

**PACIFIC NORTHWEST REGION
AAR/SBL/ASOR**

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

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

Fall Issue

September 2014



**Regional Meeting
Marylhurst University
Portland, Oregon**

March 27-29, 2015

REGISTRATION

Fully Employed: \$75.00
Partially/Under Employed: \$50.00
Student (with valid ID): \$25.00
Late Registration: additional \$10.00

FUTURE MEETINGS

2016: University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho (Host: Nick Gier)

2017: ?? contact Ardy Bass if you are interested in hosting

2018: tentatively Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma, Washington

REGISTRATION AND HOUSING

Registration and housing information will be available on the Region's website **in mid-January 2015** (www.pnw-aarsbl.org).

INFORMATION FOR PRESENTERS

Guidelines for Submitting Proposals

- **Step 1: Complete the Participant Form** (available for download from our website and at the end of this newsletter) for any proposal submitted. Carefully note any audiovisual equipment you require before you submit your proposal.
- **Step 2: E-mail with Attachments:** Submit your proposal (**Participant Form**) via email attachment to the Program Unit Chair/Co-Chairs no later than **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2014**.
- **Step 3:** Notification of your proposal's acceptance status for the Annual Regional Meeting program will be sent by **MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2014**.

General Participation Requirements at the Regional Meeting

- Membership to AAR, SBL or ASOR is not required to submit a proposal in response to the Call for Papers.
- All participants accepted to the program must be registered for the Regional Meeting by **February 28, 2015**.
- You must make your own travel arrangements to Marylhurst University.

Registration and Housing

- Registration and housing information will be available on the Region's website **in mid-January 2015** (www.pnw-aarsbl.org).

CALL FOR PAPERS 2015

SPECIAL JOINT SESSION

Conflicting Truth Claims in the Classroom: Navigating the Impasse Between Cultural Memory and Historiographic Method and Sources

For far too many students “the past” is little more than continuity cultivated through careful selection and romantic memorializing of select events. This continuity becomes a truth claim that conflicts in the classroom with the truth claims of primary sources and academic methodology. Each professor of religion is called to help students navigate and resolve this conflict.

This joint session will bring together teacher-scholars from different units in the PNW AAR/SBL region to discuss common teaching challenges. The purpose of this session is to generate cross-disciplinary conversation on this topic. We are inviting higher-education professionals who teach at the undergraduate level to reflect on the intersection of their disciplinary expertise and teaching experiences and submit a paper proposal (500-700 words).

Participants will be asked to address in depth at least two of the following questions:

- 1) What are the challenges of teaching religion in light of multiple challenges posed by the cultural memory attached to the history and the texts?
- 2) What are some strategies for teaching religion in light of the diversity of the cultural memory of undergraduate students in North America, cultural memory that is shaped by—but not limited to—diversity of first language, educational, economic and ethnic backgrounds?
- 3) What are some helpful strategies in addressing and/or resolving the conflicts between competing truth claims (i.e. those stemming from cultural memory versus those stemming from by primary sources and academic methodology)?
- 4) What are some challenges of teaching religion in light of the multiple dimensions of cultural memory to a generation of students whose educational narratives have been largely shaped in North American by the advances of the digital age? Further, what are some strategies for teaching in this context?

Guidelines

1. Please submit your proposals directly to both of the co-directors: Antonios Finitis (finitisak@plu.edu) and Brenda Llewellyn Ihssen (ihssenbl@plu.edu)
2. Please keep in mind that you will have twenty minutes for your presentation.
3. There is a possibility of a travel/lodging stipend for your presentation. Details on funding will be available in late October. Please check the regional website for updates on funding.

THE AMERICAN SCHOOLS OF ORIENTAL RESEARCH (ASOR)

Description of the goals and rationale

The program unit is affiliated with the American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR), whose mission is to initiate, encourage and support research into, and public understanding of, the peoples and cultures of the Near East from the earliest times. As such, the unit is concerned with:

- Fostering original research, archaeological excavations, and explorations
- Encouraging scholarship in basic languages, cultural histories and traditions of the ANE
- Offering opportunities for all levels of scholarship, especially students, to share their research

Chair

Roger W. Anderson, Independent Scholar, currently working on the final excavation report for Early Bronze Age Tell el Hesi (rwander48@comcast.net)

Call for Papers

The Pacific Northwest Region of the American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR) Archaeology and Languages of the Ancient Near East invites submission of paper topics for the annual regional meeting. Papers detailing original research, archaeological excavations, and explorations in all aspects related to ancient Near Eastern archaeology and basic ancient Near Eastern languages are welcome.

Undergraduate and graduate students and independent scholars are especially welcome to present dissertation and paper research in either category.

ARTS AND RELIGION

Description of the goals and rationale

The Arts and Religion section provides a space for interdisciplinary exploration of religion through the arts (in broad contexts). We invite multiple perspectives, embodied passionate scholarship, and rich discussion of the vital role arts have played and continue to play in attempts to create meaning of the human condition, and to address the enduring questions posed by the world's religions and spiritual traditions.

Co-Chairs

Susan G. Carter, Marylhurst University and The California Institute of Integral Studies (scarter@marylhurst.edu) and Louise M. Pare, Center for Women in Global Community, Independent Scholar (lmpare849@aol.com)

Call for Papers

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, storytelling (myth and folklore), architecture, and geomancy. This program unit welcomes individual papers or panel proposals on any topic, from ancient to contemporary, which explore 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 directly to the co-chairs.

ASIAN AND COMPARATIVE STUDIES

Description of the goals and rationale

To promote scholarship in non-Western areas of religion and theology and to assess various comparative methods of investigation.

Chair

Nick Gier, University of Idaho (ngier@uidaho.edu)

Call for Papers

Abstracts of papers on topics in East Asia, Southeast Asia, South Asia, the Middle East, and Africa.

Asian and Comparative Studies will also be participating in the special joint session, **The Challenges of Teaching Religions with Sacred Texts in a Contemporary Context** (see the full description above), and invites proposals for this session.

HEBREW BIBLE

Description of the Goals and Rationale

Since the Biblical Hebrew texts are part of the larger category of 'biblical texts', the rationale for the Hebrew Bible session falls naturally within the mandate of the SBL, the central purpose of which is "...advancing the academic study of biblical texts and their contexts as well as of the traditions and contexts of biblical interpretation."

The primary goal of the Hebrew Bible session is to foster study and interaction in the field, more specifically:

- To promote academic dialogue between scholars in the Pacific Northwest Region.
- To showcase and promote research in the Hebrew Bible.
- To advance the quality of research and writing in the area of Hebrew Bible by mentoring and recommending work for publication.
- To provide mentoring and opportunities for graduate students to present their work to the Hebrew Bible session, thus incorporating new scholars into the greater goals of the SBL.

Chair

Antonios Finitis (finitisak@plu.edu) (second term: 2013-2016)

Call for Papers

1. Hebrew Bible Research Group on Clothing 2014-2016 (second year)

The Hebrew Bible unit continues to promote and support work of the research group on the topic of clothing in the Hebrew Bible. The goal of this group is the sustained examination of the multivalent importance of clothing in ancient Israel. This group works closely in the manner of a think tank. Its work will lead to a publication that will showcase the research of the PNW Hebrew Bible scholars. We have completed the first year of work and we **welcome** new submissions. Each participant undertakes the investigation of a topic that s/he selects and shares her/his research with the rest of the group for peer review, brainstorming and feedback. The members of this group will meet again during the Pacific Northwest SBL AAR ASOR 2015 meeting. The minimum commitment time to this research group is two years.

If you are interested in participating during the 2014-15 academic year please send an email to the Chair of the Hebrew Bible Unit (Antonios Finitis: finitisak@plu.edu) by December 1, 2014. Please include in your email the tentative title and a 200-300-word description of your project. Thank you.

2. Conflicting Truth Claims in the Classroom: Navigating the Impasse Between Cultural Memory and Historiographic Method and Sources – Joint Session -See Box at beginning of Call for Papers

3. General Call

We welcome papers on any topic related to Hebrew Bible, with priority given to papers that deal with language and linguistics, wisdom literature, and prophetic literature. Early proposals are especially welcome with the goal of organizing a panel discussion for a regional scholar's recent work and/or

organizing a thematic topic session. Graduate students are required to send full copies of their papers for consideration. Proposals should be submitted to the chair, Antonios Finitis: finitisak@plu.edu.

If you have further questions please contact the PNW Hebrew Bible chair: Antonios Finitis: finitisak@plu.edu.

HISTORY OF CHRISTIANITY AND NORTH AMERICAN RELIGIONS

Description of the goals and rationale

This program unit invites both historians of Christianity and scholars studying North American religions to present their research and engage in collegial discussion of their work. Review panels of selected new works in these fields are also included in the sessions. The section seeks to develop an ongoing dialog and network among participants.

1. General Call

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

- a. Papers reflecting current research in the history of Christianity (any era).
- b. Papers related to the history and practice of North American religions.
- c. Papers that contribute to a joint discussion with the Mormon Studies on the history of Mormonism.

2. Joint-Session: Conflicting Truth Claims in the Classroom: Navigating the Impasse Between Cultural Memory and Historiographic Method and Sources - See Box at beginning of Call for Papers

NEW TESTAMENT AND THE WORLD OF EARLY CHRISTIANITY

Description of the goals and rationale

This program unit provides an opportunity to discuss topics in New Testament and related interdisciplinary studies, such as Hebrew Bible and Early Christianity, as well as topics relating to Hellenistic Religions and related literature. While the name of the program unit has recently changed (from New Testament and Hellenistic Religions), the focus of the unit has not, as we strive to be inclusive of a wide range of topics of interest to the study of early Christian writings and the world in which they developed.

Co-Chairs

Ron Clark, George Fox Evangelical Seminary, rclark@georgefox.edu, and Kent L. Yinger (ret.), George Fox Evangelical Seminary, kyinger@georgefox.edu.

Call for Papers

We welcome papers reflecting the research endeavors especially of Pacific Northwest scholars in the fields of New Testament and the World of Early Christianity. This year our Program Unit will host several different sessions.

- Greco-Roman Environment and Early Christian Movements (Coordinator: Anne Moore, amoore@ucalgary.ca). We invite papers on the influence of Greco-Roman culture on various forms of early Christianity and their writings (including non-canonical texts), as well as on the reception of early Christian texts in Greco-Roman circles.
- Open session. All topics relevant to the Program Unit are invited.
- Book panel(s). We are interested in conducting a book review panel for one or more books published in the past year by participants in the New Testament and the World of Early Christianity PU. **If you will have had a relevant book published by the time of the 2015**

regional meeting, send suggestions directly to the chairpersons.

Joint Session: Conflicting Truth Claims in the Classroom: Navigating the Impasse Between Cultural Memory and Historiographic Method and Sources - See Box at beginning of Call for Papers

RELIGION AND SOCIETY

Description of the goals and rationale

The Religion and Society section creates a space for the interdisciplinary analysis of religion, ethics, social science, and current events in the Pacific Northwest and around the world. Our goal is to make space for academic presentations and for significant dialogue about them.

Co-Chairs

Bruce Hiebert, University Canada West, brucehiebert@shaw.ca and Mari Kim, Independent Scholar, marikim@me.com

Call for Papers

All topics related to ethics, contemporary social issues, and social scientific perspectives on religion are welcome. We encourage 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 neuroscience.

SPECIAL TOPICS: MORMON STUDIES

Description of the goals and rationale

This special topic of Mormon Studies promotes the exploration of a wide range of topics relating to Mormonism. This section seeks to provide scholarly inquiry into Mormon history, culture, belief and practice, theology, scripture, and the role of Mormonism in contemporary politics. This section encourages the study of Mormonism from multiple disciplines and methodologies. This section will better equip those in the academy to teach on the subject of Mormonism and actively promotes opportunities for interfaith dialogue.

Co-Chairs

Kirk Caudle (Independent Scholar, mixlom@msn.com) and Susanna Morrill (Lewis & Clark College; smorrill@lclark.edu) (third term; 2012-2015)

Call for Papers

Papers are welcome in any area of Mormon Studies. We encourage papers from multiple disciplinary and methodological perspectives and especially invite proposals on the following themes:

- 1) Papers that consider the history and culture of Mormonism, especially those that discuss the social and religious impact of women and minorities. Papers that contribute to a joint discussion with the Women and Religion section are especially encouraged this year.
- 2) Papers on the development of Mormon beliefs and practices, scripture, ethics, and theology.
- 3) Papers related to interfaith dialogue between Mormonism and other Christian (and non-Christian) faith traditions.
- 4) Papers related to Mormonism and contemporary politics.
- 5) Papers that consider the place of Mormon Studies within the academic study of religion.
- 6) Papers that place Mormonism within the larger context of North American culture and religions. Papers that contribute to a joint discussion with the North American Religions section are especially encouraged this year.
- 7) **Conflicting Truth Claims in the Classroom: Navigating the Impasse Between Cultural Memory and Historiographic Method and Sources - Joint Session -See Box at beginning of Call for Papers**

STUDY OF ISLAM

Description of the goals and rationale

The Study of Islam program unit fosters intellectual exchange and collaboration among regional scholars working in any area of Islamic Studies. In addition to research panels, we host an annual roundtable devoted to a topic of current pedagogical concern, and we have launched an annual film series. We welcome papers from academics at any career stage.

1. General

We encourage proposals for individual papers or full panels investigating any aspect of historical or contemporary Islam, including but not limited to Islamic texts, practices, law, history, and theology. For the 2015 meeting, we especially welcome proposals dealing with issues of women and gender in Islamic societies, with Islam and Muslims in North America, and with modern Islamic thought. All proposals should be submitted electronically to the co-chairs.

2. Pedagogy Panel

We also seek participants for our annual pedagogy roundtable, focused this year on teaching about women and gender in Islamic societies. If you are interested in participating in the pedagogy roundtable, please contact co-chair Paul Powers by e-mail (ppowers@lclark.edu). Specialists as well as interested non-specialists are welcome.

Joint Session: Conflicting Truth Claims in the Classroom: Navigating the Impasse Between Cultural Memory and Historiographic Method and Sources - See Box at beginning of Call for Papers - This year, our unit is invited to participate in a joint session on strategies pertaining to the navigation and resolution of conflicting truth claims (the ones stemming from cultural memory versus the ones stemming from primary sources and academic methodology). Students in the Pacific Northwest are largely unaware of—or little concerned by—the fact that they are highly influenced by cultural memory. Nevertheless, this is a realization they have to face and address in most courses on Religion. As such, this session is designed to attract and to serve teacher-scholars from the PNW Region who are interested in topics concerning teaching and learning at the undergraduate level.

PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION AND THEOLOGY

Description of the goals and rationale

The Theology and Philosophy of Religion Section exists to provide a forum for scholars to critically examine politics, scriptures, ethics, history, art, literature and/or culture from explicitly philosophical and theological perspectives. We welcome diverse perspectives, and encourage the collegiality of frank and open dialogue between and among disciplinary areas.

Co-Chairs

Norman Metzler, Prof Emeritus of Theology, Concordia University, (nmetzler@cu-portland.edu)
Sarah Gallant, Independent Scholar, (smgallant@hotmail.com) (first term 2014-2017)

Call for Papers

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) Emotion and Epistemology; the place of affect in knowledge/knowing
- b) Apocalypticism and Environmental Theories/Theologies
- c) Trauma and Religion, Theologies of Trauma, Religious Reflection on Trauma
- d) Evolutionary Anthropologies
- e) Philosophies of Religion
- f) Theologies of Creation and Environment

- g) Theology and Narratives
- h) Narrative, Symbol, and Metaphor in Theology

Proposals should be submitted directly to the chairpersons, Sarah Gallant, smgallant@hotmail.com, and Norman Metzler, nmetzler@cu-portland.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.

Conflicting Truth Claims in the Classroom: Navigating the Impasse Between Cultural Memory and Historiographic Method and Sources - Joint Session -See Box at beginning of Call for Papers

WOMEN AND RELIGION

Description of the goals and rationale

This section explores the lives of women in religion from antiquity to the modern era. It is a forum for the inquiry into literary and material culture of the activity and presence of women in religion and the history of interpretation. It is also a forum for how female and gender related issues are portrayed in sacred texts.

Co-Chairs

Elizabeth Goldstein, Gonzaga University (goldstein@gonzaga.edu)

Valarie Ziegler, DePauw University (vziegler@depauw.edu)

Call for Papers

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 women in religious literature including, but not limited to, ancient Greek and Roman, Jewish, Christian, Islamic, and Asian religions. Proposals should be submitted directly to the co-chairs.

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 (digital 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).

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:

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

LinkedIn. The link for our group is: http://www.linkedin.com/groups/Pacific-Northwest-Region-AAR-SBL-5112328?trk=my_groups-b-grp-v

Student Members of the AAR Pacific Northwest Region:

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

**2015 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 January 15, 2015 to:

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

Awards will be announced at the Pacific Northwest AAR/SBL and ASOR Regional Meeting in 2015, at Marylhurst University. Students need not be present to win.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2014–2015

President: Susan Carter, Marylhurst University (scarter@marylhurst.edu) (AAR)
Vice-President: Charlie Scalise, Fuller Theological Seminary NW (cscalise@fuller.edu) (SBL)
Past President: Jack Levison, Seattle Pacific University (jlevison@spu.edu) (SBL) – 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): Rupa Pillai, University of Oregon (rpillai@uoregon.edu) (first term 2014)

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
Jack Levison, Seattle Pacific University (jlevison@spu.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)
Antonios Finitis (Pacific Lutheran University (finitisak@plu.edu))
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)

**Pacific Northwest Region AAR/SBL/ASOR
Individual Proposal Participant Form for Submissions
Marylhurst University
March 27-29, 2015**

Please fill out this form as completely as possible. If you have any questions, please contact the Program Unit Chair/Co-chairs directly via email.

1. NAME, AFFILIATION AND EMAIL ADDRESS:

2. TITLE OF YOUR PROPOSAL:

3. PROGRAM UNIT to which you are submitting this proposal:

3b. OTHER PROGRAM UNIT to which you are submitting this proposal, if any

* Please indicate the order of preference, if any, to the program units.

3c. OTHER PROGRAM UNIT to which you are submitting another proposal, if any:

(Completed participant form(s) must accompany each submission.)

4. AUDIO-VISUAL REQUIREMENTS for the entire session (note number and type needed):

LCD Projector:

Computer:

5. RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE - Note here if there are times in the weekend that you will be unable to present:

6. ABSTRACT – please include below: