

PACIFIC NORTHWEST REGION AAR/SBL/ASOR

**American Academy of Religion
Society of Biblical Literature
American Schools of Oriental Research**

<http://pnw-aarsbl.org/>

Spring Issue

March 2014



**Regional Meeting
University of Calgary
Calgary, Alberta
May 9-11, 2014**

The PNW Region AAR/SBL & ASOR Annual Meeting will be held on the campus of the University of Calgary in Calgary, Alberta. We hope you are making plans to participate. Sessions will begin on Friday, May 9 at 2:00 pm and conclude by noon on Sunday, May 11.

The Preliminary Program can be found on our website at: <http://pnw-aarsbl.org/preliminary-program-2014/>

NEW REGISTRATION FEES

The following registration rates are now in effect:

Fully Employed: \$75.00

Partially/Under Employed: \$50.00

Student (with valid ID): \$25.00

Late Registration: additional \$10.00 (after April 8)

REGISTRATION & MEALS

Registration is now open at Oxford Abstracts:

<https://aareligionpnw.conference-services.net/registration.asp?conferenceID=3706&language=en-uk>

You may also purchase meal tickets for the Saturday lunch/Business Meeting (\$20.00) and the Saturday evening Banquet (\$45.00) (with dietary options). **Meal tickets will NOT be sold on site.**

A list of local restaurants will be available in the program and on our website prior to the meeting.

HOUSING

Housing is available at the **Hotel Alma** on campus (www.hotelalma.ca). Conference rates are available until **Wednesday, April 9, 2014**. You must call the Hotel Alma to register; email requests are not accepted. Please note there is a toll free number given below.

RESERVATIONS PROCEDURES

Individuals will make their reservations directly with the Hotel Alma. Please give the name of the group (**AAR/SBL 2014**) and ask for the group rate.

CUT-OFF DATE

Reservation deadline is **Wednesday, April 9, 2014**.

Group Room Block Name

AAR/SBL 2014

Contact Information

PH: 403-220-3203

Toll Free: 1-877-498-3203

FX: 403-284-4184

A major credit card must be provided by each guest to guarantee the reservation. This credit card will only be used for one night's room and tax should the guest cancel less than 48 hours prior to arrival or fail to arrive for the reservation. Each guest will be responsible for their own room and incidental charges. As such, a credit card imprint will be required of all Guests at time of check in for any incidental charges.

Check In/ Check out

Check-in time for all of Client's Guests is 3:00 PM.

Checkout time is 12:00 PM.

RATES (Canadian dollars)

We have blocked: 47 Euro-Styled Standard Rooms which are \$129.00 per night and there is approximately 12% in GST and other taxes.

There are also available 3 One Bedroom Summer Apartments at Hotel Alma at \$179.00 per night plus 12% in GST and other taxes.

There is also a \$10.00 extra person charge for each person over 2.

Current Guest Room Taxes

Alberta Tourism Levy 4%

Goods and Services Tax 5%

Room Fee 3%

Such taxes are subject to change, without notice.

All Hotel Alma rates include the following:

Continental Breakfast in Bistro Alma

Local Phone Calls

Long Distance Phone Calls – within Canada and Continental USA (except Hawaii & Alaska)

Wired or wireless internet access

Driving Direction to the Hotel Alma

Hotel Alma has a link for directions (driving) to the Campus. You may need to copy/paste it into your browser: <http://www.hotelalma.ca/maps>

PARKING

NOTE: Rates may change (i.e. increase, they usually do on May 1st).

For people staying in Hotel Alma, the closest is the Art Parkade \$8.00 per night for registered guests.

Flat rate lots are Lots 10 and 11, which would be the closest to the conference rooms. Currently \$6.00 per entry or Carpool (3 or more in the car) \$4.00. Here is a link to a map that shows parking, the Hotel Alma, and the buildings for sessions:

<http://pnw-aarsbl.org/map-of-university-of-calgary-campus-with-hotel-parking-and-buildings/>

TRANSPORTATION

Transportation

If arriving at the airport, there are a number of options you can choose to get to the University of Calgary main campus.

Rental Car - Various rental car companies are located at the airport. The rental car parkade can be reached via the ground floor of the airport terminal. Look for the signs which will lead you outside to a covered walkway and approximately 50 meters (150 feet) to the rental counters. Rental car companies at the airport include: Avis, Budget, Dollar Rent A Car/Thrifty, Hertz, Enterprise and National/Alamo. Driving distance to the university can take anywhere from 20-40 minutes depending on traffic. For more information on rental car companies at the Calgary International Airport please visit the [YYC website](#).

Driving Directions from the Airport - From the airport rental car parkade, turn right at the stop sign, this will put you on Barlow Trail heading south. Continue along Barlow Trail for approximately five kilometers and take the off ramp heading west (right) on the Trans Canada Highway #1 (16th Avenue West). Stay on Hwy #1/16th Avenue West for approximately seven kilometers until you reach the University Drive exit - take the off ramp on the right and stay right (heading north). At the second set of lights you will turn left on to 24th Avenue NW (you will see the main university entrance directly in front of you). From here watch the signs for either Hotel Alma (first right) or the Residence Building (fourth right) and follow the parking signs.

Taxi - The Calgary International Airport has an operators agreement with Associated Cabs which are the only authorized taxi company available for pick up at the airport. Taxis can be hailed on the ground level of the airport (arrivals level) and are easily recognizable by their white cars with light blue "Associated Cabs" insignia on the sides. Driving distance to the university is approximately 20 kilometers and the fare will cost approximately \$45 CDN. Taxis will accept major credit cards and cash for payment. For more information on taxis at the Calgary International Airport please visit the [YYC website](#).

Shuttle Bus - Allied Shuttle Services operate shuttles and sedans to downtown, hotels and other points within Calgary or Banff. For more information on shuttles, rates and hours of operation it is best to contact them directly prior to arrival, or visit the information booth on the arrival levels at the airport. For more information on shuttle services please visit the [Allied Shuttle Services website](#).

Public Transportation - For those who wish to use the Calgary Transit system, you can catch a bus (route #57) from the airport at bay #20 located outside the terminal at the arrivals level. This bus route will take you to the Whitehorn CTrain station (light rail transit). At the train station you will hop on a south/west bound train heading towards Crowfoot Station. the train will take you past the zoo and through downtown, then head west towards the Crowfoot Station - you will be getting off two stops prior at University Station. From here you will cross over the tracks and roadway to the left (west) and proceed through campus to the residence building (Yamnuska Hall) or Hotel Alma. The University of Calgary is located in the northwest quadrant of the city. Transportation on Calgary Transit will cost \$2.75 CDN for adults for a single ticket or \$8.25 CDN for an adult day pass. For more information including route maps and schedules please visit the [Calgary Transit website](#).

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Joint Panel Session Friday Afternoon, 2:00-3:30 pm

**The Challenges of Teaching Religions
with *Sacred Texts* in a Contemporary Context**

Presented by:

**New Testament and Hellenistic Religions, Mormon Studies, Study
of Islam, and Hebrew Bible**

This joint session brings together teacher-scholars from five different units (Asian and Comparative Studies, Study of Islam, Special Topics: Mormon Studies, New Testament and Hellenistic Religions, and Hebrew Bible) in the PNW AAR/SBL region in order to discuss common teaching challenges. The purpose of this session is to generate a cross-disciplinary conversation on teaching and learning.

Contact Person: Antonios Finitsis (finitsak@plu.edu)

Study of Islam Film Screening: *Arranged*

Friday afternoon, 4:00-6:00 pm

The 2010 film "Arranged" is about a friendship between two young female schoolteachers in Brooklyn New York, one an Orthodox Jew from a conservative community and another an observant Sunni Muslim who lives with her Syrian parents. Both are educated, creative, strong, good with kids, and good at their jobs, yet their supervisor interprets their religiosity and the clothes that they choose to wear as outmoded symbols of oppression. As their friendship grows, they each discover something else that they have in common: Their respective tradition-oriented relations are in the process of attempting to arrange marriages for them with those whom they deem "appropriate" young men, something both protagonists feel quite conflicted about. As the weight of family pressures bear down, they find solace in their friendship as they confront the challenges they face in their similar yet distinct situations. This beautiful and vibrant film, directed by Diane Crespo and Stefan Schaefer, offers not only a touching story but also a useful "text" that touches on a series of contemporary religious issues.

Following the showing of "Arranged" (89 minutes), Professor Rick Colby (fscolby@uoregon.edu) of the University of Oregon will facilitate a brief discussion about the film itself, and about its potential use in a religious studies classroom.

Post-Meeting Excursion to Banff (<http://rels.ucalgary.ca/crc/#banff>)

Are you interested in taking the short excursion to Banff being offered for Sunday afternoon after the Conference proceedings? If so, here are the details:

– Your host for the trip is **Raj Balkaran**, Student Rep for the PNW Region of AAR-SBL-ASOR. Raj will happily take any questions you may have via email at raj.balkaran@gmail.com

– Departure time from the University of Calgary is 1:00 pm with return by 6:00 pm.

– The cost of the tour is **\$25.00 (Cdn)** per person, which includes taxes and an individual Parks Canada day-pass. The trip cost is due upon registration.

– Registration may be completed online at Oxford Abstracts link: <https://aareligionpnw.conference-services.net/registration.asp?conferenceID=3706&language=en-uk>

- **DEADLINE to register is April 15, 2014.**

– Note: If the quota for bus passengers is not filled by the deadline, the trip will be cancelled and fees will be refunded.

PRESIDENTIAL PLENARY FRIDAY EVENING, 8:00 pm

**Inspired Interpreters:
The Holy Spirit and the Mind of Faith**

Jack Levison

From a rundown corner of Los Angeles in 1906 to a global movement that claims nearly a billion adherents, Pentecostalism has challenged mainline Christianity with vibrant claims to the holy spirit. Do these experiences, however, represent the focal point of *biblical* conceptions of inspiration? Jack Levison thinks the biblical center of gravity lies elsewhere: in the belief that inspiration erupts, not in a possible separation of intellect and inspiration, not in a potential bifurcation between study and spontaneity, but in the belief that the spirit of God becomes particularly palpable in the inspired interpretation of scripture. Therefore, Levison explores challenges arising from Israelite, early Jewish, and early Christian texts that tether inspiration to the interpretation of scripture.



The author of books such as *Filled with the Spirit*, *Portraits of Adam in Early Judaism*, and *Jesus in Global Contexts* (with Priscilla Pope-Levison), Jack Levison is a featured blogger for *The Huffington Post* and a regular contributor to Patheos, the world's largest independent site for conversations on religion. Jack's work on pneumatology, a unique combination of a History of Religions approach and contemporary theological sensibilities, has received wide acclaim. Eugene Peterson, author of *The Message*, considers him "the most competent scholar and clearest writer on the Holy Spirit that I have known," while Phyllis Tickle calls him "a brilliant and spirited theologian." Jack has received grants from the National Humanities Center, the Lilly Fellows Program, the Louisville Institute, the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, the Rotary Foundation, the International Catacomb Society, and the National Endowment for the Humanities. He directs an international research project, *The Historical Roots of the Holy Spirit*, and is founding editor of a new book series, *Ekstasis: Religious Experience from Antiquity to the Middle Ages*. Raised on Long Island, New York, Jack attended Wheaton College, Cambridge University, and Duke University, and he now teaches at Seattle Pacific University.

**Religious Literary, Diversity and Transformation Week,
University of Calgary
May 7-11, 2014**

The University of Calgary is hosting an undergraduate conference in the days prior to our meeting. Information can be found at their website: <http://rels.ucalgary.ca/crc/>

From their website: The Dept of Religious Studies at the University of Calgary is proud to present *Religious Literacy, Diversity, and Transformation Week* May 7-11, 2014. Our goal is to showcase university-community dialogue and provide a venue for excellence in scholarship at all levels of higher education. We maintain that through study, understanding, and appreciation we can promote religious literacy, celebrate religious diversity, and transform the boundaries that separate us. We aim to accomplish this goal in seven major events—comprised of three public lectures, two academic workshops, and two major conferences—during a week devoted to discourse on religion.

**Religion, Culture, and Experience
Pacific Northwest Undergraduate Research Conference in Religious Studies
Oregon State University
April 11-12, 2014**

Registration Costs: \$10, payable at the conference. Scholarships are available. For further information contact Courtney Jackson at jackson.courtneyj@gmail.com.

FUTURE MEETINGS

March 27-29, 2015: Marylhurst University, Portland, Oregon
2016: University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho
2017: Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma, Washington

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.

Visit our Facebook Page and LinkedIn Group!!

There are now more ways to connect with members in our Region. Feel free to post comments, ask questions, announce special panels, seminars, etc. on any of these social media sites.

Here is the link to our Facebook page. Right now we have 21 members; once we have 25 members Facebook will assign a web address for us, so please click away! (Copy and paste address into browser):

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/edit/?id=106370882810766&tab=public§ion=address&view#!/pages/Pacific-Northwest-Region-of-the-AAR-SBL-ASOR/106370882810766>

We have 46 members in our Group on LinkedIn. The link for our group is:

http://www.linkedin.com/groups/Pacific-Northwest-Region-AAR-SBL-5112328?trk=my_groups-b-grp-v

There is also a Facebook page for graduate students in the Region, set up by the Region's AAR Student Director, Raj Balkaran: Student Members of the AAR Pacific Northwest Region

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Student-Members-of-the-AAR-Pacific-Northwest-Region/147895852040469?ref=stream>

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 Ph.D.

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).

**2014 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:

- two (2) \$100 awards for winning graduate papers
- two (2) \$100 awards (1st Place) and two (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 electronically by **March 15, 2014** to:

Timothy Hyun, Faith Evangelical Seminary (thyun@faithseminary.edu)

Awards will be announced at the Pacific Northwest AAR/SBL and ASOR Regional Meeting in 2014 at the University of Calgary. Students need not be present to win.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2013–2014

President: Jack Levison, Seattle Pacific University (jlevison@spu.edu) (SBL)
Vice-President: Susan Carter, Marylhurst University (scarter@marylhurst.edu) (AAR)
Past President: Jim Wellman, University of Washington (jwellman@u.washington.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 (second term)
Secretary-Treasurer: Amy Donaldson, Portland, Oregon (amy.m.donaldson@gmail.com) (AAR) – 3-year term; one-term renewal (first term)
ASOR Representative: Roger Anderson, Mukilteo, Washington (rwander48@comcast.net) – 3-year term (first term)
AAR Regional Student Director (RSD): Raj Balkaran, University of Calgary (rbalkara@ucalgary.ca) (first term 2013)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Chair: Brenda Llewellyn Ihssen, Pacific Lutheran University (ihssenbl@plu.edu) (2011–14) – first term
Eric Cunningham, Gonzaga University (cunningham@gonzaga.edu) (2013–2016) – second term
John Harding, University of Lethbridge (john.harding@uleth.ca) (2012–2015) – second term
Michael S. Heiser, Logos Bible Software (mheiser@logos.com) (2012–2015) – first term
Antonios Finitis, Pacific Lutheran University (finitisak@plu.edu) (2013–2016) – first term
Gloria London, Tall al-‘Umayri Teachers’ Institute (glondon@earthlink.net) (2013–2016) – first term
Jim Wellman, University of Washington (jwellman@u.washington.edu) (past President serves one year)

STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION

Coordinator: Timothy Hyun, Faith Evangelical Seminary (thyun@faithseminary.edu)

REGIONAL SCHOLARS COMMITTEE (SBL)

Chair: Ardy Bass, Gonzaga University (bassa@gonzaga.edu) (SBL, Executive Officer)
Kent Yinger, George Fox Evangelical Seminary (kyinger@georgefox.edu) (Program Unit Co-Chair, New Testament and the World of Early Christianity)
Amy Donaldson, Portland, Oregon (amy.m.donaldson@gmail.com) (Program Unit Co-Chair, New Testament and the World of Early Christianity)
Elizabeth R. Hayes, Fuller Theological Seminary (erussell.hayes@gmail.com) (Hebrew Bible)
Roger Anderson, Mukilteo, Washington (rwander48@comcast.net) (Archaeology of the Ancient Near East)