

2018 PNWAAR/SBL/ASOR CALL FOR PAPERS

Call for Papers

Annual Meeting of the Pacific Northwest Regional of the American Academy of Religion
Pacific Lutheran University, May 11-13, 2018

THE AMERICAN SCHOOLS OF ORIENTAL RESEARCH (ASOR)

The mission of ASOR is to initiate, encourage and support research into, and public understanding of, the peoples and cultures of the Near East from the earliest times.

Call for Papers

We invite abstracts detailing original research, archaeological excavations, and studies of all aspects related to ancient Near Eastern and Mediterranean art, archaeology, and ancient Near Eastern languages. Undergraduate and graduate students and independent scholars are welcome to present papers.

Proposals should be submitted directly to the Chair: Gloria London, glondon18@gmail.com

Joint Session with New Testament and the World of Early Christianity

Archaeology and the First Century CE. We are seeking proposals to collaborate with the New Testament and the World of Early Christianity for work concerning this period of history.

Proposals should be submitted directly to the session organizers: Anne Moore, University of Calgary, amoore@ucalgary.ca and Gloria London, glondon18@gmail.com

ARTS AND RELIGION

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.

Call for Papers

As co-chairs of the "Arts and Religion" section of the Pacific Northwest American Academy of Religion (PNW-AAR) we welcome your proposals. Whether you are a student-scholar, a faculty member, or an independent scholar no longer in formal schooling, you may wish to revisit some of your work from the last year or so, and think about submitting a proposal as you continue with your scholarly work this fall. The Pacific Northwest AAR/SBL is a generally open and friendly crowd, and a great place to share your ideas and get more presentation experience!

Proposals should be submitted directly to the co-chairs: Marion Dumont mariondumont@gmail.com and Karen Villanueva knvillaneuva@yahoo.com

ASIAN AND COMPARATIVE STUDIES

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

Proposals should be submitted directly to the co-chairs: Nick Gier, University of Idaho, ngier@uidaho.edu

GENDER, RELIGION, SEXUALITY, AND POWER

Call for Papers

The GRSP unit announces its inaugural call for papers exploring all aspects of Religion and Gender or Sexuality for the May 2018 Regional Conference at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Washington. We are open to all papers which explore the intersection of religion and any aspect of gender or sexuality and social power. We are particularly looking for papers in 2018 which explore issues of the public performance of gender or sexuality in religious terms such as in speculative fiction, for example the meditations on the soul of the transgendered android robot at heart of David Weber's bestselling Safehold series, or in media discourse as a whole, for example the construction of American religious normativity in media coverage of the "gay marriage" issue. Other areas which might be explored are those of the technological image of the human or the thinning of discourse. Papers exploring specific religious perspectives of sexuality, such as Islam or Christianity are welcome. An apt topic area in the current year may be the oppositional use of sexuality as a Democratic or a Republican wedge electoral tool. Interested scholars may propose a full panel in any related area. We are also open to papers from advanced undergraduate or Master's students, papers which would also be considered for the annual student paper prize (please identify your status with your proposal submission).

Please submit all abstracts or proposals to the co-chairs and Coordinator, Bruce Hiebert, brucehiebert@shaw.ca and Joseph Paxton joseph.paxton@cst.edu

HEBREW BIBLE

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.

Call for Papers

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.

Research Group on Clothing 2017-2020

The Hebrew Bible unit announces the creation of second research group on the topic of clothing in the Hebrew Bible. The work of the research group on this topic, is close to publication. The goal of this group is going to be the sustained examination of the multivalent importance of clothing in ancient Israel. This group will work closely over the course of three years in the

manner of a think tank. Each member of the group will undertake the investigation of a topic that s/he will select. Each member will share her/his research with the rest of the group for peer review, brainstorming and feedback. The members of this group will meet during the Pacific Northwest SBL AAR ASOR meeting. The minimum commitment time to this research group is two years.

Proposals should be submitted directly to the chair: Antonios Finitis, finitisak@plu.edu

HISTORY OF CHRISTIANITY AND NORTH AMERICAN RELIGIONS

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.

Call for Papers

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 reflecting current research in the history of Christianity (any era).
2. Papers related to the history and practice of North American religions and its expressions in the public square.
3. Papers related to religious understandings of World War I and its repercussions.
4. Papers related to churches and religious organizations in the Pacific Northwest.

Proposals should be submitted directly to Jon Kershner, jon.kershner@gmail.com and Timothy Burdick, Edmonds Community College, timburdick@comcast.net

STUDY OF ISLAM

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.

Call for Papers

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. We especially welcome papers that address the general theme of “Muslims as Migrants and Minorities.”

Pedagogy Panel: We also seek participants for our annual pedagogy roundtable, this year on the same theme mentioned above, “Muslims as Migrants and Minorities.” We will explore ways to approach these topics in stand-alone classes or (more likely) as discreet sections or general themes in a variety of courses on Islamic topics. Anyone interested in participating in our relatively informal discussion—and we very much welcome non-Islamicists.

Proposals should be submitted directly to the chair: Paul Powers, Lewis & Clark College, ppowers@lclark.edu

MORMON STUDIES

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.

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:

Proposals should be submitted directly to the co-chairs: Kirk Caudle Independent Scholar, mixlom@msn.com and Susanna Morrill Lewis & Clark College, smorrill@lclark.edu

NEW TESTAMENT AND THE WORLD OF EARLY CHRISTIANITY

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.

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.
- Wealth and Poverty within the World of Early Christianity. We are seeking presentations concerning this area of the ancient Greco/Roman/Christian world including research concerning social stratification; for discussion, panel presentations, or book reviews.
- 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 our region. If you will/have had a relevant book published by the time of the 2018 regional meeting, send suggestions directly to the chairpersons.

Proposals should be submitted directly to the co-chairs: Anne Moore, University of Calgary, amoore@ucalgary.ca and Ron Clark, Portland Seminary, rclark@georgefox.edu

Joint Session with the American Schools of Oriental Research

Archaeology and the First Century CE. We are seeking proposals to collaborate with the American Schools of Oriental Research for work concerning this period of history.

Proposals should be submitted directly to the session organizers: Anne Moore, University of Calgary, amoore@ucalgary.ca and Gloria London, glondon18@gmail.com

Joint Session with Theology and Philosophy of Religion

We are also seeking proposals to be presented in a joint session with this section under the theme: "What is actually 'The Gospel'?" This combined session invites papers discussing the different definitions or understandings of a defined or core 'Gospel' along with the theological implications of these diverse definitions.

Proposals should be submitted directly to the session organizers: Anne Moore, University of Calgary, amoore@ucalgary.ca and Sarah Gallant, smgallant@hotmail.com

RELIGION AND SOCIETY

Our section welcomes all papers related to ethics, contemporary social issues or events, and social scientific perspectives on religion. Recurring themes in our discussions include neuroscience, psychology of religious experience, demographic and cultural transitions, war and violence, science, and Speculative Fiction (SF).

Call for Papers

The Religion and Society Unit invites interdisciplinary perspectives that address topics across religion and society. Of particular interest are papers that address various forms of societal conflict such as racism, sexism, homophobia, Islamophobia, xenophobia, and xenoracism. The goal of this call for papers is to help religious and community leaders to understand various forms of societal conflict, through religious and social scientific methods of analysis, and develop tools and resources that will equip religious and community leaders to address societal conflict. Papers may address the method(s) and the role(s) of forgiveness, religious ethics, social justice, and leadership studies to enter into conversations of conflict resolution.

Joint Session with the Religion and Society group “Exploring ‘Evil’”

This joint session invites papers that explore philosophical, theological, and social scientific perspectives of evil. Broadly, papers may address a historical and/or contemporary perspectives of evil. Topics may include: the evolution of evil, free will evolved for morality and culture, the role of intent and harm in defining evil, evil among the well-intentioned – bias without awareness, media and evil, the process and pathway of dehumanization, false moral superiority and evil, when good people do bad things, and the bystander effect. The goal of this call is to generate a greater understanding of “what” constitutes evil, “when” people may be more or less likely to do evil acts, and “how” a good person can do evil deeds.

Proposals should be submitted directly to the session organizers: Sarah Gallant, smgallant@hotmail.com and Joseph Kim Paxton joseph.paxton@cst.edu

THEOLOGY AND PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION

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.

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.

In addition to our regular open call for papers, this year we are also seeking proposals to be presented during two special joint sessions. These joint sessions are opportunities to discuss specific topics with our colleagues from other groups. Please send your proposals for these special sessions directly to the session organizers.

Proposals should be submitted directly to the co-chairs: Sarah Gallant, smgallant@hotmail.com, and Norman Metzler, npjmetzler@gmail.com.

Please note in your proposal if you would prefer to avoid a particular presentation time due to religious observance (e.g. Friday night or Sunday morning). We will do our best to accommodate all requests.

Joint Session with the New Testament and the World of Early Christianity group
“What is Actually ‘The Gospel’?”

This combined session invites papers discussing the different definitions or understandings of a defined or core ‘Gospel’ along with the theological implications of these diverse definitions.

Proposals should be submitted directly to the session organizers: Anne Moore, University of Calgary amoore@ucalgary.ca and Ron Clark, Portland Seminary, rclark@georgefox.edu

Joint Session with the Religion and Society group
“Exploring ‘Evil’”

This joint session invites papers that explore philosophical, theological, and social scientific perspectives of evil. Broadly, papers may address a historical and/or contemporary perspectives of evil. Topics may include: the evolution of evil, free will evolved for morality and culture, the role of intent and harm in defining evil, evil among the well-intentioned – bias without awareness, media and evil, the process and pathway of dehumanization, false moral superiority and evil, when good people do bad things, and the bystander effect. The goal of this call is to generate a greater understanding of “what” constitutes evil, “when” people may be more or less likely to do evil acts, and “how” a good person can do evil deeds.

Proposals should be submitted directly to the session organizers: Sarah Gallant, smgallant@hotmail.com and Joseph Kim Paxton joseph.paxton@cst.edu

WOMEN IN RELIGION

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.

Proposals should be submitted directly to the co-chairs: Elizabeth Goldstein, Gonzaga University, goldstein@gonzaga.edu and Valerie Ziegler, DePauw University, vziegler@depauw.edu