



eREACH

Vol. 3 No. 2, June 2013

*The electronic newsletter of the Religious Education Association:
An Association of Professors, Practitioners, Researchers, and Religious Educators*

Coming Out Religiously

Religion, the Public Sphere, and Religious Identity Formation

2013 ANNUAL MEETING in BOSTON – November 8-10, 2013

Our 2013 meeting will take place November 8-10 at the Westin Hotel in Waltham, MA, on the outskirts of Boston. The theme examines religious education in public and private schools, the role and contribution of religious communities in the public domain, and the relation of religious education to civic responsibility. Plenary speakers include [Walter Feinberg](#), University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana, author of *For Goodness Sake: Religious Schools and Education for Democratic Citizenry*; [Diane L. Moore](#), Harvard University, author of *Overcoming Religious Illiteracy: A Cultural Studies Approach to the Study of Religion in Secondary Education*; and [Robert \(Bob\) Jackson](#), University of Warwick, author of *Rethinking Religious Education and Plurality: Issues in Diversity and Pedagogy*. Program Chair Siebren Miedema (VU University Amsterdam) is orchestrating speakers, events, and topics that will engage this complex topic with depth and imagination.

Online registration will open July 1, 2013. Check the [meeting web site](#) for current information and details!

The **Paper Selection Committee** received 86 proposals for the 2013 Meeting, indicating a great deal of interest and enthusiasm in this year's theme! **If you submitted a proposal and did NOT receive a confirmation within the last week, email [Lucinda Huffaker](#) immediately.** We want to be certain that every submission has been included in the selection process. Persons will be notified of the status of their proposal by Monday, July 1, 2013.

Robert (Bob) Jackson to receive the Harper Award

The [William Rainey Harper Award](#) is given to outstanding leaders whose work in other fields has had profound impact upon religious education. Professor Bob Jackson, who directed the largest research team in Europe dedicated to religions and education for almost twenty years, will receive the award at a banquet in his honor on Saturday evening at the 2013 Annual Meeting. The award recognizes Jackson's significant contribution to the study and advocacy of religions and education in the school experience of young people. First awarded in 1974, it is given only occasionally; Professor Jackson will receive the 12th Harper Award.

Important notice about *PROCEEDINGS*

REA's Board of Directors has determined that the papers delivered at the meeting will no longer be provided to members as [Proceedings](#) on a CD ROM in the program folders since papers are available in pdf format on the REA website. Hardcopies, which have been available for purchase in previous years, will not be produced this year. Instead, materials will be available on the meeting web set in a suitable format for download and assembly to create a disc or program book, if desired. This decision will save significant staff time and money.

REA becomes a Related Scholarly Organization of AAR

The Religious Education Association has been approved as a Related Scholarly Organization (RSO) of the [American Academy of Religion](#)! This designation does not only recognize the significant and historic status of REA, it also comes with several important benefits:

- Recognition as an RSO on the AAR website with a link to our website;

- Recognition in the AAR Annual Meeting Program Book front matter, including a brief description of our Association;
- Discounted rates for meeting space at the AAR Annual Meeting;
- A headquarters hotel room hold for one Board member;
- Listing of our program within the AAR's program in the Program Book (rather than with other additional meetings).

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

The inaugural session for the Religious Education Association at AAR-SBL will highlight some of our leaders and their scholarship across a range of topics. We expect that presentations by Yolanda Smith, Siebren Miedema, and Mai-Anh Le Tran, moderated by Mary Hess, will illustrate the breadth and timeliness of topics in religious education. Our presence at AAR-SBL will help educate colleagues about our discipline while engaging new and diverse voices in conversation and collaboration. If you plan to attend AAR-SBL, please join us on Saturday or Sunday evening, 6:30-8:00 p.m. Timeslots have not been announced, so check your Program Book.

Requesting nominations for REA Board of Directors – before June 24

The Nomination Committee will soon begin their deliberations to develop a slate of nominees for the Board positions that will be open this November. Members of the Board serve three-year terms. Additional description of each position can be found in the [By-Laws](#) and the Board of Directors [Handbook](#). The Nominating Committee invites your suggestions for persons to fill any of these nine (9) positions for 2013-14:

- Vice-President & 2014 Program Chair-Elect
- Recording Secretary
- 2 At-Large Members
- Forum member: RE in Public Life & Global Community
- Forum member: RE in Faith Communities
- Forum member: RE in Academic Disciplines & Institutions
- Harper / Wornom Committee Member
- Student Representative (2-year term)

If you would like to recommend someone to the Nominating Committee, please send the information to [Lucinda Huffaker](#) by **June 24, 2013**.

Support your colleagues AND religious education - write a review on Amazon!

It's easy to promote your colleagues by drawing attention to their publications. Simply add a short review of their book on Amazon! But a review does more than help a colleague sell books. By increasing the visibility of books that receive reviews, the mysterious Amazon algorithm can also heighten attention to the discipline by highlighting *related* books in the field! Amazon even provides [guidelines](#)! Easy to do, plus a big payoff...

Is your membership current?

Remember that REA membership follows the calendar year, so [renew your membership](#) 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 [Membership Directory](#) 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 [Customer Service](#) at Taylor & Francis who publish the REA journal and process all of our memberships.

Enjoy your summer!


Lucinda Huffaker, PhD
Executive Secretary

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.