

**2019 Upper Midwest American Academy of Religion and
Society of Biblical Literature Meeting**

Saturday, April 6, 2019 University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, Minnesota

All meetings and sessions will be in the Anderson Student Center

(at the corner of Summit and Cretin)

Schedule Overview:

- 8:00: Registration/name tags open
Coffee and refreshments; Publishers Open
ASC Dorsey Commons, Second floor
- 8:30-10:00: First Sessions

Coffee Break
- 10:15-11:45: **AAR Plenary: Murphy Pizza**

“Paganistan: Contemporary Pagan Community in
Minnesota’s Twin Cities”
ASC 340, Hearth Room
- 11:45-12:15: Break for Lunch
Boxed lunches available in ASC 365-66
- 12:15-1:45: **SBL Plenary: Dale Martin**, Woolsey Professor Emeritus of
Religious Studies, Yale University

“Flesh: The Invention of a Material and Immaterial Object in the
Early Christian World”
ASC 365-66
- 2:00-2:30: Business Meetings
AAR in ASC 237; SBL in ASC 238
- 2:45-3:45: Second Sessions and Workshops
Light Refreshments and Book Raffle, ASC Dorsey Commons
- 4:00-5:30: Third Sessions
- Evening: Graduate Student Reception
ASC LL07

Full Schedule:**8:00: coffee and light refreshments; Publishers open****ASC Dorsey Way and Commons****8:30-10:00: First Sessions** [1.5 hour session, 30 minutes papers, with Q. and A.]**Session One: Interfaith and Interreligious Studies** (ASC 341)

Title: A Spectrum of Faith: Religions of the World in the Heartland of America

Description: This session will discuss Drake University's Comparison Project, in which undergraduate students researched, wrote, and edited fifteen chapters about the local religious communities of Des Moines and published them in a book by Drake Community Press. Tim Knepper, faculty project director, will discuss what it taught about interfaith studies and community publishing, and how it is being used as a tool for interfaith pedagogy, understanding, and engagement in Des Moines.

Presenter: Tim Knepper, Drake University*Respondent:* Marian Broida, Gustavus Adolphus College*Respondent:* Marion Larson, Bethel University*Respondent:* Matt Maruggi, Augsburg University*Moderator/Convener:* Hans Gustafson, University of St. Thomas**Session Two: Religion, Gender, and Sexuality** (ASC 202)

"A Criminal Tribe: "Muscular" Religion and the Impact of British and Indian

Nationalism on the Status of Sexual Minorities in the Subcontinent"

P. J. Johnston, St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minnesota

"Forming Gender Identities and Making Worlds in Community: How Hutterite Women

Use Discursive Practices to Formulate a Sense of Self and Contribute to Their Community"

John Sheridan, The University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa

"The Emasculating Erotics of God's Law: From Reish Lakish to the Prophet Seduced"

Max Brumberg-Krauss, United Theological Seminaries of the Twin Cities, Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota

Presiding: Emma Rifai, University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa

Session Three: Philosophy of Religion/Systematic Theology (ASC 233)

"Rabbis and Romans: Normativity and Extra-Communal Conversation in the Study of Religion"

Samuel J. Kessler, Gustavus Adolphus College, Saint Peter, Minnesota

"Alfarabi on the Art of Dialectic in Islamic Philosophy"

Terence J. Kleven, Central College, Pella, Iowa

Presiding: Andrés Albertsen, Luther Seminary, Kierkegaard House Foundation Fellow at the Hong Kierkegaard Library, St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN

Session Four: Old Testament/Hebrew Bible #1 (ASC 238)

“Mosaics of Moses: Exploring Depictions of Moses in the Theophany Accounts of Exodus and Deuteronomy”

Samantha Scott, Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

“From Sanctuary to Shekinah”

Steven Dunn, Alverno College, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

“The Fall and Restoration in Genesis 3:16”

Niveen Sarras, Immanuel Lutheran Church of Wausau, Wisconsin

Session Five: Early Reception History: Old Testament/Hebrew Bible (ASC 234)

“Divine Gifts and Rabbinic Hope in Leviticus Rabbah 35”

Ethan Levin, Macalester College, St. Paul, Minnesota

“*Quid ... minuitur felicitatis?*”: Book I of St. Augustine’s *De consensu evangelistarum* as a Moral Apology for the Gospels that Anticipates *De civitate dei*”

Stephan Corey, Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

“Sour Wine and the Souring of an Intertextual Allusion: Psalm 69 in Early Christian Interpretation of the Crucifixion”

John Dunne, Bethel Seminary, St. Paul, Minnesota

Coffee Break (Dorsey Way)

10:15-11:45: AAR Plenary: Murphy Pizza, Minneapolis College of Art and Design, St. Catherine University and St. Mary’s University of Minnesota, Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota

“Paganistan: Contemporary Pagan Community in Minnesota’s Twin Cities”
ASC 340 (Hearth Room)

11:45-12:15: Break for Lunch; Boxed lunches in ASC 365-66

12:15-1:45: SBL Plenary: Dale B. Martin, Woolsey Professor Emeritus of Religious Studies, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut

“Flesh: The Invention of a Material and Immaterial Object in the Early Christian World”

ASC 365-66

2:00-2:30: Business Meetings

AAR in ASC 237
SBL in ASC 238

2:45-3:45: Second Sessions [1 hour session, two thirty minute papers, with Q. and A.]

Session One: Religions in North America and New Religions (ASC 233)

“Edith Roller’s Diaries and the Digital Study of a New Religious Movement”

Brad Crowell, Drake University, Des Moines, Iowa

“David Jones and Pope Francis: Integral Poetry for an Integral Ecology”

Kevin Frederick Vaughan, The College of St. Scholastica, Duluth, Minnesota

Presiding: Murphy Pizza, Minneapolis College of Art and Design, St. Catherine University and St. Mary’s University of Minnesota, Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota

Session Two: Historical Perspectives on Religion (ASC 234)

“Lenin on Religion and Vodka: A Case for Russian Sobriety”

Elena Vishnevskaya, Central College, Pella, Iowa

“Jesus: Savior or Shaman?”

Kaycie L. James, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Michigan

Presiding: Jim Kroemer, Concordia University, Mequon, Wisconsin

Session Three: Undergraduate Session (ASC 341; 15 minutes each, 5 minutes each Q. and A.)

“Heaven: Reading a Modern Neurosurgeon’s Account of the Afterlife in Light of Medieval Theology”

Cole Johnson, St. Norbert College, De Pere, Wisconsin

“Heaven in this Life”

Bethany Doll, St. Norbert College, De Pere, Wisconsin

“Alfarabi on the Soul and Its Link to Political and Religious Societies in the Political Regime”

Christian Warner, Central College, Pella, Iowa

Presiding: Terry Kleven, Central College, Pella, Iowa

Session Four: Old Testament/Hebrew Bible (ASC 238)

Twin Cities Bible Colloquium Session: All are welcome to join a roundtable discussion of

“Captive Brides and Covetous Kings: Male Possession of Beauty in the Hebrew Bible,” Ryan Higgins, Jewish Theological Seminary. Papers may be requested in advance from Blake Couey (jcouey at gustavus.edu).

Session Five: New Testament #1 (ASC 202)

“Soaring Prophets and Searing Questions: Assessing a Possible Allusion to 2 Kgs 2 in John 21”

Matthew Klem, Bethlehem College and Seminary

“Spirits of Queer Kinship: The ‘Law of Kinship’ and Queer Liberalism in Roman 8”
James Hoke, Luther College, Decorah, Iowa

Light refreshments

4:00-5:30 Third Sessions [1.5 hour session, 30 minutes each, with Q. and A.]

Session One: World Religions – Buddhism (ASC 233)

“Longchenpa’s Purity: In Search of an Alternative Heuristic to Meditation”
Justin Kelley, Rice University, Houston, Texas

“Modern Buddhist Forgiveness: Asian or Western?”
Donna Brown, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg

“Challenging Racism, Challenging Paradigms: A Study of Two People of Color and
Indigenous (POCI) Buddhist Meditation Groups in the Twin Cities”
Jake Nagasawa, University of California, Santa Barbara, California

Presiding: Michael Baltutis, University of Wisconsin Oshkosh, Oshkosh, Wisconsin

Session Two: Teaching Religion, Theology and the Bible (ASC 234)

“Developing Information Literacy for Interdisciplinary Engagement: A Heuristic Device
for the Core Course in Religion”
J. Andrew Edwards, College of Saint Benedict and Saint John’s University,
Collegeville, Minnesota

“Swarm Pedagogy: Teaching “Common Sections” Courses in Theology and Religion”
Elaine Catherine MacMillan, University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, Minnesota

Presiding: Elizabeth Coody, Morningside College, Sioux City, Iowa

Session Three: Religion, Theology and the Arts (ASC 236)

“Exploring Art and Reconciliation Through the Cross”
Elisa Berry Fonseca, University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, Minnesota

“Dance in Jewish Service: Shamanic Considerations”
Cia Sautter, St. Scholastic, Duluth, Minnesota

Presiding: Jennifer Awes-Freeman, United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities.

Session Four: Old Testament/Hebrew Bible (ASC 238)

“The Nature of Israel’s Rebellion in Amos 4:4-5”
Anna Rask, Nazareth Hall, Arden Hills, Minnesota

“Echoes of a West-Semitic Necro-Invocation Ritual in 1 Samuel 28”

Jordan Brown, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, Wisconsin

Presiding: John Burnight, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, Iowa

Session Five: New Testament (ASC 202)

“Beholding the Glory: The Reception of Exodus in Johannine Literature”

Joshua Coutts, Providence Theological Seminary, Otterburne, MB Canada

"The Beautified Feet of Jesus: The Isaianic Renarrativization of Synoptic Tradition in Luke 7:36-8:1"

David Burnett, Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

“Crowning Achievement: Jesus’s Glorification and the Disciples’ Rebirth in the Gospel of John”

Nathaniel Thiel, Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Reception for Graduate Students and Members, ASC LL07

All members are invited to mix and mingle with the regional graduate students. Wine, beer, pop and light appetizers will be served.