Concordia is a private, Christian, liberal arts university open to students of any faith. Nestled in the Pacific Northwest, Concordia University is committed to the dual purpose of preparing students for life and for a living. Concordia provides a challenging, yet supportive learning environment where spirited intellectual inquiry strengthens our commitment to justice, compassion and moral integrity. We respect diversity, and integrate faith into every aspect of learning, service and life. Concordia is one of 10 universities founded by the Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod, and the only LCMS university in Oregon. We’ve been an integral part of the Pacific Northwest since 1905. Concordia is a Christian university that welcomes students from all faiths. Approximately 2,500 students attend the university. (http://www.cu-portland.edu/aboutcu/visit.cfm)

**HOUSING AND REGISTRATION**

Information will be available in the Spring 2012 Newsletter. You may also access this information on our website in March 2012.
CALL FOR PAPERS 2012

The on-line system will be a little different this year as AAR is upgrading the system we have used in the past. Paper Proposals will be submitted through Oxford Abstracts (OA). You may need to copy and paste this link into your browser:

https://aareligion.conference-services.net/authorlogin.asp?conferenceID=2979&language=en-uk

A link to the OA site is also posted on the PNW Region’s webpage (http://pnw-aarsbl.org/).

**American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR)**

The Pacific Northwest Region of the American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR) invites submission of papers detailing original research in all aspects related to ancient Near Eastern archaeology.

In addition, ASOR is participating in a poster session at the meeting. Topics in aspects related to ancient Near Eastern archaeology are welcome.

Students are especially welcome to present dissertation and paper research in either category. Proposals should be submitted electronically through Oxford Abstracts. Questions can be directed to the chairperson, Roger Anderson, rwander48@comcast.net.

**Poster Session**

ASOR will co-host a Poster Session with Women and Religion and Arts and Religion. Please refer to the **Poster Session** Call for Papers below for details.

**Arts and Religion**

The arts have always played a part in world religions and spiritual traditions through the use of image, symbol, ritual, music, percussion, dance, poetry, theatre, story-telling (myth and folklore), architecture, and geomancy. This session welcomes individual paper or panel proposals on any topic, from ancient to contemporary, which explores the arts and religion. Papers exploring traditional institutionalized religions as well as world spiritual traditions (including indigenous and oral traditions) are welcome.

Proposals should be submitted electronically through Oxford Abstracts. Questions about the session can be directed to Susan G. Carter, Marylhurst University and The California Institute of Integral Studies, susangailcarter@yahoo.com, and Louise M. Pare, Independent Scholar, Impare849@aol.com.

**Poster Session**

**Arts and Religion** will co-host a Poster Session with Women and Religion and ASOR. Please refer to the **Poster Session** Call for Papers below for details.

**Asian and Comparative Studies:** Proposals should be submitted electronically through Oxford Abstracts. Questions about the session can be directed to the chairperson, Nicholas F. Gier, ngier@uidaho.edu

**Hebrew Scriptures:** Papers are welcomed in any topic related to Hebrew Scriptures. Early proposals are especially welcome with the goal of organizing a panel discussion for a regional scholar's recent work and/or organizing a special topic session. Grad students are encouraged to send full copies of papers for consideration. This year we especially invite interdisciplinary topics related to the reception history of texts from the Hebrew Bible or intertestamental literature in early Christian and Jewish literature.
Proposals should be submitted electronically through Oxford Abstracts. Questions about the session can be directed to the chairperson, Elizabeth Hayes, russell.hayes@gmail.com.

**History of Christianity and North American Religions**
Papers are welcome in any area of the History of Christianity and North American Religions. Proposals are especially invited on the following themes:

1) Papers that consider the history, theology or social impact of documents written by Christians who have been – or are – imprisoned.

2) Papers on historical theology for a joint session with “Theology and Philosophy of Religion.”

3) Papers related to the history of Christianity (any era).

4) Papers related to the history of North American religions.

Proposals should be submitted electronically through Oxford Abstracts; questions about the session can be directed to the co-chairs, Charles J. Scalise, Fuller theological Seminary, cscalise@fuller.edu, and Brenda Llewellyn Ihssen, Pacific Lutheran University, ihssenbl@plu.edu.

**New Testament and Hellenistic Religions**: We welcome papers reflecting the research endeavors of New Testament and Hellenistic Religions scholars in the Pacific Northwest. All topics relevant to these fields are invited. This year we especially invite interdisciplinary topics related to the reception history of texts from the Hebrew Bible or intertestamental literature in early Christian and Jewish literature.

Proposals should be submitted electronically through Oxford Abstracts. We are also interested in conducting a book review panel for a book by a participant in the New Testament and Hellenistic Religions section that has been published during the year between the 2011 and 2012 regional meetings. Book suggestions may be sent directly to the chairpersons: Amy M. Donaldson, amy.m.donaldson@gmail.com and Kent L. Yinger, kyinger@georgefox.edu.

**Religion and Society**: All topics related to ethics, contemporary social issues, and social scientific perspectives on religion are welcome. We especially invite papers offering academic perspectives on current events and recurring themes in our session's discussions: war and violence, religion and ecology, religion and science, and religion and memory.

Proposals should be submitted electronically through Oxford Abstracts. Questions about the session can be directed to the co-chairs, Bruce Hiebert, University Canada West, brucehiebert@shaw.ca and Kevin O'Brien, Pacific Lutheran University, obrien@plu.edu.

**Theology and Philosophy of Religion**: The Theology and Philosophy of Religion Section welcomes proposals for papers or panels concerning any aspect of theology and/or the philosophy of religion. Proposals that address one or more of the following topics are especially encouraged:

a) Green Theology, Green Religion: Ecology and the Environment in Theology and Religion

b) Religion, Media, Culture, and Politics

c) Theology of Religions/Religious Pluralism/Interreligious Dialogue
d) Pedagogy and Teaching Religion

e) Historical Theology (The Theology and Philosophy of Religion section will coordinate with the History of Christianity section in jointly presenting a session of historical theology papers if there are enough submissions)

Proposals should be submitted electronically through Oxford Abstracts. Questions about the session can be directed to the chairpersons, Mari Kim kimma@plu.edu and Michael Zbarschuk, mzbara@uw.edu. If the presenter would prefer to avoid a particular time due to religious observance (e.g. Friday night or Sunday morning) please include this information in the proposal and we will do our best to accommodate all requests.

Women and Religion

AAR: We invite individual papers or panels on any aspect of the study of women and religion. This section especially welcomes proposals that facilitate cross-disciplinary and/or religious traditions in the study of women. Papers exploring feminist pedagogy are also welcome.

SBL: We invite proposals on topics that explore the intersections between religious ideas and constructions of gender and/or sexuality. Studies on the role of women in ancient religion are also welcome.

Visit our newsletter/blog online at http://pnwwomenandreligion.blogspot.com/ for general information.

Proposals should be submitted electronically through Oxford Abstracts. If you have any questions about the session, please contact the co-chairs, Ardy Bass, bassa@g Gonzaga.edu and Valarie Ziegler, vziegler@depauw.edu.

Poster Session

Women and Religion will co-host a Poster Session with Arts and Religion and ASOR. Please refer to the Poster Session Call for Papers below for details.

Special Topics: Islam

Proposals for papers or full panels are welcomed for our third year of Special Topics sessions in the Study of Islam. We encourage proposals investigating any aspect of historical or contemporary Islam, including but not limited to Islamic texts, practices, law, history, and theology. This year we especially invite paper proposals related to post-classical intellectual traditions. We also seek participants for our annual
pedagogy roundtable, focused this year on teaching Islamic Law.

Paper and panel proposals should be submitted electronically through Oxford Abstracts. Questions about the sessions can be directed to the chairperson, Jocelyn Hendrickson, hendrij@whitman.edu. Please contact the chair by e-mail (hendrij@whitman.edu) if you are interested in participating in the pedagogy roundtable; specialists as well as interested non-specialists are welcome.

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**The Study of Islam section of the PNW-AAR** plans at the Spring 2012 meeting in Portland to begin a tradition of screening films on and/or by Muslims during each of our regional annual meetings. The idea is that each year a different member of the section will be selected to choose one or two films to be shown and to lead a brief discussion. In the choice of films, special emphasis will be placed on films deemed of particular pedagogical value. For the Spring 2012 meeting, Rick Colby of the University of Oregon will present a pair of films for viewing and discussion, one a feature film and one a documentary. The first film to be screened at the Spring 2012 meeting will be a feature film entitled "The Lizard" (Marmoulak), a critically acclaimed Iranian comedy-drama directed by Kamal Tabrizi. "The Lizard" tells the story of an atheist and convicted thief from Tehran who escapes prison by wearing the garb of a religious leader and finds himself embraced as the imam of a small Iranian village. The second is a 52-minute documentary called "Me and the Mosque," which is by Canadian filmmaker Zarqa Nawaz. It charts Nawaz's personal research into the rise of barriers and partitions that contemporary Muslim women increasingly face in public prayer spaces across North America. All are welcome to attend, and we hope that you will join us at our next regional meeting to inaugurate this new annual tradition.

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**FUTURE MEETINGS**

If you and your institution would be willing to host a regional meeting, please contact Ardy Bass, Executive Secretary at bassa@gonzaga.edu.

In 2013 we should meet somewhere in Canada. We are also looking at meeting at the University of Washington in Seattle as an alternate site.

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**CONGRATULATIONS** to
Andrew Davis, Seattle University
SBL Regional Scholar 2012
for his paper
*Mixed Blessings in the Book of Ruth*

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**SNAIL MAIL AND EMAIL ADDRESSES**

The region does not keep its own list of snail mail and email addresses. We obtain them from our respective national offices. If you or someone you know is a member of AAR, SBL, and/or ASOR but do/does not receive notices by snail mail or email from the region that is because your/her/his addresses are not up-to-date in the respective national office. Please, forward this email on to them and have them contact the organization to make the appropriate corrections.
SBL REGIONAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM

SBL members presenting a paper at the meeting may wish to be considered for the Regional Scholars Program.

To qualify as a candidate for this award, the applicant must be either ABD or no more than 4 years past receipt of the PhD.

Applicants should inform Ardy Bass, SBL Regional Coordinator, at least two weeks prior to the meeting that he or she intends to apply for the award.

The applicant must present a paper at the SBL regional meeting, and then submit the paper and a complete CV (both in electronic and hard copy) to the Regional Coordinator after the meeting.

If selected as a winner by the National Society's Regional Scholar Award Selection Committee, the winner receives $1,000 in support of attendance at the Annual SBL Meeting, and will be honored at the Regional Scholars Dinner at the Annual Meeting. The winner is also strongly encouraged to submit a proposal to the Annual Meeting in the year following his or her selection.

For more information, contact Ardy Bass (bassa@ Gonzaga.edu).
2012 STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION
THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST REGION
AAR/SBL AND ASOR

Awards for Outstanding Student Papers in the Fields of Biblical Studies and Religious Studies:

- (2) $100 awards for winning graduate papers
- (2) $100 awards (1st Place) and (2) $50 awards (2nd place) for winning undergraduate papers

Submissions must meet the following criteria to be considered:

- no more than 5,000 words (including footnotes) for undergraduate papers
- no more than 7,000 words (including footnotes) for graduate papers
- in 12-point font and double-spaced
- formatted according to either JAAR or JBL guidelines
- free of clerical or grammatical errors

Submissions should include:

- one paper copy
- one electronic version in standard word processing format, without author information. Submit author information in a separate file
- a brief letter of support from a Pacific Northwest Region AAR, SBL, or ASOR faculty member
- name, home mailing address, social security number/social insurance number, educational institution, graduate or undergraduate status

Submit by March 15, 2012 to:

Dr. Robert Hauck
Religious Studies Department, AD 57
Gonzaga University, Spokane, WA 99258-0057
E-mail: hauck@gonzaga.edu

Awards will be announced at the Pacific Northwest AAR/SBL and ASOR Regional Meeting, Gonzaga University, May 13-15, 2012. Students need not be present to win.
PNW REGIONAL OFFICERS 2011-2012

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: Heidi Szpek (Central Washington University; szpek@cwu.edu) (SBL) – 1-year term
Vice-President: Jim Wellman (University of Washington, jwellman@u.washington.edu) (AAR)
Past President: Norm Metzler (Concordia College, nmetzler@cu-portland.edu) (AAR) – 1-year term; serves on Nominating Committee
Executive Secretary/Regionally Elected Director: Ardy Bass (Gonzaga University; bassa@gonzaga.edu) (SBL) - 3-year term; one term renewal (first term)
Secretary-Treasurer: Eric Cunningham (Gonzaga University, cunningham@gonzaga.edu) (AAR) - 3-year term; one term renewal (first term)
ASOR Representative: Roger Anderson, Mukilteo, Washington, (rwander48@comcast.net) – 3-year term (first term)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Dennis Jowers (Faith Evangelical Seminary; djowers@faithseminary.edu) (Chair, 2010-2013; (2009-2012) - second term
Norm Metzler (Concordia University, Portland, nmetzler@cu-portland.edu) – 1 year term past-President
Ron Clark (Metro Church of Christ, Portland, OR; rclark@agapecoc.com) (2006-2009) (2009-2012) - second term
John Harding (University of Lethbridge; john.harding@uleth.ca) (2009-2012) - first term
Brenda Llewellyn Ihssen (Pacific Lutheran University, ihssenbl@plu.edu) (2011-2014) - first term
Eric Cunningham (Gonzaga University, cunningham@gonzaga.edu) (2010-2013) – first term
Kathlyn Breazeale (Pacific Lutheran University, breazeka@plu.edu) (2010-213) – first term

STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION

Robert Hauck (Gonzaga University; hauck@gonzaga.edu), Coordinator (2003-2006); (2006-2009); (2010-213)

REGIONAL SCHOLARS COMMITTEE (SBL)

Chair: Ardy Bass (Gonzaga University; bassa@gonzaga.edu) (SBL, Executive Officer)
Kent Yinger (George Fox University; kyinger@georgefox.edu) (Program Unit Co-Chair, NT & Hellenistic Religions)
Amy Donaldson (Notre Dame; amy.m.donaldson@gmail.com) (Program Unit Co-Chair, NT & Hellenistic Religions)
Elizabeth R. Hayes (erussell.hayes@gmail.com) (Program Unit Chair, Hebrew Bible)
Roger Anderson, Mukilteo, Washington, (rwander48@comcast.net) (Archaeology of the Ancient Near East)

PROGRAM UNIT CHAIRS

Archaeology of the Ancient Near East
Roger Anderson (Independent Scholar; rwander48@comcast.net) (first term: 2010-2013)
Arts and Religion
Susan G. Carter (Marylhurst College and The California Institute of Integral Studies (CIIS); susangailcarter@yahoo.com) and Louise M. Pare (Independent Scholar; lmpare849@aol.com) (first term; 2010-2013)

Asian and Comparative Studies
Nick Gier (University of Idaho; ngier@uidaho.edu) (third term; 2008-2011)

Hebrew Bible
Elizabeth R. Hayes (erussell.hayes@gmail.com (first term; 2009-2012)

History of Christianity/North American Religions
Brenda Llewellyn Ihssen (Pacific Lutheran University; ihssenbl@plu.edu) and Charlie Scalise (Fuller Theological Seminary NW; cscalise@fuller.edu), co-chairs (first term; 2009-2012)

New Testament and Hellenistic Religions
Kent Yinger (George Fox University; kying@georgefox.edu) and Amy Donaldson (Baker Publishing Group; amy.m.donaldson@gmail.com) (first term; 2009-2012)

Religion and Society
Kevin O’Brien (Pacific Lutheran University; obrien@plu.edu) (second term; 2011-2014) and Bruce Hiebert (brucehiebert@shaw.ca) (first term; 2011-2014)

Theology and Philosophy of Religion
Mari Kim (Pacific Lutheran University; marikim@me.com), co-chairs (second term; 2009-2012) and Michael Zbaraschuk (Pacific Lutheran University; zbarasgm@plu.edu) (first term; 2009-2012)

Women and Religion
Ardy Bass (Gonzaga University; bassa@gonzaga.edu) (third term; 2009-2012); Valarie H. Ziegler (vziegler@depauw.edu) (first term; 2009-2012)

Special Topics: Islam
Jocelyn Hendrickson (josiehen@yahoo.com) (third year as Special Topics)

AD HOC COMMITTEES
By-laws revision committee: Norm Metzler (Concordia University, nmetzler@cu-portland.edu), Gloria London (Director, Tall al-‘Umayri Teachers’ Institute; glondon@earthlink.net), Jon Taylor (jttaylor01@ugf.edu)

AAR/SBL RESTRUCTURING COMMISSION
AAR: Doug McGaughey, Chair (dougwillamette.edu); Dennis Jowers (djowers@faithseminary.edu), Eric Cunningham (cunningham@gonzaga.edu), Norm Metzler (nmetzler@cu-portland.edu) and Priscilla Pope-Levison (popep@spu.edu)

SBL: Ardy Bass, Chair (bassa@gonzaga.edu); Jon Taylor (jttaylor01@mac.com), Heidi Szpek (szpekh@cwu.edu), Beth Hayes (erussell.hayes@gmail.com) and Roger Anderson (ASOR) (rwander48@comcast.net)