

## Young Scholars Program Renewed

We are pleased to announce that Lilly Endowment has agreed to renew funding for the Young Scholars in American Religion Program. The grant, totaling \$852,589, will enable the program to continue through 2012.

Begun in 1991, over one hundred new faculty members have completed the series of seminars dedicated to teaching and research. The program will continue to focus on those elements of the profession but also include a weekend seminar on such other professional issues as constructing a tenure portfolio, publication, grant writing, and department politics.

“I believe this is one of the most successful training seminars for new faculty in any field of study,” said Philip Goff, director of the Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture. “By adding another set of meetings for issues that often go undiscussed, we can further enhance an already wonderful program and hopefully help our participants navigate rough waters that sometimes make academic life difficult.”

The grant will provide funds for three groups of Young Scholars to go through the program. The first set will meet five times from 2007 through 2009. The second will meet from 2009 through 2011. The final group will meet from 2010 through 2012.

Mentors for the 2007-09 Young Scholars in American Religion Program will be Dr. Amanda Porterfield, the Robert A. Spivey Professor of Religion at Florida State University, and Dr. Paul Harvey, Professor of History at University of Colorado, Colorado Springs. Dr. Porterfield is author of such important books as *Female Piety*

*in Puritan New England*, *Mary Lyon and the Mount Holyoke Missionaries*, and *The Transformation of American Religion*, and more recently *Healing in the History of Christianity* and *The Protestant Experience in America*. Dr. Harvey is author of *Redeeming the South* and *Freedom's Coming*, as well as co-editor of *Themes in Religion and American Culture* and *The Columbia Documentary History of Religion in America Since 1945*.

“We are very grateful for the trust Lilly Endowment has placed in us to continue helping new professors as they gain their footing,” said Goff. “This program is unique in its design and its long-time level of success. I’m

proud that it is associated with Lilly Endowment.”

Information about the program and the application requirements can be found on page 11 of this Newsletter. For further information, please write, email, or call the Center directly.

“This program is unique in its design and its long-time level of success. I’m proud that it is associated with Lilly Endowment.”

- Philip Goff, Center Director

## CSRAC Named a Signature Center of IUPUI

The Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture was recently named a Signature Center of Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis. The Signature Center designation, new to IUPUI, is based upon several criteria, including research strength, academic distinction, and scholarly record of faculty investigators. The Center’s proposal was one of nineteen selected from seventy-one submissions. “A strong university research profile that brings genuine distinction is always built on ideas that faculty are passionate about,” said Uday Sukhatme, IUPUI Executive Vice Chancellor and Dean of the Faculties, “The IUPUI Signature Center Initiative was designed to promote such strong research units. The Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture already has a remarkably strong track record for scholarship—I had heard about it before joining IUPUI. I was delighted when all four of our faculty review committees independently recognized the unique and distinctive work of the Center, and enthusiastically chose it for support as an IUPUI Signature Center.”

## Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture

**Philip Goff**, Director

**Thomas J. Davis**, Journal Managing Editor

**Peter J. Thuesen**, Director of Research  
in the Humanities

**Arthur Farnsley II**, Director of Research  
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## Working on Scriptures? So are we!

A new research focus at the Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture is how scriptures influence and are influenced by life in North America. Already the research specialization of several of our Research Fellows, the Center is now poised to make the study of scriptures in American life a signature issue of research for the next several years.

We have already identified five areas for study, including: scriptures and American ideas, scriptures and science in America, scriptures and American education, scriptures and the American imagination, and scriptures in American law and politics.

One component of this project involves finding those scholars studying the role and influence of scriptures in American society and culture, both past and present. We hope to sponsor several conferences on this topic and need to build a database of those working in this area who might be invited to present their research. We would like to hear from those working in the areas listed above, as well as other subjects related to the topic.

If you are working on some aspect of scriptures in American life, please contact Dr. Peter Thuesen, the Center's Director of Research in the Humanities, by email at [pthuesen@iupui.edu](mailto:pthuesen@iupui.edu) or by mail at The Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture, IUPUI, 425 University Blvd., CA 417, Indianapolis, IN 46202.

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## religion and american culture

*Religion and American Culture: A Journal of Interpretation* is devoted to promoting the ongoing scholarly discussion of the nature, terms, and dynamics of religion in America. Embracing a diversity of theoretical perspectives, this semi-annual publication explores the interplay between religion and other spheres of American Culture.

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## Visiting Scholars Meet with Center Fellows

Spring saw two significant scholars on campus to meet with Research Fellows at the Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture. In March Mark Noll discussed his new research project on Civil Rights, while in April Harry S. Stout conferred with Fellows about his recent book and possible topics for new research.

Noll, formerly of Wheaton College and now Francis A. McAnaney Professor of History at the University of Notre Dame, visited IUPUI to deliver the Thomas H. Lake Lecture on Faith & Giving on March 29th. His lecture, entitled “The Logic of Evangelicalism and the Challenges of Philanthropy,” was attended by nearly 200 academicians and members of the community and sponsored by the Lake Institute on Faith and Giving. A dinner followed the lecture with a discussion moderated by Philip Goff, director of the Center. The next morning Noll met with a group of the Center’s Research Fellows for further conversation. “It was my privilege to experience Indianapolis’ bracing combination of a serious center devoted to the study of philanthropy and a dynamic group that studies American religious history,” said Noll. “As much fun as it was to prepare a lecture on the subject, ‘The Logic of Evangelicalism and the Challenges of Philanthropy,’ it was even more of a treat to bat this subject around with the historians at a roundtable the day following the lecture. Some of the cognoscenti probably still do not think first of Indianapolis, when locating American high points of intellectual excellence, but they should.”



Mark Noll contemplates a question from one of the Center’s Research Fellows

Stout, who is Jonathan Edwards Professor of History of Christianity at Yale University, spoke on April 6th about his new book *Upon the Altar of the Nation: A Moral History of the Civil War* (Penguin Books, 2006). The thought-provoking lecture produced an equally educational question and answer period. “Professor Stout’s wonderfully iconoclastic book uses ‘just war’ theory to question some of the tactics used during the Civil War,” said Peter Thuesen, Center Research Fellow. “It was fascinating to hear him reflect on the reaction from some readers, whose assumptions about the defining American war have been challenged.”

The following day Stout met with a group of the Center’s Fellows to discuss further his work on religion and war, as well as bounce around ideas for his next book project. “I can’t recall a time when three hours went so quickly!” said Stout. “The questions and conversation explored some of the most vexing issues we face as a nation in confronting the difficult subject of religion and war. I emerged from the dialogue with a far clearer sense of how religion has shaped our American society—and our world, for better and for worse.”

The two visits capped a year of gatherings by the Fellows which included such other authors as Alan Petigny of the University of Florida on Reinhold Niebuhr and secularization in the 1950s, and Fellows Sheila Kennedy and Edward Curtis presenting portions of their book manuscripts for discussion. Kennedy’s *God and Country: America in Red and Blue* was just published by Baylor University Press. Curtis’s *Looking for Islam: Sourcebook of Muslims in the United States*, will be published by Columbia University Press this fall.



Harry Stout talks about his latest book, *Upon the Altar of the Nation*, at a roundtable discussion with Center Research Fellows



From left, Center Fellows Jon Baer, William Enright, and William Ringenberg at roundtable discussion with Harry Stout

## Revisiting *Black Gods of the Metropolis* at IUPUI

During the weekend of April 13-15, 2007, the Center helped to stage a conference and community lunch exploring Arthur Huff Fauset’s 1944 classic, *Black Gods of the Metropolis*, one of the first ethnographies of African American new religious movements. In addition to bringing together dozens of students, scholars, and community members, the conference was geared toward producing an edited volume on the legacy of Fauset’s important book.

Participating scholars included Stephen Angell, Earlham School of Religion; Edward Curtis, IUPUI; Jacob Dorman, University of Kansas; Clarence Hardy, Dartmouth College; Kelly Hayes, IUPUI; Sylvester Johnson, Indiana University, Bloomington; Kathryn Lofton, Indiana University, Bloomington; Leonard Primiano, Cabrini College; Carolyn Rouse, Princeton University; Nora Rubel, University of Rochester; and Danielle Brune Sigler, University of Texas at Austin. Rather than presenting papers at the conference, these scholars circulated drafts of their book chapters prior to the meeting and came prepared to discuss the emerging volume in both formal and informal sessions over the course of the weekend.

In addition to reading and commenting on each other’s work, the writers attended a community forum of local religious leaders who offered their insights on the themes of Fauset’s *Black Gods of the Metropolis*. The forum, which was moderated by Edward Curtis, featured Dr. Thomas Brown, Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church; Father Boniface Hardin, President of Martin University; Evangelist Kandy Morrell, Living Water Apostolic Church; and Imam Michael Saahir, Nur Allah Islamic Center. IUPUI students of African American religions also read Fauset’s book and voiced their questions and concerns at the forum, which was open to the general public. The forum, which included lunch, began with an introduction to Fauset by Danielle Brune Sigler.

Financial support for the weekend came largely from the American Academy of Religion’s collaborative research grant program and the School of Liberal Arts at IUPUI.

Edward Curtis and Danielle Sigler have now completed the edited volume on Fauset and the study of African American religions and submitted the manuscript for review at an academic press.



## Research Fellows Research Fellows Research Fellows



Since the advent of departments of Religious Studies in state universities during the 1960s, Indiana has been a leader in the field. By the 1980s, the number of scholars at Indiana University Bloomington and Indiana University-Purdue University

Indianapolis studying aspects of American religion made IU a leader in that sub-field as well. The Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture exists because of this wealth of expertise. With the Spring 2006 issue of the Newsletter,

we began to introduce these Center Research Fellows, each of whom is making extraordinary contributions to the study of religion in American Culture. In this issue, we highlight the work of four more such scholars.

**Candy Gunther Brown** received her PhD in the History of American Civilization at Harvard University (2000). She worked as an assistant professor of history at Vanderbilt University (2000-01) and as an assistant professor of American studies at Saint Louis University (2001-06). She is currently an associate professor of religious studies at Indiana University. Her book, *The Word in the World: Evangelical Writing, Publishing, and Reading in America, 1789-1880* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2004), assesses how evangelicals interacted with the burgeoning print market of the mid-nineteenth century, from the founding of the Methodist Book Concern in 1789 to the 1880 publication of the runaway best-seller, *Ben-Hur*. Currently, Brown is writing a book entitled, *Miracle Cures? A Cultural History of Spiritual Healing in America*. Alongside the professionalization of allopathic medicine, nineteenth-century cultural movements developed around healing alternatives such

as homeopathic and osteopathic medicine, dietary reforms, water cure, mind cure, Christian Science, and divine healing. At the turn of the twenty-first century, public opinion polls suggest that eighty percent of Americans believe that God supernaturally heals people in answer to prayer. In addition to the unprecedented growth of Pentecostal and charismatic Christian churches for which divine healing is a major theological tenet, a wide variety of medical and spiritual therapies have also flourished, such as chiropractic, yoga, New Age crystals, and reiki. A cultural history of diverse spiritual healing practices has implications for fields of discourse rarely treated together, such as religion and science, the history of medicine, gender and ethnic studies, the history of the body, theology, narrative theory, and print culture. At stake are fundamental questions that each of these discursive communities struggle to address, such as the meanings of health, illness, and healing, and competing medical and religious claims to knowledge, authority, and power.



Candy Gunther Brown

**Richard Gunderman** is Associate Professor of Radiology, Pediatrics, Medical Education, Philosophy, Liberal Arts, and Philanthropy at Indiana University, where he also serves as Vice Chair of Radiology and Director of Pediatric Radiology. He received the AB *Summa Cum Laude* from Wabash College, the MD and PhD (Committee on Social Thought) from the University of Chicago, and the MPH from Indiana University. He is a five-time recipient of the Indiana University Trustees Teaching Award, and has also received the Wayne

Booth Award, the Robert Shellhamer Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, the School of Medicine Faculty Teaching Award, and the 2007 Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching. He is the author of over 180 scholarly articles and has published three books. His non-medical teaching and research focus on the ethics of philanthropy and professionalism. His next book, *We Make a Life by What We Give*, will be published by Indiana University Press in the fall of 2007.



Richard Gunderman



William G. Enright

**William G. Enright** is Executive Director of the Lake Family Institute on Faith and Giving at the Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University, and former Senior Pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis. He is a graduate of Wheaton College, Wheaton, Illinois, Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, California and McCormick Theological Seminary, Chicago, Illinois. His PhD is from the University of Edinburgh, Scotland. He also holds two DD (honorary) degrees from Hanover College, Hanover, Indiana and Dubuque Theological Seminary, Dubuque, Iowa. Dr. Enright is currently a director of Lilly Endowment, Inc, The Wishard Hospital Foundation Board, and a trustee of Hanover College. He is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Foundation of the YMCA of Greater Indianapolis and is a past President of the Board of Directors of the YMCA of Greater Indianapolis. His most recent appointment was that of “Advisor for the National

Cathedral Association” of the National Cathedral in Washington D.C. His civic involvement in Indianapolis has included serving as co-chair of the Mayor’s Task Force on Racism, member of Envisioning Indianapolis, the Police Advisory Board, the Board of Directors of the Central Indiana Council On Aging, and the St. Vincent Hospital Advisory Board. He is co-founder of the Celebration of Hope, a program for racial reconciliation, which was recognized by President Clinton as one of ten national programs to be honored at the White House. He has also been honored by two governors with a Sagamore of the Wabash. He has authored several books, the latest being *Channel Markers*, and lectured at numerous colleges, universities, and theological institutions as well as for business associations such as The Young Presidents and World Presidents organizations. In July, 2005, he served as “preacher and chaplain” for the Chautauqua Institution in New York.



William Carey Ringenberg

**William Carey Ringenberg** is professor and chair of history at Taylor University, where he also has been Associate Academic Dean, director of the Honors Program, and a member of the committee coordinating the activities of the campus Center for the Study of C. S. Lewis and Friends. He completed his early graduate work at Indiana University before earning the PhD at Michigan State University in 1970. In the 1970s he served with George Marsden (then of Calvin) as founding board members of the *Christian Scholars Review*, and then in the 1980s he served a two-year term as president of the Conference on Faith and History. Also in the 1980s he served as a part-time United Methodist minister. As with many scholars, Ringenberg’s research direction gained definition through his choice of a dissertation topic. After nearly writing on the Mormon experience in Kirtland, Ohio in the 1830s, he instead focused on “The Protestant College on the Michigan Frontier.” Subsequently, he wrote two Taylor

histories: *Taylor University: The First 125 Years* (1973) and *Taylor University: The First 150 Years* (1996) and the more broadly-based *The Christian College: A History of Protestant Higher Education in America* (1984 and 2006). One of the advantages of teaching in a small liberal arts college is that it can provide the opportunity to teach interdisciplinary courses. For years Ringenberg has taught an honors section of the freshman general education course, Foundation of Christian Thought, and as an outgrowth of that course he has written *Letters to Young Scholars: An Introduction to Christian Thought* (2003). In addition to Christian higher education, his research articles have tended to focus on biographies of religious figures, the religious thought and practice of American presidents (Garfield—the only preacher to go to the White House—and Benjamin Harrison of Indianapolis), Mormons, Mennonites, and war and peace issues.

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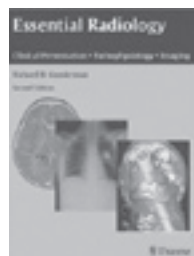
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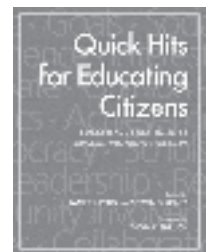
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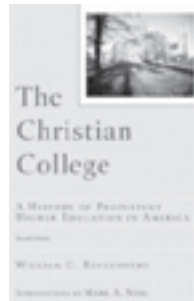
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# Fellows' Recent Publications

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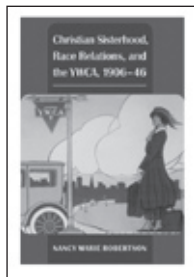
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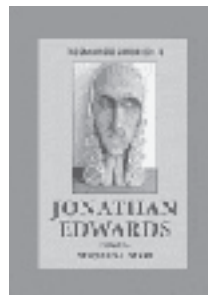
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### Religion & American Culture: A Journal of Interpretation

#### Submission Guidelines

Address all manuscripts and editorial correspondence to:

Thomas J. Davis, Managing Editor  
Center for the Study of Religion  
and American Culture  
425 University Blvd., Room 417  
Indianapolis, IN 46202-5140

All manuscript submissions, four copies of each typescript, should conform to the *Chicago Manual of Style*. Typescripts should be 25-35 pages.

# YOUNG SCHOLARS IN AMERICAN RELIGION

## THE NEXT GENERATION

The Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture announces a program for early career scholars in American religion, funded by Lilly Endowment. Five seminars devoted to the enhancement of teaching, research, and professional development will be offered in Indianapolis. The aims of the program are to generate new ideas and methods of instruction in a supportive workshop environment, stimulate scholarly research and writing, and create a community of scholars that will continue into the future.

### DATES

**2007**

October 18-21

**2008**

April 17-20  
October 16-19

**2009**

April 23-26  
October 15-18

### SEMINAR LEADERS



**Amanda Porterfield** is the Robert A. Spivey Professor of Religion and Director of Graduate Studies at Florida State University. She is a historian of American religion interested in the interplay between religion and culture. She has written books on the New England Puritans, Protestant women missionaries in the 19th century, and the transformation of American religion after 1960. She also has wider interests in the history of Christianity and

in the comparative study of world religions. She served as President of the American Society of Church History in 2001. She is co-editor, with John Corrigan, of *Church History: Studies in Christianity and Culture*, the quarterly journal of the American Society of Church History.



**Paul Harvey** is Professor of History at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs. He researches and writes in the field of post-Civil War American History. His particular interests include southern history, American religious history, popular culture, war and society, and the history of American music. In 2006, Harvey received the Faculty Award for Excellence in Research from the University of Colorado. In 2007, Harvey received the

Outstanding Teaching Award from the College of LAS at the University of Colorado. He is a former Young Scholars in American Religion program participant (1994-1996).

### ELIGIBILITY

Scholars eligible to apply are those who have launched their careers within the last seven years and who are working in a subfield of the area of religion in North America, broadly understood. Ten scholars will be selected, with the understanding that they will commit to the program for all dates. Each participant will be expected to produce a course syllabus, with justification of teaching approach, and a publishable research article. Costs for transportation, lodging, and meals for each seminar will be covered, and a stipend of \$400 per seminar will be paid to each participant. There is no application fee.

### TO APPLY

Applicants must submit a curriculum vita with three letters of reference that directly support their application to the program and a 500-word essay indicating 1) why they are interested in participating, and 2) their current and projected research and teaching activities. The deadline for applications is August 20, 2007.

Send essays and CVs electronically to : [raac@iupui.edu](mailto:raac@iupui.edu).

Send reference letters to: Philip Goff, Director, Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture, Cavanaugh Hall, Room 417, 425 University Boulevard, Indianapolis, IN 46202-5140.

Details in this issue of News from the Center for the Study of Religion & American Culture

**THE NEXT GENERATION**

**AMERICAN RELIGION**  
**YOUNG SCHOLARS**  
IN

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