# \*California\* \*Pacific Islands\* \*Nevada\* \*Hawaii\* \*Guam\* \*Arizona\*

**AMERICAN ACADEMY OF RELIGION**

# WESTERN REGION

**ANNUAL MEETING**

[**http://www.aarwr.com/**](http://www.aarwr.com/)

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# PROGRAM

**March 1-3, 2019**

**Arizona State University**

**250 E. Lemon Street  
Tempe, AZ 85281**



**Welcome to Arizona State University!**

Dear AAR Members and Colleagues, welcome to Arizona State University for the 2019 Annual Meeting of the Western Region of the American Academy of Religion. This year’s program has admitted nearly 180 papers in 25 Program Units.

The host for the 2019 meeting is Arizona State University. Thank you to Abdullahi Gallab and multiple department chairs in the graduate departments of Arizona State for your generosity and gracious hospitality. If you see anyone from Arizona State University, be sure to thank them for the time and energy put into ensuring the success of this year’s conference.

Directions to each session have been marked with helpful signs, pointing you to your place of interest. If, for any reason, you are having trouble finding your place of interest, please contact the conference manager – Joseph Paxton – via email, [Joseph.Paxton@cst.edu](mailto:Joseph.Paxton@cst.edu), or via cell phone, (480) 600-3727. A virtual map can be located [here.](https://www.asu.edu/map/interactive/)  It is requested that text and email be used as primary modes of communication for information, directions, and accommodations. If you are a unit chair, please call directly if you are experiencing technical difficulties and need immediate assistance.

**Sunday Afternoon Business Meeting**

In preparation for next year, we will hold our annual business meeting Sunday afternoon in Memorial 236 from 12:45 – 2:00 p.m. All attendees are invited to come, and lunch will be provided. We will update members on policy revisions, news, discuss administrative and organization details, and provide preliminary details of the upcoming 2020 conference at the Claremont Graduate University in Claremont, California.

**Saturday and Sunday Afternoon Graduate Student Professional Development**

The Graduate Student Professional Development unit is pleased to present two special topics sessions on “Finding Success on the Tenure Track Job Search: Tips from an AAR Mentor.”  Graduate students and newly minted PhD’s will have the opportunity to ask questions and hear from the experiences of Jonathan Lee, a tenured faculty member at San Francisco State University, regarding tips, insights, and reflections on the tenure-track job search. Lee has received job offers from multiple institutions and has a history of mentoring graduate and freshly minted PhD’s in and to tenure-track positions.

In addition, the GSPD unit is pleased to present graduate students and new PhD’s with regional professional development and mentoring opportunities.  Interested students and new PhD’s who apply will be paired with a regional mentor who will provide guidance and instruction on various topics such as publication, professional development, writing a first book, do’s and don’ts in the academy, scholarly development as a minority scholar, and best practices.  To inquire, please email the unit chair [joseph.paxton@cst.edu](mailto:joseph.paxton@cst.edu).

**Acknowledgements**

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

**Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ**

We gratefully acknowledge the generous support of Arizona State University and all members of the Arizona State University community.

On behalf of the board of the American Academy of Religion, Western Region, thank you!

**AAR, Western Region Officers**  
Abdullahi Gallab, President  
Jason Sexton, Vice President and Program Chair  
Joseph Kim Paxton, Conference Manager

Brian Clearwater, Regional Coordinator

Jonathan H.X. Lee, Past-President

We also thank all of our presenters, unit chairs, and attendees for supporting the AAR/WR, each other, and the advancement of religious studies in our region.

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**Annual Meeting**

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**Arizona State University**

**Tempe, Arizona**

**FRIDAY PRE-CONFERENCE, MARCH 1**

**9:30-Noon Women’s Caucus Event – Coor 3323 – “Resistance to the Distortions of Sexual Power Process Meeting and Contemplative Ritual Against Sexual Harassment in Academia: Towards Perspective, Clarity, and Accountability**  
  
You are invited to the Women’s Caucus process meeting to challenge the distortions of perceptions between sexuality and power in Academia. This meeting is a safe space to discuss the power dynamics and power differentials that are generated in an academic setting, and how they impact our interactions in our professional settings. We aim to create awareness of and to prevent the behaviors considered as sexual harassment. We work towards creating an organization that acts accordingly to its professional ethics, with a living and sustained practice that resists the perpetuation of an oppressive climate of denial and privilege. Join the discussion and contemplative ritual to challenge the culture of ambivalence and denial, and the permissive attitudes towards unwanted sexual advances in academia.

If you have felt uncomfortable at someone’s advances, do not dismiss your feelings thinking you have misinterpreted someone’s intentions. Your perception is what matters. Honor it, process it, report it, and be part of the change to hold each other accountable.

The AAR Western Region Women’s Caucus event is gender-inclusive, free and welcomes all people of goodwill to participate in this imperative restorative work. *​*Registration is available at the door, but RSVP is encouraged and much appreciated. Please RSVP to Yuria Celidwen – [celidwen@hotmail.com](mailto:celidwen@hotmail.com).

**12:00-5:00 AAR-WR Board Meeting – Coor 3301**

**7:00-9:30 Queer Caucus Event - Queer View 2019 – “Pop! Culture Theologians & Bible Bitches Live at AAR/WR”**

**Location: Coor 3323**

You’re invited to join the Queer Caucus of the AAR/WR for Queer View 2019 featuring an exclusive screening of the LGBTQ film *The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert* followed by a special recording of the new podcast Pop! Culture Theologians featuring pop theologians Martha Cecilia Ovadia and John Erickson with special guests Sara Hof, from the podcast Bible Bitches and Dr. Marie Cartier, Co-Chair of Queer Studies in Religion for AAR/WR and Professor of Women and Gender Studies at California State University, Northridge.  

The Pop! Theologians will break down the classic film with their usual dosage of sass and the event participants will be encouraged to participate in the live Q&A during the recording!

RSVP – [queerstudies.aarwr@gmail.com](mailto:queerstudies.aarwr@gmail.com)

**SATURDAY MORNING, MARCH 2**

**8:00-5:30 Registration – Senita Hall Lobby**

**First Session (8:30 – 10:00 a.m.)**

**Asian American Religious Studies 1 (8:30 – 10:00 a.m.) Discovery 130**

**Narrative and Religion, Race, and Racism**

Moderator: Jeongyun April Hur, Claremont School of Theology

Irene Ludji, Claremont Graduate University  
“The Schism within Indonesian Migrant Churches

in Southern California and its Ethical Implications”

Albert Shannon Toribio, University of the West

“Buddhism and Classism: The Making of the Social Elite within the American Buddhist Community”

Thien-Huong Ninh, Cuesta College

“Diasporic Crossings: Ethnic and Religious Nationalism among Vietnamese Catholic Refugees in the US and Germany”

**Buddhist Studies 1 (8:30-10:00 a.m.) Discovery 120**

**Buddhist Concepts of Bodily Resistance**

Moderator: Jake Nagasawa, University of California, Santa Barbara

Brent Beavers, Graduate Theological Union, Institute of Buddhist Studies

“No Self and the Disruption of Transgender Othering in Healthcare”

Matthew Hayes, University of California, Los Angeles

“Ritual Disclosure and the Body: The Sensorium and the Intellect as Sites of Religious Resistance in an Early Modern Shingon Liturgy”

Meijie Shen, Washington University, St. Louis

“Negotiation and Transcendence: The Buddhist Life of a Confucian Woman”

Lu Zhang, University of Arizona

“‘Sages and Worthies as Nirāmaṇakāya應化聖賢’ in *Zhiyue Lu*指月錄:

The Buddhist Ideals in the Late Ming Chan Hagiography”

**Joint Session: Ecology and Religion and Ethics 1 (8:30-10:00 a.m.) Senita C**

**Book Session – *That All May Flourish: Comparative Religious Environmental Ethics***

Moderator: Joshua Beckett, Fuller Theological Seminary

Respondent: Joan McGregor, Arizona State University

Laura M. Hartman, Roanoke College

“Contextualizing Flourishing”

Sarah E. Robinson-Bertoni, Santa Clara University

“Interconnected Flourishing for Animals, Landscapes, and People: Eco-halal, the Dao, and Eco-Buddhist Farming in Conversation”

**Education and Pedagogy 1 (8:30-10:00 a.m.) Discovery 123**

**Teaching Resistance: Pedagogy and Engaging Resistance**

Moderator: TBD

Chelsea Elizabeth Forer, University of Arizona   
“The Eye of the Scholar of Religion: A Lens of Resistance”

Sarita Tamayo-Moraga & Olivia Hill, Santa Clara University

“Pedagogical Practices for Working with Emotional Resistance as a Method for Deepening Learning and Cultivating Stability in a First Year Religious Studies Course”

Peter Romaskiewskicz, University of California, Santa Barbara

“Meditation in the Classroom: A Pedagogical Defense for the Practice of a Religious Ritual?”

**Goddess Studies 1 (8:30-10:00 a.m.) Discovery 246**

**Breaking Down Barriers: Women, Myth, and Modernity**

Moderator: Jan Peppler, Pacifica Graduate Institute

“The Goddess and the Resistance: The #MeToo Movement and a Return to Love”

Angela Sells, Sierra College

“Women and Drums: Percussing Against Myth and Modernity”

Bhavi Bhagat, University of California, Santa Barbara

“Goddess Khodiyar: Trans-caste Positions in the Paradigms of Religious Worship”

**History of Christianity 1 (8:30-10:00 a.m.) Discovery 301**

**Christian Resistance Across the Centuries**

Moderator: Dyron Daughrity, Pepperdine University

Andrew Lee, Graduate Theological Union

“Conformity and Resistance: Crafting the Sanctity of Christina of Markyate”

Timothy Sanders, Regent College

“The Rise of Japanese Nationalism and the Christian Response: The Social and Religious Resistance of Uchimura Kanzo in Early Twentieth Century Japan”

Inseo Song, Fuller Theological Seminary

“Martin Luther's View of Religious Resistance: Luther's Letters to Elector John of Saxony and Philip of Hesse in 1529-1530”

Gretchen Saalbach, Fuller Theological Seminary

“Polish Catholic Resistance to Communism”

**Islamic Studies 1 (8:30-10:00 a.m.) Discovery 150**

**Resistance, Sufism, and Shi‘i Islam**

Moderator: Abdullahi Gallab, Arizona State University

Souad T. Ali, Arizona State University

“Sufi Resistance against British Colonialism in the Sudan”

Sophia Pandya, California State University, Long Beach

“Turkish Refugees and Meaning Construction as Resistance”

Muhammed Shareef, Indian Institute of Technology, Palakkad

“Sufism and Resistance: An Enquiry into the Spirit of Resistance in Mystical Cosmology”

Sadeq Ansari, Charles Sturt University

“Sacred Texts Calling for Resistance and the Creedal Texts that Limit it”

Adel Hashemi, McMaster University

“The Transformation of Martyrdom from a Weapon of the Oppressed into a Messianic Symbol of Triumph in Post-Revolution Shi’i Iran”

**SATURDAY MORNING, MARCH 2**

**(10:15 – 11:00 a.m.)**

**Keynote (10:15 – 11:00 a.m.) Senita B**



Speaker: Andrew E. Barnes

Title: TBD

Abstract: TBD

Bio: Andrew E. Barnes attended Wesleyan University in Connecticut where he graduated with honors with a degree in history. He studied for his doctorate at Princeton University. He defended his doctoral thesis on Christian lay devotional life in early modern France in 1983. He taught and received tenure at Carnegie Mellon University in 1993. He left Carnegie Mellon for a position in the history department at Arizona State University in 1996. He was promoted to professor of history in the School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies at ASU in 2016. Barnes teaches courses on African, European and Global history with a focus on the history of Christianity. Barnes is the author of three monographs: The Social Dimension of Piety: Associative Life and Religious Change in the Penitent Confraternities of Marseille 1499-1792 (Paulist Press, 1994); Making Headway: The Introduction of Western Civilization in Colonial Northern Nigeria (University of Rochester Press, 2009); Global Christianity and the Black Atlantic: Tuskegee, Colonialism and the Shaping of African Industrial Education (Baylor University Press, 2017). He has published more than thirty referred articles and chapters in journals, anthologies and encyclopedia, and presented more than sixty research papers at scholarly conferences. He is presently working on a study of the Phelps Stokes Education Commissions and their impact in Africa.

**Second Session (11:15 – 12:45 p.m.)**

**Ethics 1 (11:15 – 12:45 p.m.) Senita B**

**Ethics of Resistance**

Moderator: Owen Anderson, Arizona State University

Nick Scott-Blakely, Fuller Theological Seminary

“The Challenge of Anti-Judaism within Dietrich Bonhoeffer’s Ethic of Resistance”

Kelly Fitzsimmons Burton, Paradise Valley Community College

“The Good as Resistance to Secular Individualism and Collectivism”

Guillermo Garcia, Mount Saint Mary’s University

“Forgiveness as Resistance?”

**Graduate Student Professional Development 1 (11:15 – 12:45 p.m.) Discovery 150**

**Finding Success on the Tenure Track Job Search: Tips from an AAR Mentor**

Presenter: Jonathan Lee, San Francisco State University

Jonathan Lee is an active mentor in the American Academy of Religion’s *Mentor Program.* He has successfully mentored graduate students and freshly minted PhDs in their job search. Lee will share his "insider" experience in the job search process based on his own successes, lessons learned, and experiences from being on hiring committees and an AAR mentor since 2016. It is never too early to prepare for the job search, so start today by attending this session.

**Indigenous Studies 1 (11:15 – 12:45 p.m.) Discovery 120**

**Indigenous Self-Identifications as Resistance**

Moderator: Cecilia Titizano, Graduate Theological Union

Andrea McComb Sanchez, University of Arizona

“‘We Have Both Church and Kiva’: Pueblo Indian Catholicism and Colonial Resistance”

Yanitsa Buendia de Llaca, University of California, Santa Barbara

“Being Mexican, Brown, neo-Aztec. Resisting Racial Categories Through Dance and Religion”

Yuria Celidwen, Pacifica Graduate Institute

“Women Weavers of Worlds: Earth-based Mythopoesis in Restorative Indigenous Narratives”

**Nineteenth Century 1 (11:15 – 12:45 p.m.) Discovery 181**

**Going Rogue: Movements Against the Christian Establishment in Nineteenth Century America**

Moderator: Christina Littlefield, Pepperdine University

Della Campion, University of California, Davis   
“Sex, Religion and Utopia: Women’s Parity at Oneida”

Elizabeth Lowry, Arizona State University

“‘Faith, Facts, and Frauds’: Emma Hardinge Britten’s Grievances Against the Nineteenth-Century Christian Establishment”

W. Scott Jackson, Arizona State University and Snow College

“Seek Ye Out of the Best Books: How Joseph Smith’s Translation Process of the Book of Mormon Suggests His Syncretic Thought Process”

**Pagan Studies 1 (11:15 – 12:45 p.m.) Discovery 246**

**Rites of Volume: Music, Nakedness, and Activism in Contemporary Paganism**

Moderator: TBD

Dorothea Kahena Viale, CalPoly Pomona

“Translating Neo-Pagan Love for Mother Earth into Real Live Political Action”

Michelle Mueller, Santa Clara University

“Ritual Nudity in Modern Witchcraft”

Christopher W. Chase, Iowa State University

“‘¡Levante Kulkulkan!’: Paganism in Mexican Heritage and Heavy Metal Music”

Respondent: Candace Kant, Cherry Hill Seminary

**Philosophy of Religion 1 (11:15 – 12:45 p.m.) Discovery 130**

**Self-Deception, Authentic Selfhood, and Communal Recognition**

Moderator: Olga Louchakova-Schwartz, Jesuit School of Theology

Dylan Bailey, Fordham University

“Christianity, Selfhood, and Communal Recognition: A Kierkegaardian Account”

Mohammad Asgary, University of Toronto

“The End of Resistance; Asceticism and Spiritual Struggle in The Shi’ī Philosophical and Spiritual Tradition”

Muhammad Faruque, Fordham University

“A: Finding One’s Authentic Self in a Secular Age: Consciousness, Self-Knowledge and the First-Person Stance in Later Islamic Philosophy”

Zayin Cabot, California State University, East Bay

“Shamans, Talismans, Madness, and Philosophia of Religions”

**Psychology, Culture, and Religion 1 (11:15 – 12:45 p.m.) Senita C**

**Prejudice, Persecution, and Coping: Global Perspectives on the value of Religion as Resistance?**

Moderator: Casey Crosbie, Claremont Graduate University

Bullus Gago, Claremont School of Theology

“Nigerian Christians Resisting Boko Haram”

Katherine Kunz, University of Basel

“The Interview as a Site of Resistance”

Jem Jebbia, Stanford University

“#TacoTrucksatEveryMosque: Resisting Identity Boundaries and Redefining Solidarity”

**Wildcard Session 1 (11:15 – 12:45 p.m.) Discovery 301**

Moderator: David M. Houghton, Fuller Theological Seminary

Eugene Clay, Arizona State University

“Russian Prophet of Resistance: Maksim Rudometkin in Monastic Confinement, 1858-1877”

Chris Schelin, Starr King School of Ministry

“All May Prophesy One by One: The Politics of Scriptural Interpretation in Two 17th-Century New England Baptist Churches”

Olivia Happel, Pacific Graduate Institute

“Protestant Homer and Catholic Virgil: 'Fake News' in the Renaissance”

**Womanist/Pan-African Studies 1 (11:15 – 12:45 p.m.) Discovery 123**

**Pan-African Session**

Moderator: Sakena Young-Scaggs, Arizona State University

Ebony Janice Moore, Graduate Theological Union

“Black Women, Conjure, and Justice-Making Movement”

Moses Moore, Arizona State University

“Religion and Resistance: Edward Blyden’s Mediation of Modernity and Scientific Study of Religion”

Leslye M. Huff, Pacific School of Religion

“Resist Religious Imperialism: In the Beginning Was the Womb”

**Lunch (1:00 – 2:00 p.m.)**

**Lunch**

**1:00 – 2:00 p.m. Unit Chairs Meeting and Lunch (Senita C)**

**1:00 – 2:00 p.m. Queer Caucus Lunch (Discovery 246)**

**Third Session (2:15 – 3:45 p.m.)**

**Catholic Studies 1 (2:15 – 3:45 p.m.) Discovery 246**

Moderator: Eva Braunstein, University of California, Santa Barbara and Justin Claravall, Graduate Theological Union

Alexandra Griffin, Arizona State University  
“Patrick F. Healy, S.J. and Depictions of Race in the Catholic Church”

Quitterie Gounot, Cornell University

“Better Death than Sin? Resisting the Narrative of Rape as a Crime Against Chastity”

Alexander Grudem, Veritas Preparatory Academy

“Russell Kirk and the Moral Imagination: A Catholic Rejection of Americanism”

Martha Patricia Ballenas Loayza, Queen’s University, Kingston-Ontario

“The Religious-Conscientious Exemption as a Guarantee of Freedom of Conscience and Freedom of Religion”

**Islamic Studies 2 (2:15 – 3:45 p.m.) Senita B**

**Resistance and Muslim Women**

Moderator: Souad T. Ali, Arizona State Univeristy

Bethany Elias Jenner, Arizona State University

“About Face: Changing Attitudes toward the Cadar in Indonesia”

Sara Almalla, California State University, Northridge

“Diasporic Experiences of American Muslim Women in Post-Secondary Institutions: Understanding Methods of Resistance and the Construction of Space”

Anna Capati, Independent Scholar

“Conversion as Resistance: Psychological Theories, National Identity, and Family and Social Structures Among Filipina Converts”

Sana Tayyen, University of Redlands

“Analyzing Muslim Female Narratives: From Piety to Empowerment”

**Philosophy of Religion 2 (2:15 – 3:45 p.m.) Discovery 130**

**Resistance and Liberty**

Moderator: Dane Sawyer, University of La Verne

Courtney Kane, Loyola Marymount University

“Negative and Positive Liberty: A Restatement?”

CP Hertogh, Chongqing University

“I Have a Dream – On the Deductive Force of Logic in Politics”

William A. B. Parkhurst, University of South Florida

“The Autopsy of Faith: An Explicit Structure of Anti-Epistemic ‘Belief’”

**Religion in America 1 (2:15 – 3:45 p.m.) Discovery 181**

**Resistance and Complicity in American Religions**

Moderator: Cristina Rosetti, University of California, Riverside

Stephanie Griswold, Independent Scholar

“Women Wishing for Zion: Constructions of Womanhood as Modes of Resistance and Obedience in the FLDS”

Karin Zirk, San Diego Community College

“Rainbow Gatherings: Prayer as Political Resistance”

Terry Shoemaker and Morgan Kaus, Arizona State University

“Political and Religious Rehabituation: Emerging Christianities, Complicity and Resistance”

D. Joseph Torres, University of California, Davis

“Eggshell Churches: An Ethnographic Exploration of Whiteness in Progressive Evangelicalism”

**Religion and the Arts 1 (2:15 – 3:45 p.m.) Discovery 120**

**Situating “Resistance” within the Study of Religious Aesthetics**

Moderator: Roy Whitaker, San Diego State University and Tamisha Tyler, Fuller Theological Seminary

Carly Lynch, Santa Clara University

“Crafting a Spiritual Pedagogy for Pain: Fiber Arts and the Resistance of Quick Fixes”

Chase Way, Claremont Graduate University

“Liberty University: Religion, Resistance, and Artistic Activism in Ur-Fascist America”

Dwight Radcliff, Fuller Theological Seminary

“Kendrick’s Pulitzer: Co-opted Artistic & Religious Resistance”

Gamini Sethi, University of Arizona

“Reimagining Religious Objects in the Postcolonial World”

**Religions of Asia 1 (2:15 – 3:45 p.m.) Discovery 301**

**Resistance, Minority Rites, and Nationalism in South Asian Traditions**

Moderator: TBD

Alicia Gonzales, California Institute of Integral Studies

“Yoga, Nationalism, and Biopolitical Resistance: Understanding the Resurgence of Hatha Yoga During India’s Independence Movement”

Nancy M. Martin, Chapman University

*“Bhakti as a Mode of Waging Resistance: Transforming Self and Social Relations”*

Michael Reading, Claremont School of Theology

“Jain ‘Vinaya’ in the Daśavaikālika Sutra: Resisting Pride through Humility and Obeisance”

Purushottama Bilimoria, Graduate Theological Union

“The Ethics of Personal Law in India: Religion, Minority Rights, Resistance, and Uniform Civil Code”

**Religion and Social Sciences 1 (2:15 – 3:45 p.m.) Discovery 123**

**Social Science Perspectives on Religion and Resistance**

Moderator: Rebecca Sager, Loyola Marymount University

Cari Myers, Pepperdine University

“Resistance Narratives: The Religious and Spiritual Development of Evangelical Youth”

Valentina Cantori, University of Southern California

“You Can be Muslim without Knowing It!”: Cultures of Bridging in American Civic Life

Sue Bee Kim, Independent Scholar

“Incommensurability, Agonism, and Antagonism in Pluralistic Democratic Discourse: A Mouffian Framework”

**Women and Religion 1 (2:15 – 3:45 p.m.) Senita C**

**Models of Resistance – A Study in Praxis**

Moderator: Sara Frykenberg, Mount Saint Mary’s University

Brett J. Esaki, University of Arizona

“Grace Lee Boggs: Spiritual Role Model of Multiracial Resistance”

Nan Cano, Immaculate Heart Community of California

“Immaculate Heart Women: Courageous Resistance”

Mahjabeen Dhala, Graduate Theological Union,   
“Fatima, Resisting Prejudice, Breaking Norms: Understanding Muslim Women’s Agency Through Religiosity”

Marilyn Batchelor, Claremont Graduate University

“Pauli Murray and African American Women in Religious Resistance”

**Fourth Session (4:00 – 5:30 p.m.)**

**Buddhist Studies 2 (4:00 – 5:30 p.m.) Senita C**

**Buddhist Resistance Movements 1**

Moderator: Alison Jameson, University of Arizona

Thomas Calobrisi, Graduate Theological Union, Institute of Buddhist Studies

“Locating ‘Resistance’: The Figure of the Dissident Buddha in the Writings of Eugène Burnouf and the American Transcendentalists in the Nineteenth Century”

Zhuo Li, University of Arizona

“Thunder Peak Pagoda: A Women’s Resistance Power is in the Suppression”

Douglas Ober, University of British Columbia

“The Mongoose and the Snake: Conversion, Caste and Bahujan Buddhists, 1890 – 1956”

**Ecology and Religion 1 (4:00 – 5:30 p.m.) Discovery 130**

**Critical Ecological Imaginaries: Scripture, History, Agency, Identity**

Moderator: Sarah E. Robinson-Bertoni, Santa Clara University

Heather Nicole Hayes-Haigh, Graduate Theological Union  
“Recognizing Our Interconnectedness: Investigating an Ingredient of Moral Agency”

Matthew R. Hartman, Graduate Theological Union

“Discovering Identity and Environment: Theology, Race, and the Doctrine of Discovery”

Wendy Wiseman, University of California, Santa Barbara

“Going Rogue?: Apocalyptic Imagination, Climate Change, and the Spur to Action”

**History of Christianity 2 (4:00 – 5:30 p.m.) Discovery 123**

**Roundtable Discussion of Dyron Daughrity, *Martin Luther: A Biography for the People***

Moderator: Dyron Daughrity, Pepperdine University

Panelists: Karen Carter, Brigham Young University

Inseo Song, Presbyterian Theological Seminary

Elizabeth Marvel, Baylor University

Dyron Daughrity, Pepperdine University

**Islamic Studies 3 (4:00 – 5:30 p.m.) Discovery 150**

**American Muslims and Resistance**

Moderator: Sophia Pandya, California State University, Long Beach

Tyler Irvin, California State University, Long Beach

“The Eagle Resists America: How a UFC Champion Uses Islam to Challenge Western Ideals”

Ahmed Uddin, UCL Institute of Education

“Jihad in the Americas: How Islam Inspired Muslims through the Centuries to Resist Oppression”

Ken Chitwood, University of Florida

“The Multiple Valences of Puerto Rican Muslim Resistance: A Critical Muslim Cosmopolitanism from the Margins”

Esra Tunc, University of California, Santa Barbara

“American Muslims’ Economic Practices: The Construction and the Operation of the Mosques”

**Latina, Latino, and Latin American Religion 1 (4:00 – 5:30 p.m.) Discovery 181**

**Latinx Religion and Resistance**

Moderator: Daisy Vargas, University of Arizona

Respondent: Matthew P. Casey, Arizona State University

Lloyd Barba and Tatyana Castillo-Ramos, Amherst College

“Sacred Resistance: The New Faces of the Sanctuary Movement”

Lillie Falco-Adkins, California Institute of Integral Studies

“The Body as Religious Resistance in Brujeria and Curanderismo”

**Psychology, Culture, and Religion 2 (4:00 – 5:30 p.m.) Discovery 120**

**Special Panel on Psychology, Religion and Miscarriage**

Moderator: Joseph Kim Paxton, Claremont School of Theology

Hester Oberman, University of Arizona  
“Contextualizing Miscarriage and Abortion: A Historical, Biomedical, and Religious/Spiritual Perspective”

Joseph Paxton, Claremont School of Theology

“Constructing Spiritually-Integrative Models of Care for Miscarriage”

Yuria Celidwen, Pacifica Graduate Institute  
“Day of the Dead: Loss, Healing and the Rituals of Love for Miscarriage”

**Womanist/Pan-African Studies 2 (4:00 – 5:30 p.m.) Discovery 246**

Moderator: Valerie Miles-Tribble, American Baptist Seminary of the West

Ronne Wingate Sims, McCormick Theological Seminary

“Trauma Informed Pastoral Care as Womanist Praxis”

Erika D. Gault, Arizona State University

“It’s Complicated: Jackie Hill Perry and the Complex Notion of Sexual Freedom Among Christian Black Millennials”

Keyona Saquile Lazenby, Pacific School of Religion

“Liberation Within”

**Wildcard Session 1 (4:00 – 5:30 p.m.) Discovery 301**

**Resisting ‘Religion’: Explorative Session on Worldview Studies**

Moderator: Nathan Fredrickson, University of California, Santa Barbara

Elana Jefferson-Tatum, Tufts University

“Beyond Resistance: Africana Knowledge Systems and the Re-Imagination of Religion”

James Edmonds, Arizona State University

“(Re)enchanting Religion: Indonesian Uses of Universal Definitions”

Konden Smith, Arizona State University

“Marketing the Meaning of America: Redefining ‘Religion’ at the NY World's Fair, 1964-1965”

Lilith Acadia, University of California, Berkeley

“Fictive Faith: Science Fiction Constructions as Religions or Worldviews”

**Womanist and Black Caucus Planning Collaborative (5:45 – 6:45 p.m.) Discovery 181**

**Swinging Sankofa: Black Music of Resistance**

Moderator: Sakena Young Skaggs, Arizona State University

Speaker: “TBD”

**Reception (5:45 – 6:45 p.m.) Senita B**

\*All conference attendees are invited. We hope to see you there!

**Presidential Address (7:00 – 8:00 p.m.) Senita C**

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Speaker: Abdullahi Gallab, Arizona State University  
  
Title: TBD

Abstract: TBD

Bio: Abdullahi Gallab brings to his research and teaching the unique perspectives of a scholar

and a former journalist practicing in Sudan. His 2008 book "The First Islamist Republic: Development and Disintegration of Islamism in the Sudan" is the story of the social world of Islamism. Based on extensive field work inside and outside the Sudanese Islamist regime that came to power through a military coup in 1989, the book provides an entry point into its local and global worlds as they interact and collide with each other.

His later book "A Civil Society Deferred: The Tertiary Grip of Violence in the Sudan" is a critical inquiry into the colonial and post colonial states as they developed in the Sudan and their relationship to violence. Under preparation is Gallab's book "Their Second Republic: Islamism in the Sudan from Disintegration to Oblivion." It is a continuation of the study of Islamism in power in the Sudan.

Active in the Sudan Studies Association (SSA) of North American (which now has its home within African and African American Studies in the Arizona State University's School of Social Transformation), Professor Gallab is former editor and current publisher of the organization'sbBulletin and was conference host of the SSA 2012 conference, held at ASU. He was president of the organization for 2013-2015. This U.S.-based association of scholars promotes the advancement of research in the field of Sudan studies and facilitates the distribution of knowledge and understanding of Greater Sudan and its relationship to the wider world. Gallab also serves as co-chair of Islamic Studies for the American Academy of Religion (AAR) Western Region and is a board member for the Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion.

Professor Gallab also serves as a member of the Barrett Honors faculty and on the advisory board for the Center for the Study of Religion and Conflict.

**SUNDAY MORNING, MARCH 3**

**8:00-9:00 Women’s Caucus Breakfast – (Memorial 246)**

**8:00-9:15 Registration – Memorial Hall Lobby**

**First Session (9:15 – 10:45 a.m.)**

**Education and Pedagogy 2 (9:15 – 10:45 a.m.) Memorial 225**

**The Ethics of Anger**

Moderator: TBD

Elizabeth Ingenthron, Independent Scholar

“Teaching American Religion and Race in Pursuit of Justice”

Roy Whitaker, San Diego State University

“‘The Finger of God is Here!’: Researching and Teaching Digital Humanities

—Hip Hop Technologies—From an African American Humanist Perspective of Resistance”

Philip Boo Riley, Santa Clara University

“Community Based Learning in Homeless Encampments: Engaging Varieties of Resistance”

Melissa James, Independent Scholar

“Teaching Resistance: Privilege or Imperative? Emotional Labor, Risk, and Teaching Resistance”

**History of Christianity 3 (9:15 – 10:45 a.m.) Memorial 236**

**Christian Resistance in America**

Moderator: David Houghton, Fuller Theological Seminary

James Berry, Claremont Graduate University

“12 Days in the Schools of Russia: Moral Panic, Anxiety, and the Roots of Counter-cultural Resistance”

Kristy Slominski, University of Arizona

“Early Christian Sex Educators as Countercultural Agents”

Melisa Berry, Azusa Pacific University

“Matriarchal Resistance: Fundamentalist Women vs. the Board of Elders”

Matt Millsap, Baylor University

“Between Courthouse and Lynching”

**Islamic Studies 4 (9:15 – 10:45 a.m.) Memorial 226**

**Resistance and Global Islam**

Moderator: Sophia Pandya, California State University, Long Beach

Mohammad Mazhari, Mehr News Agency  
“The Spread of Islam and Tribal Resistance”

Haydyn Campmier, Claremont Theological Union  
“Hamas, Religious Identity, and Resistance”

Agnès Kefeli, Arizona State University  
“Re-Enchantment as Resistance in Post-Soviet Tatar Literature (1980s-2010s)”

**Jewish Studies 1 (9:15 – 10:45 a.m.) Memorial 224**

Moderator: Tim Langille, Arizona State University

Stanley Mirvis, Arizona State University

“Crypto-Jewish and Jewish Martyrdom in the Early Modern Period”

Victoria Marks, University of California, Los Angeles

“Dancing Inter-connection”

Shelley Dennis, Rio Salado College

“Inscribed in the Heart: A Jewish Counter(cultural)-Apocalypse for the Anthropocene”

**Religions of Asia 2 (9:15 – 10:45 a.m.) Memorial 246**

**Resistance through Ritual, Language, and Tomb Inscription**

Moderator: Anna Hennessey, Institute of Buddhist Studies, Berkeley

Tyler Feezell, Arizona State University

“Ritual and Resistance: Shangqing Daoist Female Ordination and Political Authority in the Northern Song Dynasty Imperial Court”

Yang Wu, Arizona State University

“Heavenly Relative and Earthly Affection: The Ritual Construction of Master-disciple Relations in the Early Medieval Daoist Community”

Beverly Zhang, Arizona State University

“Resistance and Tomb Inscriptions”

**Religion, Literature, and Film 1 (9:15 – 10:45 a.m.) Memorial 242A**

**Resistant Art Imagines Life?**

Moderator: TBD

Dane Sawyer, University of La Verne

“Sartre’s The Wall, Buddhist Meditation, and Internal Resistance Against the ‘Self’”

Tara Flanagan, Maria College

“The Ethics of Desire: Questioning the Use of Grotesque Physical and Religious Imagery in Visual Media”

Jon R. Stone, California State University, Long Beach

“‘Resistance Is Futile’: Subverting Prophetic Determinism in Science Fiction Films”

**Religion, Science, and Technology 1 (9:15 – 10:45 a.m.) Memorial 242B**

**Religion, Science, Technology and Resistance**

Moderator: Marianne Delaporte and Enrico Beltramini, Notre Dame de Namur University

Roberto Ranieri, University for Philosophical Research

“The Hero with a Thousand Facebook”

Megan A. Leverage, Northern Arizona University

“‘Ethnic Group’ and Resistance to Racial Pseudoscience in the Modern Skeptical Movement, Secular Humanism, New Atheism, and Black Humanism”

Melanie Dzugan, Fuller Theological Seminary

“Do Christians Resist the Alleviation of Suffering? Technology, Niebuhr, and the Political Significance of Suffering”

**Second Session (11:00 – 12:30 p.m.)**

**Buddhist Studies 3 (11:00 – 12:30 p.m.) Memorial 242A**

**Buddhist Resistance Movements, Part II**

Moderator: Alison Jameson, University of Arizona; Jake Nagasawa, University of California, Santa Barbara

Alina Pokhrel, University of California, Riverside

“The Transmission of Dhammā and Resistance to Religion: Is Vipassanā Meditation Buddhist?”

Steven Quach, University of California, Riverside

“Buddhist Meditation as Resistance: When Doing Nothing is Doing Something”

Sangseraima Ujeed, University of California, Santa Barbara

“Tracing the Footsteps of the Red Hats in Inner Mongolia”

Junfu Wong, University of Cambridge

“Breaking through the Secular Sufferings: Lay Buddhist Views and Forms of Detachment in Resistance to Political and Societal Upheaval in Medieval China (CE 386-584)”

**Ethics 2 (11:00 – 12:30 p.m.) Memorial 224**

**Contemporary Ethical Challenges**

Moderator: Joshua Beckett, Fuller Theological Seminary

I Sil Yoon, Graduate Theological Union

“Theologically-Informed Restorative Justice: Resistance and Transformative Power for Human Rights Protections of Trafficked Stateless Women”

Blayne Roach, University of Arizona

“Spiritual Needs for Terminally Ill Patients: Exercising Religious-Based Care in Palliative Treatment”

Owen Anderson, Arizona State University

“How Studying the Humanities Can Address Ethical Challenges”

**Graduate Student Professional Development 2 (11:00 – 12:30 p.m.) Memorial 225**

**Finding Success on the Tenure Track Job Search: Tips from an AAR Mentor**

Presenter: Jonathan Lee, San Francisco State University

Jonathan Lee is an active mentor in the American Academy of Religion’s *Mentor Program.* He has successfully mentored graduate students and freshly minted PhDs in their job search. Lee will share his "insider" experience in the job search process based on his own successes, lessons learned, and experiences from being on hiring committees and an AAR mentor since 2016. It is never too early to prepare for the job search, so start today by attending this session.

**Indigenous Studies 2 (11:00 – 12:30 p.m.) Memorial 226**

**Indigenous Resistance to State Definitions of Religion**

Moderator: Kevin Whitesides, University of California, Santa Barbara

Manotar Tampubolon, Christian University of Indonesia

“Limitations Of Religious Freedom Of The Parmalim Indigenous Religion In Indonesia: A Sociolegal Perspective”

Alec Sixta, California State University, Long Beach

“Healing, Resistance, and the Native American Church”

Jocabed Solano, Comunidad de Estudios Teológicos Interdisciplinarios

“Narratives as Political Resistance: The Guna Experience in Panama”

**Jewish Studies 2 (11:00 – 12:30 p.m.) Memorial 236**

**Historical Visions of Christian Kindness**

Moderator: Roberta Sabbath, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Tim Langillçe, Arizona State University

“To Resist or Not Resist? Different Responses to Cultural Trauma in Maccabees Daniel, and Josephus”

Françoise Mirguet, Arizona State University

“Compassion in Judeo-Hellenistic Literature: An Expression of Resistance against Imperial Propaganda”

Alexander Warren Marcus, Stanford University

“‘The Turning and Revolution of the Pieces of the Die’: Conceptualizing Fate in the Sasanian Empire”

Margot Mink Colbert, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

“Themes of Social Justice in the Choreography of Jewish Choreographers: Sophie Maslow, Anna Sokolow, Wm. Bales”

**Religion in America 2 (11:00 – 12:30 p.m.) Memorial 242B**

**Unintended Tolerance: Dissent and Localism in Vast Early America**

Moderator: Peter Van Cleave, Arizona State University

W. Scott Jackson, Arizona State University & Snow College

“The Process of Sanctification: A Bourdieusian Approach to the Declension of Power in New England Puritan Clergy”

Philip Robertson, Arizona State University & ASU Preparatory Academy

“Anti-Catholic Sentiment in the American Dutch Colonies”

Ingrid Sorensen, Arizona State University

“Conscience in Salem: An Examination of (In)Tolerance during the Witch Trials”

**Queer Studies 1 (11:00 – 12:30 p.m.) Memorial 246**

**Desert, Art, and Activism: Identity, Sexuality, and Performance**

Moderator: Marie Cartier, California State, Northridge; University of California, Irvine

Justin Sabia-Tanis, Pima Community College

“Queering the Three Graces: Delmas Howe and Cowboys in the Desert”

John Erickson & Martha Cecila Ovadia, Claremont Graduate University

“Pop! Culture Theologians: Activism, Culture, and Post-Academia Life”

**Lunch (12:30 – 2:00 p.m.)**

**Lunch**

**12:45 – 2:00 p.m. – Business Meeting, Memorial 236**

\*All members of the AAR/WR are welcome to attend. Lunch is provided for the first 40 attendees.

**Third Session (2:15 – 3:45 p.m.)**

**Goddess Studies 2 (2:15 – 3:45 p.m.) Memorial 242B**

Moderator: Jan Peppler, Pacifica Graduate Institute; Angela Sells, Sierra College

D'vorah J. Grenn, Napa Valley College

“Looking Beyond the Disrobing: Humanizing and Immortalizing Draupadi Today”

David Gowey, Arizona State University

“Change Me to a Chieftain”: Resistance and Persistence in Upland Panay

Island”

Shari Tarbet, Dine College

“Remembering, Recovering, and Reclaiming: How Priestesses in the Old Testament resisted Monotheism”

**Jewish Studies 2 (2:15 – 3:45 p.m.) Memorial 225**

**Historical Visions of Christian Kindness**

Moderator: Roberta Sabbath, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Tim Langillçe, Arizona State University

“To Resist or Not Resist? Different Responses to Cultural Trauma in Maccabees Daniel, and Josephus”

Françoise Mirguet, Arizona State University

“Compassion in Judeo-Hellenistic Literature: An Expression of Resistance against Imperial Propaganda”

Alexander Warren Marcus, Stanford University

“‘The Turning and Revolution of the Pieces of the Die’: Conceptualizing Fate in the Sasanian Empire”

Margot Mink Colbert, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

“Themes of Social Justice in the Choreography of Jewish Choreographers: Sophie Maslow, Anna Sokolow, Wm. Bales”

**Ecology and Religion 2 (2:15 – 3:45 p.m.) Memorial 242A**

**Religious Environmental Philosophies and Pedagogies**

Moderator: Matthew R. Hartman, Graduate Theological Union

Gordon Gilmore, Graduate Theological Union  
“Flourishing Forms or Concretized Preconceptions?: Developing a Theoanthropic Epistemology for Living as a Member of Creation’s Community”

Gregory L. Hoenes, Claremont School of Theology  
“Raising Our Children Differently: Toward an Ecological Civilization”

**Philosophy of Religion 3 (2:15 – 3:45 p.m.) Memorial 224**

**Resistance, Skeptical Theism, and Becoming a Self [Wildcard Session]**

Moderator: Dane Sawyer, University of La Verne

Christopher Morales, University of California, Santa Barbara,   
“Facing Resistance and Becoming Who One Is: The Ethics of Agonistic Friendship in Emerson and Nietzsche”

Stephen Quarles, Graduate Theological Union

“Resistance is Futile (Or, at least, It is that Way)”

Jeremy Brandt, University of Houston

“Skeptical Theism and the Scope of our Moral Horizons”

Camille Angel, University of San Francisco

“Queering Religion: Field Notes from a Catholic University”

**Religions of Asia 3 (2:15 – 3:45 p.m.) Memorial 226**

**Waging Resistance through Learning and Spirituality of the Self**

Moderator: Michael Reading, Claremont School of Theology

Ha Yeon Shin, University of Arizona

“A Common Cause, a Common Enemy: The Resistance of Eastern Learning and Christianity in the late 19thand early 20thcentury in Korea”

Amelia Madueño, Doctoral Student, Arizona State University

*“Revisiting Aum Shinrikyoō: The Role of Biased Language in the Rise of an “Anti-cult” Movement in Contemporary Japan”*

Euiwan Cho, Fuller Theological Seminary

“Resisting Against Restless Protestant Religious Consumers in the Korean Burnout Society: Examining the Rising Interest of Desert Spirituality in the Korean Protestantism”

Patrick Yi Sang Chan, Fuller Theological Seminary

“How Churches in Hong Kong Respond to the Umbrella Movement”

**Women and Religion 2 (2:15 – 3:45 p.m.) Memorial 236**

**Negotiating Power in Narrative and Resistance Movements**

Moderator: Sara Frykenberg, Mount Saint Mary’s University

Anjeanette LeBoeuf, Whittier College

“Young Adult Fantasy Novels as Sources of Empowerment and Resistance”

Victoria Karalun, Crafton Hills College

“The Red Tent: Re-Ritualization as Resistance to Patriarchal Medicine”

Doe Daughtrey, Arizona State University

“The #MeToo Movement and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints”

Sophie Barshay, University of Arizona

“’Fatal’ Deviations from Tradition: How the Christian New Right Influences American Conceptions of Family and Gender Roles as Exemplified in 80s and 90s Femme Fatal Movies”

**Save the Date!**

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**AMERICAN ACADEMY OF RELIGION**

# WESTERN REGION

**ANNUAL MEETING**

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# PROGRAM

**Date TBD**

**Claremont Graduate University**

**Claremont, California 91711**