



## “Graduate Training and Scholarly Formation” Special Topics Forum

**Saturday, November 22**

**1:00 - 3:30 p.m.**

***Convention Center 23A***

### **Panelists:**

**President:** 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***

**President:** 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.***

# Student Lounge Roundtables in Convention Center 14B

*Sponsored by the Graduate Student Committee*

The Student Lounge is open from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm., Saturday through Monday and all students are welcome to drop by. One-hour roundtables will be held throughout the day. Refreshments are often available! This year the Student Lounge is in **CONVENTION CENTER 14B**.

## **SATURDAY in the Student Lounge:**

**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:**

**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:**

**5:00-6:00 p.m.**

**The Ethics and Politics of Queer Identity in the Field**

Stephanie Bilinsky, *Arizona State University*

## **MONDAY in the Student Lounge:**

**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 Junntila 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*