“Graduate Training and Scholarly Formation”
Special Topics Forum

Saturday, November 22
1:00 - 3:30 p.m.
Convention Center 23A

Panelists:
Presider: Adam D. J. Brett, Syracuse University
Thomas A. Tweed, University of Notre Dame
David Harrington Watt, Temple University
Kathryn Lofton, Yale University
Vasudha Narayanan, University of Florida
Deborah Creamer, Association of Theological Schools
Jeff Wilson, Renison University College, University of Waterloo

Graduate training is one of the foundations of our academy. It shapes individual scholars, academic structures and expectations, and conceptual categories and methods within scholarship. This panel considers the following: Are scholars in the academic study of religion “well trained”? For what are students being trained? Through which avenues does scholarly formation take place? How does graduate training shape scholarly identity and career options? How do mentoring relationships factor into graduate training? What innovative methods and “best practices” have been developed by those doing the training and those experiencing the training? To what extent does this training take into account the conditions of graduate life? These concerns relate to the larger task of how we might re-envision the relationship of graduate training to the rest of the academy and how a critical re-evaluation of our current practices of scholarly formation could be used to shape the future of our discipline.

“Graduate Student Business Meeting and New Member Welcome”

Sunday, November 23
9:00 - 10:00 a.m.
Student Lounge – Convention Center 14B

Presider: Kristy L. Slominski, UC Santa Barbara

Like most “business meetings” at the Annual Meeting, this one is open to all and is an opportunity to share your ideas and feedback. What events would you like to see the Graduate Student Committee plan in the future? What are your main concerns as a student member within the American Academy of Religion? How can the Graduate Student Committee better represent student needs? This is a space to ask questions and to learn more about student resources and initiatives. You will meet the regionally elected student directors who serve on the Graduate Student Committee and represent students on their regional board of directors. This is also a chance to network with other student members and to learn tips for making the most of your Annual Meeting experience and AAR membership.

STUDENT LOUNGE ROUNDTABLES OFFERED ON SATURDAY, SUNDAY, AND MONDAY ARE LISTED ON THE REVERSE.
### SATURDAY in the Student Lounge:

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| 9:00-10:00 a.m. | Preparation and Skills for Alternative Employment  
Emily R. Mace, Harvard Square Library  
Jessica Lee Ehinger, St. Peter’s College, University of Oxford, UK |
| 10:00-11:00 a.m. | Networking for Non-Academic or Alternative-Academic Employment  
Laura Alexander, University of Virginia |
| 11:00 a.m.-noon | Sharing Your PhD: Using the ‘Religion in North Carolina Digital Collection’ to Explore Creative Approaches to Doctoral Formation  
Kenneth Woo, Duke Divinity School |
| 4:00-5:00 p.m. | The Promiscuous Term Paper: CV Building through Effective Use of Seminar Papers  
Cristina S. Richie, Boston College |
| 5:00-6:00 p.m. | From Advisor = Mentor to Color Matching: Questioning Common Assumptions About Mentoring in Religious Studies & Theology  
Elonda Clay, Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago |

### SUNDAY in the Student Lounge:

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| 9:00-10:00 a.m. | Graduate Student Business Meeting and New Member Welcome  
All students are invited to share input! |
| 10:00-11:00 a.m. | Effective Teaching: What We Know From Research on Learning  
Susan Hill, University of Northern Iowa |
| 11:00 a.m.-noon | Teaching with Technology: Practical Advice and Best Practice  
Joshua Canzona, Georgetown University |
| Noon-1:00 p.m. | Managing Your Thesis: Tools Toward Empowerment  
Raj Balkaran, University of Calgary |
| 1:00-2:00 p.m. | On My Own: Transforming Our Role from Graduate Student to the Student Transformer  
Joel E. Stoker, Arizona State University |
| 2:00-3:00 p.m. | Designing a Successful College Course  
Susan Hill, University of Northern Iowa |
| 3:00-4:00 p.m. | Partnering Communities and Universities: The Transformative Power of Community-Engaged Research, Scholarship, and Teaching  
Sara Williams, Elizabeth Whiting Pierce, and Barbara A. B. Patterson, Emory University |

### SUNDAY continued:

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| 5:00-6:00 p.m. | The Ethics and Politics of Queer Identity in the Field  
Stephanie Bilinksy, Arizona State University |

### MONDAY in the Student Lounge:

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| 9:00-10:00 a.m. | Dollars and Cents: Making Sense of Funding Education and Academic Research  
Dustin Benac, Duke Divinity School |
| 10:00-11:00 a.m. | Eating Disorders, Food Issues, and Managing Graduate School  
Maria Junttila Carson, Syracuse University |
| 11:00 a.m.-noon | Time Management: The Coveted Key to a Healthy Work-Life Balance  
Christine Atchison, Kingston University |
| 1:00-2:00 p.m. | Seeking Sanity: Balancing Graduate Work with Marriage, Children, and Employment  
Brandon Turner, Catholic University of America |
| 2:00-3:00 p.m. | Priorities, Preparation, and Process: Time Management for the Rest of Us  
Thomas J. Whitley, Florida State University |