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: [http://psychology-of-religion.com/](http://psychology-of-religion.com/)

**Become a member or renew your membership:** [http://psychology-of-religion.com/about-the-iapr/membership/](http://psychology-of-religion.com/about-the-iapr/membership/)

**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,

In the present edition you will find information concerning an honorary doctorate awardee, the International Series in the Psychology of Religion, a survey on Methodological and Theoretical Resources in Religious Studies, the Visual Illusion Conference, several postdoc positions, and on the publication of the *Constructs of Meaning and Religious Transformation: Current Issues in the Psychology of Religion* edited by Herman Westerink. This newsletter was written with the help of Rosally Aguilar from UNC.

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.

Here is my contact information:

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University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
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Professor Joseph Corveleyn received an honorary doctorate from Semmelweis University in Budapest. The clinical psychologist was commended for his substantive and organisational contributions to the development of the psychology of religion within the wider context of psychological health at the Hungarian university.

Professor Corveleyn received the award for his personal commitment to teaching and research at the Hungarian university.

"Through his help, Hungarian researchers at Semmelweis University were able to conduct studies and establish international relationships with scholars of a discipline whose mere existence was for all practical purposes questioned in Hungary before 1990," said Professor Péter Gaál, Dean of the Faculty of Health and Public Services, in his laudatio. “Through his personal contributions and institutional background, he has supported the introduction of new programmes and research in the fields concerning sensation of guilt, shame, and the relationships among spirituality, society and psychotherapy."

Professor Gaál also praised Professor Corveleyn's published work, which addresses and affirms the positive effect of finding meaning in life – including through religion – but also describes situations in which religion has the opposite effect.
Announcements

Professor Péter Gaál presents the laudatio.

A warm applause for Professor Corveleyn.

Rector Ágoston Széll shakes the hand of the newly-inducted *doctor honoris causa*.
The **International Series in the Psychology of Religion** (ISPR), previously published by Rodopi (Amsterdam), has moved to Springer (New York) and offers possibilities for publication in the psychology of religion (broadly defined) to a wide range of authors. The main features of this unique while international series are:

ISPR will deal with the psychology of religion in all its aspects, allowing authors to write from a variety of perspectives (e.g., related to a specific psychological theory or orientation, a specific religious/spiritual phenomenon, or research approach). ISPR will include monographs as well as edited volumes, but will not accept manuscripts of textbooks, publish dissertations or texts with excessive technical or statistical information. Striving for the highest psychological scholarship, ISPR aims to publish readable books that will address not only specialists in psychology, but also practitioners of other disciplines bordering on the psychology of religion, as well as a wider audience interested in psychological approaches to religious and spiritual matters.

**ISPR Characteristics**

The following characteristics will inform the development of the series:

- **Interdisciplinary outlook.** ISPR does not only have psychologists as authors, but also psychiatrists, psychoanalysts, anthropologists, sociologists, religious studies scholars, historians, and others who are experts in applying a psychological perspective in studying religious/spiritual phenomena.

- **International reach.** ISPR aims to make an international impact and to encourage broad collaboration, soliciting authors and editors from every continent possible to explore topics in this area. Members of the editorial board represent a truly global vantage point.

- **ISPR is strictly psychological in nature.** It publishes books based on theoretical, empirical, and cultural investigations of religious phenomena, persons and events from a psychological perspective. The series is not in itself religious in any way; it does not publish theological or pastoral psychology texts. It does not advocate for or reject religion, but examines religion (broadly defined) as an important element of culture (individual and collective) and by consequence of human lives, which calls for psychological attention and analysis.

- **ISPR does not restrict itself to any psychological approach or method.** It allows for any type of psychological method as practiced by the world wide community of psychological scholars, drawing on approaches ranging from well-established empirical ones drawn from social, personality, and clinical psychology, theoretical and historical approaches, as well as newer ones, such as cultural psychology and evolutionary psychology, employing hermeneutical methods as well as other emerging scientific approaches like those incorporating methods from neuroscience.
Academic Level

ISPR intends therefore to attract attention from a broad variety of readers. Whereas most volumes on psychology and religion speak to only one audience, the ISPR aims to reach out to a wide audience of scholars, researchers and practitioners from psychology, psychiatry, social and cultural sciences, religious studies, philosophy, and to those with a scholarly interest in a psychological approach to religion. Volumes from ISPR will be aimed primarily for a graduate and postgraduate audience but may also be used on in undergraduate education.

Language

Other than the previous series at Ropodi, ISPR publishes volumes in English only. (It allows for translations of books previously originally published in languages other than English.)

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Please feel free to contact any member of the Editorial Team or Editorial Board about your submission!
Dear colleagues and friends,

I am conducting a survey of scholars of religions on methodological and theoretical resources in the study of religions that originate from outside Western Europe and North America. (Those that do originate from Western Europe and North America are known throughout the world.) Among other things I will use the results of the survey to determine how I might continue the project begun with Religious Studies: A Global View.

Please consider following this link and participating in the survey: https://mcdaniel.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_6qVqtQRDmdQs7K1

All responses will be strictly anonymous.

If you consider theoretical and methodological resources that originate from outside Western Europe and North America to be unimportant, that would be worth knowing, too. You will have the opportunity to rate these resources on a scale from very important to not at all important. The best answers are, of course, simply honest ones.

The survey is currently available in English, French, German, and Spanish. If you think it would be helpful to have the survey translated into other languages as well, please let me know – especially if you can suggest a way to accomplish that translation.

I would also very much appreciate you forwarding this announcement to colleagues who you think might not otherwise see it. I am hoping for as broad a range of participation as possible.

My thanks!

Greg Alles

Gregory D. Alles
Professor, Religious Studies, McDaniel College, Westminster, MD 21157, USA
Visual Illusions Conference

Call for papers

Visual Illusions - past, present, and future use

Conference at the Centre for Medical Humanities
University of Leicester, UK
7th June 2013

This conference will examine the medical, psychological, historical, and religious use of visual illusions, and their influence on the arts and society. Recent findings that visual illusions can alter brain function and pain have led to insights of how they have been used - whether consciously or not - in arts and religion. Examples of how illusions can benefit in further areas are welcomed for this conference. We also welcome proposals for papers which, through general surveys or particular research of individuals or groups, address topics such as:

- Visual illusions in medical history and in the literature
- Neuroscientific insights into the working mechanism of visual illusions
- Insights within the therapeutic use of mirror visual feedback
- Visual illusions perceived as miracles and the impact on society
- The variance in individual susceptibility to illusions from a psychological point of view
- Influence of memory on the interpretation of illusion
- Cultural impact on perception of illusion in the arts
- Real mirror illusion versus virtual reality - the difference in neural processing

These topics are for guidance only and we will consider any suggestions that fall within this broad area of visual illusions.

Papers relevant to the conference agenda are welcome. These should be sent by the 10th May 2013 preferably to both organizers Professor Steven King (sak28@le.ac.uk) and Annegreat Hagenberg (ah413@le.ac.uk). It is our intention with the consent of those contributing such papers to annex these or abstracts thereof to a published report of the conference.

Details of the timetable and content of the various sessions will follow before 17th May.

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F +44 (0) 116252-3986
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W www.le.ac.uk/cmh/
Postdoctoral Fellowship

The Center for the Study of Health, Religion, and Spirituality has an opening for a one to two year Post-Doctoral Research Assistant. The Post-Doc position begins on or after July 1, 2013 and requires a doctoral degree in one of the Social or Life Sciences. The Post-Doc will work with Center affiliated faculty to design, conduct, and publish research on topics related to religion/spirituality and health, positive psychology, and/or holistic and integrative medicine. Center faculty have ongoing research on a variety of topics including spirituality and addiction, religion and coping, prayer, compassion and helping behavior, and contemplative practices. A list of potential faculty mentors will be posted at http://unboundedpossibilities.com/center-for-the-study-of-health-religion-and-spirituality.aspx.

The Center for the Study of Health, Religion, and Spirituality supports interdisciplinary research and dialog on how religious and spiritual beliefs, practices, values, and experiences are related to physical, mental, emotional, and social health. The work of the Center is compatible with the perspectives of positive psychology and holistic and integrative medicine. The Center also attempts to address societal needs for enhanced health care and increased cooperation among faith traditions by offering educational and training programs for students, professionals, and the public. The Center has been awarded enhancement funds through ISU's Unbounded Possibilities Initiative. Successful candidates will demonstrate competency and sensitivity in working in an academic community that is diverse with regard to gender, race/ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, and religion.

ISU is a comprehensive university with an enrollment of approximately 11,000 students located in West Central Indiana, an area that enables a high quality of life with a low cost of living. Terre Haute is the regional center for health care, commerce, the arts, and education for the surrounding areas; it has four colleges and universities. For more information, go to www.indstate.edu/psychology.

Applicants must apply online (http://www.indstate.edu/humres/) and submit a cover letter including statements of their research interests, vita, graduate transcripts, any representative publications, and three letters of recommendation to: Dr. Thomas Johnson, Search Committee Chair, Department of Psychology, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, IN 47809. Review of applications will begin immediately and will continue until the position is filled. "ISU is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer with a strong institutional commitment to the achievement of diversity among its faculty, staff, and students."

Thomas J. Johnson, Ph.D., HSPP
Professor of Psychology
www.indstate.edu/psychology
Phone (812) 237-2449
Root Hall B-206
Indiana State University
Terre Haute, IN 47809

Continue on next page…
Post-doc in Psychology Department at Indiana University South Bend

The Social Psychology of Religion Lab at Indiana University South Bend anticipates hiring a postdoctoral fellow starting as early as 1 July 2013 for a minimum of one year and contingent on performance, renewable for an additional year. The position includes a full time salary and benefits. The successful candidate will conduct research to uncover potential links between religious belief systems and embodiment, under the supervision of Dr. Kevin L. Ladd. The research is highly interdisciplinary and makes use of both quantitative (experimental procedures; eye tracking, facial feature analysis) and qualitative measures to explore broad issues of embodiment with relation to religious beliefs and practices (e.g., prayer). The postdoc will be encouraged to strengthen her or his research portfolios via peer-reviewed publications and to develop leadership skills by mentoring students. Toward this end, the postdoc will have access to substantial data sets that incorporate both quantitative and qualitative information relative to the psychology of religion.

**Required**

- Ph.D. in Social / Cognitive / Experimental Psychology
- A solid publication record relevant to the psychology of religion
- Ability to work both individually and as a member of an interdisciplinary, international team
- Ability to mentor undergraduate students

**Desired**

- Prior research experience in one or more of the following research areas (emotions, stereotypes, personality, expectancies, embodiment, visual perception)
- Advanced statistical and data mining skills
- Experience with eye tracking (Tobii system) and/or use of computerized facial feature analysis
- Demonstrated familiarity with tenets of world religious systems

**Job Details**

- 1 year position starting as early as 1 July 2013 and contingent on performance, renewable for an additional year.
- Competitive salary with benefits commensurate with qualifications

**How to Apply**

- Applicants should email (1) cover letter, (2) current CV, and (3) names, titles, and contact information of three references to kladd@iusb.edu
- For full consideration, application must be received by March 15, 2013. Applications received after March 15 may be considered.

**About Indiana University South Bend**

Indiana University South Bend is one of the largest campuses in the IU system with approximately 8,500 (primarily undergraduate) students. The University is located in South Bend Indiana, a mid-sized city with affordable housing, multiple cultural venues, and within easy driving distance of Indianapolis, Chicago and Lake Michigan.

Indiana University South Bend is an Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action Employer. The University values diversity and encourages applications from women, minorities, veterans and persons with disabilities.
At the University of Vienna (15 faculties, 3 centres, about 188 fields of study, approx. 9.400 members of staff, more than 90.000 students) the position of a

**University Assistant (post doc)**

at the Faculty of Protestant Theology

is vacant.

As from 1 September 2013, a post doc position at the Department of Practical Theology and Psychology of Religion of the Faculty of Protestant Theology will be vacant for six years.

**Extent of Employment:** 40 hours/week

**Occupation group in accordance with collective bargaining agreement:** §48 VwGr. B1 lit. b (postdoc)

On top of this relevant chargeable work experience determines the assessment to a particular salary grade.

**Areas of work:**
- Participation in research and teaching
- Participation in research projects according to the profile of the institute.
- (International) publishing and presentation activities
- Preparation/Finalization of a (publishable) habilitation
- Holding classes due to extent regulations of wage agreement

**Profile:**
Completed university degree (PhD) in the field of Theology respectively Religious Studies or Psychology, enabling to research in the fields of Practical Theology and Psychology of Religion. It is referred to § 15 of the law on external legal relations of the Protestant Church in Austria, Federal Law Gazette No. 182/1961 as amended.

Desirable are appropriate qualifications (eg, studies, publications, teaching experience) in the field of Practical Theology or Religious Studies or Psychology, which allow the applicant to participate within the formation of the perspective of psychology of religion of the institute, unless an interdisciplinary or religious-psychological promotion makes this evidence unnecessary.

We expect a keen interest in the development and establishment of religious reflection of psychological perspectives, understanding of the consequences of theological and religious relevance of such questions as well as a high degree of personal initiative and responsibility, communication skills, interest in teaching, commitment to training and flexibility.

Good knowledge of English (oral and written) is required.
Your application should include the following documents:

- Letter of intent
- Scientific CV
- List of publications
- Draft of research interests / habilitation project
- Reference letters (if existing)

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Applications including a letter of motivation (German or English) should be sent via Job Center to the University of Vienna ([http://jobcenter.univie.ac.at](http://jobcenter.univie.ac.at)) no later than 10.05.2013 and be referenced to the identification number 3918.

For further information please contact jobcenter@univie.ac.at.

The University of Vienna intends to increase the number of women on its faculty, particularly in high-level positions, and therefore specifically invites applications.
Constructs of Meaning and Religious Transformation: Current Issues in the Psychology of Religion edited by Herman Westerink

One of the major trends in the psychology of religion is the growing interest in religious and spiritual meaning making in relation to religious and spiritual transformation processes, notably as the aftermath of traumatic experiences and in situations of crisis, stress or disease when personal well-being is at stake and coping activities and skills are enhanced. This volume covers this broad and complex area of interrelated issues. The contributions focus on religious and spiritual meaning making and transformation. They do not compose an integrated perspective on religious meaning making and transformation processes. Rather, this volume assembles and presents the current state of research on this complex of issues. Thus it not only provides an excellent overview of the psychological study of constructs of meaning and religious transformation, but also contributes to our knowledge of contemporary religious life in the context of socio-cultural transformation processes (pluralisation, globalization).