



Lora Walsh

2019 A. R. Pete Diamond Award for Integrative Scholarship

The 2019 A. R. Pete Diamond Award for Integrative Scholarship has been awarded to Lora Walsh for her paper entitled, “Lost in Revision: Gender Symbolism in Vision 3 and Similitude 9 of The Shepherd of Hermas.”

Lora Walsh is Assistant Professor of English at the University of Arkansas. Her current research examines the resurgence of Lady Church as a prominent feminine divine figure in late medieval and early modern Christian writing. This project, titled *Lady Church: Reformations of the First Christian Goddess, 1350-1650*, uses literary analysis and feminist theological frameworks to identify how poetic and polemical texts cultivate devotion to Lady Church and her rapidly evolving institutional forms. Lora is also preparing projects on a Middle English translation of Matthew’s Gospel, and on the influence of *The Shepherd of Hermas* in medieval literature. Lora’s most popular courses include the Bible as Literature and Women and Christianity. She received her BA in English from Pepperdine University and her PhD in Religious Studies from Northwestern University, with a concentration in Medieval Christianity.

The A. R. Pete Diamond Award for Integrative Scholarship supports junior scholars demonstrating innovative approaches in biblical studies that advance methodological work at the intersection of historical criticism, critical theory, and cultural studies. The award is given to a member who has received a Ph.D. or Th.D, in biblical studies or related field within the last ten years and includes \$1,000 award. Papers for this award are evaluated on the basis of three categories:

- A persuasive thesis that engages emerging methodologies and changing paradigms, and demonstrates quality of scholarship and significance to the field
- Clarity of expression and thought
- Originality and creativity

The members of the 2019 A. R. Pete Diamond Award for Integrative Scholarship committee are Kathleen O’Connor (Columbia Theological Seminary), Carolyn Sharp (Yale Divinity School), and Louis Stulman (University of Findlay).

The call for papers for the 2020 A.R. Pete Diamond Award for Integrative Scholarship will open by October 1, 2019. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to the colleagues, friends, and family of A. R. Diamond for making this scholarly award possible.