

2019 NEMAAR CALL FOR PAPERS

2019 Joint Regional Conference of the New England & Canadian Maritimes (NEMAAR) Joint Regional Conference of the American Academy of Religion (AAR) and the New England/Eastern Canada Region of the Society of Biblical Literature (SBL)

Friday 22 March 2019 Medford—Somerville campus of Tufts University

419 Boston Avenue, Medford, Massachusetts 02155

<https://www.tufts.edu/>

BEFORE Submitting your proposal PLEASE READ ALL THESE DIRECTIONS carefully

The NEMAAR Conference is open to *all* individuals, though those with accepted proposals must be active (i.e., current paid-up) members of the AAR by no later than February 21, 2019. AAR members from Regions other than NEMAAR are invited to participate, though the Graduate Student Essay Competition is limited *only* to graduate students of institutions within the geographical boundaries of NEMAAR. SBL members should apply via the SBL Region Coordinator at amelia.devin.freedman@gmail.com, by January 18, 2019.

Proposal Submission Deadline & Practicalia By Friday **January 18, 2019** please e-mail a one-page, double-spaced Paper Proposal (c. 250 words) in a **PC-compatible electronic file** (doc, docx, or pdf) named with your own surname to NEMAAR Regional Coordinator James Bretzke at jbretzke@jesuits.org with “*NEMAAR Paper Proposal*” in the Subject Line. Include *within the proposal itself* your own name, your institutional affiliation (if any), *and* contact information, including e-mail address. Please indicate your current AAR membership status, as only paid-up members may present. As we plan on including the e-mail information in the Conference Program, and if you wish *not* to have such information included please state this clearly in your Proposal Information. We do need, though, the e-mail address for internal communication with all those submitting a proposal.

While there is no set Conference Theme, we are especially interested in papers/panels which may intersect with subject matter of the Society of Biblical Literature with whom we are co-sponsoring the joint conference. Other paper or panel proposals also are welcome. In your proposal indicate the general subject or interest area (e.g., Ethics, Religions in Asia, Historical Theology, Gender & Sexuality, Theology & Art, Islam, Comparative Religions, Spirituality, etc.) as well as the specific title of your paper. Also please indicate if you will need any AV equipment or have other special needs. If you have someone who might serve as a convener for your Session please indicate that as well. If no Convener is designated we will do our best to find a volunteer.

Panel proposals are most welcome, and in the case of a successful panel proposal an entire 75 minute Session will be devoted to the Panel Presentation and Discussion.

Abstract: *Also include a c. 75 word Abstract of your paper*, which will be used in the Conference Program should your paper be accepted. The Abstract does NOT “count” in the limit of the one-page Paper Proposal.

Conference Format

Individual, concurrent Conference Sessions will be 75-80 minutes in length. Single Papers accepted will be grouped with another Paper in the same general area, so presenters each would be asked to limit their individual presentation to about 25 minutes, which comes to 12-13 pages of written text, double-spaced and with 12 point font. This format then would allow time for some reasonable follow-up discussion and questions. **Panel proposals accepted** will have the entire 75 minute concurrent session at their disposal (i.e., only one panel per 75-80 minute concurrent session will be scheduled).

Notification of Paper Proposal Acceptance

Authors of proposals will be notified by the second week of February and at that time all accepted paper presenters must become active (i.e., paid up) members of the American Academy of Religion and will also be expected to complete paid registration for the conference itself.

Conference Registration, Fees, and Practicalia

The **Conference Registration** itself will be handled by the SBL, and will be modest, including *a box lunch* and limited snacks and beverages. *Very, very limited funds may be available for travel by NEMAAR members only outside of Metro Boston.* Please send the details for your travel request in a **separate e-mail** to James Bretzke at jbretzke@jesuits.org with *NEMAAR Travel Funds Request* in the subject header. No *other conference-related expenses such as housing, parking, etc.* can be paid for Conference participants *by NEMAAR.*

All those whose proposals have been accepted are expected to present their own papers at the regional conference.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- an address by Jack Miles, Corcoran Chair in Jewish-Christian Relations, Boston College, and Pulitzer Prize winning author. See his biography here: <https://www.bc.edu/bc-web/bcnews/campuscommunity/faculty/new-corcoran-chairholder.html>.
- a panel discussion on the topic of academic labor moderated by the SBL Regional President, Yonder Gillihan (Boston College), and the AAR Regional president, Paul Firenze (Wentworth Institute of Technology). Panelists TBA.
- “Race in and in Front of the Classroom,” a panel discussion organized by the SBL Regional Student Committee and the AAR Student Director Alex Mayfield. Panelists TBA.

- Student Gathering: The SBL Regional Student Committee and the AAR Student Director Alex Mayfield invite all student attendees to meet them at a local restaurant for a self-pay social gathering after the conference's closing reception. Details TBA.

Annual Regional Business Meeting

In addition to the Conference presentations there will be the annual NEMAAR Business Meeting convened by the outgoing NEMAAR President Paul Firenze and the incoming President Eva Pascual, assisted by the retiring NEMAAR Regional Coordinator Rev. Dr. James Bretzke, SJ. *Elections for new NEMAAR officers, including the Vice-President and Regional Coordinator, will be held at this annual Business Meeting.*

Graduate Student Paper Competition

Graduate student presenters who are *currently* enrolled in a *degree program* in an institution *within* the geographical boundaries of NEMAAR (New England and Maritime States) are eligible to enter the **competition for best graduate student paper**, which comes with a small monetary award. Papers considered for this competition should be 5,000 - 7,000 words, 12-point font and double-spaced, and must be submitted no later than **February 21, 2019** to Professor Ann Marie Bahr at annmarie.bahr@sdstate.edu. Winners will be announced, and *must be physically present* at the Conference Business Meeting on March 22, 2019.

For any Conference-related questions *not already answered in this CFP* please e-mail NEMAAR Regional Coordinator James Bretzke at jbretzke@jesuits.org and indicate your question in the subject-header.

Transportation: The Conference site is accessible by the MBTA participants are encouraged to take public transportation, car-pool, taxi, Uber, Lyft, etc. Subway Red Line to Davis Square, and Bus Routes 80, 94, 96. Some on-site parking though will be available in a Tufts lot.

The Full Conference Program, when it is ready in early March 2019, will be posted to the NEMAAR node on the AAR web-site (<https://www.aarweb.org/node/159>)