

2008 Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion

Chicago, IL, USA

October 31 - November 3, 2008

The AAR is a professional, membership-based organization primarily for teachers of religious studies in colleges and universities, as well as in secondary schools. Please note that paid registration for the annual meeting is required. Further details and registration information can be found at:

http://www.aarweb.org/Meetings/Annual_Meeting/Current_Meeting/default.asp

The Forum on Religion and Ecology is assisting with the following two events, which are free and open to the public:

Friday, 10/31

M31-113

Forum on Religion and Ecology Session

Theme: "Heart of the Universe"

Selections from a new film on the universe story with Brian Swimme

2:00pm-5:00pm

Palmer House Hilton, 17 E. Monroe St.

Chicago Room

Saturday, 11/1

M1-409

"Where Religion and Ecology Meet: The Field and the Force"

Speaker: Mary Evelyn Tucker, Yale University

7:00 pm-8:30 p.m.

Chicago Hilton and Towers, 720 S. Michigan Ave.

International Ballroom South

Followed by reception, 8:30-10:00 p.m.

AAR Events related to the field of Religion and Ecology

Friday, 10/31

M31-113

Forum on Religion and Ecology Session

Theme: "*Heart of the Universe*"

2:00pm-5:00pm

Saturday, 11/1

M1-423

Global Ethics and Religion Forum

Theme: "*The Role of Religion in a Just and Sustainable World*"

9:00 am-11:00 am

A1-124

Animals and Religion Consultation

Theme: "*'Real' Animals and Religion*"

9:00am-11:30 am

A1-136

Tour: Religion and Ecology Group

Theme: *"Toxics to Treasures: Environmental Justice Tour of Lake Calumet"*

Preregistration required; Tour fee: \$30

9:00 am-12:45 pm

A1-220

Native Traditions in the Americas Group

Theme: *"Sacred Spaces and Sacred Places"*

Paper: *Philosophy, Tradition, and Environmental Ethics: Connecting Indigenous Students to the "Plant Tribes" in the Tall Grass Plains*

Kathleen J. Martin, California Polytechnic State University

1:00 pm-3:30 pm

A1-309

Theology and Religious Reflection Section

Theme: *"Dissent, Tradition, and Rights: Religion, Modernity, and Planetary Life in South Asia"*

4:00 pm-6:30 pm

A1-314

Chinese Religions Group

Theme: *"Telling Sacrifices: Intertextuality and Efficacy in Prayers from Medieval China"*

Paper: *Medieval Chinese Prayers for Rain in an Age of Climate Change*

Alexei Ditter, Reed College

4:00 pm-6:30 pm

A1-323

Religion and Ecology Group

Theme: *"New Dimensions in Religion and Ecology"*

4:00-6:30 p.m.

A1-334

Religion and Cities Consultation

Theme: *"Religion as a Factor in Urban Dynamics (Cultural, Political, Economic, and Spatial) with a Particular Focus on American Cities"*

Paper: *Sacred in the City? Interfaith Religious Environmentalism in Chicago*

Amanda Baugh, Northwestern University

4:00 pm-6:30 pm

M1-412

Society of Christian Philosophers

Theme: *The Moral and Spiritual Prospects of Vegetarianism*

7:00 pm-9:30 pm

M1-409

"Where Religion and Ecology Meet: The Field and the Force"

Speaker: Mary Evelyn Tucker, Yale University

7:00 pm-8:30 p.m.

M1-416

Religion and Ecology Reception

8:30 pm-10:00 p.m.

Sunday, 11/2

A2-214

Woman and Religion Section and Religion and Ecology Group

Theme: *"Feminist Possibilities and Perspectives: Woman, Religion, and Ecology"*

1:00 pm-2:30 pm

A2-251

Special Topics Forum

Theme: *"Religion and the Environment in South Asia: A Discussion with Vandana Shiva and Ashis Nandy"*

3:00 pm-4:30 pm

A2-253

Wildcard Session

Theme: *"Progressive Religion in the West: Sarah McFarland Taylor's Green Sisters (Harvard University Press, 2007) and Gordon Lynch's The New Spirituality (I. B. Tauris, 2007)"*

3:00 pm-4:30 pm

A2-258

Religion and the Social Sciences Section

Theme: *"Interreligious Cooperation and Social Activism"*

Paper: Religious Pluralism, Spiritual Passion, and Political Activism: The Case of Religious Environmentalism

Roger S. Gottlieb, Worcester Polytechnic Institute

3:00 pm-4:30 pm

A2-323

Religion and Ecology Group

Theme: *"Chicago Religious Environmentalisms"*

5:00-6:30 p.m.

A2-404

Plenary Templeton Lecture:

Human Time and Time of the Universe

Speaker: Michael Heller, Pontifical Academy of Theology

8:30 pm-9:30 pm

Monday, 11/3

Green Seminary Initiative Steering Committee
7:30 am-9:00 am

A3-131
Death, Dying, and Beyond Consultation
Theme: "*The Commodification of Death*"
Paper: *A Democracy of the Dead: Cremation, Green Burials, and the Future of the Spirit*
Cathy N. Gutierrez, Sweet Briar College
9:00 am-11:30 am

A3-200
Special Topics Forum
Theme: "*Thinking about Religion and Sustainability: Gottlieb's A Greener Faith (Oxford University Press, 2006) and Beyond*"
1:00 pm-3:30 pm

A3-222
Animals and Religion Consultation
Theme: "*Animals in Native American Religious Traditions*"
1:00-3:30 p.m.

A3-214
Teaching Religion Section
Theme: "*The Pedagogy of Dissonance: Teaching at the Borders*"
Paper: *Spirits in the Forest: Yorùbá Religion, Ecology, and Pedagogy*
Amanda Holmes, University of Florida
1:00 pm-3:30 pm

A3-307
Ethics Section
Theme: "*Global Ethical Concerns*"
Paper: *The Power to Change: United States Energy Policy and Global Warming*
James Martin-Schramm, Luther College
4:00 pm-6:30 pm

A3-311
Religion and Politics Section
Theme: "*New Directions in Religion and Politics*"
Paper: *Creating a Climate for Change? American Evangelical Discourses on Global Climate Change*
Katharine Wilkinson, University of Oxford
4:00 pm-6:30 pm

A3-328
Religion and Ecology Group and Ritual Studies Group
Theme: "*Religion, Ritual, and Ecology*"
4:00 pm-6:30 p.m.