

IAPR

International Association for the Psychology of Religion

Newsletter of the IAPR

August 2012

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Announcements*

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

Call for nominations for the Godin Prize and Early Career Award 2013

➤ 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://psychology-of-religion.com/awards/>.

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*.

➤ 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 IARP 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

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research (as reflected in the publications) in the field of *the Psychology of Religion* is required.

➤ Prize

Both, the Godin prize and the Early Career Award are endowed with 1000 euros. The winner of the Godin prize is expected to give a keynote lecture at the annual IAPR conference in 2013 in Lausanne (August 27th to 31st).

Nomination:

Suitable candidates should be nominated, however self-nominations are also possible. The application for both the Godin prize and the Early Career Award should include 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), [Halina Grzymala-Moszczyńska](#) (Jagellonian University Krakow, Poland), [Ray Paloutzian](#) (Westmont College, California, USA), [Vassilis Saroglou](#) (University of Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium)

Deadline for the submission of (self-) nominations is *November 30, 2012*.

Participate in a research project on "Describing the Psychology of Religion Course", by Michael Nielsen.

I am Michael Nielsen, a professor at Georgia Southern University, and I invite you to answer a few brief questions about the Psychology of Religion course for my research, "Describing the Psychology of Religion Course". To the best of my knowledge, no research

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has investigated such basic questions as how often is the course offered? Does the course fulfill a requirement, or is it an elective? To what extent does the course emphasize empirical research vs. theoretical positions regarding religion? This study is intended to address these basic questions, and I would greatly appreciate your participation. Please click the following link:

https://georgiasouthernpsych.us2.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_42yViW5PON2KtZG

Michael Nielsen

Conferences*

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

Save the date for the next IAPR conference!

The next IAPR conference in Lausanne will be organized from 27-31 August 2013. The website of the Conference will be opened in October 2012

Bi-annual conference of the Italian Society for the Psychology of Religion

Date: November, 26-27 2012

Location: Verona, Italy

Call for papers: deadline September, 5.

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Report on the First International Conference “Science, Human Religiousness and Spirituality” held in Poland. Report done by Dr. Katarzyna Skrzypinska.

The First International Conference „Science, Human Religiousness and Spirituality” that was held at University of Gdansk on 24-25th April 2012, in cooperation with Jagiellonian University and Catholic University of Lublin.

The conference gathered the greatest authorities in the field: opening speech was given by prof. Halina Grzymala-Moszczyńska about cultural approach to the psychology of religion. Prof. David Wulff from United States presented his qualitative method to measure human spirituality – Faith Q-sort. We had an honour to host Pawel Socha, PhD who presented new approach to sacredness and transcendence, presenting his theory of spirituality. Gdansk University was represented by Katarzyna Skrzypinska, PhD, who described the relation between religiousness and spirituality and presented her approach to spirituality understood as an attitude.

In 12 symposia participated scientists representing 16 Universities in Poland and 7 different countries. Participants had also opportunity to take part in three workshops and poster session.

Conference finished with a discussion over creating Polish Association for Psychology of Religion that made a promising start for the cooperation between different academic units in the future. The interest in this area is bigger than we supposed, so the need is evident.

Dr. Katarzyna Skrzypinska

**Reminder: registration for the 5th FPR-UCLA Interdisciplinary Conference
Culture, Mind, and Brain: Emerging Concepts, Methods, Applications.**

Date: October 19–20, 2012

Location: UCLA

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Abstract: The conference highlights emerging concepts, methods, and applications in the study of culture, mind, brain, with attention to cutting-edge research, the context in which methods are used, and the kinds and quality of collaborations that advance interdisciplinary training.

Registration for the conference is Now Open: EARLY Registration fees (lower cost) END on August 20, 2012; LATE Registration fees (higher cost) begin on August 21, 2012. See <http://www.thefpr.org/conference2012/registration.php>

Conference websites:

<http://www.thefpr.org/conference2012/index.php>

<http://cmbconference2012.wordpress.com/>

Key Publications*

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

H. Westerink, *The Heart of Man's Destiny. Lacanian Psychoanalysis and Early Reformation Thought*, (Psychoanalytic Explorations 1), Routledge, New York/London, 2012.

Can Luther's writings inform us on the fundamental questions of Freudian psychoanalysis? Does an intellectual filiation between early Reformation thought and psychoanalysis exist? Does Lacanian psychoanalysis offer an instrument for analysing theological writings?

In *The Heart of Man's Destiny*, Herman Westerink offers a new reading of Lacan's seventh seminar, *The Ethics of Psychoanalysis*. Working from an innovative perspective, this book explores the close relationship between Freudian psychoanalysis and the ideas of the early Reformation.

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Lacan claimed that to be unaware of the connection between Freud and early Reformation constituted a fundamental misunderstanding of the kind of problems psychoanalysis addresses. Westerink carefully explores these problems and shows that Lacanian psychoanalysis, with its emphasis on desire and law, transgression, and symbolization, draws on fundamental ideas first formulated in the writings of Luther and Calvin. By relating psychoanalysis to early Reformation thought, Westerink not only shows Lacan's writings in a completely new light, but also makes possible an innovative reading of early modern theology itself.

The Heart of Man's Destiny breaks new ground by providing both a controversial as well as a fresh perspective on both Luther and Calvin, and on Freudo-Lacanian psychoanalysis. This valuable contribution to the complex character of psychoanalysis will be of interest to analysts and psychotherapists, as well academics and postgraduates with an interest in theology, philosophy and ethics.

Contact

Please feel free to contact me or to email all information of interest to me (such as job advertisement, conference, call for papers, or various announcements that you would like to bring under attention of the IAPR members):

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