ANNUAL MEETING NEWS

Annual Meetings Program Book Is Online!

Check out the Online Annual Meetings Program Book! The 2012 AAR Annual Meetings are packed with excellent programming. See a session you just can't miss? There is still time to register for the Annual Meetings in Chicago at the Advance rate.

The print Program Book, featuring the complete programs listing and room locations, will be mailed to all Annual Meetings registrants in late September. You must be registered for the Annual Meetings by September 15 to receive the Program Book. (Note: Previously, a print Program Planner was sent to all AAR members regardless of Annual Meetings registration status; this year, you must be registered receive a print Program Book.)

Carbon Offsets at the Annual Meetings Paying Off

AAR and SBL partnered with NativeEnergy in 2011 to offer a voluntary carbon offset program to Annual Meeting registrants. Last year, the AAR and SBL were pleased to collect $8,250 from 550 participants. An additional $274.60 was earned from the sale of Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) vouchers, and a $500 donation was made for the AAR and SBL's staff travel. NativeEnergy received a total check for $9,024.60, which went toward the development of a wind turbine, the Iowa Farms Wind Project in Northern Iowa. You can see the project dedication video for the wind turbine supported with offsets from AAR and SBL 2011.
Annual Meetings attendees. Have a look!

The AAR and SBL are continuing the carbon offset program in 2012. We encourage you to make this inexpensive commitment to making our meetings more environmentally friendly. Thank you to all of our AAR contributors!

**Experience the 2011 Annual Meetings Again!**

Videos from the 2011 Annual Meetings in San Francisco are going online! Watch Judith Butler's plenary address *New Thoughts on Solidarity*, the plenary panel *Lifetime of Learning Lecture* with Katie Geneva Cannon and Judith Plaskow, or a conversation with Robert Bellah on *Religion in Human Evolution*. Six videos are currently available for viewing and more are on the way!

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**RESEARCH GRANTS**

Each year the AAR awards grants of up to $5,000 for individual and collaborative research projects. The research grants online submission system is now open. All applicants must apply online; paper applications will not be accepted. The deadline to apply for a 2012 grant is August 1, 2012. For additional information, see [http://www.aarweb.org/programs/grants](http://www.aarweb.org/programs/grants).

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**AAR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD - NOMINATIONS**

The Teaching and Learning Committee seeks nominations for the AAR Award for Excellence in Teaching. Nominations of winners of campus awards, or any other awards, are encouraged. Procedures for the nomination process are outlined on the AAR website. The deadline for nominations is October 1, 2012.

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**ACADEMIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE SEEKS REVIEWER**

The AAR’s Academic Relations Committee is expanding its list of reserve persons competent to serve as external referees for religion and religious studies units pursuing program reviews. The Committee invites nominations (including self-nominations) of persons open to serving in such a capacity. Nomination materials should include: 1) A brief statement indicating reasons for interest in serving, and types of institutions the nominee is qualified to review; 2) Curriculum vitae;
and 3) A short narrative affirming: (a) administrative experience as a department chair, program director, dean or dean's equivalent; (b) at least five years of AAR membership in good standing; and (c) familiarity with the Academy's program review resources online at the [AAR website](http://aarweb.org).

Persons with previous experience leading a departmental or program self-study, serving as an external reviewer for another department or program, and/or serving on a regional or national accreditation team are especially needed.

Letters of interest and supporting materials should be submitted by **October 10, 2012**, for consideration at the committee's November AAR meeting. Approved reviewers will be notified by December 31. All approved names will be added to the current listing of potential program reviewers. Service as a program reviewer is subject to selection from the reserve list by departments preparing for reviews. Address letters of interest to Stephanie Gray (sgray@aarweb.org) at the AAR office in Atlanta.

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**AAR MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: INÉS TALAMANTEZ**

Inés Talamantez is a leader within the field of Native American Religious Studies. She is a graduate of the University of California, San Diego, and Harvard University. She is an associate professor of religion at the University of California, Santa Barbara. Inés responds to questions about her career and what we can expect to see from her next. [Read the full interview on the AAR web site!](http://www.aarweb.org/publications/memberspotlight/inestalamantez.html)

The Member Spotlight is a series of interviews with AAR members who have shaped the field of religious studies. Member Spotlight is published online and in the e-Bulletins. Do you have a colleague who you think we should spotlight? [Nominate them!](http://www.aarweb.org/announcements/member Spotlight nominations.html)

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**ACADEMIC ABBY: Professional Advice from Your Colleagues**

Do you have a question about life in academe that you are at a loss to answer by yourself but don’t feel you can approach your colleagues with it? [Ask Academic Abby!](http://www.aarweb.org/publications/academicabby.html) Academic Abby is able to answer
questions large and small, from dealing with faculty dilemmas, to tenure issues, to work/life balance troubles. Questions can be submitted anonymously through an online form. Members of the AAR Status of Women in the Profession Committee will respond to each question received. The question and answer will be posted on the Status of Women in the Profession web page and issues of Religious Studies News.

ASK THE DIVA
If you are experiencing issues of special concern to LGBTIQ scholars of religion, the Diva can help! What questions do you have about graduate school, career development, teaching, etc.? Questions can be submitted anonymously through an online form. Members of the LGBTIQ Persons in the Profession Committee will respond. Your confidentiality is assured; the answers can be e-mailed to you privately if you wish. With your permission, the questions and answers will be posted anonymously in Religious Studies News.

AAR MEMBER NOTES

Awards
Kevin Twain Lowery, Olivet Nazarene University
Awarded the 2012 Samuel L. Mayhugh Award for Scholarly Excellence by the university at its 99th commencement. This honor is given to one faculty member annually and includes special recognition and a cash award.

Rebecca Todd Peters, Elon University
Awarded the Distinguished Scholar Award at Elon University. This award is the university's highest award for excellence in scholarship and comes with a $3,500 award and the delivery of a public lecture in the spring.

Books and Major Publications
Andrea Acri, Asia Research Institute (NUS)

Peter Admirand, Mater Dei Institute, DCU
Amidst Mass Atrocity and the Rubble of Theology: Searching for a

Carla Bellamy, Baruch College
The Powerful Ephemeral: Everyday Healing in an Ambiguously Islamic Place, University of California Press, August 2011 release date.

Deborah L. Berhó, George Fox University

Robert Campany, Vanderbilt University
Signs from the Unseen Realm: Buddhist Miracle Tales from Early Medieval China (University of Hawai‘i Press, 2012)

Monica A. Coleman, Claremont School of Theology

Nancy J. Davis, DePauw University

Nancy J. Davis, DePauw University and Robert V. Robinson, Indiana University.

Fabrizio M. Ferrari, University of Chester

Paul G Hackett, Columbia University

Beverley Haddad, University of KwaZulu-Natal

James Kraft, Huston-Tillotson University

Robert N. McCauley, Emory University

A. Charles Muller, University of Tokyo and Cuong T. Nguyen, ed.  
Wonhyo's Philosophy of Mind. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press.  

James T. Richardson, University of Nevada, Reno  
Saints under Seige: The Texas Raid on the Latter Day Saints Community  
(New York University Press, 2011 (with Stuart Wright)

Bob Robinson, Laidlaw College, New Zealand  

David A. Salomon, The Sage Colleges  
An Introduction to the Glossa Ordinaria as Medieval Hypertext, Cardiff, Wales, University of Wales Press, July 2012 release date

Tom Schwanda, Wheaton College  
Soul Recreation: The Contemplative—Mystical Piety of Puritanism.  

Deanna A. Thompson, Hamline University  

Let your AAR colleagues know about your professional milestones! Submit your Member Note online.