

International Association for the Psychology of Religion

Announcements



Journals / Books



Research



Job openings &
grants



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:
 - a) The *International Journal for the Psychology of Religion*: \$43/£26/€34 instead of \$62/£37/€49.
 - 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.

Announcements



Dear IAPR members,

If you would like to add information in future newsletters please e-mail me the text. This may concern general announcements, conferences (future and report from past ones), job opportunities, key publications, or any other information you think IAPR members might be interested in.

If you are an early career researcher (PhD student or postdoc) and would like to see your work featured in the newsletter, contact me also.

Thank you,

Valerie van Mulukom
Editor of the IAPR newsletter

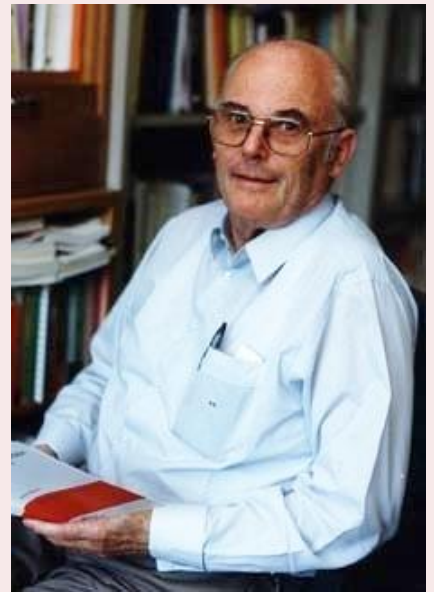
Contact information:

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Centre for Advances in Behavioural Science
Brain, Belief and Behaviour Lab
E-mail address: valerie.vanmulukom@coventry.ac.uk

In Memoriam: K. Helmut Reich (1923-2017)

In August, 2013, on the occasion of the IAPR conference in Lausanne, Switzerland, we visited Helmut Reich and his wife, Ursula, in the village of Glion, just a half hour away. We knew that it would most likely be our last opportunity to see Helmut, who by then was 90 years old and did not feel up to attending the conference. Having retired from his second career in the psychology of religion, he generously invited us to choose books from his library to take away with us. Even so, it was a shock to us to learn recently that he had passed away more than a year ago, on March 26, 2017, apparently escaping the notice of the international community of psychologists of religion—till now.

Born in Germany in 1923, Helmut was in 1955 awarded two doctorates, one in electrical engineering from the Technische Universität Braunschweig, in Germany, and the second in the philosophy in physics from the University of Nottingham, in England.



Later, in preparation for his second career, he also earned a doctorate in theology (psychology of religion) from the Universiteit Utrecht, in the Netherlands. From 1955 to 1983, he was a physicist at CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research, also known as the European Laboratory for Particle Physics, advancing from deputy division leader to group leader.

After his retirement at 65 as a physicist, Helmut threw himself into his new career in the psychology of religion, which spanned more than 20 productive years. His leading interest was cognitive development in children and adults, especially in relation to religion, but also the relation of science and religion. He attended almost all conferences in the field between 1989 and 2012, and he published numerous articles in the *Archive for the Psychology of Religion*, the *British Journal of Religious Education*, the *International Journal for the Psychology of Religion*, *Mental Health, Religion & Culture*, *Zygon*, and still others, as well as a number of book chapters and handbook and encyclopedia articles. This work culminated in a book, *Developing the Horizons of the Mind: Relational and Contextual Reasoning and the Resolution of Cognitive Conflict* (Cambridge University Press, 2002), in which he put forward a four-level developmental model of cognition, supported by empirical research, that proceeds from formal binary logic (true/false) to more subtle and advances modes of reasoning that allow for the “coordination” of religious and scientific worldviews through the principle of complementarity. He was also co-editor of several other books on religious development. (For a partial list of his publications, see <http://dica-lab.org/rab/participants/contributors/reich/selected-writings>.)

In 1997, Helmut received the William James Award from Division 36 of the American Psychological Association, of which he was a member, and in 2002 he was elected Academic Fellow of The Institute on Religion in an Age of Science. In addition to his wife, Ursula, Helmut was survived by two children and four grandchildren.

David M. Wulff and Sebastian Murken



Call for Papers: Imagination and Religion

As guest editor for a special issue of the [Journal for the Cognitive Science of Religion](#), I am welcoming manuscript submissions on the role of imagination in religion, and how we may research religion through imagination.

Imagination clearly plays an important role in religion but is often researched tangentially to religion rather than central to it. In this special issue, I aim to put research on imagination in the cognitive science of religion in the spotlight, as well as bringing together various perspectives of how can we research the role of imagination in religion. Imagination will be defined broadly as a process involving imagery, fantasy, Theory of Mind, (episodic) simulation, and/or creative ability.

Papers from fields of research that will be considered, include:

- Developmental psychology
- Experimental psychology
- Cognitive neuroscience

Contributions from archaeology, religious studies, and philosophy are also welcome, but will need a psychological/cognitive perspective – please get in touch if you are from a different field but would like to contribute.

Interested authors should submit a letter of intent (LOI) to valerie.vanmulukom@coventry.ac.uk by July 20, 2018.

The letter should include:

- (1) tentative title;
- (2) brief description (500 words or less) of the proposed submission;
- (3) brief explanation (50 words or less) of how the proposed submission makes a contribution to our understanding of the role of imagination in religion;
- (4) names and affiliations of all anticipated authors; and
- (5) contact information of the corresponding author.

Full manuscripts will be selected from among these to be submitted for full peer review by 1 October 2018.

Many thanks,

Valerie

 Dr Valerie van Mulukom | Research Associate
 Brain, Belief, and Behaviour Lab | Centre for Advances in Behavioural Science | Coventry University
 E-mail: valerie.vanmulukom@coventry.ac.uk



Call for papers for a special issue of *Studia Humana* about evolutionary perspectives on atheism/unbelief

Despite increasing secularization and a decreasing role played by institutionalized religions in the western world, many scholars within the study of religion – from history through sociology and evolutionary accounts – continue to focus their inquiries on the study of the religious, without giving much attention to non-believers. There are few evolutionary explanations of atheism, and those that exist are either under-developed or investigate atheism through the lens and default starting position of religious belief. Scholars interested in the evolutionary study of atheism (including unbelief, nonbelief, agnosticism, etc.) are encouraged to submit their paper proposals to the special issue of the “*Studia Humana*” journal published by De Gruyter (affiliate at the Department of Philosophy and Cognitive Science at the University of Information Technology and Management in Rzeszow, Poland).

Among others, the following topics will be considered:

- Critical evaluations of CSR and other literatures that approach nonbelief as an irregularity
- Atheism as an adaptation/feature of evolution
- Atheism in the light of bio-behavioral and epidemiological theories of culture
- Atheism in the light of gene-culture co-evolutionary approaches
- Atheism as a default or alternate human cognitive mode
- The atheistic worldview being an evolutionary source of morality
- Atheism as group and/or individual level adaptation
- Ultimate causes of atheism
- The evolutionary functions of atheism

Note: Atheism is being used as a blanket-term here for any studies dealing with the religiously unaffiliated, unbelievers, non-believers, and to a lesser extent, agnostics. If your work falls within these boundaries, please feel free to send us a proposed article. All interested authors are welcome to send a summary in the form of an abstract by the end of June.

Papers should be submitted by the end of September to messickk@uni.coventry.ac.uk. Please include “*Studia Humana* Special Issue” in the title of the email. We anticipate the special issue entering press around the beginning of 2019.

Editors:

Kyle J Messick // Brain, Belief, and Behaviour Lab, Coventry University
messickk@uni.coventry.ac.uk

Konrad Szocik // Department of Philosophy and Cognitive Science, University of Information Technology and Management in Rzeszow (Poland)
konrad-szocik@wp.pl

Journal website: <https://www.degruyter.com/view/j/sh>



TNS project - Threefold Nature of Spirituality

Dear colleagues,

I would like to cordially invite you to participate in our international project "TNS".

Our cooperation would take place via the internet and would involve the dissemination of the link sent to you, leading to the battery of tests and questionnaires.

We would like to collect data on every continent. We would need 300-400 respondents from each country. We currently have pilot data and encouraged by preliminary results, we want to expand our research.

If you are interested in the issues of spirituality, personality and intelligence – please contact me at the address: psyks@ug.edu.pl

If you know of anyone whose work should be included, we would appreciate your passing this notice on.

Thanks for your time and consideration,
Best regards,

Katarzyna Skrzypińska

dr hab. Katarzyna Skrzypinska
Institute of Psychology
University of Gdańsk
Bażyńskiego 4
80-309 Gdańsk
Poland

Research**Meta-analysis***Neuromodulation studies of belief*

Dear colleagues,

We invite you to contribute to a meta-analysis on neuromodulation and belief. This will include any neuromodulation technique (tDCS, TMS, etc.) and any belief (religious, spiritual, moral). If you have or are aware of published or unpublished data that has used neuromodulation techniques to manipulate or examine belief, please get in touch with us.

We therefore aim to assess the state of the empirical evidence that spiritual/religious/moral belief can be modulated through neuromodulation.

If you have or are aware of any potentially relevant published or unpublished studies then we would greatly appreciate it if you could contact Valerie van Mulukom at valerie.vanmulukom@coventry.ac.uk.

Many thanks in advance for your assistance.

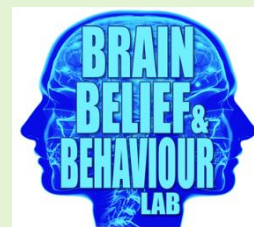
Team:

Valerie van Mulukom

Sarah Charles

Miguel Farias

Coventry University
Centre for Advances in Behavioural Science
Brain, Belief and Behaviour Lab



**Job Openings
& Grants****UF****Lecturer in Religion**
*University of Florida***Department
of Religion**

The University of Florida Department of Religion seeks to hire a lecturer in any area of Religion with a special interest in "Religion & Nature" & "Religion and Health." The salary range will be between \$40,000 and \$45,000. This is a nine-month, full-time, time-limited (one academic year), non-tenure accruing position.

For further information contact [Dr. James R Mueller](#), Acting Chair, Department of Religion.

<https://religion.ufl.edu/2018/06/05/come-teach-with-uf-religion/>