



DoSER Newsletter, Fall 2015

Fostering dialogue between scientific and
religious communities since 1995

Holiday Lecture: The Art of Science and Spirit

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Please join us for "**The Art of Science and Spirit**"
December 2, 2015 | 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.
American Association for the Advancement of Science
1200 New York Avenue, Washington, DC

DIRECTOR'S NOTE



We're feeling the first nips of crisp air here in the Mid-Atlantic region and that means exciting annual events on the DoSER schedule. Our annual holiday lecture, December 2, will feature a discussion of science, art, and spirituality. The 2016 AAAS Annual Meeting will include two compelling DoSER activities: [a symposium on "Biodiversity, Scientists, and Religious Communities: Conservation Through Collaboration"](#) and a reception at which recipients of the Science for Religion Reporters award will receive their prizes. You can read about these events and much more below.

What I'd like to highlight in this note is Pope Francis' call to action on climate change, both during his recent visit to the U.S. and in a document he published earlier this year. His commitment to this issue demonstrates a growing and important relationship between religious leaders and the scientific community, one that DoSER has actively supported for 20 years by facilitating conversations between scientists and religious communities. The Holy Father's affirmation is so significant that I published a statement of support for his environmental encyclical on behalf of AAAS/DoSER and we sent our communications associate to cover his visit to the White House, where he reiterated the call to action on climate change. You can read both articles on the DoSER website.

[Read the AAAS/DoSER statement of support »](#)

[Read about the environmental emphasis of the Pope Francis' visit to the White House »](#)

SCIENCE FOR RELIGION REPORTERS



Midway through a one-year pilot project that offers science enrichment opportunities to religion reporters, DoSER is offering awards to help up to 12 religion journalists attend the 2016 AAAS Annual Meeting in Washington, DC. The award application deadline is November 8, 2015. Award recipients will be announced by January 4, 2016.

The award follows a one-day science symposium for religion reporters that drew nearly 100 people to a pre-conference program held in conjunction with the annual Religion Newswriters Association annual meeting in Philadelphia, August 27. The theme of the symposium, "[What Does It Mean to Be Human?](#)" looked at this question in light of three areas — artificial intelligence and robotics, the search for life beyond earth, and genetic engineering.

[Read more about the Science for Religion Reporters project »](#)

[Read about the RNA preconference program »](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

AAR/SBL Symposium

Friday, November 20, 2015 | 1:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Hilton Hotel: 255 Courtland Street, NE, Atlanta

Science and the Next Generation of Religious Leaders: The Science for Seminaries Project — a symposium hosted in collaboration with the Association of Theological Schools (ATS) and the International Society for Science and Religion (ISSR). The event will be held

in conjunction with the American Academy for Religion/Society of Biblical Literature (AAR/SBL) annual meeting and will feature project partners and advisors.

[Learn more about the AAR/SBL preconference program »](#)

The Art of Science and Spirit

Wednesday, December 2, 2015 | 5:30 – 7:30 pm,
AAAS: 1200 New York Avenue, Washington, DC

[Register for the holiday lecture »](#)

2016 Annual Meeting | Washington, DC

Friday, February 12, 2016 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Omni Shoreham Hotel: Birdcage Walk

[DoSER Reception and Science for Religion Reporters award ceremony »](#)

Saturday, February 13, 2016 | 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

[Biodiversity, Scientists, and Religious Communities:](#)

[Conservation Through Collaboration](#)

[Register for the Annual Meeting](#)

Save the date

Summer 2016 Science for Seminaries Faculty Enrichment Retreats

Mainline Protestant: June 20 – 23, 2016, Maine

Evangelical/Conservative Protestant: July 18 – 21, Oregon

Catholic/Orthodox: August 2 – 5, Maine

Application deadline: January 15, 2016

[Learn more »](#)

[Learn more about the Science for Seminaries project »](#)



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For more information about this event, contact doser@aaas.org.