

# ISSRNC NEWSLETTER

... dispatches from the International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture

NOVEMBER 2006

## ISSRNC SOCIETY'S FIRST ELECTIONS

The first election of post-provisional members for the ISSRNC board of directors was held this past month, including a run-off vote for the Natural Sciences Member-at-Large. Votes were cast and counted electronically through the good offices (and patience!) of Forest Clingerman. Thanks to Dr. Clingerman for all his hard work. Everyone on the nominations and elections committees worked hard to make the process both transparent and easy for everyone. Thanks again for your participation. Here is the final result of the voting:

President: Bron Taylor (University of Florida)

President-elect: Kocku von Stuckrad (University of Amsterdam)

Secretary: Kristina Tiedje (University of Lyon)

Treasurer: Laura Hobgood-Oster (Southwestern University)

Natural Sciences At-Large: Rick Stepp (University of Florida)

Social Sciences At-Large: Robin Wright (University of Florida)

Humanities At-Large: Nina Witoszek (University of Oslo)

Interdisciplinary Studies At-Large: Adrian Ivakhiv (University of Vermont)

-Mark C.E. Peterson (University of Wisconsin Colleges),  
ISSRNC Nominations/Elections Committee

The first election of post-provisional members for the ISSRNC board of directors was held this past month,



THE AMAZON

## NEXT STEPS FOR THE ISSRNC

Now that the ISSRNC exists, we wish to set out several critical developmental stages for our organization.

Each of these stages needs and requires the help of the following key ISSRNC committees: Membership, Development, Program, Education, Publications, Student Affairs, and Awards. Beginning with this newsletter, we will be discussing each committee, its responsibilities and goals, and how you can volunteer and contribute to the work of these committees.

Please, do not be bashful! We need you to write and indicate your willingness to serve. All of our members have valuable experience and expertise, please help grow our field by helping these committees.

This newsletter focuses on the work of the ISSRNC Membership Committee (which performs the critical tasks of recruiting, building, and retaining members) and announces a membership drive.

Why focus on membership growth? While we are not interested in growth for growth's sake, there are advantages to building up our society to 300 to 500 members. Many learned organizations of this size have proven to be vital and sustainable. An organization in this range means there are more scholars who can attend meetings, but not so many that conferences become overly large. A solid membership base also provides credibility when seeking grants, and a moderately sized membership base offers more members who can volunteer for necessary tasks to

(cont. next page)

## FEATURE ARTICLES

### DR. TERRY TERHAAR HIRED AS NEW ISSRNC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.

#### Next Steps for the ISSRNC

#### Inaugural Issue of the JSRNC

#### International Conferences

#### Religious Environmentalism

#### Meetings and Resources

The Executive Board of the ISSRNC is pleased to announce that Dr. Terry Terhaar has recently been hired as its new Executive Director.

Terry Terhaar received an M.F.S. and Ph.D. in environmental studies from Yale University. Her research focuses on human experience of the spiritual in nature, especially forests. By using the lens of in-

tensely positive and negative experiences in the natural world, her work explores dimensions of peoples' ordinary spiritual relationships with nature. She is currently revising a book manuscript and teaching as a Lecturer at the University of California at Santa Cruz.

Her background includes work as an environmental NGO manager and advocate. She has

experience with NGO fundraising, staff management, and program development. With a keen interest in not only supporting current scholarship but expanding interest in the field of ecology and religion, her immediate plans for the Society include membership development and organizational capacity building. Long-term plans include heightening awareness and understanding of the field,

## NEW ISSRNC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.

supporting new and on-going scholarship, and expanding the international character of the Society.

The position, which will be part time and will expand as resources permit, will begin 1 November 2006.

Terry can be reached, for society matters, at [tterhaar@pacbell.net](mailto:tterhaar@pacbell.net)

And this is not the only good news on the administrative front.

Luke Johnston, who so wonderfully and ably served as our interim Executive Director, even while completing his Ph.D. course work and comprehensive exams in the Religion and Nature program here at the University of Florida, has agreed to continue to serve as Associate Director. This will ensure a seamless transition and good communication between the administrative hub in Florida and our new Executive Director.



MAYAN SACRED CENOTE (UNDERGROUND POOL)

## The Society's Next Steps (cont.)

maintain the society. Moreover, most organizations require professional management in order to fundraise, coordinate activities, and manage the myriad details of any organization. A solid membership base will allow the ISSRNC to slowly move from volunteer-based to professional-based management.

It is certainly a good sign that the ISSRNC grew to over 110 members in only nine months. Yet our current membership size, and what we know about the interest in our field, also tells us that the organization has great growth potential. We can easily think of scholars who are tightly focused on the religion/nature/culture nexus, but have not yet joined, and expect you could too.

But how do we recruit scholars who we believe have a natural affinity with our society, and who would take an intellectual and professional interest in helping it succeed?

## INAUGURAL ISSUE OF THE JSRNC SET FOR MARCH 2007

Among the opportunities available to those in the Society for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture is an exciting new journal that will provide a consistent "habitat" in which scholars from diverse disciplinary backgrounds can share their research.

The *Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture* is off to an excellent start. Society members can look forward to the inaugural issue of the journal, which will be published in March 2007. Most of the articles that comprise the first issue were invited and initially presented during two forums at the April 2006 inaugural conference of the Society for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture, in which

participants were asked to focus on the emerging field and its potential problems and prospects. Thus, the first issue of the *JSRNC* exemplifies a range of perspectives and contributions that we can expect will be elaborated upon, nuanced, and critiqued in future issues.

The issue begins with reflections regarding the vision of the *JSRNC* by the journal's editor, Bron Taylor, including an analysis of the term religion and an overview of what will guide the journal's editorial policies. The keynote address delivered at the inaugural Society conference by Yale University's Stephen Kellert follows this editorial introduction, offering a model for integrating the natural and

social sciences when thinking about the religion/culture/nature nexus. A most provocative forum on the past, present, and future of the field rounds out the remainder of the issue, with contributions from Phillip Arnold (Syracuse University), Marc Bekoff (University of Colorado), Penelope Bernard (Rhodes University, South Africa), Jane Caputi (Florida Atlantic University), Roger Gottlieb (Worcester Polytechnic Institute), Stewart Guthrie (Fordham University), Adrian Ivakhiv (University of Vermont), Leslie Sponsel (University of Hawai'i), Kocku von Stuckrad (University of Amsterdam), Sarah Taylor (Northwestern University), Kristina Tiedje (Université Lyon, France), and Robin Wright (University of Florida).

Future issues are also shaping up nicely. Issue number two (June 2007) is a "special issue" dedicated to the intersections of religion, nature, and culture as these relate to the topic of astrology; this issue will be guest edited by Michael York (emeritus of Bath Spa University). More information on special issue proposals are at: <http://www.religionandnature.com/journal/si.htm>

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We believe the key is the personal touch.

Each of our current members knows non-member scholars whose interests fit the Society. We would like to encourage you to forward Society newsletters to scholar-friends who you think would be interested in Society membership. Forward the link to the newsletter with a warm invitation to join us! We also have brochures, paper copies of newsletters, and introductory letters that can be mailed to prospective members.

This is just the first step in building the ISSRNC membership. We think identifying regional contacts and interest groups can also play a significant role in membership development. (cont. next page)



*Sky, Cloud, Water: Peace is Reflected in the Serene Blue*

### INAUGURAL ISSUE OF THE JSRNC (cont.)

Issue number three is an open issue and is already receiving many high quality submissions, affirming the promise of the journal as a forum for compelling research and discussion.

The JSRNC welcomes articles, forums, review essays, scholarly perspectives essays, and special issue proposals within three broad areas of inquiry: constructive and normative studies, social scientific and cultural studies, and natural science studies. (For more information about the diverse possibilities for submissions, see <http://www.religionandnature.com/journal/precis.pdf>.) We hope that you will make the JSRNC the place for your own work, and we look forward to your feedback and contributions. We certainly encourage writers and prospective special issue editors to submit their work and proposals as soon as possible. For more information, please visit our webpage, <http://www.religionandnature.com/journal/>.

- [Gavin Van Horn](#), Assistant Editor

### Next Steps (cont.)

**Regional Representatives.** We would like to see regional contacts who would be available to answer questions when someone in the region learns about the society. Regional representatives could also take responsibility for identifying prospective society members in their regions, working with other members in their area, and extending a warm invitation to new members. We envision regional

representatives as members of the membership committee; they would play a significant role in growing the members in their area, and extending a warm invitation to new members.

**Interest groups.** One of the things that has been gratifying in this effort already has been the opportunity to put

people with similar interests in contact with one another. These individuals get to know each other's work and discuss scholarly collaborations, including by forming sessions at our or other conferences, and proposing special issues for the society's journal. It seems to us that this impulse to build our networks could have significant synergies with membership building.

For example, scholars could establish interest groups, and current scholars could invite those with similar interests to simultaneously join their interest group and the society.

The chair of the membership committee, working with the executive director, Society officers, and our website designer, will establish efficient ways to present the regional representatives and interest groups. We may need an ad hoc committee to coordinate the interest groups, or they may remain under the membership committee's domain - but this can be figured out as the interest groups grow and collaborate in the future. For now, the important next step is to begin to network scholars who share similar interests and encourage them to form interest groups.

As you can see from this brief outline of ideas and future plans, we have ambitious goals. We seek to double our membership to 250 members by the end of 2007, one month before our second international conference in Mexico. If each ISSRNC member would recruit one additional member, then we can easily reach this goal.

We also seek to dramatically increase the number of "founding members" who make a onetime special donation of \$250.00. The ISSRNC currently has a number of founding members who have helped the organization in its most critical, early stages. The ISSRNC could use more "founders" who recognize the importance of establishing a learned society in our field.

We would like to urge you to think about whether you could help increase knowledge about our field by making a \$250.00 donation to undergird the organizational foundation of the ISSRNC. "Sustaining members" will make an annual contribution in this amount. Such contributions will be especially important during the early years of Society development.

Before we close, we ask that you consider taking one (or more) of the following five actions:

1) Forward the link to the ISSRNC newsletter (arriving soon via email) to a colleague and encourage them to join the ISSRNC.

2) Contact Membership Committee Chair, Mark Peterson, [mark.peterson@uwc.edu](mailto:mark.peterson@uwc.edu), and indicate your willingness to serve on the membership committee.

3) Express your interest in becoming a regional representative, also by contacting Mark. (cont. next page)

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## NEXT STEPS (CONCL.)

4) Indicate your interest in forming an "Interest Group" by contacting executive director Terry Terhaar, and specifying your particular area of interest

[tterhaar@pacbell.net](mailto:tterhaar@pacbell.net)

5) Email ISSRNC President Bron Taylor, and tell him you want to become a founding or sustaining member

[society@religionandnature.com](mailto:society@religionandnature.com)

As importantly, be sure to renew your membership for 2007, preferably by the end of this calendar year.

We wish to express our heartfelt thanks and gratitude for your interest in helping the ISSRNC grow.

We look forward to serving in our new roles with the ISSRNC because the organization has allowed us to meet (or get reacquainted with) wonderful new people in our field. In our next newsletter, we will discuss the responsibilities and activities of the Development Committee. We will also suggest ways you can get involved in fundraising and grant seeking strategies. In the meantime we will look forward to hearing from you!

Cordially,

Bron Taylor,  
President

Terry Terhaar,  
Executive Director

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

***The BIRMINGHAM CONFERENCE ON "CRITICAL PERSPECTIVES ON RELIGION AND THE ENVIRONMENT"***

was held at the Woodbrooke Quaker Study Centre, Birmingham, UK, 18-19 September 2006. It was sponsored by the 'Subject Centre for Philosophical and Religious Studies' with the 'Subject Centre for Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences,' at Lancaster University.

The aim of this conference was to encourage participation from across disciplines to reflect *critically* upon issues related to 'religion and the environment'. In what ways can and does religion actually provide teachings and ethics that are relevant to the pursuit of environmental sustainability? Is 'religious environmentalism' after all a product of romanticisation and might religious traditions in fact act against the interests of environmental protection? Since the 1960s religious discourse has been a prominent feature of environmentalist thought and action, and the conference provided an opportunity to assess the benefits and limitations of this interaction.

Over the two days there were thirteen papers plus two keynote addresses (Dr Bronislaw Szerszynski, University of Lancaster, UK, and Professor Bron Taylor, University of Florida, USA). The papers presented covered both theoretical and empirical material, and themes included: 'The Sacred, the Secular and the Environmental Crisis'; 'Green Futures'; 'Environmentalism in Churches: attitudes and behaviours of UK Christians'; 'The Iranian Contribution to the Early American Environmental Movement: an oriental perspective to a modern spiritual crisis'; 'Looking the Part: using 'indigenous' environmentalists to see the ecological dream'; and 'Buddhist Creation: environmental impact in Bangkok'.

One of the most striking features of the event was the participation of speakers from across the globe (including the UK, USA, Nigeria, Pakistan, Iran and Thailand). Although relatively small in scale (there were twenty five attendees), this was an international event, both in terms of the topics covered as well as the nationalities represented. This suggests the global significance of the theme as both an academic subject as well as an issue that reflects the realities of ecological thought and activism.

*Emma Tomain, Dept. Theology and Religious Studies, Univ of Leeds, [e.tomain@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:e.tomain@leeds.ac.uk)*



YUPINAI PLANT-SPIRIT (AMAZON)

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS (CONT.)

**CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES IN THE NETHERLANDS**

In summer 2006, the ISSRNC executive board explored the possibilities of further elaborating its collaboration with existing academic networks in Europe. Given the international focus of the Society, it will be important in the long run to build up an organizational center in Europe that will serve as a complimentary hub for the U.S.-based administration. This will be particularly relevant for fundraising and conference support on the European scale. Kocku von Stuckrad (University of Amsterdam) and Jan Boersema (Free University of Amsterdam) have agreed to work in this direction, in close collaboration with their American partners. These activities might also result in an international ISSRNC conference in Amsterdam, in summer 2009.

Another activity worth mentioning in The Netherlands is that on 27-28 September 2007, the Radboud University Nijmegen will host an international conference on "Worldviews, Religion, and Sustainable Development in Higher Education," organized by a group of scholars led by Kirsten Kuipers and Cathrien de Pater. This conference is part of a larger research project of the "Centre for Sustainable Management of Resources" (see [www.ru.nl/ucm/english/](http://www.ru.nl/ucm/english/)) in Nijmegen).

-Kocku von Stuckrad  
University of Amsterdam



**YUPINAI PLANT-SPIRIT (AMAZON)**

### ***Second International Meeting of the International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture planned for Mexico***

We are very pleased to announce that the second, international meeting of our Society will be in Mexico at the Morelia Convention Center, and hosted by the National Autonomous University of Mexico in Morelia and the National Autonomous University of San Luis Potosi.

The Mexican anthropologist Alfredo López Austin from the Universidad Autónoma de México will be one of the keynote speakers.

Program chairs Kristina Tiedje (University of Lyon 2) and Anushka Van't Hooft (Universidad Autónoma de San Luis Potosí) and the Local Conference Director Pedro Urquijo (Universidad Nacional Autónoma, Morelia) are working closely with the Board of Directors to make this second meeting a success and promote further internationalization of the Society.

We strongly encourage the participation of Latin American scholars and expect to have about a number of the panels held in Spanish (with English powerpoint). Since the primary conference language will be English, simultaneous translation will be provided for all keynote presentations.

The First Call for Papers will be available online at the society webpage on December 1<sup>st</sup>, specifically at <http://www.religionandnature.com/society/upcoming.htm>, and Society members will be reminded by email when this information is available. Limited travel grants will be available on a competitive basis for international students and scholars who submit a paper or a session proposal. Please check out the timeline on our webpage.

For further details, please contact Kristina Tiedje [kristina.tiedje@univ-lyon2.fr](mailto:kristina.tiedje@univ-lyon2.fr)

## PERSPECTIVES ON RELIGIOUS ENVIRONMENTALISM



YUPINAI PLANT-SPIRIT (AMAZON)

**THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF H.T. ODUM'S THOUGHT TO UNDERSTANDING THE INTERACTION OF RELIGION, NATURE, AND CULTURE.**

A session at the First Meeting of the International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture (April, 2006, University of Florida) considered the contributions of H.T. Odum's thought to understanding the nature and functions of religion.

Odum viewed religion as part of the hierarchical panoply of natural phenomena and, as with any other natural phenomenon, he found that it could be analyzed and understood using the methods of Energy Systems Theory. Chapter 8 in his first book *Environment, Power, and Society* was devoted to a consideration of the "Energetic basis for religion" and chapter 11 of the second edition of this book (to be released in April 2007) has the same title and considers the same material, but from the perspective he gained during 30 additional years of research on energy systems of the universe.

Odum's work on religion is based in the scientific disciplines of irreversible thermodynamics, systems theory, and ecology and thus it takes a different approach to the study of religion, nature, and culture compared to the research reported in most of the other sessions at the conference. It is our view that

all perspectives are necessary and needed to advance this relatively new field and, therefore, this brief report has been added to the conference record.

Odum's central insight was that, since the transformation of available energy potentials generates the ecosphere and all the processes contained within it, including the systems of humanity along with human values, an examination of the laws and systems of energy interaction should reveal how human culture and values are related to the energy flows of the system. Odum observed that all societies develop religious institutions that develop in human individuals learned programs of dedicated behavior. These networks of learned behavior (culture) assist in the regulation of power flows within surviving networks by developing, preserving, or magnifying central features in the design. In the second edition of *Environment, Power, and Society*, Odum states that "Cultures prevail that motivate people to contribute to the maximum empowerment of society, but poorly-adapted religions interfere with optimum functions. With the expanding role of society on earth, the ethics of human behavior requires morality on a larger scale not much covered by earlier religious teaching."

In his chapter on religion he further considers the systems nature of religion, its place in the energy hierarchy, relationships of religion and science, global pluralism, adaptive God, alternative views of the cosmos, and the kind of religion needed for times ahead. Odum's observations on religion, nature, and culture in this book and elsewhere, are grounded in Energy Systems Theory and specifically the laws of thermodynamics that apply to non-equilibrium systems. His thoughtful comments and expositions on various topics related to religion can serve as the starting point for much valuable future research in this field.

-Daniel E. Campbell

## RELIGIOUS ENVIRONMENTALISM

**THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF ROGER S. GOTTLIEB: A GREENER FAITH: RELIGIOUS ENVIRONMENTALISM AND OUR PLANET'S FUTURE.** (OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS, 2006).

Religious environmentalism is one of the few hopeful developments in the worlds of religion, politics, and environmentalism. It is challenging traditional theology, changing the shape of public commitment, and galvanizing a tremendous amount of environmental activism. A profound new respect, even love, for the natural world can be found in definitive statements by the Pope and institutional commitments by the world's Sikhs, in interpretations of the Koran that forbid dynamite fishing in Tanzania and of the Torah that question whether or not low-mileage cars are kosher, in the way the World Council of Churches challenges the "prevailing economic paradigm" and the way Buddhist monks have organized against Asian deforestation. These and literally thousands of more examples show that the oldest of human institutions can face the demands of the present; and that human beings from around the world can see beyond what divides us to what we share.

*A Greener Faith* illuminates the movement's principal ideas, personalities, achievements, internal dilemmas and global obstacles; and shows how environmentalism almost inevitably



**Amazon Rainforest**

leads religious groups into activist and ecumenical political vision that joins human and ecological justice. The movement is healing the centuries old divide between Native peoples and the Christian world, and demonstrating how progressive religious movements further, rather than obstruct, democracy.

-Roger S. Gottlieb

Web-sites of Interest:

**The Forum on Religion and Ecology:** <http://environment.harvard.edu/religion/main.html>. See especially the newly updated annotated bibliographies for the different world religions and ecology.

**Ecological Hope: Reflections on the Ecological Challenges to US Society:** <http://ecologicalhope.wordpress.com/> This is a comprehensive blog dealing with all aspects of contemporary ecological crises (including ethical, religious, and philosophical).

**Schumacher College:** <http://www.schumachercollege.org.uk/prospect/homepage.html> Schumacher College offers degrees and many programs related to issues of sustainability.

**Con-Spirando:** <http://www.conspirando.cl/>. *Con-Spirando* is a journal published in Spanish, dealing with issues of religion, gender and ecology from the perspective of Latin American women.

## FUTURE EVENTS AND RESOURCES

-Amanda Holmes & Whitney Bauman

The following are a list of resources that might be of interest to our readers. As well as a few highlighted websites, readers may be interested in the list of events taking place at the 2006 Annual Academy of Religion and American Anthropological Association meetings. For other resources, please see past issues of this Newsletter. If you have anything you would like to see appear in this section, such as job postings and/or grant opportunities, please email them to: [whitneyabauman@mac.com](mailto:whitneyabauman@mac.com).

### Upcoming Conference Sessions of Interest:

**Anthropology and the Environment Section : American Anthropological Association 105th AAA Annual Meeting**  
November 15-19, 2006

San Jose Convention Center  
San Jose, CA

#### **Section Meetings**

A&E Board Meeting (for A&E Board of Directors/Officers)

Date and Time: Friday 11/16/06, 6:00-8:00PM .  
Place: TBA

A&E Business Meeting (for section members and prospective members):

Date and Time Friday 11/17/06, 6:15-7:30PM .  
Place: Ballroom Salon I-2nd Fir-Marriott San Jose

A&E Party/Social (for section members and prospective members):

Date and Time Friday 11/17/06, 8:00-10:00PM .  
Place: TBA

#### **Sessions**

Note: Abstracts for the following events can be read online at:

<http://www.aaanet.org/mtgs/search/search.cfm>

WHAT'S IN A CONTEXT?: COMPARATIVE LESSONS FROM MEXICAN MARINE

PROTECTED AREAS (MPAS) Wednesday 11/15/2006 12:00 PM - 01:45 PM ;

KNOWLEDGE, THE ENVIRONMENT, AND SOCIAL MOVEMENTS: CRITICAL INTERSECTIONS Wednesday 11/15/2006 04:00 PM - 05:45 PM ;

CHANGING EUROPEAN LANDSCAPES Thursday 11/16/2006 08:00 AM - 09:45 AM ;

WORKING LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION: EVALUATING INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURES AND COMMUNITY

EFFORTS THAT EFFECTIVELY COMBINE PRESERVATION AND USE Thursday 11/16/2006 10:15 AM - 12:00 PM ;

GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE AND LOCAL WATER RESOURCES: IMAGES, INTERSECTIONS, AND IMPACTS FROM SIBERIA TO TUVALU, Thursday 11/16/2006 01:45 PM - 03:30 PM ;

TODAY'S ECOLOGICAL ANTHROPOLOGY: PERSPECTIVES ON THE STATE OF THE FIELD (Invited Session) Thursday 11/16/2006 4:00 PM - 5:45 PM ;

THE PRECAUTIONARY PRINCIPLE IN PRACTICE (A&E Public Policy-Panel) Thursday 11/16/2006 6, 4:00PM - 5:45PM;

ANIMAL SALVATION: REDEFINING THE MORAL LANDSCAPES OF PROTECTED AREAS Friday 11/17/2006 08:00 AM - 11:45 AM ;

LINKING ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE, HUMAN HEALTH AND WELFARE (AAA/AE High Table Discussion) Friday 11/17/06, 1:45 PM - 3:30PM ;

NEW PERSPECTIVES ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE ENVIRONMENT (Invited Session)

Friday 11/17/2006 01:45 PM - 03:30 PM;

INDIGENOUS NATURE REVERENCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION: EXPLORING CRITICAL INTERSECTIONS OF ANIMISM AND CONSERVATION Saturday 11/18/2006 08:00 AM - 11:45 AM;

CULTURAL CONSIDERATIONS IN ENVIRONMENTAL PERCEPTION AND ACTION Saturday 11/18/2006 8:00 AM - 9:45 AM ;

Poster Session: ENVIRONMENTAL ANTHROPOLOGY POSTER SESSION Saturday 11/18/2006 10:15 AM - 12:00 PM ;

IMPACTS OF FISHERIES PRIVATIZATION Saturday 11/18/2006 01:45 PM - 03:30 PM ;

DO GOVERNMENTS NEED REBELS? DO BUREAUCRACIES NEED FAILURE? THE CULTURAL POLITICS OF ORDER AND SUCCESS IN NATURE, DEVELOPMENT AND THE STATE .

Sunday 11/19/2006 08:00 AM - 09:45 AM ;

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION AND INDIGENOUS STRUGGLES

Sunday 11/19/2006 8:00 AM - 11:45 AM;

CULTURAL INTERSECTIONS WITH PLACE, KNOWLEDGE AND POWER

Sunday 11/19/2006 8:00 AM - 9:45 AM ;

ENVIRONMENTALITY, CITIZENSHIP, AND ETHNOGRAPHY Sunday 11/19/2006 10:15 AM - 12:00 PM .

**American Academy of Religion: Religion and Ecology Events**  
Washington, DC

**November 18-21, 2006**

**The Following are entire sessions, meetings devoted to "Religion and Ecology."**

**AM17-25**

**Forum on Religion and Ecology Luncheon: "Shared Reflections on Work Being Done in the Field of Religion and Ecology";**

**A18-79**

**Rethinking the Field Consultation**

**Saturday - 1:00 pm-3:30 pm**

**CC-305; New Program Unit;**

**Friday - 12:00 pm-2:00 pm**

**RW-Meeting Room 12.**

**Symposium on "Food, Farming and Faith"**

**(Sponsored by the Center for Respect of Life and Environment, the Forum on Religion and Ecology, the Animals and Religion Consultation of the AAR, and the Religion and Ecology Group of the AAR)**

**Friday, November 17 - 2:00pm-5:00pm**

The purpose of this workshop is threefold:

1. To describe past and likely future developments in food and agriculture policies and practices;
2. To clarify what various religious traditions say about food and agriculture policies and practices; and
3. To explore how we as teachers/scholars in academia and members of various religious communities can contribute to food and agriculture policies and practices more in line with our religious traditions.

**A18-79**

**Rethinking the Field Consultation**

**Saturday - 1:00 pm-3:30 pm**

**CC-305; New Program Unit**

The purpose of this event is for scholars, especially student scholars, to come and reflect on where the field of "religion and ecology" is going and where you would like to see the field go. There will be a large portion of the time set aside for group discussion.

**A19-29**

**Religion and Ecology Group**

**Sunday - 9:00 am-11:30 am**

**CC-146C;**

**A19-68**

**Religion and Ecology Group**

**Sunday - 1:00 pm-2:30 pm**

**CC-155;**

**Religion and Ecology Business Meeting;**

**Laurel D. Kearns, Drew University, Presiding**

**John A. Grim, Forum on Religion and Ecology, Presiding**

**A20-14**

**Bible, Theology, and Post-modernity Group**

## ISSRNC MEMBERSHIP

### GENERAL INFORMATION

Applying and paying for membership, as well as making donations, is possible online with a credit card, at <http://www.religionandnature.com/society/application.htm>

Alternatively, prospective members may fill out the form on the last page of this newsletter, and send a check or money order to the address provided there.

Memberships are valid for one year, and include a subscription to the [Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture](#), which publishes four issues per year.

Memberships obtained during the last quarter of a calendar year will run through the end of the following calendar year. Such new members will receive as part of their membership the journal issues during the first full year of their membership. They will also have the option of purchasing the current year's journal, or any part of it for which there is availability, as well as previous years of the journal, at special member-only pricing. To check on availability and request back issues, contact society administrators at

[society@religionandnature.com](mailto:society@religionandnature.com).

#### MEMBERSHIP TYPES

Membership in the International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture is open to anyone who is engaged in critical scholarly inquiry that relates to the mission of the ISSRNC. This means that credentialed scholars and lay intellectuals alike are invited to apply to become full voting members of the society. Lay scholars can apply for full membership by demon-

ISSRNC, c/o Religion & Nature Program  
University of Florida  
PO Box 117410  
107 Anderson Hall  
Gainesville, Florida  
32611  
United States

Phone: (352) 392-1625 ext. 230

(Newsletter); Fax: (352) 392-7395;

E-mail: [society@religionandnature.com](mailto:society@religionandnature.com)

strating their engagement in activities related to the Society's mission of scholarly inquiry into the relationships among human beings and their diverse cultures, environments, and religious beliefs and practices.

The following are the Society's membership types:

**Regular Member**

**Institutional Member**

**Student Member**

**Founding Members**

**Sustaining Member**

**Society Patron**

**Honorary Member**

**Newsletters** are also available to all members. Thus far, the following issues have been published:

[Vol 1, #2, June 2006](#) (special on the inaugural meeting and future of the society)

[Vol 1, #1, October 2005](#) (special on the formation of the society)

[Vol 0, March 2005](#) (open invitation to participate in the society initiative)

**Robin M. Wright, Editor**

**Whitney Bauman, Amanda Holmes, Luke Johnston, Bron Taylor, Robin Globus, Contributing Editors**

**Roger Gottlieb, Collaborator**

Monday - 9:00 am-11:30 am

CC-208A;

New Program Unit

A20-34

Restoration Ecology of the Anacostia River and Environmental Justice Boat Tour

Monday - 9:30 am-12:00 pm

A20-75

Religion and Ecology Group and Contemporary Pagan Studies Consultation and Religion and Ecology

Monday - 1:00 pm-3:30 pm

CC-209C;

A20-106

Comparative Studies in Relig-

ion Section and Animals and Religion Monday - 4:00 pm-6:30 pm. CC-158A;

A21-4

Christian Systematic Theology Section. Tuesday - 9:00 am-11:30 am. CC-147B;

The Following Include Papers on the theme of "Religion and Ecology"

A20-63

Theology and Religious Reflection Section

Monday - 1:00 pm-3:30 pm

CC-152A;

A20-80

Death, Dying, and Beyond Consultation. Monday - 1:00 pm-3:30 pm. CC-143A;

A21-1

Academic Teaching and the Study of Religion Section

Tuesday - 9:00 am-11:30 am

CC-147A;

Society for Biblical Literature: Religion and Ecology Events

Room: 150B - CC.

S18-113

Ecological Hermeneutics

11/18/2006

4:00 PM to 6:30 PM

Room: 203B - CC

S19-130

Space, Place, and Lived Experience in Antiquity

11/19/2006

4:00 PM to 6:30 PM

Room: 149B - CC

The Following Include Papers

on the theme of "Religion and Ecology"

S18-75

Social Sciences and the Interpretation

of the Hebrew Scriptures

11/18/2006, 1:00 PM to 3:30 PM, Room: 143B - CC

S18-119

John's Apocalypse and Cultural Contexts Ancient and Modern

11/18/2006, 4:00 PM to 6:30 PM, Room: 144B - CC

## JOIN ISSRNC

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Membership in the International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture is open to anybody who is engaged in critical scholarly inquiry that relates to the mission of the ISSRNC.

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 \$50,000—\$75,000, dues \$70.00  
 \$75,000—\$100,000, dues \$90.00  
 \$100,000 and more, dues \$125.00

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