

Association of Professors and Researchers in Religious Education

2001

January

March

JUNE

August

2001 APRRE Annual Meeting *RELIGIOUS EDUCATION IN AN AGE OF GLOBALIZATION*

**November 2-4, 2001
Minneapolis, Minnesota
Marriott City Center Hotel**

As you prepare to come to Minneapolis, and with the tentative schedule of this year's Annual Meeting that is going out in this newsletter, I would like to invite everyone (not just members preparing papers and research notes for Research Interest Groups or colloquia) to reflect on the following questions which will be addressed by the panel of global scholars at the opening plenary on Friday afternoon. Remember, only you can bring the perspective from your region and your context.

1. How has the phenomenon of globalization been manifesting itself in your country/region/community?
2. What impact has this been having on the religious/spiritual life of the people? On religious and theological education?
3. How have you and your peers tried to respond to the challenges brought about by these issues and concerns?

Some resources to provide information and stimulate thinking include:

Global Visions: Beyond the New World Order, edited by J. Brecher, J.B. Childs, and J. Cutler (Montreal/New York/London: Black Rose Books, 1993)

Globalization: The Human Consequences, by Zygmunt Bauman (New York: Columbia University Press, 1998)

Globalization and Culture, by John Tomlinson (University of Chicago Press, 1999)

Globalization from Below: The Power of Solidarity, by J. Brecher, T. Costello, and B. Smith (Cambridge, MA: South End Press, 2000)

The No-Nonsense Guide To Globalization, by Wayne Ellwood (New Internationalist in conjunction with Verso in the US and Between-the-Lines Press in Canada, 2001) Web site www.newint.org

Wenh-In Ng
President-Elect

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Tentative Schedule and Presenters ↪

APRRE has a new home!! See p. 3

Tentative Meeting Schedule and Presenters

Friday, November 2

2:00-3:30 pm

Opening APRRE Plenary:

"Globalization in Our Time and Space"

This session will address such issues as "How does globalization manifest itself? How does it impact the religious life of people? How are people responding to the challenges globalization brings?"

Panelists Wenh-In Ng, Toronto School of Theology; Hope Antone, Consultant for Communications for the Christian Conference of Asia, Hong Kong; Peter Ng, Chinese University of Hong Kong; Denise Nadeau, Vancouver School of Theology.

3:45 - 5:15

APRRE Research Interest Groups & Colloquia

5:30 - Sabbath Service

6:00

APRRE Banquet and Plenary Forum:

"Pan-African Perspectives on the Burgeoning Globalized Consciousness"

Panelists: Reginald Blount, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary; Nelson T. Strobert, Gettysburg Lutheran Seminary; Claire Smith, Union PSCE; Yolanda Smith, Yale University Divinity School; Fred Smith, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary; and N. Lynne Westfield, Drew University.

APRRE presenters for 2001 in Research Interest Groups and Colloquia are:

Eugene Angus, Dori Baker, Helen Blier, Lorna Bowman, Wayne Cavalier, Grace Choi Kim, Ron Cram, Mario D'Souza, Leona English, Charles Foster, Stavros Fotiou, Peter Gilmour, Thomas Grenham, Mary Hess, Barbara Keely, Boyung Lee, Fred Lyon, Brian Mahan, Dean Manternach, Chuck Melchert, Russ Moy, Kathleen O'Gorman, Robert O'Gorman, Janet Parachin, Evelyn Parker, Anabel Proffitt, Bert Roebben, Kieran Scott, Alan Smith, Lawanda Smith, Nam Soon Song, Timothy Van Meter, Michael Warren, Brett Webb-Mitchell, and Cathy Zeph.

Saturday November 3

8:00 - 9:30 am

APRRE Research Interest Groups & Colloquia

9:45 - 10:45

Denominational Meetings

11:00 - 12:15

APRRE Plenary:

"Global Citizenship: Issues in Ministry and Education"

Panelists: Christine Blair, Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary; Eileen Daily, Boston College; Jack Priestley, University of Exeter, UK

12:30 - 1:45 pm

APRRE Men's & Women's Luncheon

2:00 - 3:30

APRRE Research Interest Groups & Colloquia

3:45 - 5:15

APRRE Task Forces

6:00 - 7:30

REA/APRRE Dinner & REA Annual Meeting

Sunday, November 4

8:00 - 8:30 am Interfaith Worship

8:45 - 10:00

APRRE Research Interest Groups & Colloquia

10:15 - 11:15

APRRE Business Meeting

11:30 - 12:30

Closing APRRE Plenary:

"Being a Religious Educator in an Age of Globalization: Learning from David Ng"

Panelists: Wenh-In Ng, Univ. of Toronto; Russell Moy, Church Divinity School of the Pacific; Joyce Mercer, San Francisco Theological Seminary; Nam Soon Song, Knox College, Toronto; Boyung Lee, Boston College.

Minneapolis Marriott City Center Hotel

APRRE will meet this year in a distinctive location. The Marriott City Center Hotel is a glass-faced triangular building, in which the lobby is found on the fifth floor. Several of our meeting rooms will be triangular as well, with views looking out over the city.

In addition, there is a food court on the fourth floor, and the Minneapolis Skyway connects on the second floor. This enclosed Skyway allows persons to walk comfortably through 56 blocks of the downtown area, through departments stores, banks, hotels and

food courts, without ever going outside.

Hotel reservations can be made anytime by calling either 1-800-228-9290 or directly to the hotel at 1-612-349-4000. Be sure to identify yourself as a member of APRRE.

The **APRRE guest room rate of \$99** single or double (regular rate: \$259) is **guaranteed on or before October 10.**

You may explore the hotel facility further on-line at

<http://www.marriott.com/marriott/mspcc>

Pan Methodist Group

Plans are under way for the APRRE Pan Methodist gathering on Friday, November 2, 2001 from 10-1:30. Diane Olson from the Task Force on Children and Poverty for the North Illinois Conference and who teaches a course on Children's Ministry at Garrett-ETS will be with us. Diane will give a presentation on the Bishops' Initiative on Children and Poverty.

Also, a website is under construction for the Pan Methodist Group thanks to David Otto. If you have syllabi to post please email David at dotto@centenary.edu.

APRRE has a New Home!!

With a new Executive Secretary, APRRE gets a new home as well.

Randy G. Litchfield

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THE WEBSITE MOVED TOO!!

<http://www.mtso.edu/aprre>

Task Force on Adult Religious Education (ARE)

Topic: Resourcing Adult Religious Education

At the 2000 APRRE meeting we assembled approximately 35 people to talk about Stories of Adult Education. The interest in the topic was considerable and we would like to continue chairing the task force this year but with a slightly different focus. Last year there was great energy around resources; many of the participants came to get ideas for teaching and to find out more about adult religious education publishing and research. Our focus for 2001 is *resources*. We will:

1. Use the email list created for the ARE group, by Jane Regan (Boston College), to personally invite ARE participants back to the group.

2. We plan to use the time to have 6 invited presenters do demonstrations or explanations of readings, organizations, journals, teaching methods, web pages, ideas, syllabi, or challenges, in ARE. We will have each person present for 10 minutes each (on the what, how, and why of the resource) and we will ask them to bring handouts for the participants.
3. We will leave time for exchange of ideas and announcements.

We hope this proposal meets with your approval.

—Leona English and Cathy Zeph

Executive Secretary Melchert Reports:

This will be the last time I report to members as your Executive Secretary. By the time you receive this Newsletter, Randy Litchfield will have officially become your Executive Secretary. The transition has gone very smoothly so far. I have been pleased and impressed with Randy's dedication to APRRE and his ability to step right in and improve upon the services offered to members.

Randy and I recently did a joint site visit to hotels in the city chosen for possible 2002 Annual Meeting site. Hopefully, a recommendation will be forthcoming soon. And this Newsletter is a good sample of the transition - for Melchert compiled it, then e-mailed it to Litchfield for final editing, printing and mailing.

As of this mailing, all your inquiries, requests and offers of assistance should be directed to Litchfield. I will tidy up the books for the 2000-2001 fiscal year and prepare the federal tax return, and then my formal responsibilities are concluded. I will remain available as needed during the months ahead, and will help with some of the preparation (if and as needed) for the Fall 2001 Annual Meeting in Minneapolis.

I offer my heartfelt gratitude to all those members, especially officers, and most especially the Vice-Presidents who plan programs, who have worked so hard in support of the Association over the last six years. I also gratefully remember the gracious assistance offered me by Padraic O'Hare as I moved into this position in 1994.

What do I plan to do with all my APRRE-free time? I will get back to the writing that has been postponed, especially the book on truth and self-deception in education and ministry; Anabel has already claimed some more of my time for teaching at Lancaster Theological Seminary and I am spending more time playing golf, training a new puppy and reading novels, historical fiction, poetry and mysteries.

In fact, let me recommend a few of my recent favorites: Ian Pears, *An Instance of the Fingerpost* (a postmodern mystery set in 17th century England, with a theological resolution!); Adriana Trigiani's *Big Stone Gap*, a wonderful character study; Arthur Golden's fascinating account of the *Memoirs of a Geisha* - a remarkable world revealed; Tracy Chevalier's *Girl with a Pearl Earring* - a charming fictional account of one of the painter Vermeer's subjects; and David Nevin's *Eagle's Cry* - a fascinating historical reconstruction of the republic from 1799-1803 (it seems the political contests haven't changed much!); and Barbara Kingsolver's *Prodigal Summer* - one of those books which provide not only a good lesson in ecology and in life, but which you don't want to end because you have fallen in love with her characters. Or you might try Peter Tremayne's mystery series about Sister Fidelma, a seventh century Celtic nun who actually was also a justice in the legal system - depicting a version of society and Christianity in Ireland more attractive than the European version which later replaced it. Enough!

All that aside, I want to tell you all how full and rich you have helped make my life since I attended my first APRRE meeting in 1966. And these last six years, I have enjoyed being able to give something back, as well as stay in touch with you all. While it has occasionally been trying, it has also been very satisfying. I feel blessed. Thanks to you all!

I look forward to seeing you all in Minneapolis this fall!

If you have an item for the August newsletter, please submit it by August 15th to Randy Litchfield Executive Secretary

Membership and Budget Report

The near-end of June comparison for the last three years is as follows:

The current membership consists of:

	2001	2000	1999	1998
Mailing list:	436	444	439	426
Paid-up members:	302	299	304	299

207	Members
7	Associate Members
49	Student Members
39	Retired Members

The 2000-2001 Budget adopted called for income of \$34,650 and expenses of \$34,640. While the fiscal year is not quite complete, it looks like the income will be about \$37,650 and expenses will be near \$34,000. Both membership renewals and interest income exceeded expectations, and the 2000 Annual Meeting finished with a net gain to the Association. We currently have reserves (in interest bearing CD's, including \$12,500 in Travel Funds) of about \$19,300 and a current checking account balance of about \$5600 as of this writing.

This healthy reserve total, the best in years, has been enhanced by the generosity of members in giving to the Travel Fund appeal in recent years. That continues to need members' support, for the sake of our younger members and student members.

TRAVEL FUND Appeal

As was noted in the previous report, the Travel Fund continues to grow - perhaps making possible increased disbursements in the near future. It is important to continue to support our student members in this manner.

You will find opportunity to contribute on the Membership Renewal Form included in this mailing.

Please be generous!

**Remember to
renew your
APRRE
membership!!**

Executive Secretary Change Effective July 1st

Effective July 1, 2001 Randy Litchfield assumed responsibilities as Executive Secretary of APRRE for a three year term. This concludes several months of transition during which Chuck Melchert has been bringing Litchfield up to speed on the office. Litchfield has recently moved from Anderson University to Methodist Theological School in Ohio as Associate Professor of Christian Education. He has served as recording secretary since 1992. Please take note of the new mailing and contact information for APRRE. Also update your web browser bookmarks to the new internet address.

Thank You Chuck!!!

Chuck Melchert has served APRRE very well as Executive Secretary. He has been dedicated to fostering quality scholarship, collegial dialogue, and stability for our association. During the transitional time between Executive Secretaries, Chuck has gone the extra mile to prepare and train his successor, Randy Litchfield.

Given the good health of APRRE, we owe Chuck many, many thanks. Please take advantage of opportunities to do so.