2017 Call for Papers Now Open

The Call for Papers for the 2017 AAR Annual Meeting in Boston, MA, is now online. Proposals may be submitted through the Program Administration Proposal, Evaluation, Review, and Submission (PAPERS) System. The deadline for proposal submission is 5:00 PM EST, Wednesday, March 1.

Action Alert! Help the AAR Advocate for the NEH

Last week we heard a report that the administration of President Donald Trump will seek to eliminate funding for the National Endowment for the Humanities and other federal cultural agencies. You can read the report here.

For half a century, Congress has supported the NEH, and in that time the Endowment has funded the work of many AAR members and their institutions. You can advocate for the NEH by telling your congressional representatives and the President that you value funding for the humanities.

Click here to take action.

The AAR is a member of the National Humanities Alliance, which is dedicated to advocacy for the NEH specifically, and the humanities and humanistic social sciences more generally. You can learn more about the Alliance’s plans to...
secure funding for the NEH here.

Registration is now open for the NHA Annual Meeting and Humanities Advocacy Day. The deadline for registration is March 3, 2017.

**Join for 2017 Today!**

Don't miss a beat: renew your membership for 2017. Make sure your access remains uninterrupted to all your member benefits, including print and online access to JAAR, Religious Studies News, Reading Religion, and reduced registration rates to the Annual Meeting. Renew your membership for calendar year 2017 today!

**Outgoing Program Unit Chairs**

Thank you to our Program Unit Chairs whose terms ended in 2016! For the full list, please see here.

**2017 AAR Regional Meetings**

Support your region and plan to attend your 2017 regional meeting! Check out your region to see how you can become involved! The following online registration systems and calls for papers are open:

**Calls for Papers:**
- Eastern International – February 15 Deadline

**Registrations:**
- Mid-Atlantic – Early Bird Deadline: February 5
- Midwest – Deadline: February 13
- Southeast – Deadline: March 3
- Southwest – Deadline: March 10

Please click here for information about regional calls for papers, meeting dates and locations, and online registration.

**Award Nominations Now Open**

**Book Awards**

The American Academy of Religion seeks submissions for the annual
book awards:

1. Best First Book in the History of Religions
2. Awards for Excellence in the Study of Religion (winners in four categories):
   - Analytical-Descriptive Studies
   - Constructive-Reflective Studies
   - Historical Studies
   - Textual Studies

The submission deadline for all book awards is **February 10, 2017**. Submission instructions and eligibility requirements are available online. Send submissions to the AAR Executive Office:

Sarah Levine
Attn: Book Awards
American Academy of Religion
825 Houston Mill RD NE STE 300
Atlanta, GA 30329

Questions and letters of nomination may be sent to slevine@aarweb.org.

**Religion and the Arts Award**

The [AAR Award in Religion and the Arts](http://www.aarweb.org) is presented annually to an artist, performer, critic, curator, or scholar who has made a recent significant contribution to the understanding of the relations among the arts and religions, both for the academy and for a broader public. Submission guidelines are available on the AAR website, and the deadline for nominations is **February 1, 2017**.

**Martin E. Marty Award for the Public Understanding of Religion**

To nominate someone for the AAR's [Martin E. Marty Award](http://www.aarweb.org), which recognizes extraordinary contributions to the public understanding of religion by those whose work speaks to the public as well as to scholars, please see here. Nominations and self-nominations are welcomed. The deadline for nominations
2016–2017 Research Grant Winners

Congratulations to these AAR members who won collaborative and individual research grants!

For information about AAR grant opportunities, please see [here](#).

**AAR Academy Fund Contributors**

The AAR gratefully acknowledges our members who contributed to the Academy Fund from **July 1, 2015**, through **June 30, 2016**. Contributions to this fund support Annual Meeting Travel Grants, international initiatives, including the International Dissertation Research Fellowships, new programs, and the general operations of the Academy. Thank you for your donations! Please see [here](#) for the complete list of contributors. For more information about supporting the work of the Academy, or to make a secure online donation, please see [here](#).

**AAR Publications: Newsletter Subscriptions and Alerts**

Sign up for free newsletters from Reading Religion and Religious Studies News, and free e-Alerts from the Journal of the American Academy of Religion. Keep up with the latest scholarship in the field of religious studies through your e-mail inbox!

**Luce/ACLS Grants for Universities**

The American Council of Learned Societies requests proposals for grants to be funded by the Luce/ACLS Program in Religion, Journalism & International Affairs. Deadline: March 23, 2017.

**Member Notes**

In Memoriam
Huston Smith (1919–2016), Syracuse University, Emeritus

Huston Cummings Smith, Thomas J. Watson Professor of Religion and Distinguished Adjunct Professor of Philosophy, Emeritus, Syracuse University, passed away on December 30, 2016, at the age of 97. Professor Smith introduced millions to the study of world religions through his research, television series, film documentaries, recordings, interviews, and publications, including his bestselling work *The World’s Religions*. A longtime member of the AAR, he was awarded the Martin E. Marty Public Understanding of Religion Award in 2004. For more about the life of this renowned scholar, read his obituary in the *New York Times* and a remembrance from his friend and colleague, Arvind Sharma, McGill University, in *Religious Studies News*.

**Books and Publications**

Julianne Hazen, Niagara University


Nahid Afrose Kabir, Georgetown University


Robert McKim, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign


Jordan Rosenblum, University of Wisconsin-Madison


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

**Dates and Deadlines**

Jan 25  
**Martin Marty Award**

Feb 1  
**Religion and the Arts Award**
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