

The American Academy of Religion, Western Region would like to offer sincere gratitude for generous sponsorship by the following entities at the University of Arizona of our 2016 meeting:



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East Asian Studies



College of Humanities

And the Department of English
Cover photo from UA AWH_header_6

Greening our conference is a continuing goal for AAR/WR. We encourage all participants to download the digital program and keep it electronic. We understand this may be impossible for some, so we have made it printer-friendly and will have copies available at the registration desk for your perusal. Additionally, there will be a limited supply of printed copies you may purchase and keep for an additional \$5.00 charge. *To further reduce conference-related waste, we encourage participants to bring their own cups/mugs/thermoses for beverages to be provided at the conference.*

AAR/WR: <http://www.aarwr.com/>

AAR/WR 2016: <http://www.aarwr.com/annual-meetings.html>



2016

AAR Western Region
Conference Program

University of Arizona, Tucson
April 1-3, 2016



Acknowledgements

The American Academy of Religion, Western Region (AAR/WR) would like to express its thanks to the groups and persons who came together to make this year's meeting possible. We begin with University of Arizona, which has shown such generosity, not only through sharing its campus, but also by making other appreciated contributions.

University of Arizona, Tucson

We gratefully acknowledge the generous support of the Dean of the College of Humanities, Dr. Mary Wildner Bassett and the leadership of Dr. Karen Seat, head of the Department of Religious Studies and Classics. Many thanks to the support of the Director of the Arizona Center of Judaic Studies J. Edward Wright, the Department of East Asian Studies' head Albert Welter, and head of the English Department Leerom Medovoi.

AAR, Western Region Officers

Dirk von der Horst, Regional Coordinator
Hester Oberman, President
Emily Silverman, Past-President
Kahena Dorothea Viale, Vice-President and Program Chair

American Academy of Religion (AAR)

Special thanks to Deborah Minor and Susan Snider at the AAR national office. Without their skills and assistance, AAR/WR's 2016 conference would not have been possible. We also want to thank Dirk von der Horst, the outgoing Regional Coordinator, for his years of dedicated service.

We also thank all of our presenters, unit chairs and attendees for supporting AAR/WR, each other, and the advancement of scholarship on religion.

Useful Information

The Department of Religious Studies and Classics welcomes the AAR/WR for the first time to its campus. The University of Arizona engages students and faculty in interdisciplinary study with the religiously diverse cultures in the United States and internationally, understanding the borderlands of the Southwest, as well as today's complex global issues.

Why study religion today?

If I went back to college today, I think I would probably major in comparative religion, because that's how integrated it is in everything that we are working on and deciding and thinking about in life today. —John Kerry, U.S. Secretary of State, 8/7/13

*I love for medical schools to see that I studied the subject of religion while in college, because I will personally be working with people from different religions and cultures. Religious Studies has better prepared me to interact with people from all walks of life as a physician. — UA Religious Studies and Biomedical Sciences Double Major
From UA Religious Studies website: <http://religion.arizona.edu/>*

For more information about parking, transit, accommodations, and your visit to University of Arizona, Tucson, please visit the AAR/WR website: <http://www.aarwr.com/annual-meetings.html>.

Lunch options:

http://www.aarwr.com/uploads/2/0/4/2/20420409/ua_lunch_choice_s.pdf

Campus resources:

Map: <http://map.arizona.edu/>

General: <http://www.arizona.edu/>

Religious Studies: <http://religion.arizona.edu/>

Visit UA: <http://www.arizona.edu/visit>

Visitor Guide: <http://wc.arizona.edu/ads/visitorguide/>

Dining on Campus: <http://www.union.arizona.edu/dining/>

Events: <https://uanews.arizona.edu/calendar/month/2016-04>

Transit and Free Parking

Friday – free parking at Aloft hotel

Saturday and Sunday – free parking at UA Second Street Garage between Cherry and Mountain Avenues on Second Street
The **Sun Link Streetcar** conference location stop is #17 at UA, near the Second Street Garage. The Modern Languages building will be nearby. All Sun Link stops are ADA accessible.



Plenary Lecture Title:

Haunted America: Reading the Spiritual Turn

Saturday, April 2, 7:00PM

University of Arizona, Tucson

Modern Languages Building 350

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Lecture Abstract: What explains the renewal of interest in the spiritual in America today? Answers often point to the fact that Americans self-identify as never before as spiritual-but-not-religious, or to a dispersal of the sacred into the secular realms of media, politics, and economics. Tracy Fessenden reads the spiritual turn as belonging also to a ghostly history of American violence, pursued in the name of individual freedoms. The project of reconciling this hidden history and its unquiet witness with the quest for psychic health and wholeness, she suggests, contributes an animating strain in the history of American spirituality from the Transcendentalists to the War on Terror.

Speaker Bio: Tracy Fessenden is the Steve and Margaret Forster Professor of Comparative Mythologies on the Faculty of Religious Studies at Arizona State University

Friday Caucus Collaboration

For this year's conference, the Caucus Collaboration on Friday evening will replace the Women's Caucus pre-conference workshop and the Queer View film event, both of which usually occur as separate pre-conference events on Friday.

Simultaneous Conferences

Friday Evening and Saturday - *Southwest Symposium for Contemplative Pedagogies*

Friday 6:00-7:00 p.m. Keynote Address by Daniel Barbezat, Professor of Economics at Amherst College

For more information about free registration for the Southwest Symposium for Contemplative Pedagogies:

<http://cpflc.arizona.edu/content/southwest-symposium-contemplative-pedagogies>

Friday and Saturday - *Oceans and Deserts 2016: Charting Transdisciplinary Currents in Environment and Culture*

<http://www.portal.environment.arizona.edu/events/oceans-and-deserts-2016-charting-transdisciplinary-currents-environment-and-culture>

AAR Issues Statement on Anti-Muslim Rhetoric

Issued during the 2015 national AAR meeting

November 21, 2015

The American Academy of Religion is deeply troubled by the rising anti-Muslim rhetoric in the United States and around the world. Hate speech and intemperate political discourse aimed at Muslims and other religious groups are opposed to the values of our learned society and to the most cherished commitments of American civic culture. We call on our members, other scholars of religion, and all Americans, to reject that divisive and dangerous speech and to reaffirm our shared commitment to a free and open society where all residents' rights are recognized and protected.

The AAR is the world's largest scholarly society devoted to the critical study of religion. This week's sudden increase in anti-Muslim rhetoric and Islamophobia is taking place during the AAR's Annual Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia.

Friday, April 1, 2016

Location: Aloft Hotel Tucson University

12:00-4:00 p.m.

AAR/WR Board Meeting, Aloft Hotel Tucson University

6:00-8:00 p.m.

Registration open, Aloft Hotel Tucson University

7:00-9:00 p.m.

“Grounding the Future of Religious Studies at the Regional and National Level”

Mixer and Panel, Caucus Collaboration

Featured Speakers:

Max Strassfeld, Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, University of Arizona; Affiliated Faculty of Judaic Studies; Member of the Status of LGBTIQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, and Queer) Persons in the Profession AAR Working Group

Elizabeth Ursic, Professor of Religious Studies, Mesa Community College, Co-chair of the national-level Women’s Caucus of the American Academy of Religion and Society of Biblical Literatures

Roy Whitaker, Professor of American Religious Diversity, San Diego State University; Faculty Advisor, Professional Development Unit, and Co-chair of Religion and the Arts, American Academy of Religion, Western Region

Co-sponsored by the Women’s Caucus, Queer Caucus, and the Graduate Student Professional Development Unit

Mixer catering is generously sponsored by the AAR Western Region Board and Anonymous Donors, and hosted in collaboration with the Southwest Symposium for Contemplative Pedagogies

Saturday, April 2, 2016

Location: University of Arizona,
Modern Languages Building, 3rd floor

8:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Registration open, Modern Languages (ML) Building, 3rd floor hallway near the auditorium, Room 350

Session 1 8:30-10:00 a.m.

A1 Catholic Studies 1; ML 301

Catholic Studies: Kolby Knight

Catholic Studies 1

Catholic Theology and the Negotiation of Rights

Moderator: Kolby Knight, University of California, Santa Barbara

James Berry, Fuller Theological Seminary

“To Atone or to Absolve: The Catholic Church and Human Rights Trials in Latin America”

Besem Etchi, Duquesne University

“Re-Reading Luke 1:28-38 as an Ethical Framework for the Dilemma of Infertile Catholic Couples and IVF”

Liliana Gutierrez-Ramirez, Graduate Theological

Union/University of California, Berkeley

“Know Your Place: Addressing 'Machismo' and Sexual Harassment in Latin American Catholic Communities”

Saturday, April 2, 2016

Session 1 8:30-10:00 a.m.

A2 Buddhist Studies 1; ML 302

Buddhist Studies: Jonathan H.X. Lee and Alison Jameson

Buddhist Studies 1

Buddhism and the Frontiers of Social Justice

Moderator: Jonathan H. X. Lee, San Francisco State University

Shyling Glaze, University of Arizona

“The Conventional Buddhist Concepts of ‘This Life’ and ‘Next Life’ and Female Infanticide”

Dustin Natte, University of Arizona

“Placing Women into the Chinese Buddhist Canon”

Lu Zhang, University of Arizona

“Monk Poets and Political Conflict in the Northern Song Dynasty: Focus on Shi Daoqian”

Jay Valentine, Troy University

“The New Kadampa and the 14th Dalai Lama: Investigating Claims of Social Injustice”

A3 Islamic Studies 1; ML 303

Islamic Studies: Abdullahi Gallab, Sophia Pandya

Islamic Studies 1:

American Islam in the Global Age

Moderator: Dr. Sophia Pandya

Ken Chitwood, University of Florida

“Globalizing the Study of Islam in the Americas: Approaches to Global Islam through the Lens of Latina/Muslims”

Tseleq Yusef, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
“The New Face of Islam in America: ‘Whiteness,’ ‘Arabization,’ and Symbolic Power”

Ali Rezai, Arizona State University
“Muslim Refugees in the United States”

Faezeh Fatizadeh, University of California, Riverside
“Surveillance, Suspicion, Scrutiny: Power Dynamics between the State and Muslim Americans”

Keri Hughes, California State University Long Beach
“Evolving Muslim Perspectives on LGBT Identity”

A4 Education and Workshops 1; ML 304

Education and Workshops: Melissa James

Education and Workshops 1

Religion, Pedagogy, and Social Justice

Elizabeth Seward, Claremont School of Theology

“Religion and Pedagogy”

Melissa James, St. Leo’s University

“From Classrooms to Protests: Teaching Ethics and Social Engagement”

A5 Pagan Studies 1; ML 306

Pagan Studies: Dorothea Kahena Viale

Pagan Studies 1

Establishing Justice through the Arts, Myth, and Cultural Awareness

Matthew Fergusen, University of California, Irvine

“Reevaluating the Pagan as the Cultural ‘Other’ in Both Ancient and Modern Religious Studies”

Saturday, April 2, 2016

Session 1 8:30-10:00 a.m.

Logan Greene, Eastern Washington University "Ritual Entanglements: Reviving Mythos in a Scientific World"

Dorothea Kahena Viale, California Polytechnic University, Pomona
"Kali Dancing In Justice"

A6 History of Christianity 1; ML 312

History of Christianity: Enrico Beltramini, Dyron Daugherty

History of Christianity 1
Theological Perspectives on Social Justice
Moderator: Dyron Daugherty, Pepperdine University

Aneesah Ettress, Occidental College
"The Role of Space and Art in the Development of the Dormition Doctrine"

Michael Jimenez, Azusa Pacific University
"Slavoj Žižek and Liberation Theology: A Vanishing Conversation"

Jason S. Sexton, California State University, Fullerton
"Accounting Theologically for Water and Waste in the West"

Session 2 10:15-11:00 a.m.

Presidential Address, ML 311
"Health, Medicine, and the Role of the Sacred:
Religious Studies Scholarship in the Health Sciences"
Hester Oberman, AAR/WR President 2015-2016

Session 3 11:15 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

A7 Asian American Religious Studies 1; ML 311 (moved from 301)

Asian American Religious Studies: Jonathan H.X. Lee and Dean Adachi

Asian American Religious Studies 1
Critical Asian American Faith: The Curves and Bumps of Asian American Christian Theologies and Communities
Moderator: Jonathan H. X. Lee, San Francisco State University

Thien-Huong T. Ninh, California Polytechnic State University
"Redefining Catholic Universalism: Vietnamese American Catholics and Homeland Political Mobilization"

Girim Jung, Claremont School of Theology
"Towards a Radically Inclusive Korean American Church: Theological Narratives of Dechurched Millennials and Social Justice"

Jeongyun April Hur, Claremont School of Theology
"Justice of Resilience in Older Korean Women's activity in the church"

A8 Womanist/Pan-African 1; ML 302

Womanist/Pan African: Sakena Young-Scaggs

Womanist/Pan African 1
Womanist Wordings: Testifying and Telling Our Stories

Tiffany Trent, Arizona State University
"Story Theologies in Poetic Recitations of Motherhood and Spoken Words of Womanhood"

Sakena Young-Scaggs, Arizona State University
"Its Bigger on the Inside: Womanist Phenomenological Praxis"

Saturday, April 2, 2016

Session 3 11:15 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

A9 Philosophy of Religion 1; ML 303

Philosophy of Religion: Paul Rodriguez, Dane Sawyer

Philosophy of Religion 1

Decolonizing Religion

Moderator: Paul Rodriguez, Claremont Graduate University

Casey Crosbie, Claremont School of Theology
"Towards the Inclusion of Non-Western Epistemological Frameworks in Philosophy of Religion"

Matthew Zaro Fisher, Independent Scholar
"A Systems Theory Approach to Philosophy of Religion"

Everette Richardson, Loyola Marymount University
"Fanon Contra Sartre: Beyond the Veil of Double Consciousness"

A10 Indigenous Religions 1; ML 304

Indigenous Religions: Brian Clearwater

Indigenous Religions 1

Indigenous Religions in Global Diaspora

Moderator: Andrea McComb-Sanchez, University of Arizona

Jeana Mendoza, California State University, Long Beach
"In Xochitl In Cuicatl: Preservation of Nahua Identity through Poetry"

Nathan Fredrickson, University of California, Santa Barbara
"The Sovereign's Red Shadow: A Critical Reading of Royal Ideology in Literary Depictions of Native Americans"

Brian Clearwater, Occidental College and California State University, Northridge
"Indigenous Religions in Cosmopolitan Perspective: Decolonizing the Global Center"

A11 Religion and the Arts 1; ML 306

Religion and the Arts: Roy Whitaker, Dirk von der Horst

Religion and the Arts 1

Social Justice, Artistic Representations, and Aesthetic Agency

Moderator: Roy Whitaker

Su-Chi Lin, Graduate Theological Union
"Art, Incarnation, and Social Transformation: A Case Study on the Theological Aesthetics of Feasting in Taiwanese Aboriginal Iconography"

Justin Tanis, Graduate Theological Union
"Respeto a Los Derechos Humanos: Themes of Social Justice and Inclusion in the Art of Nahum Zenil"

Jason Fallin, Fuller Theological Seminary
"Embodied Discourse: Martin Luther King, Jr. and Aesthetic-Dramatic Persuasion"

A12 Goddess Studies 1; ML 312

Goddess Studies: Lauri Ramey, Angela Sells

Goddess Studies 1

Feminine Independence and Social Justice through Rachel's Tomb, Antigone, and Sovereignty

Moderators: Lauri Ramey, California State University Los Angeles; Angela Sells, Pacifica Graduate Institute

Saturday, April 2, 2016

Session 3 11:15 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

Shannon Sloan-Spice, Oakton Community College
"Finding Sovereignty, Declaring Independence: A Love Song Between the Irish Goddess of the Land and Her People"

Michael Teske, University of Arizona
"Sophocles' Antigone and the Re-Creation of the *Oikos* "Household" in the Afterlife as Social Justice"

Carli Anderson, Arizona State University
"Weeping for Her Children': Rachel and Her Tomb as a Symbol of Return in the Jewish Imagination"

Lunch 1:00-2:00 p.m.

Section Chairs Lunch, Queer Caucus Lunch
Modern Languages (ML) Building, 3rd floor hallway
Please see AAR/WR Annual Meetings webpage for lunch options.

Session 4 2:15-3:45 p.m.

A13 Religion in America 1; ML 301

Religion in America: Konden Smith, Chase Laurelle Way

Religion in America 1
Failing American Religion
Moderator: Moses Moore, Arizona State University

Alex Devora, University of Arizona
"Looking at 'Nothing in Particular'"

Shannon Frediani, Claremont School of Theology
"Prosperity Gospel in America's Prisons: Champions of Faith or Neocolonialism?"

Alexandria Griffin, Arizona State University
"Constructions of Childhood and Mormon LGBT Policy Changes in Online Discourse"

A14 Ethics 1; ML 302

Ethics: Chad Bogosian

Ethics 1
Topics in Ethics and Social Justice: Justice, Love, and Forgiveness
Moderator: Chad Bogosian, Clovis Community College

Philip Antin, University of Arkansas
"From Alien To Beloved: The Demands Of Justice To A Neighbor"

Roberto Di Cegli, Pontifical Lateran University
"Rethinking Justice In Light of God's Love: The Theological Perspective of Thomas Aquinas"

Gregory Bock, University of Texas at Tyler
"The Principle of Unconditional Forgiveness"

A15 Islamic Studies 2; ML 303

Islamic Studies 2
American Islam in the Digital Age
Moderator: Dr. Abdullahi Gallab

Robert Rozehnal, Lehigh University
"Cyber Sufis: American Muslims in Digital Landscape"

Sarah Robinson-Bertoni, Santa Clara University
"Rising Response to Climate Change: Comparing Aspects of the Papal Encyclical 'Laudato Si' with the Islamic Declaration of Climate Change"

Saturday, April 2, 2016

Session 4 2:15-3:45 p.m.

Souad T. Ali, Arizona State University
"Hadith and Early Development of Western Thought"

Karla Evans, University of Georgia
"Identity Formation in U.S. Female Converts to Islam:
Practices that Hinder Feelings of Muslimness"

A16 Goddess Studies 2; ML 304

Goddess Studies 2
*Reactionary Feminisms and the Divine Image in Music,
Religion, and Ritual*
Moderators: Lauri Ramey, California State University Los
Angeles
Angela Sells, Pacifica Graduate Institute

Margaret Mendenhall, Pacifica Graduate Institute
"Reactionary, Relational Feminine Energy in German-
Language Opera"

Taylor Kerby, Claremont Graduate University
"I Had A Mother There: The Departure of Heavenly Mother
and the Decline of Mormon Feminist Activism"

Colleen Harris-Keith, California State University-Channel
Islands
"Wounded Daughters as Modern Medicine Women: Using
Ritual Theory and Goddess Scholarship to Explore
Women's Chronic Illness"

A17 **Joint Session:** Psychology, Culture, and Religion; and Social Sciences of Religion; ML 306

Cancelled

A38 Psychology, Culture, and Religion 1; ML 306

**Psychology, Culture and Religion: Tim Helton and
John Leech**
MOVED from Sunday, Session 10

Psychology, Culture and Religion 1
*Wheels within Wheels: Mandalas, Worldviews, Narratives,
and the Construction of Difference*

Yuria Celidwen, Pacifica Graduate Institute
"Tonatzin Coatlicue Guadalupe: Christian Symbolism,
Colonization, and Social Justice"

Vidal Rivas, Holy Apostles College (Cromwell, CT)
"Worldviews and Social Justice in a Pluralistic Society"

Alison Jameson, University of Arizona
"Mandalas, Labyrinths, and the Harvard IAT: Cultivating a
Sense of Self to Dispel the Sense of Other"

A18 Latino and Latin American Religion 1; ML 312

Latino and Latin American Religion: Joseph Morales

Latino and Latin American Religion 1
The Pursuit of Social Justice: Past, Present, and Future

Paul Rodriguez, Claremont Graduate University
"On Greek and Aztec Philosophy, or the Sublimity of
Impermanence"

Jose G. Moreno, Estrella Mountain Community College
"The Making of the United Farmworker Union (UFW):
Religion Symbolic Representations Historiography, 1980 to
2015"

Thomas Joseph, Grand Canyon University
"Cultivating Social Justice within the Congregation:
Embracing Convergence as the Lens through Greater
Participation and Interaction"

Saturday, April 2, 2016

Session 5 4:00-5:30 p.m.

A19 Religions of Asia 1; ML 301

Religions of Asia 1
Ritual and Social Action in Jain, Sikh, and Tantric Buddhist Traditions

Moderator: Anna Hennessey, University of California, Berkeley

Respondent: Caleb Simmons, University of Arizona, Tucson

Michael Reading, Claremont School of Theology
"Acharya Tulsi's Anuvrat Movement; Societal Uplift via Self-Restraint"

Sierra LaPoint, University of California, Riverside
"The Dynamic Ontologies of the Kālacakra Sand Mandala"

Charles M. Townsend, University of California Riverside
"Exploring Problematics surrounding 'Ritual Expertise' in the Sikh Tradition"

A20 Women and Religion 1; ML 302

Women and Religion: Sara Frykenberg, Emily Leah Silverman

Women and Religion 1
Narratives from Disempowerment to Empowerment

Moderator: Sara Frykenberg, Mount Saint Mary's University

Respondent: Emily Leah Silverman, Graduate Theological Union

Reem Javid, Graduate Theological Union
"Role Models: Navigating the Terrain of Social Justice Making"

Daniel Azim Pschaida, Northern Arizona State University
"Muslimas (Muslim Women) in Charge: Praxis of Leadership in Muslim Student Associations on the West Coast"

A21 Graduate Student Professional Development 1; ML 303

Graduate Student and Professional Development: Chase Way and Roy Whitaker

Graduate Student and Professional Development 1
The Ivory Lighthouse: Academic Research and Teaching as 'Real World' Leadership

Colleen Harris-Keith, California State University, Channel Islands
"Turn Your Talking Head into a Walking Stick: Leveraging Your Academic Librarians to Connect Graduate Research with Social Activism"

Nathan Fredrickson, University of California, Santa Barbara
"A Course Design for Critical Pedagogy in Religious Studies"

Casey Crosbie, Claremont School of Theology
"The Value of 'Non-Academic' Experience in Guiding Academic Research - A Case Study Based on Homeless Advocacy"

Besem Oben Etchi, Duquesne University
"A Center Outside Itself: *Proyección Social* in Ignacio Ellacuría's Vision of the University"

A22 Islamic Studies 3; ML 304

Islamic Studies 3
Muslim Women and their New Places and Spaces
Moderator: Dr. Souad T. Ali

Saturday, April 2, 2016

Session 5 4:00-5:30 p.m.

Sharmin Sedequee, Michigan State University
"Targeting Muslims: Women Relatives of Prisoners in US War on Terror"

Ihsan al-Khatib, Murray State University
"Talaqand Mahr in American Female Courts"

Nayawiyyah Muhammad, Claremont Graduate University
"The Women's Mosque of America and the Navigation of Ritual Sacred Space in Islam"

Shabnam Rezai, Arizona State University
"To Veil or Not to Veil: An Evolving Identity"

A23 Religion, Literature, and Film 1; ML 306

**Religion, Literature and Film: Jon R. Stone,
Emmanuelle Patrice**

Religion, Literature, and Film 1
The Hell of Imagining Social Justice
Moderator: Emmanuelle Patrice, Pacifica Graduate Institute

Whitney Smitherman, Arizona State University
"Imagining Savushun: Capturing an Iranian Vision of Social Justice Through Literature"

Erin Seaward-Hiatt, Weber State University
"Writing Subversion in the Modern Islamic State: Rajaa Alsanea's The Girls of Riyadh"

Amy S. Fatzinger, University of Arizona
"You Know That I've Had My Hell on Earth': Catholic Schools in Indigenous Cinema"

Dane Sawyer, University of La Verne
"Thus Spoke Cloud Atlas: Nietzsche, Justice, Fate, and Eternal Recurrence"

A24 Religion and Social Sciences 1; ML 312

**Religion and Social Sciences: Hester Oberman,
Joseph Paxton**

Religion and Social Sciences 1
Spirituality and the Social Sciences
Moderator: Gila Silverman, University of Arizona

Roman Palitsky, University of Arizona
"Religion in Mindfulness-based Interventions: An Empirical Case for Pluralism"

John Leech, Independent Scholar
"Living Traditions and Dead Wood"

Mark Schmanko, Rice University
"New Visions of Transcendence: Reconsidering the Insider-Outsider Problem"

Session 6 5:45-6:45 p.m.

Reception, Modern Languages (ML) Building,
3rd floor hallway

Session 7 7:00-8:00 p.m.

PLENARY SPEAKER
Tracy Fessenden
"Haunted America: Reading the Spiritual Turn"
Modern Languages (ML) Building, 350 Auditorium

Social hour 8:30-9:30 p.m.

Loft Hotel Tucson University XYZ Lounge, no-host bar

Sunday, April 3, 2016

Location: University of Arizona,
Modern Languages Building, 3rd floor

8:00-10:00 a.m.

Registration open, Modern Languages Building,
3rd floor hallway

8:00-9:00 a.m.

Women's Caucus Breakfast
Modern Languages Building, 3rd floor hallway

Session 8: 9:15-10:45 a.m.

A25 Religion and Social Sciences 2; ML 301

Religion and Social Sciences 2
Social Justice and the Social Sciences
Moderators: Hester Oberman, University of Arizona
Joseph Paxton, Claremont School of Theology

Philip Boo Riley, Santa Clara University
"Spirituality on the Margins of Silicon Valley: Liminality and
the 'Jungle's' Homeless Community"

Jongseock Shin (James), Fuller Theological Seminary
"The Spirit's Pathetic and Redemptive Presence in Global
Capitalism: Embodying the Perichoretic Life in the
Capitalist Market"

Zac Poppen, Brite Divinity School
"Hostipitality and the Immigrant: A Postcolonial Critique of
U.S. Christian Positions on Immigration"

A26 Buddhist Studies 2; ML 302

Buddhist Studies 2
Pre-modern Buddhism and Social Justice
Moderator: Shanshan Yang, California Institute of Integral
Studies

Kenneth Valencich, University of Arizona
"Enryakuji's Noble Army"

Stephen D. Torowicz, University of Arizona
"Monks, Medicine and the Martial Arts"

Nan Ouyang, University of Arizona
"From the Cult of Cremated Relics to the Cult of
Mummified Bodies: the Rising of Mount Jiuhua in Late
Imperial China"

A27 **Joint Session:** Philosophy of Religion; Religion, Literature, and Film; ML 303

*Habits of Justice: Violent Nostalgia, Atheistic Rap, and the
Peircean-Tillich Conception*

Moderators: Emmanuelle Patrice, Pacifica Graduate
Institute; Dane Sawyer, University of La Verne

Samantha Copping, University of California, Santa Barbara
"Be-Longing: The Futility and Violence of Nostalgia"

Roy Whitaker, San Diego State University
"African American Atheist Hip Hop Rap: A Philosophy of
Irreligious Audio-Visual Culture with Special Reference to
Greydon Square"

Charles Conway, Independent Scholar
"Habits of 'Justice': The Peircean Pathway to Animate
Tillich's Conception"

Sunday, April 3, 2016

Session 8: 9:15-10:45 a.m.

A28 Islamic Studies 4; ML 304

Islamic Studies 4;
Contemporary Turkish Sufism
Moderator: Abdullahi Gallab

Patricia Gabel, California State University
“Resurgence of Sufism in Islamic post-Enlightenment Turkey”

Sophia Pandya, California State University Long Beach
“The Hizmet Movement in US: Diaspora and the Challenge of Altruism”

Jessica Grace P. Howell, California State University Long Beach
“Armenian-Turkish Reconciliation: the Role of the Hizmet Movement”

Kelli Bour, California State University Long Beach
“Islamic Women Healers”

Marie Brown, California State University at Long Beach
“Ataturk: The Totem of Turkish Nationalism”

A29 Religions of Asia 2; ML 306

Moved to Session 9

A30 Ethics 2; ML 312

Topics in Ethics: Social Justice of Race and Ethnicity
Moderator: Chad Bogosian, Clovis Community College

Shawn Bawulski, Grand Canyon University
“Ethical Culpability and Racial Systemic Advantage”

Woo Kang, Claremont Graduate University
“Receiving and Doing: The Path for Moral Realization and Moral Acts For Non-English Speaking Immigrants”

Joung Chul Lee, Claremont School of Theology
“Acts of Love: Social Justice, Relationality, and Interreligious Cooperation”

Session 9: 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

A31 Jewish Studies 1; ML 301

Jewish Studies: Roberta Sabbath

Jewish Studies 1
A Comparatist Approach to Troubling Topics in Judaic and Christian Sacred Texts
Moderator: Roberta Sabbath, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Leigh Ann Hildebrand, Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley
“The Beautiful Convert: Assimilation vs. Conversion in the Talmudic Reading of Deuteronomy 21:10-14”

Gavrielle Blank, Claremont Graduate University
“Emanated Divinity: A Comparison of God in the Secret Book According to John and the Sefer ha Bahir”

Margot Mink Colbert, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
“Social Justice: The Focus of Numerous Theatrical Dance Choreographers’ Work in the 1930’s and 40’s...”

Sunday, April 3, 2016

Session 9: 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

A29 Religions of Asia 2; ML 302 - moved from Session 8

Religions of Asia 2

Rites, Tea, and Art in the Religions of Ancient and Medieval China

Moderator: Charles Townsend, University of California, Riverside

Lixia Dong, University of Arizona

"Rites of Passage and the Tea Ceremonies in the *Chixiu baizhang qinggui*"

Shanshan Yang, California Institute of Integral Studies

"Women's Rites: Ban Zhao and Her Lessons for Women"

Anna Hennessey, University of California, Berkeley

"Visualization and Representation of Body and Landscape in the Religious Experience of Medieval China"

A33 Queer Studies in Religion 1; ML 303

Queer Studies in Religion: John Erickson, Marie Cartier

Queer Studies in Religion 1

Queer Identity and Religious Frameworks

Moderator/Respondent: Marie Cartier, University of California, Irvine, and California State University, Northridge

Danielle Dempsey, University of California Riverside

"Queer Expression and Human Dignity: A Framework for Reimagining Catholic Sexual Ethics in Light of Religious and Cultural Pluralism"

Luccia Rogers, Independent Scholar

"Migrations, Cultural Genetics, Cultural Flows: Mapping Global Shamanic, Two-Spirit, and Religious Practices"

Therese Marie Ignacio Bjoernaas, Graduate Theological Union

"Bakla case ako eh, I have to make up for it' (Because I'm gay, I have to make up for it)"

A34 Catholic Studies 2; ML 304

Catholic Studies 2

Flannery O'Connor and Social Justice

Moderator: Kolby Knight, University of California, Santa Barbara

T.L. Brink, Crafton Hills College

"Flannery O'Connor, Linguistic Analysis and Social Justice"

Lauren Horn Griffin, University of Oklahoma

"Cultural Difference and Immigration in Flannery O'Connor's 'The Displaced Person'"

A35 Philosophy of Religion 2; ML 306

Philosophy of Religion 2

God and the Ethics of Selfhood

Moderator: Dane Sawyer, University of La Verne

Eva Braunstein, University of California, Santa Barbara

"The Question of Divine Transcendence in Hermann Cohen's Religion of Reason"

Sean Butler, Claremont Graduate University

"Spinozist Justice: Social Justice in the Pursuit of God"

Zayin Cabot, California State University, East Bay

"Philosophy of Religions: Insights from the Ontological Turn in Anthropology"

Matthew Crabb, Graduate Theological Union

"The Ground of the Confusion of the Good"

Sunday, April 3, 2016

Lunch: 12:45-2:00 p.m.

AAR/Western Region Business Meeting
Regional Election
Modern Languages Building, 3rd floor hallway

Session 10: 2:15-3:45 p.m.

A37 Jewish Studies 2; ML 301

Jewish Studies 2
The Good Jew: Rabbinic, Ethnographic, and Historical Perspectives
Moderator and Respondent: Max Strassfeld, University of Arizona

Howard J. Schwartz, University of Arizona
“Being a ‘[Good] Jew’: A Dilemma in An Age of Individualism”

Gila Silverman, University of Arizona
“An Imaginary Ideal: The ‘Good Jew’ and Liberal American Jewishness”

David Graizbord, University of Arizona
“Millennial Jews and Americanization: Between Nation and Religion”

A38 Psychology, Culture, and Religion 1; ML 302

Psychology, Culture and Religion: Tim Helton and John Leech

Moved to Saturday, Session 4

A39 Islamic Studies 5; ML 303

Islamic Studies 5
American Islam between New Theology and Jihad
Moderator: Sophia Pandya

Vincent Biondo, California State University Fresno
“Social Justice and Islam in America”

Joseph Thomason, Arizona State University
“American Jihadists”

Amel Berrjab, Colorado College
“Reconstructing Muslim Americans' Religious Identity through Media Essentialist Images of Islam after 9/11”

Abdullahi Gallab, Arizona State University
“Fast Religion and the Spheres of Violence”

A40 Nineteenth Century 1; ML 304

Nineteenth Century

Nineteenth Century 1
Social Justice in the Nineteenth Century

Moderator: Matthew Crabb, Graduate Theological Union/University of California, Berkeley

Adam Morrison, University of California, Santa Barbara
“A Scarlet Whore”: Polygamy and Muslims in Nineteenth-Century Congressional Anti-Polygamy Debates

Steven Martinson, University of Arizona
“Working for Freedom and Social Justice Abroad: Contributions of the German Immigrant Mathilde Franziska Anneke to the Shaping of America”

Sunday, April 3, 2016

Session 10: 2:15-3:45 p.m.

Cristina Rosetti, University of California, Riverside
“In the Storehouse of the Lord: The Social History and Legacy of the United Order”

Elisa Martinson Wright, Claremont School of Theology
“Mrs. Rockefeller, Mrs. Carnegie and Mrs. Schiff: An Interfaith Perspective of Philanthropy and Social Justice in the United States in the Nineteenth Century”

A41 History of Christianity 2; ML 306

History of Christianity 2
Church History and Social Justice
Moderator: Dyron Daughrity, Pepperdine University

John Cunningham, Providence Christian College
“Jonathan Edwards and an Aesthetics of Social Justice”

Melisa Ortiz Berry, Claremont Graduate University
“The World Deputation Movement: Evangelical Students and Social Justice in Europe after World War II”

Kathryn Phillips, University of California, Riverside
“The Performance of Early Christian Resistance and Submission”

Nathan Womack, University of California, Riverside
“Economic Evangelism: An Analysis of Microfinance Approaches of Poverty Alleviation as a Means to Evangelize”

A42 Wildcard 1; ML 312

Wildcard 1
Moderator: Craig Harline, Brigham Young University

Joseph Kim Paxton, Claremont School of Theology
“Implications of Social Justice: Racism, Discrimination, and Other Forms of Intergroup Conflict”

Lucas Scott Wright, University of California, Santa Barbara
“The Negative Way of Messianism and the Project of Decolonialism”

David Belcheff, Glendale Community College
“The Separation of Church and State and the Neoinimisms of Deleuze and Guattari, Descola, and Mack”

End of 2016 conference

Please save the date:

2017 AAR/WR Annual Meeting

Location:
**Loyola Marymount University,
Los Angeles, California**

Dates:
March 10-12, 2017
