

# IAPR

**International Association for the Psychology of Religion**

## Newsletter of the IAPR – January 2011

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### Announcements\*

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\* Whoever wants to bring announcements under attention of the IAPR members, please email the text to the editor of the Newsletter.

#### **Spalding Trust Visiting Fellowship in Comparative Religion in Cambridge**

The Governing Body of Clare Hall proposes to elect a stipendiary Visiting Fellow in Comparative Religion for a period of one year from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2011 or an agreed date thereafter. There are no restrictions on age, sex, or previous standing for this Fellowship, except that those who have previously held College Visiting Fellowships, or Research Fellowships in Oxford or Cambridge are not eligible. At the close of their tenure, Fellows normally become Life Members of the College.

The Trust aims to promote a better understanding between the great cultures of the world by encouraging the study of the religious principles on which they are based.

The College and the Trust may give preference to candidates who are at a fairly early stage of their careers. However, in certain circumstances the College and the Trust might be willing to appoint a scholar of longer seniority who already holds an academic post and is thus in receipt of regular support. The Fellow will normally be provided with a

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stipend of £15,000 and an allowance of College commons. Accommodation may be provided at normal rental cost.

The College and the Trust expect the Fellow to contribute to a deeper understanding of at least one of the world's great religions provided that the candidate is not working exclusively in his or her own religion, both in the academic community of Cambridge and among more general audiences. The manner of such a contribution, whether by public lecture, seminar, or supervision of students, will be subject to discussion with the College and the Trust, who are both anxious that the Fellow will use the opportunities provided by the Fellowship to full advantage, to support the work of the University and the College, to further the aims of the Trust, and to pursue research within the field of religious studies. On completion of the Fellowship the Fellow will be asked to submit a short report on work accomplished.

Applicants are asked to send, with their letter of application, six copies of the following documents:

- a curriculum vitae
- a proposal, in not more than 1,000 words, indicating how they would fulfill the aims of the Fellowship
- the names of three scholars who are prepared to act as referees

The College will not itself seek references from scholars; applicants are themselves responsible for asking for letters of recommendation to be sent directly to Dr. Michael Loewe, Clare Hall, Herschel Road, Cambridge, CB3 9AL. The closing date for applications is 31<sup>st</sup> January 2011. Candidates may be called for interview.

Further Information: <http://www.clarehall.cam.ac.uk/index.php?id=641>

*Nicholas J. S. Gibson*

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### Conferences\*

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\* Whoever wants to bring conference information under attention of the IAPR members, please email the data to the editor of the Newsletter.

#### **IAPR 2011 Congress in Bari/Italy**

*Date:* 21<sup>st</sup>–25<sup>th</sup> August, 2011

*Location:* Bari/Italy

*Abstract:* The next IAPR congress will be held in Bari, Italy, from Sunday, August 21<sup>st</sup>, until Thursday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011. It is organized by the SIPR – the Italian Society of Psychology of Religion – (<http://www.psicologiadellareligione.it/sipr/>) in cooperation with the Department of Psychology, University of Bari (<http://www.uniba.it/>).

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The Congress will be arranged in plenary sessions (held by the invited speakers), parallel sessions and poster sessions. Contributions can take the form of a paper, a panel or a poster. You will indicate your preferred choice in the abstract form. Abstracts should be in English and no more than 250 words (but no less than 200 words) in length. Several *Papers* (usually three or four) on a related topic will be grouped into panels by the Local Scientific Committee. Every paper will be presented in about 20 minutes. After every presentation, about five minutes will be allotted for discussion. More detailed information about the timetable for each paper will be given after the deadline for abstract submission.

A *Panel* is a coordinated set of papers (usually 3 or 4 in number), all dealing with a particular topic or issue. The person submitting the panel proposal should be willing to act as the panel coordinator and ensure that all the presenters of his panel will attend the conference. Please note that panel proposals require an abstract identifying and justifying the theme of the panel as well as a full abstract for each panel paper. We would strongly advise participants to adopt this option: this could guarantee a wider coherence in the domain of theoretical and/or methodological features for all the papers included. Each panel coordinator has to indicate at least three persons (name, surname and e-mail address). Then, the Organizing Committee will ask them by e-mail to submit their paper for that panel.

A *Poster* presentation is an alternative to presenting a full research paper. A visual display is prepared in order to present a study, a project, an experiment, etc. as well as to share work-in-progress. In the special session, the presenter stands next to the poster, thus participants can meet the authors to discuss their work.

The online submission form should be filled out at the conference website (<http://www.iapr2011.org>). You will find ongoing additional information about the program, accommodation, contacts and so on. On the same website, starting from the first days of January, it will be possible to send the abstracts (the deadline is on March 1<sup>st</sup>) and to register for the Congress. These procedures will be completely accomplished online.

*International scientific committee:* Mario Aletti, Hans A. Alma, Rosalinda Cassibba, Jozef Corveleyn, James W. Jones, Vassilis Saroglou, Marinus H.F. van Uden, Herman Westerink

*Local scientific committee:* Mario Aletti, Rosalinda Cassibba, Fabio De Nardi, Germano Rossi, Giuseppe Mininni

*Local organizing committee:* Caterina Balenzano, Germana Castoro, Lucia Elia, Daniela Fagnani, Alessandro Costantini, Carlo Lavermicocca, Amelia Manuti, Rosa Scardigno, Giovanna Sette

*Dates to remember:*

- 1<sup>st</sup> March 2011: Deadline for Abstract Submission
- 1<sup>st</sup> May 2011: Deadline for Communicating Acceptance of Papers, Panels and Posters
- 1<sup>st</sup> July 2011: Deadline for Registration

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- 21<sup>st</sup> August 2011 (*in the afternoon*): Opening of the Congress and Welcome Ceremony
- 25<sup>th</sup> August 2011: Departure of Participants

*Further information:* If you need further information please contact [info@iapr2011.org](mailto:info@iapr2011.org).

*Mario Aletti and Germano Rossi*

### **Third ESITIS Conference 2011: The Study of Religions in a Changing Europe: Integrity, Translation and Transformation**

*Date:* 26<sup>th</sup>- 29<sup>th</sup> April, 2011

*Location:* Theological Faculty at Marmara University, Istanbul, Turkey

*Abstract:* In collaboration with the Theological Faculty at Marmara University, located on the Asian side of Istanbul, the Irish School of Ecumenics coordinates the upcoming bi-annual conference of the European Society for Intercultural Theology and Interreligious Studies (<http://www.esitis.org/>) on the theme of “The Study of Religions in a Changing Europe: Integrity, Translation and Transformation”, held from April 26<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup>, 2011, at the Theological Faculty at Marmara University (<http://ilahiyat.marmara.edu.tr/?&dil=en&dil=tr>).

The third conference of ESITIS will consider broad themes dealing with the study of religions and theology in a changing Europe, the question of power relations, intercultural ‘translation’ and the integrity of traditions, and the relevance of contextual theology for the intercultural and interreligious developments in both Eastern and Western Europe.

More specifically, there will be a focus on the encounter of religions in South East Europe, especially Muslims and Orthodox Christians. Both the Christians and the Muslims in these parts of Europe have “differences” among themselves in various countries, such as in Romania, Bulgaria, Greece, Turkey, Serbia, etc.

The conference will have sessions for “short papers.” Senior and junior scholars are invited to submit proposals that are connected to any of the various themes of the conference sessions. We welcome papers in several categories – related to the broader themes such as Christian-Muslim relations in various contexts, intercultural theology, (inter)religious studies in Europe, gender issues in religious studies, etc. It is expected that papers should not last longer than 20 minutes.

From the conference program:

- *Session 1:* Arriving at the Regional Context: Istanbul and South East Europe
- *Session 2:* Dealing with the Past: Historical Narratives of Religious Diversity in West and Southeast Europe
- *Session 3:* Parallel Student Research Presentations
- *Session 4:* Power Relations, Vested Interests, and Changing Authorities

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- Session 5: How to Teach and Research Religion in a Pluralist Europe?
- Session 6: Interreligious and Interfaith Studies in Europe
- Session 7: Parallel Student Research Presentations
- Session 8: Integrity, Translation, and Transformation
- Session 9: “Euro-Islam” revisited

Further details of the program are published on the ESITIS website ([www.esitis.org](http://www.esitis.org)). Proposals for papers should be emailed by 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2011 to Dr. David Cheetham, Secretary for ESITIS: [d.cheetham@bham.ac.uk](mailto:d.cheetham@bham.ac.uk)

Registration (until January 31, 2011): <http://www.ecumenics.ie/research/intercultural-theology/conference-istanbul-2011/>

Program: <http://www.ecumenics.ie/wp-content/uploads/Programme-Information-Istanbul.pdf>

*Henk Vroom and David Cheetham*

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### Calls for Papers\*

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\* Whoever wants to bring calls for papers under attention of the IAPR members, please email the data to the editor of the Newsletter.

#### **Call for Papers: Special Issue of *Mental Health, Religion & Culture* on Implicit Religiosity**

Little is known about the heterogeneous group of the non-religious, the secular, the undecided. Some evidence has been assembled that most of these ‘nones’ – as they are sometimes labelled – live meaningful lives. And very few of them are *opposed* to religiosity or spirituality. Instead, they might have developed very personal forms of religiosity, implicit in commitments and practices, invisible to the observer’s eye. Since the 1970s, researchers within the paradigm of ‘Implicit Religion’ have investigated traces and types of religiosity and sanctification within the secular realm. This special edition of *Mental Health, Religion & Culture*, guest-edited by Tatjana Schnell, Christopher Lewis and Leslie J. Francis, is dedicated to research on implicit, personal, or invisible forms of religiosity. Researchers from all social sciences are welcome to share their findings. Those who would like to contribute should submit an abstract of no more than 300 words. Please e-mail to [tatjana.schnell@uibk.ac.at](mailto:tatjana.schnell@uibk.ac.at) by February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

*Tatjana Schnell, Christopher Lewis, and Leslie J. Francis*

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### 2<sup>nd</sup> Call for papers: Book on 'Constructs of Meaning and Religious Transformation'

*Context:* The book project is embedded in the research platform „Religion and Transformation in Contemporary European Society“. The platform is an interdisciplinary cooperation of the faculties of social sciences and theology at Vienna University, Austria. The book will be published at Vienna University Press (Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht) in the series „Religion and Transformation“.

*Content:* In the psychology of religion the individual's capacity to construct meaning, or give meaning, and to be influenced by religious meaning systems and social constructs of meaning is generally regarded a key issue. This book aims bringing together various perspectives and approaches present in current discussions on the issue of the individual's capacity to construct meaning, its underlying affective and/or cognitive mechanisms, its well-being or coping advancing or inhibiting purposes or effects, as related to mental condition (mental health) and/or social environment (for example religious minority groups). The book thus aims at contributing to a key topic in the psychology of religion, by collecting papers from the variety of approaches in our field.

The editors call for both theoretical and empirical papers reflecting individual constructs of meaning in relation to transformations in individual religiosity or spirituality. We welcome papers including clinical material and qualified data, as well as contributions that present historical, philosophical, sociological or theological perspectives and analyses.

*Editors:* Susanne Heine and Herman Westerink

*Expected Publication:* 2012

*Key Dates:*

- February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011: Deadline for abstract submissions. Please submit your 300-500 word abstract to: [herman.westerink@univie.ac.at](mailto:herman.westerink@univie.ac.at).
- February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011: Notification of acceptance
- November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011: Deadline of submission of papers (5000-8000 words)
- November 2011: Review of the papers
- February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012 Deadline of submission of revised papers

*Further Information:* [herman.westerink@univie.ac.at](mailto:herman.westerink@univie.ac.at)

*Susanne Heine and Herman Westerink*

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### Key Publications\*

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\* Whoever wants to bring key publications under attention of the IAPR members, please email the bibliography to the editor of the Newsletter.

- **Aletti, M. (2010): *Percorsi di Psicologia della Religione alla Luce della Psicoanalisi. II Edizione Rinnovata e Ampliata.* [Paths into Psychology of Religion in the Light of Psychoanalysis. Revised and Extended Edition. With a Preface by Antoine Vergote]. Roma: Aracne Editrice.**
- ⇒ From the Publisher website ([http://store.aracneeditrice.com/it/risultatiarea\\_new.php?AZ=0&flag=1&AA=0&inizio=0&sortby=data\\_pubblicazione&keywords=aletti](http://store.aracneeditrice.com/it/risultatiarea_new.php?AZ=0&flag=1&AA=0&inizio=0&sortby=data_pubblicazione&keywords=aletti)): Mario Aletti, psychoanalyst, is one of the best known psychologists of religion. Founder of the Italian Society for Psychology of Religion (1995), is also a member of the Board of the *IAPR-International Association for the Psychology of Religion*. Having studied and taught this discipline for 40 years, he has written many books and articles. In these essays he presents a selection of his findings in the main topics of this field, such as methodological foundations, psychoanalytic perspectives and models, attachment theory, neuropsychology; comparing also his conclusions with theological matters; such as the soul, death, rituals, cults, and fundamentalism in post-modern society.

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### Contact

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Please feel free to contact me or to email all information of interest to me:

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