2013 ANNUAL MEETING in BOSTON — November 8-10, 2013 Coming Out Religiously

Religion, the Public Sphere, and Religious Identity Formation

Early bird registration ends September 15!

Excitement builds as the 2013 Annual Meeting approaches! The timely topic on religion in schools, the 12th Harper Award to Bob Jackson, 78 highly diverse presentations of scholarly and practical work (almost half are international), and all the conversations with colleagues and friends that enliven our own disciplinary efforts—what's not to draw us with great expectation to Boston?!!!

We continue to add information to the <u>2013 Meeting</u> website as planning advances, so please keep checking there. Here are some highlights you won't want to miss:

Harper Award – <u>Bob Jackson</u> will receive the award Saturday evening after the Banquet. He will speak about the Council of Europe policy and practice on incorporating the dimension of religious diversity into intercultural education in 47 European states.

Our other two **guest speakers**, <u>Walter Feinberg</u> and <u>Diane L. Moore</u>, are widely recognized for their scholarly work on the public understanding of religion/worldview through education. Feinberg will speak on the topic of his forthcoming book, *For the Civic Good: A Liberal Case for Teaching Religion in Public Schools*. Moore, who heads Harvard's Religious Literacy Project, will speak about how incorporating the study of religion into schools can invigorate classrooms and enhance democratic discourse in the public sphere.

Pre-conference session & outing – Thursday, November 7, 12:30-6:00 p.m. Visit <u>Dudley Street</u> <u>Neighborhood Initiative (DSNI)</u>, one of the most creative neighborhood revitalization initiatives in the country and the topic of a documentary that will be viewed 12:30-1:30 p.m. on Thursday before traveling to the site. \$25 "at the door". Read more...

Task Forces – If you are convening a <u>Task Force</u> on Saturday morning, please send <u>Lucinda</u> a brief description of your topic for the program.

Faith Communities – Something new! A time to meet and greet those who share your religious tradition—over <u>dinner Friday evening</u>! A convener from each group will plan the gathering and announce plans Friday afternoon.

Read papers beforehand – RIG sessions convene with the assumption that those present have *already read* the presenters' papers. All papers will be available in pdf format on the <u>Meeting website</u> by October 1. (Note: There will be no disc or hard copy of the papers. *Proceedings* for the Meeting will be available in a single pdf file on the Meeting website by October 20.)

Share a room – if you are interested in sharing a room to reduce expenses, check that box on your Registration Form and/or contact Lucinda who will put those persons in touch with one another.

Projectors – if you have an LCD projector you are willing to bring and share with other presenters, we will reimburse **\$50** of your registration fee! RSVP by October 15 to participate.

Volunteers – we need volunteers to help with registration, the book and resource room, and tech setup. *Please consider helping your Association in this way—and meet lots of great people!* Contact <u>Lucinda</u> with available times.

Deadlines – Rooms at the Westin-Waltham can be reserved for \$119 per night (excluding taxes) until October 18. Registration for the meeting increases on September 16 and again on November 1. RIG presenters must submit papers by September 19. To share your projector, RSVP by October 15.

Travel – Boston is an easy destination by plane, train, or bus. The hotel in Waltham can be reached via commuter train from Boston's North Station, but the hotel is 2.5 miles from the Waltham train station. We hope to arrange special shuttles to and from the airport at a few scheduled times, and a driver for the Waltham train station. Watch for additional details.

Important Announcement

The Board of Directors of REA seeks to hire an Editor-Elect for the internationally recognized REA journal, *Religious Education*. This person will work with the Editor of the journal, Jack Seymour, during a transition time from the summer of 2014 until the end of 2015, and then assume the position of Editor in January, 2016. Read more...

From the Harper Committee

Chuck Foster, Chair

Each year the Board of the Religious Education Association may choose to recognize an individual with the Harper Award and/or an organization with the Wornom Award. Information about these awards, including past recipients, can be found on the REA website here. The Harper Committee is responsible for soliciting nominations for both of these awards. This letter puts that process in motion by requesting from the membership nominations for each of these awards with the possibility that an award will be made during the 2014 Annual Meeting.

The stated criterion for each award is quite straightforward.

The William Rainey Harper Award is given occasionally to outstanding leaders whose work across disciplines and fields of service has had a profound impact on religious education.

The Herman Eskridge Wornom Award is also given occasionally to an organization or institution that has provided outstanding support and leadership to religious education.

If you would like to nominate a person or organization for one of these awards please send your nomination with a paragraph describing your rationale for making it to Lucinda Huffaker at secretary@religiouseducation.net by **October 15, 2013**.

The nominations will be given to the Harper Committee of REA to be reviewed. After reviewing the nominations the committee will decide whether or not to forward a nomination to the REA Board, which has the responsibility of making award decisions.

Support REA at our AAR/SBL debut!

REA at AAR-SBL in Baltimore, November 22-26, 2013

P23-402, Saturday - 6:30 PM-8:00 PM, Sheraton Inner Harbor-Harborview II

Our inaugural meeting as a Related Scholarly Organization will feature a panel of Yolanda Smith, Siebren Miedema, and Mai-Anh Tran speaking on *Religious Education and 21st-Century Intersections: Religion Identity Formation, Social Activism, and Public Imagination*. Mary Hess will moderate the panel. More...

Is your membership current?

Remember that REA membership follows the calendar year, so <u>renew your membership</u> early so that you won't miss any issues of *Religious Education*. You can find current information about your membership by 1) checking the online <u>Membership Directory</u> to see if you are listed correctly, 2) signing in to your account at Taylor & Francis Online and going to My Account > Access, or 3) contacting <u>Customer Service</u> at Taylor & Francis who publish the REA journal and process all of our memberships.

See you in Boston!

Lucinda Huffaker, PhD Executive Secretary

REA:APPRRE

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Contact the Religious Education Association at secretary@religiouseducation.net. If you do not wish to receive future emails, please send a message to unsubscribe@religiouseducation.net.