AAR-MAR Annual Conference
Columbia, Maryland
March 5-6, 2015

Leadership
President:
Jill L. Snodgrass
Loyola University Maryland
Vice-President/President-Elect:
April Stace Vega
Marymount University
Regional Coordinator:
David Brewer
Fuller Theological Seminary
Graduate Student Director:
Dan Randazzo
Loyola University Maryland

Registration
Thursday, 9:00-10:30 am
Friday, 7:30-11:00 am
All Registration in the Second Floor Atrium

Exhibitors Hall
Thursday, 9:30 am – 6:30 pm
Friday, 7:30 am – 1:00 pm
Room 330

Thursday, March 5
Thursday: Session 1 – 10:30 am-12:15 pm

Wildcard Session
Location: Room 359
Title: Interreligious and Interfaith Dialogue: General Account
Moderator: Caroline Sawyer

Building Bridges: The Need for Interreligious Dialogue
Remi Alapo, UTS – The Interfaith Seminary

Dialogue Toward a Global Ethic
Nicole Melara, Temple University

Dialogic Humanism for Dialectic Humanity
Heon C. Kim, East Stroudsburg University

Religion, Conflict, and Peace
Location: Room 302
Title: Reconciliation and the Construction of Religious Identity and Meaning
Moderator: Dan Randazzo

Religious Peace on an Island of Religious Conflict: Examination of Kwame Nkrumah’s Legacy of Religious Pluralism in a Post-Colonial Ghana
E. Abiri Addo, Drew University

Symbolism, Signifiers, and National Identity Cards: Indonesia’s Engagement with Religious Pluralism in the Midst of 21st Century Conflicts and the Redefinition of Itself
Tara Bedeau, Union Theological Seminary

Sacred Spaces: Reestablishing a Commitment to God, Land, and People
Michele Stanback, Union Theological Seminary

Contemporary Theology
Location: Room 361
Title: Contemporary Theology
Moderator: TBD

Religionless Christianity and Eventual Grace: A Reading of Bonhoeffer through the Lens of Badiou and Levinas
Dorothy Chang, Columbia University

Phenomenology, Eucharistic Ecclesiology, and the Limits of Morality
Dan Wright, University of Virginia

A Causal Bridge: Metaphysical Naturalism as a “Middle of Being” Theology
Rory Misiewicz, Princeton Theological Seminary
Undergraduate Panel
Location: Room 304
Title: Religion in the Politics of Society
Moderator: Sabrina MisirHiralall

Holy Ghosts: An Examination of the Haunting Insistence of God
Ryne Beddard, University of Mount Olive

Shifting the Axis Mundi: Finding Revelatory Experiences in the Mundane
Emily Goldberg, Muhlenberg College

Marriage, Sex, and Contraception: Discerning the Signs of the Times
Luis Ramos, Iona College

The Development of Subcultures: Messianic Judaism, Community, and Subcultural Identity Theory
Katarina Winhauer and Alison Duhan, McDaniel College

Religion and Anarchism: Creating a Counter-Hegemony and a New Society
Timothy Kyle, Middlesex County College

Scriptural Reasoning
Location: Room 360
Title: Expanding Scriptural Reasoning
Moderator: Matthew Vaughan

Prophetic Scriptural Reasoning
Stanley Talbert, Union Theological Seminary

Scriptural Reasoning, Internal Libraries, and Reader Response Theory
Kevin Seidel, Eastern Mennonite University

One Reality-Many Texts?: Reading the Bible in a the Pluralistic Context of India
Geomen George, City Seminary of New York

Thursday Lunch: 12:15-1:15 pm
Location: Second Floor Atrium – Rooms 210 or 360
Lunch is included in the cost of conference registration. Please pick up a boxed lunch in the Second Floor Atrium and eat in Room 210 or Room 360.

Section Chairs Meeting Over Lunch
Location: Room 359
Please retrieve your boxed lunch from the Second Floor Atrium and convene in Room 359.

Thursday: Session 2 – 1:15-3:00 pm

Christian History and Theology
Location: Room 359
Moderator: Shannon McAlister

The Unresolved Battle over Revelation in American Protestantism
Barbara E. Senecal-Davis, Fordham University

John Williamson Nevin and His Detractors: Catholicity, Church History, and the Battle for the American Ecclesial Soul
Michael J. Stell, The Catholic University of America

Atonement with an Asterisk: Feminist and Womanist Theologies of the Cross
Joseph Morgan-Smith, Duquesne University

The Father’s Heart: Volf, Luther, and Islam
Justin Nickel, Princeton Theological Seminary

Religion, Gender, and Sexuality
Location: Room 361
Title: Redeeming Sexuality
Moderator: Kyung-Sun Hong

Towards a Mary-Jesus Christology as the Divine Will for Redeeming Human Bodies
Besem Oben Etchi, Duquesne University

Affirming Homosexual Union through a Conceptual Analysis of the Theology of Dietrich Bonhoeffer
Trey Palmisano, Towson University

Sexual Difference: An Avenue of Connection for Building Bridges in an Age of Religious Pluralism
Joyce Ann Konigsburg, Duquesne University
Religion and Leadership  
Location: Room 302  
Respondent: Gerald S. Vigna  

Bridge to Nowhere: The Poverty of Generic Spiritual Leadership  
Andrey Shirin, The John Leland Center for Theological Studies  

Religion, Media, and Popular Culture  
Location: Room 304  
Title: Online Communities/Worship and Social Media  
Moderators: Jim Siburt and Becky Cecala  

Our Lady of the Twittersphere: New Social Media and the Reconfiguration of Catholic Devotional Networks  
Jill Krebs, McDaniel College  

Virtually Present  
Mary Stephen, Princeton Theological Seminary  

Queer Spirituality: Reclaiming the Sacred in Virtual Communities and Affirming Spaces  
Audrey Ginger, Goucher College  

Postcolonial and Religious Studies  
Location: Room 363  
Title: Religious Assimilation in Postcolonial Politics  
Moderator: Sabrina D. MisirHiralall  

Seeing Through the Eye of the Cow: Eco-Theology and the Planetary Subaltern  
Christopher Fici, Union Theological Seminary  

Meditation: Zen and Catholic  
Jin S. Kim, The Catholic University of America  

Commentary  
Gregg B. Deehan, Jr., Andover Newton Theological School  

Scriptural Reasoning  
Location: Room 360  
Title: Critiquing Scriptural Reasoning  
Moderator: Anna Moreland  

Exploring the Structural Problematic of Postliberalism as a Foundation within the Practice of Scriptural Reasoning  
David Dault, Independent Scholar  

With a Lowercase S: Scriptural Reasoning and the Religiously Unaffiliated  
Ryan Higgins, Jewish Theological Seminary of America  

Thursday Coffee Break: 3:00-3:15 pm  
Location: Second Floor Atrium  

Thursday: Session 3 – 3:15-5:00 pm  

Wildcard Session  
Location: Room 359  
Title: Interreligious and Interfaith Dialogue: Putting Into Practice  
Moderator: Heon C. Kim  

Early Confucian Fallibilism and Dialogue Between Traditions  
Tim Connolly, East Stroudsburg University  

Iconoclasm Versus Pluralism in Discourse Across Faiths: A Tension Since Hellenism  
Caroline Sawyer, SUNY College at Old Westbury  

Indonesian Student Leaders Immersion in Religious Pluralism and Democracy  
Meliani E. Murtiningsih, Temple University  

Contemporary Theology (Panel)  
Location: Room 361  
Title: Bridges and Tunnels: Theology, Alterity, and Inter-religious Dialogue in Adult Education  
Panelists:  
Benjamin Sax, Heather Miller Rubens, and Homayra Ziad, The Institute for Christian and Jewish Studies
Philosophy of Religion
Location: Room 302
Title: Theology and Philosophy in Understanding
Moderator: TBD

The Law of Supersessionism: Levinas Between Rosenzweig and Christian Theology
Jennifer Wang, New School for Social Research

Van Inwagen, Peer Disagreement, and the Ethics of Belief: Epistemological Puzzle and/or Personal Quandary?
Rose Christian, Towson University

Metaphysics and Language Games in Wittgenstein’s Lectures on Religious Beliefs
David Bradnick, Stevenson University

Postcolonial and Religious Studies
Location: Room 363
Title: Theological Justifications for Religious Conquest
Moderator: Nathan C. Walker

The Theological Misuse of Christianity as a Civilizing Force
Sabrina D. Misir-Hiralall, Montclair State University

Race and Religion in the United States
Nathan C. Walker, Teachers College Columbia University

Commentary
Fr. John Conley, Loyola University Maryland

Scriptural Reasoning
Location: Room 360
Title: Risky Business: The Burdens and Fruits of Reparative Reasoning
Moderator: Randi Rashkover, George Mason University

From Generality to Vagueness: Peirce’s Re-Reading of the Pragmatic Maxim
Nauman Faizi, University of Virginia

Qur’an and Woman and the Hermeneutics of Tawhid: Amina Wadud’s Reading of the Qur’an
Sara Aziz, University of Virginia

Law and the Logic of Inquiry: The Collapse of Legal Reasoning in a Pakistani Court
Zain Moulvi, University of Virginia

Thursday Dinner & Plenary: 6:30 pm
Location: Second Floor Atrium & Room 210

Comparative Theology as the Quest for Interreligious Wisdom: Defining, Defending, and Teaching Comparative Theology

John Thatamanil, Union Theological Seminary in the City of New York

This lecture will define and defend the work of comparative theology and invite instructors to teach it. I will argue that comparative theology can be understood as the quest for interreligious wisdom, a vital project in a time of robust religious diversity. Just what is comparative theology? Why should it be taught? What promise and what peril do the study and teaching of comparative theology hold? Finally, this lecture will take up the concrete question of how. Just how might comparative theology be taught to undergraduates, seminaries and other classroom contexts?

Thursday Reception: 8:30-9:30 pm
Location: Second Floor Atrium & Room 210
Please join your AAR/SBL colleagues for drinks, dessert, and conviviality. The reception ends promptly at 9:30 pm.

Thursday Grad Student Gathering: 9:30 pm - ???
Location: Lobby/Bistro Area of the Marriott Courtyard Columbia (8910 Stanford Blvd.)
Dan Randazzo, MAR-AAR Graduate Student Director, invites you to an informal gathering of graduate students. The Bistro, which sells drinks and snacks, closes at 10 pm, but the area will remain open for socializing.
Friday, March 6

8:00-9:00 am - MAR-AAR Presidential Address, Business Meeting, & Breakfast
Location: Second Floor Atrium & Room 210

Friday: Session 1 – 9:00-10:45 am

Contemporary Theology
Location: Room 361
Title: Contemporary Theology
Moderator: TBD

A Dialogical Experiment Across the Divide of Black Theology and Anabaptism, through an Engagement with James Cone and John Howard Yoder
Drew Hart, Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia

Black Theology, Ecofeminism, and African Religions: A Pantheistic Conception of God and Response to the Ecological Crisis
Jawanza Eirc Clark, Manhattan College

Holy Spirit and People of Other Faiths: An Indian Pentecostal Perspective
Geomen George, City Seminary of New York

Asian Religions
Location: Room 359
Title: Asian Religions
Moderator: Song-Chong Lee

From Integration to Separation: The Changing Status of the Han Kitab Among Globalized Chinese Muslims
Cuma Ozkan, University of Iowa

Interreligious Dialogue of Won Buddhism
Jonghoon Baek and Seulky Kang, Won Institute of Graduate Studies

Religion, Conflict, and Peace
Location: Room 302
Title: Bridge-Building Amongst the Abrahamic Traditions
Moderator: Dan Randazzo

Muslim-Christian Relation in Islamic Prophetic Time
Nadeen Alsulaimi, The Catholic University of America

Neve Shalom/Wahat al-Salam: Witnessing to Peace in the Midst of the Israeli/Palestinian Conflict
Brian Berry, Notre Dame of Maryland University

A Pioneer Metaphor for Catholics and Jews Dating Back to 1885: Flowers Joined in a Gentle Garland
Giuseppe Prigiotti, Duke University

Undergraduate Panel
Location: Room 304
Title: Spiritual Discovery
Respondent: Kim Paffenroth

De-Constructing the Meaning of Mindfulness
Shenne Dugtong, Middlesex County College

In La kesh: How Our Religious Distinctiveness Can Connect Us
Jordan Darling, Iona College

A Spirit Filled Mind: Therapeutic Effects of Spiritual Practice in Individuals with Temporal Lobe Epilepsy
Amanda Gvozden, Dickinson College

A Monist Approach to Interpreting Connections
Rigo Gutierrez, Middlesex County College

Philosophy of Religion (Panel)
Location: Room 363
Title: Theology Without Walls
Moderator: Jerry L. Martin

Panelists:
Christopher Denny, St. John’s University
Jeremy R. Hustwit, Methodist University
Huo-Dong Lee, Drew Theological Seminary
Jeffery D. Long, Elizabethtown College
Pim (Wilhelmus) Valkenberg, The Catholic University of America
Friday Coffee Break: 10:45-11:00 am  
Location: Second Floor Atrium

**Friday: Session 2 – 11:00 am-12:45 pm**

**Religion, Media, and Popular Culture**
**Location: Room 304**  
Title: *Religion and Communication*  
Moderator: Alexis Waggoner

*Murals, Religion, and Baltimore: Art-infused Learning in Religious Studies Courses*  
Harold Morales, Morgan State University

*Traveling the Emmaus road: An examination of how bibles in Manga and graphic novel forms speak to today’s youth*  
Janice McLean-Farrell, City Seminary of New York

*Correspondence between Rabbis and Ministers: Letters on Early Twentieth-Century American Zionism*  
Amy Weiss, New York University

**Religion, Gender, and Sexuality**
**Location: Room 361**  
Title: *Decolonizing the Divine Feminine*  
Moderator: Jea Sophia Oh

*Rewriting Herstory, A Postcolonial Ecofeminist Reading of the Birth Myth of the First Korean Kingdom*  
Jea Sophia Oh, Union Theological Seminary

*Ibn Arabi and God’s Manifestation in Women*  
Sayed Hassan “AKhlaq” Hussaini, The Catholic University of America

*Hope as Hermeneutic, Joseph(ine) as Gaia*  
Brian James Tipton, Drew University

**Religion and Ethics**
**Location: Room 363**  
Title: *Religion and Ethics*  
Moderator: Jennifer Lancaster

*HIV Is Not A Crime: Applying Feminist and Liberatory Social Ethics in the Face HIV Criminalization*  
Theodore Kerr, Union Seminary

*A Theological Examination on the Criteria of Inclusion into the ‘Righteous Among the Nations’ at Yad Vashem: A Case Study on Dietrich Bonhoeffer*  
Trey Palmisano, Baltimore Hebrew Institute

*Do We Become Instruments? Intimations of Relational Ethics in the Philosophies of Talbot Brewer and Charles Peirce*  
Shifa Amina Noor, University of Virginia

**Asian Religions**
**Location: Room 359**  
Title: *Asian Religions*  
Moderator: Hyun Choo

*Compatibility in an Age of Pluralism: Interaction of Tibetan and Chinese Buddhism in Early Twentieth Century China*  
Wei Wu, Princeton University

*Hwa-Shang Mahayana: Historicity and Rhetoric of the Chinese Chan Penetration In Tibet*  
Linghui Zhang, University of Virginia

*Religious Pluralism in the Post-Mao Era of China in a Context of Protestantism and Lay Buddhist Movement*  
Yohong Roh, The University of Kansas

**Theology, Aesthetics, and Art**
**Location: Room 302**  
Title: *Theology, Aesthetics, and Art*  
Moderator: Daniel McClain

*Theological Aesthetics in Modern Jewish Thought*  
Benjamin Sax, Institute for Christian and Jewish Studies

*Tasting God Across Traditions. The Spiritual Canticle and Rāsa Līlā.*  
Gloria Maité Hernández, West Chester University

**Business Meeting**
SBL-MAR Annual Conference  
Columbia, Maryland  
March 5-6, 2015

**Leadership**  
**President:** Robert Seesengood  
Albright College  
**Vice-President/President-Elect:** Jeremy Schipper  
Temple University  
**Regional Coordinator:** Nathan LaMontagne  
Catholic University of America  
**Graduate Student Representative:**

**Registration**  
Thursday, 9:00-10:30 am  
Friday, 7:30-11:00 am  
All Registration in the Second Floor Atrium

**Exhibitors Hall**  
Thursday, 9:30 am – 6:30 pm  
Friday, 7:30 am – 1:00 pm  
Room 330

**Thursday, March 5**  
**Thursday: Session 1 – 10:30 am-12:15 pm**

**MAR-SBL Old Testament**  
**Location:** Room 363  
**Chair:** Mark Leuchter  
*The Prettier Younger Sister: David, Samson, and Jacob Getting Hitched*  
John Herbst, Regent University  
*Subversive Tricksters, Effeminate Buffoons, and a Dialogue with Gad Beck: Reading the book of Judges as Ethnic Persistence*  
Sarah Emanuel, Drew University  
*Isaiah: Silent Idols; Speaking Text*  
Katherine E. Brown, The Catholic University of America

**MAR-AAR Scriptural Reasoning**  
**Location:** Room 360  
**Title:** *Expanding Scriptural Reasoning*  
**Moderator:** Matthew Vaughan, Union Theological Seminary

**Prophetic Scriptural Reasoning**  
Stanley Talbert, Union Theological Seminary

**Scriptural Reasoning, Internal Libraries, and Reader Response Theory**  
Kevin Seidel, Eastern Mennonite University

**One Reality-Many Texts?: Reading the Bible in the Pluralistic Context of India**  
Geomen George, City Seminary of New York

**Thursday Lunch: 12:15-1:15 pm**  
**Location:** Lunch is included in the cost of conference registration. Please pick up a boxed lunch in the Second Floor Atrium and eat in Room 210 or Room 360.

**Thursday: Session 2 – 1:15-3:00 pm**

**MAR-SBL Old Testament: Writings**  
**Location:** Room 210  
**Chair:** Peter Feinman  
*A Song of Communal Lament or Call to Arms? – Temporal Disorientation in Psalm 137*  
Dong Sung Kim, Drew University  
*Hiding Hadassah: The Meaning and Function of the Names*  
Joshua Alfaro, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School  
*Targum Song of Songs and Immediacy of History*  
Andrew Litke, The Catholic University of America
MAR-AAR Scriptural Reasoning  
Location: Room 360  
Title: Critiquing Scriptural Reasoning  
Moderator: Anna Moreland, Villanova University

*Exploring the Structural Problematic of Postliberalism as a Foundation within the Practice of Scriptural Reasoning*
David Dault, Independent Scholar

*With a Lowercase S: Scriptural Reasoning and the Religiously Unaffiliated*
Ryan Higgins, Jewish Theological Seminary of America

Thursday Coffee Break: 3:00-3:15 pm  
Location: Second Floor Atrium

Thursday: Session 3 – 3:15-5:00 pm

MAR-SBL New Testament: Paul  
Location: Room 304  
Chair: Kim Paffenroth

*Paul’s Gentile Mission and Jewish Identity: The Evidence of Joseph and Aseneth*  
Jill Hicks-Keeton, George Mason University

*Gods and Kings: Pseudo-Solomon's Polemic Against Imperial Cult Media and Paul’s Speech on the Areopagus*  
Drew J. Strait, University of Pretoria/St. Mary’s University and Seminary

*Can we evaluate the early 2nd century state of the Pauline Corpus?*  
William Gruen, Muhlenberg College

*Paul on Exodus 34 in 2 Cor 3*  
Robert P. Costello, Regent University

MAR-SBL Oxford Handbook on Biblical Narrative: A Select Preview  
Location: Room 210  
Chair: Danna Nolan Fewell

*Reading Ruth, Reading Desire*  
Stephanie Day Powell, Drew University  
Amy Beth Jones, Drew University  
Dong Sung Kim, Drew University

*Warring Words in the Book of Daniel*  
Terry Ann Smith, New Brunswick Theological Seminary

*The Social Worlds of the Biblical Narrative*  
Linda Dietch, Drew University

MAR-AAR Scriptural Reasoning  
Location: Room 360  
Title: Risky Business: The Burdens and Fruits of Reparative Reasoning  
Moderator: Randi Rashkover, George Mason University

*From Generality to Vagueness: Peirce’s Re-Reading of the Pragmatic Maxim*  
Nauman Faizi, University of Virginia

*Qur’an and Woman and the Hermeneutics of Tawhid: Amina Wadud’s Reading of the Qur’an*  
Sara Aziz, University of Virginia

*Law and the Logic of Inquiry: The Collapse of Legal Reasoning in a Pakistani Court*  
Zain Moulvi, University of Virginia

Thursday Dinner & Presidential Address: 6:30 pm  
Location: Second Floor Atrium & Rooms 360/362

*Presidential Address*  
Robert Seesengood, Albright College

Thursday Reception: 8:30-9:30 pm  
Location: Second Floor Atrium & Room 210  
Please join your AAR/SBL colleagues for drinks, dessert, and conviviality. The reception ends promptly at 9:30 pm.
Friday, March 6

8:00-9:00am - MAR-SBL Business Meeting & Breakfast
Location: Second Floor Atrium & Rooms 360/362

Friday: Session 1 – 9:00-10:45 am

MAR-SBL Old Testament: Pentateuch
Location: Room 360
Chair: David Lamb

“You Will Sweep Out Evil From Your Midst”:
Locating the Apostate Prophet in
Deuteronomy’s Religious Framework
Julie Deluty, New York University

Aaron: Prophet of Moses, Priest of God (Exod 4:14-16 and Deut 18:18)
Virginia Wayland, University of Pennsylvania

Egypt and Israel: From Ramses II to Ramses VI
Peter Feinman, The Institute of History, Archaeology, and Education

Friday: Session 2 – 11:00 am-12:45 pm

Location: Room 360
Chair: Jason Coker

Which Came First? Prioritizing Luke and Acts
Frank Connolly-Weinart, Saint John’s University

Rory P. Crowley, Green Scholars Initiative

Significant instability around the figure of Martha of Bethany in the Fourth Gospel: A text-critical study
Elizabeth Schrader, General Theological Seminary

Acknowledgements

The Executive Committee of this year’s AAR-MAR meeting would like to thank the following sponsors and exhibitors:

Baker Publishers
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