

Religion & Ecology Newsletter

February 2005

At last fall's business meeting of the Religion and Ecology group of the American Academy of Religion, the steering committee acknowledged the good work of outgoing chair Christopher Chapple, who served a full term on the committee -- Thanks, Chris!

We would also like to welcome a new member to the steering committee: John Grim of Bucknell University - welcome John!

At the meeting, we discussed the formation of an e-list and a newsletter. Please send in any names that should be added to the e-list.

In San Antonio, many people proposed topics for paper sessions at next year's AAR in Philadelphia.

These topics and contact persons are listed in detail - along with the on-line call for papers - at www.religionandnature.com/aar

This year's co-chairs are:

Beth Blissman

Oberlin College

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E-Mail: beth.blissman@oberlin.edu

Laurel D. Kearns

Drew University

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If you haven't already submitted a paper proposal, IT'S NOT TOO LATE. The due date for proposals via the OP3 submission system has been extended to 7 March 2005.

You are encouraged to send in proposals on these topics in addition to those in the call.

- Responses to ***Finding God In The Singing River: Christianity For An Environmental Age*** Mark Wallace

- Religious Freedom & Church/State Issues (esp. persecuted nature religions, indigenous peoples)
- The newly released *Encyclopedia of Religion & Nature*
- Environmental Justice / Toxic Tour of Philadelphia Area

Method of proposal submission: Online Paper/Panel Proposal System (OP3)
 The committee is only allowed to submit the program electronically, which is why we prefer that all proposals be submitted electronically.

We strongly encourage everyone considering submitting a proposal to review all past Religion and Ecology Sessions, in order to reduce duplication. These past sessions, along with other pertinent information about our group, are available on-line at www.religionandnature.com/aar. We prefer that the submission of full paper sessions be done on line, though if you find this impossible, you may fax a proposal to either of the co-chairs, and they will arrange for it to be electronically submitted. Please follow the directions released by the AAR carefully www.aarweb.org/annualmeet/2005/call/.

All proposals are reviewed anonymously by the R&E steering committee and notification will start after mid-March, 2005.

All accepted participants must be members of the AAR and must register for the meeting.

The program book will be mailed in September.

The members of the AAR R & E Steering Committee are

- * Beth Blissman
- * Laurel Kearns lkearns@drew.edu
- Vijaya Nagarajan nagarajan@usfca.edu
- David Haberman dhberman@indiana.edu
- Rebecca Gould rgould@middlebury.edu
- David Barnhill barnhill@vaxa.cis.uwosh.edu
- John Grim grim@bucknell.edu

* signifies co-chair for 2005 AAR/SBL Meeting

We look forward to seeing everyone, plus new folks, at the AAR in Philadelphia. We are considering a toxic tour of Philadelphia. Anyone interested in helping to arrange such a tour, or with suggestions of sights, please contact Whitney Bauman at whitneybauman@sbcglobal.net or Laurel Kearns, lkearns@drew.edu.

Also, please give us feedback on the use of this e-list for selective distribution of upcoming conferences/events that may be of interest to members.