RENEW FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2015 TODAY!

**Renew** your 2015 AAR membership! Make sure your access remains uninterrupted to all your member benefits, including print and online access to *JAAR, Religious Studies News*, and reduced registration rates at the Annual Meeting. Renew your membership for calendar year 2015 at [https://www.aarweb.org/join2015](https://www.aarweb.org/join2015).

Keep an eye on your mailbox and inbox for important news about your 2015 membership. There will also be opportunities for giveaways announced each week on the AAR [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com) and [Twitter](https://twitter.com) accounts.

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**JAAR NEWS**

**JAAR Editor Search: Application Deadline Near!**

The Academy is searching for the successor to Professor Amir Hussain, who will complete his term as Editor of the *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* at the end of 2015. Please see [here](https://www.aarweb.org/join2015) for the Editor’s job description, frequently asked questions, and directions for submitting an application. If you have further questions, please contact Professor Kimberly Connor, chair of the Editor search committee. Application deadline: **September 25, 2014**.

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**Table of Contents**

1. **Renew for 2015**
2. **JAAR News**
3. **Annual Meeting News**
4. **AAR Book Awards and New Release**
5. **AAR Grants and Awards News**
6. **In the Field**
7. **Academic Abby**
8. **Ask the Diva**
9. **Member Notes**

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**Dates & Deadlines:**

- **September 18**: Annual Meeting registrations after this date will have to pick up name badges onsite
- **September 19**: Fourth-round Additional Meetings registration deadline
- **September 25**: JAAR Editor Search
- **October 1**: Collaborative International Research Grants Due
The September issue of JAAR is published and includes a roundtable in celebration of the AAR's Centennial and the revivification of the American Lectures in the History of Religions; tributes to Maya Angelou and Gabriel García Márquez; media and book reviews; and more. To read the online edition, log in here with your AAR member ID.

ANNUAL MEETING NEWS

- **Want a name badge mailed to you? September 18** is the deadline to register for the 2014 Annual Meetings in order to receive your name badge in the mail. [Register today](#).
- **Schedule your meeting today! September 19** is the deadline to submit Additional Meetings requests for the fourth round of scheduling. Secure your reservation early as space is limited. See [here](#) to submit an Additional Meeting request. Note: Any requests received after September 19 will not appear in the printed Program Book or the At-A-Glance.
- **Program Books mailing soon! Early October** is when the registration packets and Program Books will be mailed to those who registered by August 14.

More upcoming Annual Meeting deadlines can be found on the [AAR web site](#).

**Contingent Faculty Reception (A22-410, Saturday, 6:30 PM–7:30 PM)**
AAR members who work at colleges and universities on a contingent or contractual basis are welcome to meet and greet each other at this reception hosted by the AAR's new Contingent Faculty Task Force. RSVP to Sarah Levine, slevine@aarweb.org, by **Friday, November 7**, to receive room location.

**Annual Meeting Accessibility Information Now Online**
To help members navigate the annual meeting, the Status of People with Disabilities in the Profession Committee prepares an [Annual Meeting Accessibility Guide](#) with information about getting around the San Diego meeting, distances between hotels and the conference center, accommodation requests, and electric scooter rental.

**PWD Lunch: Connecting Conversations**
The Status of People with Disabilities in the Profession Committee will host a luncheon for scholars and students with disabilities, as well as anyone interested in disability issues in the academy. The lunch follows a Special Topics Forum on "Invisible Disabilities and Hidden Illnesses in the Academy: Fostering Cultures of Accessibility." Please join us on **Monday, November 24, 11:45 am**—
12:45 pm, for informal conversation and a chance to build connections with colleagues. Registration for the lunch costs $13 and is limited to 100 people. If you would like to add this event to your registration, please contact the AAR Registration Bureau at reg@aarweb.org for assistance.

**Women's Mentoring Roundtable Registration**

Each year, the Status of Women in the Profession Committee (SWP) organizes a luncheon during the Annual Meeting. Several mid-career and senior AAR scholars gather with newer and emerging scholars in the field to discuss pertinent issues like choosing an adviser, getting published, contract negotiation, and the challenge of balancing work and personal commitments. The lunch is cosponsored with the Status of Racial and Ethnic Minorities and the Women’s Caucus. **Pre-registration is required** and the lunch costs $13. Sorry, no refunds.

SWP is proud to announce an updated edition of the *Guide for Women in Religion: Making Your Way from A to Z* is being released at the Annual Meeting. Deeply discounted copies of the book are available to purchase with the luncheon registration for only $15 each.

A list of the mentors and more information on the Mentoring Lunch is available on the [registration page](#).

**Save 80%+ on a New Headshot!**

Everyone needs a headshot, and you can get one for only $37! You can quickly get your photo taken by a professional photographer while you are at the Annual Meeting on **November 23rd or 24th**, anytime between 8:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m. The photographer will be located at Booth #1105 in the SBL and AAR Exhibit Hall in the San Diego Convention Center. To see examples, learn more about what you will receive, and to preregister, please [click here](#).

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**AAR BOOK AWARDS AND NEW RELEASE**

**AAR Announces 2014 Book Award Winners**

**Award for Excellence in the Study of Religion: Analytical-Descriptive Studies**

Any Bernstein, Harvard University

*Religious Bodies Politic: Rituals of Sovereignty in Buryat Buddhism*

University of Chicago Press, 2013

**Award for Excellence in the Study of Religion: Constructive-
Reflective Studies
Willis Jenkins, University of Virginia
The Future of Ethics: Sustainability, Social Justice, and Religious Creativity
Georgetown University Press, 2013

Award for Excellence in the Study of Religion: Historical Studies
Kyle Harper, University of Oklahoma
From Shame to Sin: The Christian Transformation of Sexual Morality in Late Antiquity
Harvard University Press, 2013

Award for Excellence in the Study of Religion: Textual Studies
Andrew Quintman, Yale University
The Yogin and the Madman: Reading the Biographical Corpus of Tibet’s Great Saint Milarepa
Columbia University Press, 2013

Best First Book in the History of Religions
Anna Sun, Kenyon College
Confucianism as a World Religion: Contested Histories and Contemporary Realities
Princeton University Press, 2013

New Release in the AAR Religion, Culture, and History Series
Antoinette Elizabeth DeNapoli’s Real Sadhus Sing to God: Gender, Asceticism, and Vernacular Religion in Rajasthan, published by Oxford University Press. AAR members receive a 30% discount on AAR/OUP series books. Sign in to Member Discounts on the AAR website and click the link to OUP.

AAR AWARDS AND GRANTS NEWS

Collaborative International Research Grants – Deadline October 1
The 2014–2015 Collaborative International Research Grants Online Submission System is open! The AAR’s Collaborative International Research Grants program supports generative research collaborations between and among scholars located in different geographical regions who wish to pursue focused,
joint projects in any area of the study of religion. Applications for awards ranging from $500 to $5000 will be reviewed by the AAR's International Connections Committee (ICC).

For information about the program, please visit the web page. The deadline to apply is October 1, 2014. Applications must be submitted via the online proposal submission system. Please direct inquiries to Dr. Amy L. Allocco, ICC Chair and Distinguished Emerging Scholar in Religious Studies, Elon University, USA, aallocco@elon.edu.

**AAR Award for Excellence in Teaching – Nomination Deadline October 15**

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 15, 2014.

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**IN THE FIELD ANNOUNCEMENTS**

AAR's In the Field is an AAR-member resource for news of events and opportunities for scholars of religion and theological education. Check it out!

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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! 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.

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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
mailed to you privately if you wish. With your permission, the questions and answers will be posted anonymously in Religious Studies News.

MEMBER NOTES

Awards and Accomplishments
Leonard Norman Primiano, Cabrini College
Primiano, Professor and Chair of Religious Studies, Cabrini College, has been invited to give the keynote lecture at the September annual meeting of the British Association for the Study of Religion (BASR). BASR's 2014 conference will take place at the Open University in Milton Keynes. This year's conference has two themes: "Religion, Art, and Performance" and "The Cutting Edge." Primiano's lecture, "The Ethnography of a Liar: The Question of Deception in the Performance of Religious Life History," will be based in his research on the Newfoundland vernacular religious artist "Sister" Ann Ameen.

Books and Major Publications
Marie Cartier, California State University Northridge

Christine Helmer, Northwestern University

Amy Holmes-Tagchungdarpa, Grinnell College

Nahid Afrose Kabir, University of South Australia
Young American Muslims: Dynamics of Identity, Edinburgh University Press, 2013.

Louis Komjathy, University of San Diego

Timothy Larsen, Wheaton College (Illinois)

James E. (Jim) Royster, Cleveland State University (Emeritus)
Have This Mind: Supreme Happiness, Ultimate Realization, and the Four Great Religions—An Integral Adventure.
Anne L. C. Runehov, Uppsala University  

Zeki Saritoprak, John Carroll University  

Hans Schwarz, University of Regen  

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F. LeRon Shults, University of Agder  

Deborah Sokolove, Wesley Theological Seminary  
*Calling on God: Inclusive Christian Prayers for Three Years of Sundays*, co-authored with Peter Bankson.

Michelle Voss Roberts, Wake Forest University  

Malcolm Clemens Young, Christ Episcopal Church, Los Altos, California  

**Career Transitions**

Ravi M. Gupta, Utah State University  
Named the Charles Redd Chair of Religious Studies and Director of the Religious Studies Program at Utah State University.

Louis Komjathy, University of San Diego  
Promoted to tenured associate professor of Chinese religions and comparative religious studies in the Department of Theology and Religious Studies at the University of San Diego.
Stephen Butler Murray, Ecumenical Theological Seminary
Appointed President and Professor of Systematic Theology and Preaching at Ecumenical Theological Seminary in Detroit, Michigan.

Phillis Isabella Sheppard, Boston University
Appointed Associate Professor of Religion, Psychology and Culture of Vanderbilt University Divinity School and Graduate Department of Religion effective August 16, 2014.

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