler School of Theology, Emory University, Atlanta, GA 30322, (O) 1-404-727-4172, ebounds@emory.edu. This section seeks to analyze religious beliefs, ideologies, practices, myths, theologies, and institutions using critical, social-scientific methodologies (from anthropology, law, political science/economics, psychology, and sociology). To this end, papers written from any critical social scientific perspectives and integration with methodologies in religion are invited on the following topics: (1) critical responses to Cheryl Townsend Gilkes If It Wasn't for the Women (Orbis) co-sponsored with the Womanist Approaches to Religion and Society Group (please send proposals to both sets of chairs); (2) Concordat, the Churches, and Nazi Germany; (3) religion, civil society and social capital; (4) space, place and cash: dislocation by big money; (5) virtual realities: de/re territorializing identities and the internet; (6) handguns, militias, and how to reduce U.S. violence; (7) religion and psychology “on the couch”: controversies in the relationship between psychological methods and the study of religion. Papers employing social-scientific and/or interdisciplinary methods on other topics of interest to scholars of religion are also welcomed. Please mail one copy of your proposal with your name/affiliation and one copy with no name, plus abstract, response card, and electronic file with abstract to Glen Stassen and email one copy of your proposal with name/affiliation to Elizabeth Bounds.

Religion in South Asia. Vasudha Narayanam, Dept. of Religion, 125 Dauer Hall, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL 32611, (O) 1-352-392-1625, vasu@religion.ufl.edu; and Anne Feldhaus Religious Studies, Arizona State University, PO Box 873104, Tempe, AZ 85287-3104, anne@map2.asu.edu. We invite proposals for fully developed paper sessions or panels on any aspect of religion in South Asia, including fresh field research, textual studies, and pedagogy. We especially solicit proposals for an issue-oriented panel including brief presentations followed by extensive open discussion and panels with innovative formats. Potential presenters are encouraged to network through RISA-L (www.acsud.edu/~nelson/risa). Topics suggested for the 2001 Annual Meeting are listed below with the names and contact persons in parentheses. This list is by no means exhaustive or definitive: accounting for Islam in Hindu experience (Jim Laine, laine@macalaster.edu and Peter Gottschalk, gottschkl@southwestern.edu) updating India civilization research (Carlos Lopez, carloslopez@post.harvard.edu); Wilhelm Halbfass’ influence on the study of religion in south Asia (Andrew Fort, afort@mu.edu); recasting women/ recasting gender and the new natriarchy in modern India (Kay Jordan, hjordan@radford.edu); fate in medieval vernacular literature (Frank Korom, korom@bu.edu); social meanings of food as a means of transaction (Lisa Wilson; wilsone@muohio.edu and Robert Menzies, rmenzies@uwinnipeg.ca); holy and unholy religious possession in south asian traditions (Selva Raj, sraj@albion.edu and Bill Harman, wharman@depauw.edu); symbolic studies of Hindu pilgrimage sites (Prabha Reddy; prabha@gwu.edu); identity and disguise in daily life rituals (Lise Vail, vail@mail.montclair.edu); Hindu presentations, representations, and misrepresentations of Buddhism (Deepak Sarma; dsarma@connell.edu); how categories shape discourse: the mediation of Hindu religious identity in the U.S. (Norris Palmer, npalmer@stmarys-ca.edu); religious war, and peace in India (Akhil Mohan, amohan@southwestern.edu); postmodern religious historiography: challenging scholarly fixation on colonial knowledges (Christian Lee Novotzke, chn@columbia.edu); significance of the sixteenth century (CE) in South Asian religions (Christian Lee Novotzke, chn@columbia.edu).

Study of Islam. Zayn Kassam, Department of Religious Studies, Pomona College, 551 N. College Ave., Claremont, CA 91711, 1-909-607-4095, zhasam@pomona.edu; and Jonathan Brokopp, Department of Religion, Bard College, Annandale, NY 12504, 1-914-758-6822, brokopp@bard.edu. Please send proposals (one original, plus seven [7] blind copies) to Jonathan Brokopp only. The section invites papers or prearranged panels in all areas of Islam. Submissions are invited on the following topics as well: teaching gender and Islam; Islam and the media; race and ethnicity in Islam; Islamic cosmologies; Islam and human rights; Islam and the environment; inter-religious dialogue; Muslim festivals; sacred space and place; traditions of learning in Islam; Islam and post-modernity; Qur’anic and legal studies; Islam in Asia. The use of diverse sources and theoretical approaches is encouraged. Presentations must explicitly address methodological issues.

Study of Judaism. Barbara E. Galli, McGill University, Faculty of Religious Studies, 3520 University ST, Montreal, PQ H3A 2A7 Canada, (O) 1-514-398-6027, H: 1-514-341-3421, bgalli2@po.box.mcgill.ca; and Randi Rashkover, Cleveland College of Jewish Studies, rporo@mindspring.com. Send proposals to Barbara E. Galli. Proposals are invited on the following themes: Jewish feminisms, Jewish life and history in the North American West, exile and diasporic studies, Holocaust, prayer and ritual, Jewish renewal, and aesthetics in Judaism. Proposals are also invited for full sessions on any topic relevant to the field. We continue this year to encourage paper and panel sessions that involve shared interests with other AAR program units.
Theology and Religious Reflection. Paul F. Lakeland, Fairfield University, N. Benson Road, Fairfield, CT 06430, (O) 1-203-254-4000x2492, pf.lakeland@fair1.fairfield.edu. The unit will sponsor a pre-arranged session on new theological approaches to tradition; although papers will be invited, the steering committee would be happy to hear from persons of whose current work in this area it may not be aware. We will also be holding a joint session with the Kierkegaard, Religion and Culture Group, an invited panel, on Kierkegaard and Postnationalism. In addition, paper and panel proposals are invited on the following topics and questions: (1) can the work of Derrida make a meaningful contribution to emancipatory theologies and religious reflection?; (2) Western and non-Western theologies of and religious reflection upon economics; (3) how do theologies of emancipation recover the classical work in this area; (4) theologies of religion and gender; (5) what conditions do they become so? We also invite papers that address the intersection of theology and religious reflection with current critical theory and cultural studies. In evaluating all proposals, the committee gives preference to those that combine scholarship and originality.

Women and Religion. Mary C. Churchill, Women's Studies Program, 246 UCB, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO 80309-0246, (O) 1-303-492-4531, FAX: 1-303-492-2549, churchill@stripes.colorado.edu. We welcome proposals for individual papers and prearranged sessions on any aspect of women and religion. In particular, we are interested in forms of analysis that address race, ethnicity, class, sexuality, and/or global issues in relation to women and religion. Presentations that are multidisciplinary or innovative in format (performance, multimedia, etc.) are especially encouraged. The section is also committed to fostering discussion on the intersections of advocacy and scholarship. This year we also call for papers on the following themes: (1) Teaching women (or gender) and religion, especially women and Islam; (2) Third wave feminism and beyond; “grrrl culture”; (3) Religious diversity and multiple cultural and disciplinary approaches to gender and religion; (4) Theologies of religion and gender; (5) Religious studies in the structural category of “woman”; (6) Receptions of the last three decades of the international study of women and religion (Women's Caucus anniversary). Please send an original proposal (with name of presenter and institution), 5 copies of the proposal (without identifying information), an abstract (both paper and electronic versions) to Mary C. Churchill. Please send electronic abstracts (IBM-compatible, virus free) via disk or email attachment only.

GROU PS are established to encourage the exploration of an emergent area of study or methodology, to cultivate the relationship between the study of religion and a cognate discipline, or to pursue a long-range and broad research project. More focused than sections and less restricted in participation than seminars, groups are expected to experiment with the format of sessions at the Annual Meeting.

African Religions. Simeon Ilesanmi, Dept. of Religion, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC 27109, (O) 336-758-5459, ilesanmi@wfub.edu, and Kathleen O’Brien Wicker, Scripps College, Claremont, CA 91711, (O) 909-607-3380, kwicker@scrippscol.edu. We are seeking paper proposals in the following areas: religion and globalization in Africa; ethical issues in research on religion in Africa; and New Religious Movements in Africa. Please send proposals on these topics to either of the co-chairs above.

Afro-American Religious History. Daphne C. Wiggins, Box 90967, The Divinity School, Duke University, Durham, NC 27708-0967, (O) 919-660-3534, FAX: 1-919-660-3473, dwiggins@div.duke.edu. Papers which address the following themes from a historical perspective are invited: Elijah Muhammad; C. Eric Lincoln’s religious scholarship; female religious leaders in non-mainstream traditions; and twentieth century “popular” figures and/or movements (e.g. Rev. Ike, Iyanla Vazant, Fred Price, Creflo Dollar, Full Gospel Baptist Fellowship, T.D. Jakes). We also solicit papers on new paradigms for interpreting African American religious history; methodological/theyoretical issues related to using non-traditional sources for reconstructing African American religious history. Submit 2-3 page proposal, and a participant form.

Asian North American Religions, Culture, and Society. Jane Naomi Iwamura, USC School of Religion, THH 328, Los Angeles, CA 90089-0353, (O) 213-821-2891, FAX: 213-740-7158, iwamura@usc.edu; and David Kyuman Kim, Harvard University, The Divinity School, Divinity Hall, Divinity Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02138, dkim@hks.harvard.edu. Paper and panel proposals are invited on the following themes: (1) Confucianism in (Asian) America; (2) religion and gender in Asian American and Asian Canadian literatures; (3) responses to the work of Fumitaka Matsuoka; (4) open call. We also invite proposals for a joint session with the U.S. Latino/a Religion, Culture and Society Group exploring “the New Majority,” i.e., the emerging presence and impact of Asian Americans, Latinos/as, and other minorities on the North American religious scene. Papers for this session might address shifts in religious identifications, projects of nation-building, transnationalism, and changing definitions of race in the study of religion. Cross-comparative studies are also encouraged.

Black Theology. Cheryl A. Kirk-Duggan, Graduate Theological Union, 2400 Ridge Road, Berkeley, CA 94709, (O) 1-510-649-2490, FAX: 1-510-649-1730, kirkdugg@gtu.edu; and Anthony Pinn, Macalester College, Dept. of Religious Studies; 1600 Grand Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105, (O) 1-612-696-6151, FAX: 1-612-696-6889, pinn@macalester.edu. We invite proposals on three themes: (1) uses of African American literature in Black theologies; papers engaging the theological use of Ralph Ellison are encouraged, but the theological use of other literary figures are of great interest; (2) Black theologies on the nature of crime and punishment: papers may engage historical or contemporary fictional or nonfictional contexts for theological reflection on this area of thought; (3) apocalypticism, eschatology, and the judgment of God, in dialogue with Black theological traditions, practices, methods, and texts co-sponsored with the Christian Systematic Theology Group. Send complete proposals on the last theme to both group chairs. Send proposals electronically and by mail.

Bonhoeffer: Theology and Social Analysis. Jeffrey C. Pugh, Dept. of Religious Studies, Elon College, Campus Box 2168, Elon College, NC 27244-2020, (O) 336-278-5712, pughj@elon.edu. We invite proposals on a variety of themes in conversation with Bonhoeffer: his life and thought. We are especially interested in proposals that deal with Bonhoeffer’s christology in relation to concerns about religious pluralism and interfaith dialogue. In this regard proposals that address the issue of Bonhoeffer and Jewish-Christian relations are encouraged. In addition to this issue we welcome papers on the following topics: Bonhoeffer’s use of scripture for theology and practice, whether Bonhoeffer offers positive directions for contemporary constructive theology, and Bonhoeffer’s critique of modernity. We request email attachment submissions if possible.

Chinese Religions. Terry Kleman, Religious Studies, CB 292, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO, 80309-0292, (O) 303-492-6894, terry.kleman@colorado.edu. Randall Nadeau, Dept of Religion, Trinity University, 715 Stadium DR, San Antonio, TX 78212, rnadeau@trinity.edu. We welcome individual papers or paper session proposals on (1) Chinese millenialism; (2) the function of images in Chinese religious traditions; (3) divination and mantic arts in Chinese religions; (4) orality vs. writing in Chinese religious traditions. We would also welcome proposals for a roundtable panel that would critically examine current scholarship on Chinese religions (whether organized by period, tradition, or national origin). We also encourage paper session or roundtable proposals on other topics relating to Chinese religions.

Papers are invited on the following: (1) “Christian Spirituality and Ecological Responsibility.” Which resources in the Christian spiritual tradition show promise for addressing the growing ecological crisis? Are there models of spiritual practice for living in right relationship with the earth? Are there blind spots in the tradition? What in current ecological literature/practice hold promise for recasting Christian spirituality?; (2) “Teaching Christian Spirituality.” Pedagogical practices involving both critical reflection and self-implication; teaching texts of oppressed peoples; teaching the introductory course; teaching that challenges dominant paradigms in a variety of contexts (e.g., university; college, seminary, congregation, retreat); (3) “Christian Spirituality and the Poetic Imagination.” Joint session with Arts, Lituration, and Religion Group. Papers should address explicitly the relationship between Christian spirituality and ecology, teaching, or the arts. Submissions via email accepted.

Christian Systematic Theology. David S. Cunningham, Seabury-Western Theological Seminary, 2122 Sheridan Road, Evanston, IL 60201, (O) 1-847-328-9300x33, Fax 847-328-9624; dscunningham@sbc.edu. Proposals are invited on three themes: (1) the love of God, particularly as it relates to the classical loci of systematic theology. How can this doctrine make a nuanced contribution to constructive theology today?; (2) the doctrine of the imago Dei. What are the theological advantages and dangers of interpreting human beings “in the image of God”; (3) jointly with the Black Theology Group (send complete proposals on this theme to both Group chairs): apocalyptic, eschatology, and the judgment of God, in dialogue with Black theological traditions, practices, methods, and texts. For all three themes, we seek specifically theological answers to the questions–constructive proposals that are both informed by the historical traditions of theology and directed to the contemporary contexts in which theology is pursued.

Church-State Studies. Eric Michael Mazur, Religion Department, Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA 17837, (O) 1-570-577-3525, mazur@bucknell.edu. We invite proposals on all aspects of the relationship between religion and the state, both domestic and international, historic and con-temporary, and employing a diversity of methods. Possible topics include religion and legislation; religion and politics; and religion and the courts (including court decisions). We especially seek proposals addressing non-Christian or minority issues/communities. The group is also co-sponsoring two panels and invites proposals on the following topics: the first, addressing the political and cultural environment and the implementation of the concept of religious liberty principles in Central and Eastern Europe (with the Religion in Central and Eastern Europe Consultation); the second, examining political and legal issues surrounding free speech and/or free exercise justifications by campus-based religious and lesbian-bisexual-gay students and organizations for funding, membership restrictions, and public rhetoric of opposition (with the Lesbian-Feminist Issues and Religion Group).

Comparative Studies in Hinduisms and Judaisms. Barbara A. Holdrege, Department of Religious Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, CA 93106-3130, (H) 1-805-968-6100, holdrege@humantitas.ucsb.edu. This group seeks to bring together specialists in South Asia and Judiaica to discuss topics within paradigms to the Protestant-based models that have tended to dominate the academic study of religion. For the 2001 session we invite papers on the following themes: (1) reproducing and revising the homeland in Jewish and Hindu diaspora communities; (2) mantra and divine name in Hindu and Jewish meditation traditions; (3) tzaddik and guru: the teacher in Hasidic and bhakti traditions. Presenters need not have expertise in both Hindu and Jewish traditions.

Confucian Traditions. John Berthrong, School of Theology, Boston University, 745 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, MA 02215, (O) 1-617-353-3050, FAX: 1-617-353-3061, jh@bu.edu. Proposals are invited on the following topics: (1) Confucian temples: historical or contemporary studies of ritual practices, iconography, patronage, etc.; (2) Western scholarship on Confucianism and how it represents the tradition (e.g., “Boston Confucian-
Attention should be given to how pentecostal theology or ethics fits within the wider discussion of contemporary Christian thought. The second topic is the recent history of American evangelical and race: white evangelical attitudes toward civil rights and/or Black power movements, African-American perspectives on white evangelicalism, role of African-American music and worship styles within white evangelicalism, evangelical theological categories and racial reconciliation, the participation of African-Americans, Latino/a, and Asian-Americans in the evangelical congregations and parachurch networks, the impact of church-growth strategies on racial inclusivity, and the relationship between race and the evangelical political agenda. Submissions via e-mail are encouraged.

Feminist Theory and Religious Reflection. Karen Trimble Alliame, Religious Studies Department, Lewis University, Box 1092, 1 University Parkway, Romeoville, IL, 60446, (O) 1-815-836-5884, alliauak@lewisu.edu. Papers and panel proposals are invited that address the following topics: (1) genre, voice and power: critical reflection on power relations and issues of authority involved in our practices of feminist theory and religious reflection. We particularly invite and encourage proposals that model or re-enact alternative modes of presentation; (2) the critical impact of feminist theory and religious reflection on recent discussions of history, historiography, and/or cultural memory. We also accept panel proposals and individual paper proposals on topics other than the ones listed, if such topics are related to feminist theory.

Gay Men’s Issues in Religion. Donald L. Boisvert, 3865 de Montana, Montreal, PQ H2L 3R7, Canada, (O) 1-514-527-0537, db@alcor.concordia.ca; and Jay E. Johnson, 632 38th St, Richmond, CA 94805-1702, (O) 1-510-647-3799, drijay@earthlink.net. We welcome paper and panel proposals from people of all sexual orientations and genders on issues relevant to the group, but are especially interested in those on the following themes: scholarship and activism; gender/sexuality in the church; and/or cultural memory.

Hinduism. Sarah Caldwell, Department of Religious Studies, California State University, Chico, CA 95929-0740, (O) 1-530-824-1028, scaldwell@cucko.edu; and Tracy Pintchman, Harvard Divinity School, Women’s Studies in Religion, 45 Francis Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02138, (O) 1-617-495-5705, tpintch@hds.cu. Submit all proposals to Sarah Caldwell. The group invites submissions for thematic sessions and panels evoking religious experience through metaphor/language/art (Douglas Brooks, db@trivo.cc.rochester.edu); (4) evoking religious experience through metaphor/language/art (Douglas Brooks, db@trivo.cc.rochester.edu); (5) contemporary Margarita and her movements (Cynthia Holmes, chumes@mckenn.edu); (6) representation of Hinduism in the media, perhaps related to the showing of two or three films (Robert Menzies, rmenzies@escapes.ca); (7) the “Kalbi’s Child” controversy (Jack Hawley, jsh3@columbia.edu); (8) orientalism and contemporary Hindu representations (Roxanne Gupta, roxanne@alb.edu). Late Writings” (Princeton, 1998). Proposals are invited assessing Kierkegaard’s final attack on Christendom, including such topics as church-state relations; the clergy; marriage, parenting, and gender constructions; aestheticism and spiritual malaise of nineteenth-century Danish culture; and the contemporary relevance of his critiques. Additional joint session with the Theology and Religious Reflection Section: “Kierkegaard and Postnationalism”: invited panel. Twenty minute reading time for each paper. Submissions should be key to the new Princeton translations.

Korean Religions. Sungtaek Cho, Program in Korean Studies, 130 Old Chemistry Bldg, State University of New York, NY, 11794-3725, (O) 1-631-632-7362, stcho@notes.cc.sunysb.edu; and Bockja Kim, Humanities Division, HKUST, Clearwater Bay, Kowloon, (O) 1-852-2358-7801, hkim@hust.hk. We are seeking papers on the related topics of the Korean transformation of Buddhism and the Buddhist transformation of Korea. Papers should focus either on the transformation of Korean religious thought, doctrine, ritual, and praxis, or on cultural and social transformation, including issues related to Korean women and Buddhism, Korean art and Buddhism, Korean architecture and Buddhism, Korean shamanism and Buddhism, and Korean nationalism and Buddhism. Papers on other issues related to the Korean transformation of Buddhism are also welcome. The time period under consideration can vary according to the theme of the paper, from antiquity to the modern era. Proposals on the Korean transformation of other religious traditions may also be considered.

Lesbian-Feminist Issues and Religion. Peggy Schmeiser, 150 Concord ST South, Ottawa, ON K1N 0Z4, Canada, (O) 1-613-567-4065, pschmeiser@sympatico.ca. Individuals and groups are invited to submit proposals for thematic sessions and panels surrounding free speech and/or free exercise justifications by campus-based religious and lesbian-bisexual-gay students organizations for funding, membership restrictions, and public rhetoric of opposition. Other key topics include the dynamic between les-bi-gay activism and scholarship in the struggle for social change; history, texts, differences and shared presump-
tions of lesbian-feminism and queer theory; ethics of lesbian community, especially concerning racial diversity; and religious dimensions in films such as *Aimee and Jaguar* and *Boys Don't Cry*. Proposals also welcome on: pre-Stonewall lesbian lives; transgender issues; the ebb and flow of radical feminist critiques of religion; Native American conceptualizations of Two-Spirit people; South Asian and South Asian diaspora lesbian identities; discussions of Marcella Althaus-Reid’s *Indecent Theology*. Send eight (8) copies of proposals to Jennifer Rycenga.

**Men’s Studies in Religion.** Mark Justad, 211 Kirkland Hall, Vanderbilt University, 37240, (O) 1-615-322-0882, FAX: 1-615-322-6060, mark.justad@vanderbilt.edu, and Dave Livingston, Mercyhurst University, (O) 1-814-824-2502. The group is interested in papers on the general topic of the intersection of religious reflection and male identity or social location. Specific themes of interest to the group: the influence of masculinity on major 20th century theological or religious figures, movements, or methods; men and relational theological anthropologies (including issues of fathering, mentoring, and nurturing); gender role manipulation in mysticism; the difficulty and/or promise of Jesus’ maleness for postpatriarchal religious reflection; religious leadership and the abuse of power; masculinity and interreligious dialogue. In evaluating submissions, particular attention will be given to constructive proposals and to proposals which focus on nonhegemonic or marginalized masculinities (gay, poor, black, latino, etc.). Email submissions are preferred.

**Millennialism Studies.** Eugene V. Gallagher, Department of Religious Studies, Box 3452, Connecticut College, New London, CT 06320-4196, evgall@conncoll.edu. Proposals are invited on the future of millennialism. Proposals for papers, panels, or sessions on any aspect of millennialism throughout history and across cultures are also encouraged.

**Mysticism.** David B. Perrin, Saint Paul University, 223 Main St., Ottawa, ON K1S 1C4, Canada, (O) 1-613-236-1393x2277, FAX: 1-613-751-4016 dperrin@ustpaul.uottawa.ca. We focus on the philosophical, psychological, theoretical, and comparative nature of mysticism, religious experience, and spiritual practice. Creative, imaginative, and scholarly proposals for 2001 are invited on: (1) eros, love, and mysticism; (2) transmission of mystical states; (3) mysticism of daily life; (4) mysticism and sound; (5) expressions of mystical incursions in indigenous communities. The Mysticism Group will co-sponsor theme #5 with the Indigenous Religious Traditions Group. Send eight (8) copies of your proposal, six of which exclude your name and institution. Note: we will call for proposals on William James in 2002. Contact Eugene Taylor, etaylor@uottawa.ca, for proposals on William James for 2002.

**Native Traditions in the Americas.** Michelenes Pesantubbee, Dept. of Religious Studies, CB 292, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO 80309-0292, (O) 1-303-492-7095, pesantubbee@spot.colorado.edu. We are seeking papers in the following areas: (1) Native American religious traditions and institutions of confinement (boarding schools, prisons, mind/body, etc.); (2) decolonizing methodologies and/or new ways of studying Native American religious traditions; (3) decolonizing civil holidays particularly Columbus day; and (4) topics related particularly to the indigenous people of Colorado (Arapaho, Cheyenne, Ute, Lakota, Navajo, etc.) and/or more broadly, of the northern plains. Send original and 5 copies to Micheline Pesantubbee.

**New Religious Movements.** W. Michael Ashcraft, 17 Broadview, MO 63501, (O) 1-660-785-7531, washcraft@truman.edu. Proposals are invited on the following themes: new religions in Japan and the Pacific Rim (including Hawaii, Oceania, and the Philippines), metaphysical religions (Unity, Christian Science, New Thought, and others), and new religions in Colorado (including evangelical parachurch organizations, the Naropa Institute, the Emissaries, and others). Also, proposals on all aspects of the study of New Religious Movements are welcome.

**Nineteenth-Century Theology.** Dawn DeVries, Union Theological Seminary, 3401 Brook Road, Richmond, VA 23227 1-804-278-4283, ddevries@union-psce.edu, and William L. Portier, Theology Department, Mount Saint Mary’s, Emmitsburg, MD 21727, 1-301-447-3370, wportier@msmary.edu. Session #1: “The Reception of Greek Philosophy in Nineteenth-Century Religious Thought”. Papers are invited on themes such as the interpretation of individual Greek philosophers by nineteenth-century thinkers or the influence of Greek philosophy on theology and/or the study of religion. Send proposals or inquiries to Dawn DeVries. Session #2: “Roman Catholic Modernism in Context: Assessing Catholicism Contending with Modernity” (Cambridge University Press, 2000). Papers are invited on the following topics: (a) assessing the central claim of the book that attention to societal contexts is crucial for understanding RC Modernism and anti-Modernism, (b) assessing whether this claim is established in the case of the individual Modernists considered, and (c) assessing whether it is established in the case of the anti-Modernists considered. Send proposals or inquiries to William Portier.

**Person, Culture and Religion.** Kelley Raab, Department of Religious Studies, St. Lawrence University, Canton, NY 13617, kraab@stlawu.edu, Frantz Metcalf, California State University Los Angeles, jmetcalf@uartnet.net. We invite papers addressing (1) self psychological (or Kohutian) approaches to religion; and (2) the implications of evolutionary psychology or sociobiology for the study of religion and culture. Papers may include clinical, theological, or other perspectives. We also welcome papers focused on other themes dealing with self, culture and religion. We encourage email submissions, which should be sent to Frantz Metcalf. Non-email submissions require seven copies of the proposal and should be sent to Kelley Raab. Expect email confirmation within three days of sending email proposals. Late proposals will not be considered. To learn more about the group, visit our website at: http://home.att.net/~pcr-aar.

**Platonism and Neoplatonism.** Jay Bregman, Dept of History, University of Maine, 5774 Stevens ME 04469-5774, (O) 1-207-581-1918, bregman@maine. maine.edu; and Thomas A Carlson, 2022 Cleveland AVE, Santa Barbara, CA 93103, (O) 1-805-893-7142, tcarlson@humanitas.ucsb.edu. Neoplatonism was not separated from Plato and Platonism, till the nineteenth century, when the work of Schleiermacher and others, changed the scholarly consensus. No longer were the two seen as continuous or even really compatible. This tendency reached its apogee in the twentieth century, when Paul Shorey at the University of Chicago, sharply contrasted ‘fuzzy’ and mystical “Plotinism” with the clear and rational thought of Plato himself. Positivists, linguistic and analytic philosophers followed suit, sometimes somehow ignoring what appear to be religious and mystical elements of Plato’s “Dialogues”. There were holdouts, such as the English Neoplatonist Thos Taylor and his followers. They were largely ignored. The story from the Renaissance to the twentieth century, has been told in Tigges’ “The Decline and Fall of the Neoplatonic Interpretation of Plato”. Recently, philosophical scholars have re-established the continuity of Plato and the Neoplatonists. Papers will examine relevant historical and interpretive questions.

**Pragmatism and Empiricism in American Religious Thought.** Jerome P Soneson, Dept of Philosophy & Religion, Baker Hall Rm 135, University of Northern Iowa, IA 50614-0501, (O) 1-319-273-2990, soneson@uni.edu; and Thomas A Byrnes, Illinois Benedictine College, 2043 Walters AVE, Northbrook, IL 60062, (O) 1-630-829-6263, thynes@ben.edu. Our group examines critically and works constructively with the historical heritage and contemporary expressions of the American pragmatic and empirical philosophical and theological traditions. We also welcome papers focused on these themes dealing with the intersection of pragmatism (Royce, James, Pierce, Whitehead) and continental philosophy and theology for a joint session cosponsored by Theology and Continental Philosophy. Any other proposals relevant to pragmatism and empiricism in American religious thought are also welcome. Please send paper proposals, to Thomas A. Byrnes.

**Reformed Theology and History.** Kathryn Greene-McCreight, 198 McKinley AVE, New Haven, CT 06515-2010, (O) 1-860-439-5083, kgcnnmc@pantheon. yale.edu; and Philip W Butin, 1801 Montana RD NW, Albuquerque, NM 87107, (O) 1-505-344-9798, phil_butin@pcusa.org or pbutfin@aol.com. Proposals are requested for papers dealing with the significance of the life and work of Lesslie Newbigin for the Reformed
Preacher, Christian apologist, religious interlocutor, social visionary, liturgical preacher, scriptural preacher, Christian apologist.

Religion and Ecology. Heather Eaton, St. Paul University, 223 Main st. Ottawa, ON K1S1C4, Canada, heaton@ustsatpaul.wattawa.ca; and Sarah McFarland Taylor. Department of Religion, Northwestern University, 1940 Sheridan Road, Evanston, IL 60208, sarah@northwestern.edu. The group seeks proposes on topics related to: (1) The Harvard Religion and Ecology Book Series; (2) Environmental issues and regional and cross-cultural perspectives, (3) The nature of nature (what counts as nature, nature as ‘not nice’, is nature fallen?); (4) Islam and Ecology (joint session with the Study of Islam Section); and (5) Terry Tempest Williams and the eroticism of place. Other proposals welcome. For panels provide a brief description of presenters and topics. Send one copy of proposal to Heather Eaton above, and five copies of the proposal and a program form for each presenter to Sarah Taylor. If applying to the co-sponsored session send the proposal to the chair of the Study of Islam Section. Proposals within email messages accepted with forms sent via regular mail. Also see our website at: www.religionandnature.com/aar.

Religion and Ethics in Healthcare. Charlene A. Galanreau. Community Health Program, 112 Packard Ave., Tufts University, Medford, MA 02155, (O) 1-617-627-5446, charlene.galanreau@tufts.edu. Submissions via e-mail are encouraged. Papers and panels are invited on the following issues: race, racism, health, and health care; faith-based perspectives and practices of local peoples (e.g. indigenous, Latino/a) regarding health and health care; spirituality and health, broadly conceived, including the roles of medicine, public health and pastoral care; and ethical issues related to genetic testing. Individual papers and panels on topics related to religion, ethics, and healthcare will be considered. For a joint session with the Religion and Popular Culture Group, we invite papers on miraculous healings expressed in popular culture.

Religion and Popular Culture. Gary Laderman, Emory University, Religious Studies, 2125 Callaway Center, Atlanta, GA 30322, 1-404-727-4641, gladerm@emory.edu; and Bruce Forbes, Morningside College; 1-712-274-3183, forbes@morningside.edu. The group seeks proposals for papers that explore religion and popular culture in ways that relate to the west generally, or Colorado in particular (e.g., Native American spirituality, eco-religion, westerns, Focus on the Family, Columbine). We also invite studies of popular culture audiences, about teaching religious studies and theology through popular culture, and about American holidays. For a joint session with the Religion and Ethics in Healthcare Group, we welcome proposals about miraculous healings expressed in popular culture. We welcome other proposals about the relationships between religion and popular culture. Panel proposals will be considered, but each presentation within the program should be accompanied by a participant form and abstract. We reserve the right to include only part of a panel. Please send proposals to Gary Laderman.

Religion and Science. Ernest Simmons, Box 313, Concordia College, 901 S. 8th ST, Moorhead, MN 56562, (O) 1-218-299-3430, simmons@cord.edu. Papers are invited on the following two themes: (1) Science and Models of the Divine. This session will explore the implications of neuroscience and related fields for thinking about personhood and for personal/nonpersonal models of the divine or transcendent across religious traditions. Perspectives from a range of religious traditions are welcome. (2) Science and Social Location–Women, Religion and Science. This session seeks proposals interested in exploring the impact of women’s religious perspectives on gender and science, inclusive of feminist, womanist and mujerista perspectives.

Religion in Latin America and the Caribbean. Lois Ann Lorentzen, University of San Francisco, Religious Studies Dept., 2130 Fulton Street, San Francisco, CA 94117-1080 lorentzen@usfca.edu. Papers are invited on the following topics: (1) criminalization of the poor: militarization of borders, death penalty, prison industry, human rights violations of immigrants, targeting of indigenous populations, and the churches responses and activism on these issues; (2) mariolatry in the Americas: analyses of Mary devotional and theological movements throughout the Americas, including Black Madonnas, Our Lady of Guadalupe, La Morenita, etc.; (3) reconciliation, memory forgiveness in Latin America: truth and reconciliation commissions in Guatemala, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Chile, Argentina, and possibly Chiapas.

Religion, Film, and Visual Culture. Rubina Ramji, Dept. of Religious Studies, University of Ottawa, 70 Laurier E, Room 102, Ottawa, ON K1N 6N5, Canada (O) 1-613-569-7728, ramji@uwaterloo.ca, and Tony Michael, 11 Fairmount Crescent, Toronto, ON M4L 2H1, Canada (O) 1-416-978-0973. The group seeks to explore the nature of the relationships between religion and visual culture, especially film. We seek proposals addressing: (1) film theory or methodology in relation to religion and film; (2) the ethical implications of visual culture, including film; (3) the portrayal of minorities in films about religion; and (4) redemptive themes in film. In addition, we are specifically calling for papers on religion and television, Islam and the media, theory and methodology of film and religion. Papers on the films to be shown at the conference (Princess Mononoke, 1999, Aimee & Jago, 1999, or Fight Club, 1999) are welcome. Please send three complete copies of each proposal to both co-chairs.

Religion, Holocaust and Genocide. Stephen R. Haynes, Rhodes College, 2000 North Parkway, Memphis, TN 38112, (O) 1-901-843-3583; and Rochelle L. Millen, Wittenberg University, Box 720, Springfield, OH 45510, (O) 1-937-327-7404. The group welcomes all proposals that treat religious dimensions of the Holocaust and/or other episodes of genocide. At the 2001 annual meeting, sessions are planned on post-Holocaust theological reflection, genocidal episodes other than the Holocaust, for which comparative studies are particularly invited, and a possible joint session on the theme “Un(re)covered Memories: Suppressed Histories and Contested Places.” For the post-Holocaust theology session we invite proposals that address the recent publication by Zachary Breitman, (God) after Auschwitz: Tradition and Change in Post-Holocaust Jewish Thought.

Ritual Studies. Nikki Bado-Fralick, Dept. of Philosophy and Religious Studies, Catt Hall, Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50010, (O) 1-515-294-2495, nikkihj@iastate.edu; and Mario I. Aguilar, St. Mary’s College, University of St. Andrews, St. Andrews, Fife KY16 9JU, Scotland, (O) 1-44-1334-462835, mia2@st-andrews.ac.uk. We look forward to proposals on the following topics: (1) ‘ritual through the looking glass’. Papers should focus on rituals as vehicles of reflection, narcissism, beauty, reversal, or as mirrors into society and its own reversals, (2) Native American rituals, (3) theetiical and ethnographic aspects of ritual. With the Comparative Studies in Religion Section we are organizing a session on “Women as Ritual Experts and Ritual Innovators”.

Roman Catholic Studies. Phyllis Zagano, 250 E 63rd ST, New York, NY, 10021, pzagan0@rcn.com; and Jeffrey Marlett, Dept of Religious Studies, The College of St Rose, 432 Western Ave, Albany, NY 12203, (O) 1-518-454-2055, marletj@mail.strose.edu. Proposals with historical, sociological, theological or critical-theory methodological orientations are welcome. We especially solicit proposals on “inculturations” of Catholicism, particularly in the West of the U.S., Canada, and Mexico, and on the Pacific rim; on Catholics and politics in the West, or on the Pacific rim; on saints, martyrs and other cultural witnesses (both theoretical and analytical approaches); panels on significant recent books; Catholic and the environment; and on Catholicism and popular culture. A joint session with Eastern Orthodox studies (invited papers) on communion ecclesiology and primacy is also planned. Please send seven (7) copies of the proposal and abstracts only one
not blinded), participant form and response card to Phyllis Zagano and one non-blind copy of abstract and proposal to Jeffrey Marletti.

Schleiermacher. Julia A Lamm, Theology Department, New North 120 Box 571135, Georgetown University, DC, 20057-1135, (O) 1-202-687-6261, lammj@georgetown.edu. The Schleiermacher Group calls for papers on the theme of “Schleiermacher and the Enlightenment.” The group wants to investigate Schleiermacher’s relation to his seventeenth and eighteenth-century forbears-for example, rationalist metaphysics (Spinoza, Leibniz, Eberhard); the neologists (e.g., Semler, Sack, Spalding); counter-Enlightenment contemporaries (e.g., Herder, Jacobi); the Scottish Enlightenment; eighteenth-century hermeneutics, etc. The other session we are planning is a panel on the theme of “Contemporary Constructive Theology and the Theological Heritage of Schleiermacher.” All panelists will be invited; thus, proposals are not being solicited.

Theology and Continental Philosophy. Walter Lowe, Candler School of Theology, Emory University, Atlanta, GA 30322, (O) 1-404-727-4158; and Cleo McNelly Kearns, 211 Hun RD, Princeton, NJ 08540-6725, (O) 1-908-932-8710, cmkearns@aol.com. Papers are invited on: (1) pragmatism and postmodernism. Papers sought on the intersection of pragmatism, continental philosophy and theology, including Royce, James, Pierce and/or Whitehead (co-sponsored with Pragmatism and Empiricism). (2) Hegel, Marx and recontextualizing theology. Papers are sought re-examining Hegel and Marx—perhaps in light of La Barriere—as resources for a renewed and recontextualized theology of social engagement; (3) continental philosophy, theology and new technologies. Papers are sought bringing continental philosophy and theology to bear on such issues as cognitive science, genetics, sociobiology, robotics, cyborgs, cybernetics, and the infoculture. Send abstract and three-page description/summary of proposed papers to Walt Lowe. (NB: The Derrida sessions discussed for 2001 will be postponed until abstract and three-page description/summary of proposed papers to Walt Lowe. (NB: The Derrida sessions discussed for 2001 will be postponed until 2002 when Derrida will be present.)

Tibetan and Himalayan Religions. Georges Dreyfus, 76 Grandview, Williamstown MA 01267, georges.dreyfus@williams.edu; Matthew Kapstein, SALC, Foster Hall, 1130 E 59th ST, Chicago, IL 60637, (O) 773-702-8373, mkapstein@uchicago.edu. Papers are invited on the following themes: Tibetan identities past and present (John Powers, john.powers@tamu.edu.au and Paul Nietupski, pnietsupski@jcu.edu); Tibetan medicine and religion-interactions (Janet Gyatso, jgyatso@umherst.edu); the social history of the Tibetan Book (Kurtis Schaeffer, kschaef@bama-ua.edu); and Tibetan religious biography (Brian Cuevas, bcuevas@mail.tj.com). If proposing a paper in one of these areas, please contact the respective panel organizers as listed above.

Individual submissions and complete panel proposals will also be welcome in all areas relevant to Tibetan and Himalayan religions. Electronic copies of proposals and abstracts should be sent to both co-chairs, all paperwork should be sent to Georges Dreyfus.

U.S. Latino/a Religion, Culture and Society. Lara Medina, Religious Studies, California State Northridge, 18111 Nordhoff St., Northridge, CA 91330, laratina@csun.edu. Paper and panel proposals are invited on the following themes: (1) Epistemological issues in Latino/a religions/theology, including the use/adaptation of feminist, indigenous, alternative, and “western” ways of knowing and cognition; (2) reading the Bible in the vernacular, especially reflections on the motifs: diaspora, borders, violence; (3) open call for topics querying the approaches, content, and theorizing of religion in U.S. Latino/a communities; (4) we also invite proposals for a joint session with the Asian North American Religion, Culture, and Society Group exploring “the New Majority,” i.e., the emerging presence and impact of Latinos/as, Asians, and others on the American religious scene. Proposals might address shifts in religious identifications, projects of nation-building, transculturalism, changing definitions of race in the study of religion. Cross-comparative studies are encouraged.

Wesleyan Studies. Randy L. Maddox, Seattle Pacific University, 3307 Third Ave W, Seattle, WA 98109, (O) 1-206-281-2347, rmaddox@spu.edu. We are open to any proposal in the area of Wesleyan/Methodist studies. For one session we are particularly interested in historical and phenomenological analyses of what sense of “self” is presented or cultivated by the Wesleys or elements of the later Wesleyan tradition (e.g., is there a particular sense of “self” cultivated among holiness women?). For our second session we particularly encourage papers investigating the potential and limitations of the ethical reflection of John and Charles Wesley for the range of ethical issues and challenges that we confront at this beginning of the twenty-first century.

Womanist Approaches to Religion and Society. Marcia Y. Riggs, Columbia Theological Seminary, 701 Columbia Drive, P.O. Box 520, Decatur, GA 30031-0520, (O) 1-404-687-4537, riggsom@ctsnet.edu. Papers and panel proposals are invited on responses to Cheryl Townsend Gilkes’, If It Wasn’t For The Women: Black Women’s Experience and Womanist Culture in Church and Community (co-sponsored with Religion and the Social Sciences Section); womanism in a transnational era (linkages with Asian, mujerista, and African women’s struggles); dialogue, black sexuality—gender roles in the church, partnerships between black men and women, the complexity of defining manhood and womanhood in light of questions raised in James H. Cone’s My Soul Looks Back, Kelly Brown Douglas’ Theology of Sexuality, and the second part of Alice Walker’s definition of a womanist (men are encouraged to submit proposals also); post-civil rights communal relationships and socio-political realities, esp. environmental racism (re: “toxic tour of North Denver” with the Religion and Ecology Group).
permit a limited number of participants to engage in well-defined research projects. They are expected to eventuate in publication(s). They are strictly limited in duration (five years) and membership (twenty). Members agree to continue the work of the seminar between Annual Meetings through correspondence, paper exchange, etc. The single session at the Annual Meeting is devoted to consideration of previously distributed papers. While no new papers are presented at the session, auditors are welcome to attend.

**Constructions of Ancient Space.** Jon L Berquist, 7012 Tholozan Avenue, MO 63109-1131, jberyquist@aol.com; James W Flanagan, Dept of Religion, Mather House, Case Western Reserve Univ, Cleveland, OH 44106, jwj2@po.cwru.edu. The Seminar welcomes proposals on critical spatiality. The agenda includes 1) studies or projects on spatial theory; 2) studies applying critical spatiality to specific data sets; and 3) examinations of critical spatiality from cross-disciplinary perspectives. Proposals from individuals who are not members of the seminar will be accepted only by invitation. Full submissions are due June 15 in time for posting online and submission for publication where appropriate. For further information, contact the co-chairs via email.

**Modern Historical Consciousness and the Christian Churches.** Harvey Hill, Berry College, P.O. Box 550, Mount Berry, GA 30149, (O) 706-236-1732, FAX: 706-236-2205, hhill@berry.edu. The Seminar on Modern Historical Consciousness and the Christian Churches explores the growth of historical consciousness in the various Christian denominations. Proposals are invited on the role of historical consciousness in the heresy trials of Robertson Smith or Charles Augustus Briggs.

**Practice of Christianity in Roman Africa.** Maureen Tilley, 303 Park Drive, Dayton, OH 45410, (O) 937-229-4364, tillan@checkov.hm.udayton.edu. The seminar seeks to correlate different forms of evidence for the way that Christianity was practiced in Roman Africa during the third through seventh centuries. Papers are invited on the practices of piety, such as pilgrimage, fasting, almsgiving, care for the sick, public and private prayer.

**Rastafari in Global Context: Religion and Culture.** The next and final meeting of the Rastafari in Global Context: Religion and Culture seminar will be in Toronto, in 2002.

**Studies in Yogâcâra Buddhism.** Joe Wilson, Dept. of Philosophy and Religion, University of North Carolina at Wilmington, Wilmington, NC 28403, (O) 1-910-962-3410, FAX: 1-910-962-7070, wilsonj@uncwil.edu. The seminar explores Buddhist Yogâcâra philosophy in India, East Asia, and Tibet, focusing on Sanskrit, Chinese, and Tibetan texts. Please see the website for additional information www.uncwil.edu/p6s/nyogacara.

**Tokugawa Religion.** Elizabeth G. Harrison, University Teaching Center, University of Arizona, 1017 N Mountain, AZ 85721, (O) 1-520-626-3500, eharriso@u.arizona.edu; Dennis E. Lishka, 6006 Hammersley Rd, Madison, WI 53711-3127, (O) 1-920-424-7071, lishka@vaxx.cis.uwosh.edu. For our final year of the seminar, we invite proposals for sessions that will engage attendees in lively discussion rather than simply presenting information. We encourage you to consider using formats that will ask everyone present to participate actively; you might continue to use the small group discussion format we have tried at the last two meetings or try something new. Topics might be (1) a single Tokugawa text, made available on the website so everyone can read it early; (2) an array of texts, perhaps visual, that members have provided and abstracted on the website; (3) the most important text each member has read recently either from or about religion during Tokugawa, abstracted on the website; (4) a continuation of our discussions of popular culture and Tokugawa religion; (5) other topics in Tokugawa religion.

**CONSULTATIONS**

are exploratory opportunities to test the degree and breadth of interest among members of the Academy in areas and topics of academic interest not currently included in the concerns of existing sections, groups, or seminars.

**NEW**

**Anthropology of Religion.** June McDaniel, Dept. of Philosophy and Religious Studies, College of Charleston, Charleston, SC 29424, mcdanielj@cofc.edu; Pamela Klassen, University of Toronto, Victoria College, Northrop Frye Hall 222, 73 Queens Park Crescent, Toronto, ON M5S 1K7, Canada, pkllassen@utoronto.ca. This new consultation invites papers on the following themes: (1) “Anthropology and Religious Studies: Siblings or Rivals?” - founding session on the anthropology of religion’s current usage in religious studies scholarship, i.e., why anthropology of religion and why now?; (2) “Dress, Ornamentation, and Religion: Marking Ethnic Boundaries” - material aspects of religious and ethnic identity; (3) “Un(re)covered Memories: Suppressed Histories and Contexted Places” - anthropology of memory; the articulation of social and historical memories, jointly sponsored with the Religion in Central and Eastern Europe consultation and/or the Religion, Holocaust, and Genocide Group. Please mail abstract and six hard copies of proposal, or e-mail abstract and proposal to June McDaniel or Pamela Klassen.

**Augustine and Augustinianisms.** Charles Mathewes, Center for the Study of Religion, Princeton University, 5 Ivy LN, Princeton, NJ 08544, ctm9k@virginia.edu. Papers are invited on the following themes: (1) Augustine’s “friends” and “enemies”. Readings of Augustine are often more about the readers than about Augustine. How do Augustine’s “friends” and “enemies” throughout history represent and mis-represent his work to serve their own purposes? (This panel may be co-sponsored with the Platonism and Neo-Platonism Group.) (2) The Pelagian (and semi- or demi-Pelagian) controversies through history. What can we learn from the career of the debates about free will and predestination, and nature and supernatural, stretching from Augustine’s own polemics with the Pelagians, through Reformation and Jansenist debates about free will and grace, the twentieth-century recoveries of Augustine on nature and supernatural by De Lubac and others, and beyond? Accepted papers shall be due to respondents October 15.

**NEW**

**History**, **Method**, and **Theory** in the Study of Religion. Arthur McCalla, Department of Religion, Reed College, Portland, OR 97202, (O) 1-503-771-1112x7963, arthur.mccalla@reed.edu; George Alles, galles@wmde.edu. Proposals are invited for papers that discuss one of the following: 1) Orientalism and the West, in particular in reference to J. J. Clarke’s Oriental Enlightenment: The Encounter Between Asian and Western Thought; 2) critique of “religion” as an academic category in the study of religion; 3) non-Western responses to the academic study of religion, particularly with respect to the sentiment of the study by adherents of a religious tradition; and 4) gender in the history of religions. Send two copies of your proposal with participation form to Arthur McCalla. In addition, please send, a copy of the abstract by email
as an attachment to arthur.mcalle@reed.edu and galles@wm.edu, in either MSWord or WordPerfect format.

Law, Religion, and Culture. Winnifred Fallers Sullivan, The Divinity School, The University of Chicago, 1025 E 58th ST, Chicago, IL 60637, (O) 1-773-702-8217, wuslive@uchicago.edu. We invite paper or panel proposals on the topic, “Law and Order, Religion, and Violence.” Questions that might be addressed include (but are not limited to), analyses of current or historical instances where religion has legitimated the state’s use of violence against minorities; the influence of religion on nationalist violence; the role of religion in determining state violence against minorities; legal regulation of religion.

We also invite submissions on any topic from a law, religion and culture inter-disciplinary perspective. In general, this consultation examines the interaction of law, religion and culture in a broad range of social contexts and time periods (ancient, historical, and contemporary), using inter-disciplinary perspectives (comparative, historical, literary, anthropological, psychological, philosophical, ethical, etc.). Send identified original and 6 blind copies of your proposal to Catharine Cookson, Center for the Study of Religious Freedom at Virginia Wesleyan College, 1584 Wesleyan Drive, Norfolk, VA 23502-5599.

Religion and Disability Studies. Maureen Connolly and Tom Craig, Brock University, Physical Education Dept., 500 Glenridge RD, St Catharines, ON, L2S 3A1 Canada, (O) 1-905-688-3530X4338, mconnoll@earl.pce.brocku.ca and aportia@thesquare.com. Proposals are invited on any topic addressing the broad theme of the curiously troubled relationship between religion and disability. Possible topics might include: disability as the contentious “gift” of otherness; disability embodiment in the world’s religions; disability in popular culture; or religious studies and the academy; disability and embodiment in the world’s religions; disability in popular culture; or religious studies and the academy; disability, non-conventional sexuality, and the numinous; women, disability, and marginality in religious feminism. Email submissions preferred. Please send two copies of your proposal to the address above if sent via surface mail.

Religion and Human Rights. Arvind Sharma, McGill University, 3520 University ST, Montreal, PQ H3A 2A7, Canada, (O) 1-514-398-4123, cdf@musica.mcgill.ca; and Sumner B. Twiss, Brown University, Box 1927, Providence, RI 02912, (O) 1-401-863-3104, sumner_twiss@brown.edu. Issues of Religious Freedom in Asian Perspective: papers invited on (1) definition of religious freedom in human rights law, especially U.N. documents; (2) problems of state regulation and/or suppression of religious practice, including proselytization (may include issues regarding historical conflicts, dominant vs. minority religions, and new religious movements).

Preference given to papers dealing with these issues in South, Southeast, and East Asia. Send proposals to both chairs. Email submissions are acceptable.

*NEW* Religion and Society in Contemporary East Asia. Young-chan Ro, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, George Mason University, 4400 University DR, Fairfax, VA 22030-4444, (O) 1-703-993-1292, FAX: 1-703-993-1297, ycro@gmu.edu; Michiko Yusa, MCL, Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA 98225-9037, (O) 1-360-650-4851, FAX: 1-360-650-6110, yusa@wwu.edu. This new unit engages in a cross-cultural, inter-traditional, interdisciplinary discussion on contemporary issues concerning East Asia from the perspective of religious studies. Sociological, anthropological, and political science approaches are welcome. “East Asia” is defined geo-culturally, referring to the region formed under the influence of Buddhism, Confucianism, and Daoism. Individual paper proposals or a panel proposals are both invited on the following topics: human rights and liberation of people from oppression; the place of women in societal and cultural life; pop-culture and the rise of juvenile crime rate; the dissolution of the traditional family structure; abortion. Send your proposal packet to Dr. Ro, and a single copy of your proposal to Dr. Yusa.

*NEW* Religion in Central and Eastern Europe. Leslie A. Murray, 241 Douglas AVE, Lansing, MI 48906, (O) 1-517-483-1018, Fax 1-517-483-9649, lmurray@lansing.cc.mi.us; and J. Shawn Landres, 12851 Evanston ST, Los Angeles, CA 90049-3712, (O) 1-310-394-2933, FAX: 1-310-394-2824, shawn@landres.com. This newly-renamed consultation seeks papers for both singly- and jointly-sponsored panels, on the following themes: (1) “Un(re)covered Memories: Suppressed Histories and Contested Places” – impatience, ambivalence, and resistance in coping with memories of East-Central Europe during the 20th century (with the Religion, Holocaust, and Genocide Group and/or the Anthropology of Religion Consultation); (2) “Exporting the First Amendment: Central and Eastern Europe” – political and cultural developments in the implementation of principles of religious liberty and/or regulation (with the Church-State Studies Group); (3) “Pulpit Patriots? Theology and Ideology in the Construction of Ethnic and National Boundaries”; and (4) “The East in the West: East-Central European Culture on the American Frontier.” Please email proposals and abstracts to both co-chairs.

Religion, Culture and Communication. Stewart M. Hoover, University of Colorado, Center for Mass Media Research, CB 478, Boulder CO 80309, (O) 1-303-492-4833, hoover@colorado.edu; Michele Rosenthal, Department of Communication, University of Haifa, Mt. Carmel, Haifa 31905, Israel, 972-4-824-9120, rosen@research.haifa.ac.il. This newly formed consultation invites papers that focus on the relationships between religion, mass media and culture. For example: How is religion portrayed in the media? How do religious communities and individuals utilize the media? How does contemporary media consumption affect religious communities: What are the visual dimensions of religion in a mass-mediated culture? Case studies are welcome in so far as they further our theoretical understandings of these relationships. We appreciate and welcome a wide range of methodological approaches: ethnographic, interpretive, historical, critical, etc.

Religions, Medicines, and Healing. Linda L. Barnes, 534 Franklin St, Cambridge, MA, 02139, l.barnes@tiaa.net. To promote discussion concerning healing within specific religious traditions, we invite proposals focused on African Diaspora healing traditions in the Americas. These include U.S. and Canadian African American; Afro-Caribbean; African immigrant; Brazilian; and other Afro-Latino/a traditions. Proposals may address historic or contemporary examples, including, but not limited to: cases of interactions with other local traditions, adaptations, appropriations, syntheses, and/or resistance. Proposals might address, where pertinent, issues such as the power and influence of the biomedical paradigm of professionalization; or questions of lineage, initiation, authority, and leadership. Proposals should build on, but also go beyond existing literature in history, medical anthropology, sociology, and/or other methods in religious studies. Attention to methodological and theoretical issues is expected. We strongly encourage attention to nontextual materials both as research evidence and as part of the presentation. Women, minority, and younger scholars–as well as other scholars in the field–are encouraged to submit proposals.

Western Esotericism from the Early Modern Period. James A. Santucci, Department of Comparative Religion, California State University, Fullerton, CA 92834-6808, (O) 1-714-278-3727, FAX: 1-714-693-0142, jsantucci@fullerton.edu. Paper proposals are welcome in the following areas of inquiry: early modern (c. from 1530) to contemporary esoteric societies or movements, individuals who have contributed significantly to esoteric practice and knowledge, and a discussion of major ideas that may clarify an understanding of esotericism. We are particularly interested in how Western esotericism has influenced Western civilization. These areas of investigation reflect the topics of the session, “Western Esotericism: Movements, Personae, Places, Themes.” Please send one page proposal and three blind copies to James A. Santucci.
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