

# AAR Speaking of Students

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## Note from the Student Director, Bhakti Mamtora

On behalf of the Graduate Student Committee (GSC), we are excited to announce the [Call For Papers](#) for the upcoming 2017 Annual Meeting in Boston, MA.

Annually, the GSC addresses the professional and personal needs of AAR student members through the Special Topics Forum and the Student Lounge Roundtable Series. We are excited to share that this year we have also added a Call for Art! The GSC

encourages all members of the AAR to submit creative works (paintings, drawings, photography, poems, etc.) to be displayed at the Annual Meeting! All of the information regarding our Call for Papers and Call for Art can be found below. We look forward to receiving your submissions!



If you have any concerns as a student member of the AAR, please write to your regional Student Director or me with your concerns. Your concerns and suggestions will be instrumental in shaping graduate services and programming at the AAR in the upcoming years. You can find our contact information here:

[www.aarweb.org/about/graduate-student-committee](http://www.aarweb.org/about/graduate-student-committee).

## Annual Meeting 2017

The 2017 [Call for Papers](#) for this year's AAR Annual Meeting in Boston is open. The deadline for submissions is Wednesday, March 1, 2017, at 5:00 pm EST. Submissions to any of the following CFPs does not count against your two-submission limit in the AAR PAPERS system.

## **Call for Papers:**

### **Special Topics Forums**

Religious Scholars as Humanitarians: Publications, Pedagogies, and the Protection of the Most Vulnerable

The purpose of this STF is to debate the ethical obligations that religious studies scholars owe to the most vulnerable members of global society, particularly in the wake of the 2016 US presidential election. It will provide a safe space in which junior scholars can explore how they might develop their academic careers while simultaneously making meaningful contributions to the pursuit of social justice. We are particularly interested in understanding how the humanitarian aspects of the religion scholar's vocation can be expressed through creative publication programs, and innovative approaches to pedagogy. However, we would also be delighted to consider non-traditional approaches (e.g., digital engagement, artistic work, etc.) to the nexus of humanitarian and scholarly work.

Applicants are encouraged to create proposals that may be delivered as 15- to 20-minute workshop presentations. The GSC's hope is that STF attendees can leave this session with several concrete ideas about how to relate their academic identities to their service work.

Please submit your finished proposals by e-mail to the STF Chair and GSC Western Region representative Chase L. Way ([chase.laurelle.way@gmail.com](mailto:chase.laurelle.way@gmail.com)); please cc GSC Chair and AAR student director Bhakti Mamtora ([bhaktim@ufl.edu](mailto:bhaktim@ufl.edu)) on this note. In addition, please feel welcome to contact Ms. Way with any questions you have about this call. She would be more than happy to speak with you about your ideas!

[Click here for more information and to submit a proposal.](#)

### **Art Show**

The Graduate Student Committee invites AAR participants to submit their creative expressions for our Art Show, to be exhibited during the AAR Convention on November 17–20, 2017, in conjunction with the Special Topics Forum titled, "Religious Scholars as Humanitarians: Publications, Pedagogies, and the Protection of the Most Vulnerable."

We are looking for all kinds of creative artistic works that express the 2017 AAR plenary theme of *Religion and the Most Vulnerable*. Any technique and medium is welcome (photography, painting, charcoal, mixed media, sculpture, watercolor, drawing, etc).

Poetry (printed and framed) is also welcome. Submitted pieces must be able to hang from the wall in a reasonably sized area, i.e., no grand scale pieces, which cover an entire wall. Freestanding sculpture must be submitted with pedestal, if required. Each individual may submit up to three pieces. There is no fee to submit.

[Click here for more information and to submit a proposal.](#)

### **Student Lounge Roundtable Series**

The Student Lounge Roundtable Series (SLRS) consists of a series of roundtable conversations/workshops dedicated to professional development and the current needs of graduate students. These roundtable conversations/workshops are meant to encourage dialogue, learning, and collaboration that allow graduate students to engage with the various topics in a collegial setting. Rather than being traditional conference presentations, the SLRS workshops are meant to stimulate discussion and learning over a particular area of focus. The SLRS is sponsored by the Graduate Student Committee and are led by graduate students, professors, and other professionals with relevant expertise to offer.

[Click here for more information and to submit a proposal.](#)

## **2017 Regional Meetings**

### **Mid-Atlantic, March 16–17**

Location: Brunswick, NJ

Registration Deadline: March 1

[Click here to register.](#)

### **New England-Maritimes, April 8**

Location: Boston, MA

Registration Deadline: April 8

[Click here to register.](#)

### **Rocky Mountain-Great Plains, March 24–25**

Location: Boulder, CO

Registration Deadline: March 19

[Click here to register.](#)

### **Southeast, March 3–5**

Location: Raleigh, NC

Registration Deadline: March 2

[Click here to register.](#)

### **Southwest, March 10–12**

Location: Irving, TX

Registration Deadline: March 10

[Click here to register.](#)

### **Upper Midwest, March 31–April 1**

Location: St. Paul, MN

Registration Deadline: April 1

[Click here to register.](#)

### **Western, March 17–19**

Location: Rosemead, CA

Registration Deadline: March 16

[Click here to register.](#)

## **Facebook Pages for Student Members**

Our [Student Members and Friends of the American Academy of Religion](#) Facebook page is available for all members and friends of the AAR. Members can post calls for papers, job listings, requests for more information, forthcoming publications, and more.

You can also stay connected with students and events in your region by "liking" your regional Facebook page:

- [Student Members of the AAR EIR](#)
- [Student Members of the AAR Midwest Region](#)
- [Student Members of the AAR New England-Maritime Region](#)
- [Student Members of the AAR Pacific Northwest Region](#)
- [Student Members of the AAR and SBL Rocky Mountain-Great Plains Region](#)
- [Student Members of the AAR Southeast Region](#)
- [Student Members of the AAR Upper Midwest Region](#)
- [Student Members of the AAR Western Region](#)
- [American Academy of Religion, Mid-Atlantic Region](#)