The International Association for the Psychology of Religion (IAPR) is an international organization promoting the scientific research and exchange within the field of the psychology of religion. The Association is not partial to any particular trend but aspires to provide a platform for the entire spectrum of the scientific-psychological study of religion for psychologists of religion from all over the world.

Website: www.iaprweb.org

Become a member or renew your membership:
http://www.iaprweb.org/membership.html

Benefits of membership:

1. Regular membership with the IAPR includes the subscription to the Archive for the Psychology of Religion. For regular members, print and online version are free.

2. Members of the IAPR pay reduced conference fees for the organization's conferences.

3. IAPR members receive special discounts for their subscriptions to:
   b) Mental Health, Religion & Culture: $100/£60/€80 instead of $386/£231/€441.

4. IAPR members receive the Association's e-mail newsletters which keep you in touch with the scientific community and inform you about conferences, job advertisements, funding opportunities, key publications, and the Association's latest developments and activities.
Dear IAPR members,

On 3 and 4 September 2016, the Board had its annual meeting. We convened at our next IAPR conference location: Hamar, in Norway. We discussed the current situation of the IAPR, future plans and in particular the next conference. The local organizing board is very well prepared and we can expect an inspiring and enjoyable time in Norway, from Monday, 21 to Thursday, 24 August 2017. The IAPR will also offer some pre-conference workshops (limited number of participants), so keep checking the conference website in progress: [http://www.norway2017.iaprweb.org/](http://www.norway2017.iaprweb.org/)

As a summary of our Board discussion, we would like to make the following announcements:

**Finances**
The Association’s finances are in good order, with an additional surplus from the last conference in Istanbul, Turkey. We thank the local Turkish organizers for their financial prudence! The money will primarily be used for conference grants (more about those below and on conference websites).

**Editors**
The longstanding Editor of the Archive for the Psychology of Religion, Heinz Streib, will move on to accept new challenges. We thank him sincerely for his excellent work for the Archive and wish him all the best for the future. From 1 January 2017, the new Editor of the Archive will be James W. Jones. A warm welcome!

Also from 1 January 2017, Herman Westerink will serve as a third Associate Editor for the Archive for the Psychology of Religion.

With these new (Associate) Editors, the Archive will maintain its broad and interdisciplinary scope, with space for theoretical papers, reviews and meta-analyses, and for quantitative, qualitative and mixed methods studies.

**Conferences**
The 2019 IAPR conference will take place in Gdansk, Poland. The local organizing team will present the venue to IAPR members during the next General Assembly in Hamar, 2017.

During the General Assembly in Hamar, 2017, a new General Secretary and Treasurer will have to be elected. Nominations are welcome! Please send to tatjana.schnell@uibk.ac.at

For all future IAPR conferences, some financial grants will be available. Application will be open for students and researchers in their early career, after submission and acceptance of a presentation or poster. (Check out the conference websites for details!)

Finally, two IAPR Board representatives – the President Pierre-Yves Brandt and Germano Rossi – will participate in a meeting in Bologna to launch a European Academy of Religion.

With best wishes to all of you,

Tatjana Schnell  
*General Secretary, IAPR*
New editor-in-chief for the Archives: James Jones succeeds Heinz Streib

James Jones has been appointed as new Editor-in-chief of the Archive for the Psychology of Religion by the board of the IAPR at its meeting in Hamar (2-4 September 2016). James will begin his new post on January 1, 2017. He succeeds Heinz Streib who will have served as editor of the Archive for the last 10 years.

On behalf of the IAPR board, I would like to express my warmest thanks to Heinz for all his work and the excellent collaboration with the committee during all these years. I would also like to wish him success for his new role as the editor of the International Journal for the Psychology of Religion.

We are happy that James Jones has accepted to take charge of the Archive. We would like to extend our gratitude to Wade Rowatt, who served as assistant editor for 4 years and will be replaced by Jordan LaBouff. So, welcome James and Jordan! We wish the new editorial board of the Archive, including Jessie Dezutter (assistant editor since 2015), a fruitful and happy collaboration.

Pierre-Yves Brandt
President of the IAPR

James Jones

Dr. James W. Jones holds earned doctorates in both Philosophy of Religion and in Psychology and an Honorary Doctorate in Theology (from the Uppsala University in Sweden). He is Distinguished Professor Emeritus and former Adjunct Professor of Clinical Psychology at Rutgers University in the United States, where he has taught a variety of courses in religion and psychology for over forty years. He has also taught in Graduate Faculties of Criminal Justice, Medical Humanities, and Theology.

He is the author of fifteen books and numerous professional papers and is the editor of several volumes of collected papers, dealing with Religion, Psychology and Science. He recently completed a book on the misuse of cognitive science in attempting to debunk religion; and is working on another on the role of embodiment in religious thought and practice. He has been a Fellow of the Center for Advanced Religious and Theological Studies at Cambridge University in the UK and was elected a Visiting Fellow of St. Edmund’s College in Cambridge in 2013. He is a Fellow of the American Psychological Association and has served as program co-chair for the American Academy of Religion and served two terms as the vice-President of the International Association for the Psychology of Religion. He is also a member of the International Society for Science and Religion. He serves on the editorial boards of several publications.

He maintains a private practice of clinical psychology, specializing in psychophysiology and behavioral medicine.
Thank you to Patty van Cappellen

We would like to thank Patty van Cappellen for her work on the IAPR newsletter over the course of the last few years. Patty is now the Assistant Director of the Interdisciplinary and Behavioral Research Centre at Duke University, USA, where she develops research on a variety of psychological topics related to religion and spirituality. Learn more about her fabulous work at: http://www.pattyvancappellen.com/

William C Bier award

A member of the IAPR board, Miguel Farias, has been awarded the 2017 William C Bier award by the APA Division of Psychology of Religion and Spirituality. This award honors an outstanding contribution through publication and professional activity to the dissemination of findings on religious and allied issues or who has made a notable contribution to the integration of these findings with those of other disciplines, notably philosophy, sociology and anthropology. Past winners include Tanya Luhrmann, Ray Paloutzian, and David Wulff.

Miguel currently leads the Brain, Belief, & Behaviour Lab at Coventry University, England. Find out more about his work at https://miguelfarias.co.uk.
Announcements

Book: A Hundred Years of the IAPR

To honour the centenary of the journal of the International Association for the Psychology of Religion (IAPR), Brill has published a celebratory supplement to the Archive for the Psychology of Religion, edited by Jacob Belzen. The volume, *A Hundred Years of the IAPR*, addresses the state of affairs in the (history of the) international psychology of religion, particularly within the context of IAPR.


In 2015, both the journal *Archive for the Psychology of Religion* and the International Association for the Psychology of Religion (IAPR), the bearer of the journal, completed their first century. This occasion prompted extensive historical research to the scientific infrastructure concerned, and critical reflection on their reason for existence, dealing with questions such as: How is the psychology of religion doing? What is it about? Which factors play a role? Whom does it serve? What has been the place and value of the infrastructure now celebrating its existence? This celebrating supplement to the Archive for the Psychology of Religion expands this discussion of IAPR’s history and continues its critical reflection.

**JACOB A. BELZEN**

holds doctorates in Social Sciences, History, Philosophy and Sciences of Religion. A full professor at the University of Amsterdam, he belongs to the best known European psychologists of religion.

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Call for nominations for the Godin Prize 2017

The Godin Prize
The Godin prize honors excellence in scientific research in the field of the Psychology of Religion. Once in every four years, the scientific contribution of a distinguished senior scholar to the study of the field is awarded. For information on the history of the Godin prize, visit: [http://www.iaprweb.org/awards.html](http://www.iaprweb.org/awards.html)

Criteria
As *mid-life award* the Godin Prize is aimed at *senior scholars*. Eligible candidates for the Godin Prize are midlife researchers, who conduct *excellent* research (as reflected in publications) in the field of the *Psychology of Religion*.

Prize:
The Godin Prize is endowed with 1000 euros. The winner of the Godin prize is expected to give a keynote lecture at the annual IAPR conference in 2017 in Hamar, Norway (August 21-24).

Nomination:
Suitable candidates should be nominated, however self-nominations are also possible. The application/nomination for the Godin Prize should include an explanatory statement of the nomination, the candidate’s CV and the list of his/her publications and be sent to Sebastian Murken (*smurken@mainz-online.de*).

Members of the jury:
Sebastian Murken (President, University of Marburg, Germany), Pehr Granqvist (University of Stockholm, Sweden), Kate Loewenthal (Royal Holloway, University of London, England), Adam B. Cohen (Arizona State University, USA), Vassilis Saroglou (University of Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium)

Deadline for the submission of (self-) nominations is *December 15th, 2016*. 
Call for nominations for the Early Career Award 2017

The Early Career Award
The Early Career Award is intended to reward promising junior researchers in the field of the Psychology of Religion. It is awarded once every two years at the IAPR conference, for outstanding quality of research.

Criteria
Eligible for the Early Career Award are young scholars at the postdoctoral or early career academic level (holding a Ph.D. since 0-5 years maximum). Excellence in the quality of research (as reflected in the publications) in the field of the Psychology of Religion is required.

Prize:
The Early Career Award is endowed with 1000 euros. The winner of Early Career Award is expected to give a keynote lecture at the annual IAPR conference in 2017 in Hamar, Norway (August 21-24).

Nomination:
Suitable candidates should be nominated, however self-nominations are also possible. The application/nomination for the Early Career Award should include an explanatory statement of the nomination; the candidate’s CV and the list of his/her publications and be sent to Sebastian Murken (smurken@mainz-online.de).

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Deadline for the submission of (self-) nominations is December 15th, 2016.
IAPR conference 2017 in Hamar, Norway

The 2017 conference in Hamar will take place from August 21th to 24th and has an over-arching theme *Psychology of Religion: Culture, Context and Existential Challenges.*

Among the keynote speakers are professor **Valerie DeMarinis** (Sweden) and professor **Kenneth I. Pargament** (USA). The two other keynote speakers will soon be announced on our websites. This year we will also have lectures by the winners of the Godin Prize and the Early Career Award.

**Important dates:**
- 1st call for papers: October 31st, 2016
- Godin prize nomination: December 15th, 2016
- Early Career Award nomination: December 15th, 2016
- Notification of acceptance: April 1st, 2017
- Registration opens: January 2017
- Deadline for registration: April 1st, 2017

There will be continuous updates about the program, keynotes, pre-conferences, workshops, conference fees, accommodation, on the website [http://www.norway2017.iaprweb.org/](http://www.norway2017.iaprweb.org/).

Hamar is sited 125 km north of Oslo by the lake Mjøsa. From Oslo Airport (Gardermoen) it is 55 min by train. The conference will be at the Scandic Conference Hotel ([https://www.scandichotels.com/hotels/norway/hamar/scandic-hamar](https://www.scandichotels.com/hotels/norway/hamar/scandic-hamar)).

For researchers, this is a great opportunity to present their work in panels and symposia, and receive responses from fellow researchers from all over the world. For professionals in health care, education, religious institutions, etc., the conference will provide new insights of relevance for their practices. For us all, this is an opportunity for meeting old and new colleagues and to become updated on the research front in a huge and growing field.

**Welcome to Hamar in August 2017!**

On behalf of the Host Committee,

Lars Johan Danbolt

*Professor, Dr. Theol*

*MF Norwegian School of Theology / Center for Psychology of Religion, Innlandet Hospital Trust*
International Convention of Psychological Science 2017

***Poster deadline extended to Monday 3 October***

Location: Vienna, Austria

Dates: March 23-25, 2017

About: ICPS welcomes research submissions from all branches of psychological science and related fields. Solutions to our most pressing scientific questions come from cross-cutting efforts in which investigators deploy diverse research methods and attack problems at multiple levels of analysis. ICPS will showcase these efforts in thematic Integrative Science Symposia featuring leading investigators from not only psychological science, but also neuroscience, genetics, sociology, economics, anthropology, linguistics, and related fields. In presenting your research at ICPS you will be connecting with other scientists whose work will be complementary to your own and you will find yourself being part of a combined endeavor that exemplifies integrative science. 2300 attendees from more than 75 countries came together for the inaugural ICPS in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, 12-14 March 2015.

More information and Registration: [http://icps.psychologicalscience.org/registration/](http://icps.psychologicalscience.org/registration/)
Religiosity meta-analysis

Dear colleagues,

We invite you to contribute to a meta-analysis on the effectiveness of religiosity manipulations in the laboratory. If you have or are aware of published or unpublished studies that attempt to influence religious beliefs, attitudes or behaviors (broadly defined) please contact us. Details of our request are below.

A recently published meta-analysis by Shariff et al (2015) examined experimental studies in which religiosity is treated as an independent variable that is used to influence a dependent variable (typically altruism). By contrast, our meta-analysis examines studies in which an independent variable (for example, intuitive thinking vs reflective thinking primes) is used to manipulate religiosity as a dependent variable.

We are not only interested in priming studies, but also studies that attempt to manipulate religiosity in other ways too; and we are not only interested in studies that attempt to manipulate religious belief itself, but also religious attitudes and behaviors.

If you follow this link to Ryan McKay's lab webpage you can find a full list of relevant published studies that have been identified so far (this list will be updated as colleagues contact us):

http://pc.rhul.ac.uk/sites/mab-lab/meta-analysis/

If you have or are aware of any potentially relevant published or unpublished studies that don't already appear on this list then we would greatly appreciate it if you could contact Robert Ross:

Email: robross45@yahoo.com.au

Webpage: https://pure.royalholloway.ac.uk/portal/en/persons/robert-ross(6832d311-6807-48d4-8dba-c3ec998c55b9).html

Many thanks in advance for your assistance.

Best regards,

Robert Ross, Ryan McKay, Gordon Pennycook, Jon Jong, Brittany Cardwell, and Jamin Halberstadt
Understanding Unbelief

Call for Proposals

AUTUMN 2016

Through a generous grant from the John Templeton Foundation, the University of Kent welcomes proposals contributing to the Understanding Unbelief programme. Over the next three years, this initiative will provide £1m for international research from the human sciences (e.g. anthropology, cognitive science, psychology, political science, and sociology) to advance our empirical understanding of the array of phenomena commonly labeled as ‘unbelief’. We aim to fund a minimum of 8 projects of up to 24 months in duration; individual researchers or project teams can apply for funding to a maximum project value of £300,000.

We are now inviting submission of Letters of Inquiry, following which we will invite a limited number of researchers and research teams to submit full proposals. For more information about the parameters of the programme and the evaluation criteria for submissions, please refer to the information sheet provided at: https://www.ucl.ac.uk/non-religious-belief/understanding-unbelief/grant-competitions/RFP1/index.

This Call for Proposals is part of a wider programme of work in the Understanding Unbelief project; for more information on all areas of research and opportunities for funding, please visit the Understanding Unbelief website at: www.understanding-unbelief.net.

Deadline for Letters of Inquiry: Friday 14 October 2016

Kind regards,

The Understanding Unbelief team

www.understanding-unbelief.net