



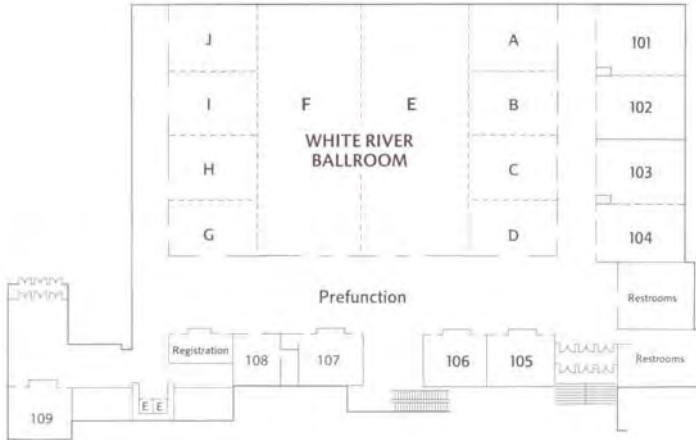
Second Biennial Conference on Religion and American Culture

June 2-5, 2011

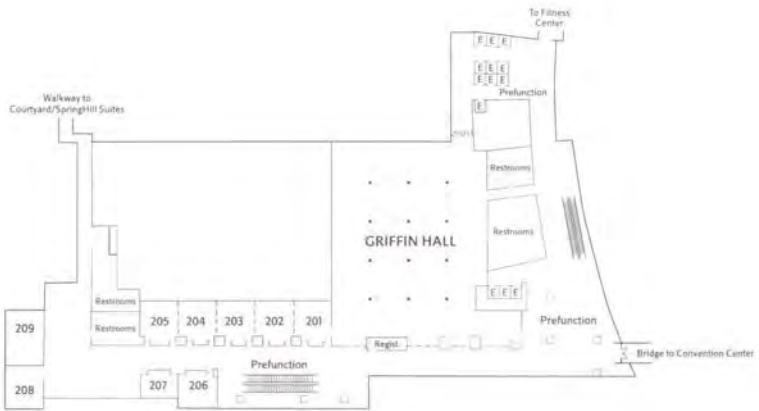
J.W. Marriott Hotel

Indianapolis, IN

J.W. Marriott



First Floor



Second Floor

Second Biennial Conference on Religion and American Culture

June 2-5, 2011

J.W. Marriott Hotel
Indianapolis, IN

Thursday, June 2 Griffin Hall Foyer (Second Floor)

6:00-8:00pm Opening Reception
Registration

Friday, June 3 White River Ballroom F-J (First Floor)

8:00 am Registration

Changing Religion in a Changing Culture

8:30-10:00 am **Session 1:** *What are our academic assumptions about religion?*

10:00-10:30 Morning Break

10:30-12:00 **Session 2:** *Revisiting the secularity/secularization question*

12:00-1:30 Break for Lunch

Changing What "Religion" Means

1:30-3:00 **Session 3:** *Religion's role in political identity*

3:00-3:30 Afternoon Break

3:30-5:00 **Session 4:** *Religion's role in immigration and globalization*

Saturday, June 4 White River Ballroom F-J (First Floor)

8:30-10:00 **Session 5:** *Religion's role in personal identity*

10:00-10:30 Morning Break

10:30-12:00 **Session 6:** *Market models for understanding religion*

12:00-1:30 Break for Lunch

Changes in the Future, Real and Imagined

1:30-3:00 **Session 7:** *Changes in the understanding and uses of scripture*

3:00-3:30 Afternoon Break

3:30-5:00 **Session 8:** *The future of religion in America*

5:00-8:00 Concluding Reception Griffin Hall Foyer (Second Floor)

THURSDAY, JUNE 2

6:00-8:00 pm Opening Reception, Griffin Hall Foyer, 2nd Floor
Registration

8:00 am Registration

8:30-10:00 am White River Ballroom F-J (First Floor)

Changing What “Religion” Means

Session 1: What are our academic assumptions about religion?

Bringing together people who work on religious experience with people who study lived religion and social scientists who do work on individual choice, our goal is to consider the effect of newer, “from the ground up” approaches to religious study on older, more traditional models that emphasize organizations and ideology.

Panelists:

Penny Edgell received her Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Chicago and is Professor of Sociology at the University of Minnesota. The motivating question of her research is “How do religious institutions shape the moral order(s) of society?” She has conducted major research projects on conflict in local religious communities, on religiously-based family ideals, and on religious and racial diversity in American life. A new project funded by NSF will examine how people draw on religious, legal, and scientific discourses in understanding social controversies. She is the author of *Religion and Family in a Changing Society* (Princeton University Press, 2005) and *Congregations in Conflict: Cultural Models of Local Religious Life* (Cambridge University Press, 1999).

Robert Orsi received his Ph.D. from Yale University. He is Professor of Religious Studies and History and Grace Craddock Nagle Professor of Catholic Studies at Northwestern University. He has just completed a manuscript of the *Cambridge Companion to Religious Studies* (forthcoming, 2012) and is at work on a social and cultural study of Catholic childhoods in the 20th century, to be published by Harvard University Press. He is author of *Between Heaven and Earth: The Religious Worlds People Make and the Scholars Who Study Them* (Princeton, 2005).

Ann Taves received her Ph.D. from the University of Chicago and is Professor of Religious Studies at the University of California at Santa Barbara. Her research interests include religious experience, psychology, and cognitive science; theory and method in the study of religion; and American religious history and Christianity in the modern era. She is the author of *Fits, Trances, and Visions* (Princeton University Press, 1999); *Religious Experience Reconsidered* (Princeton University Press, 2009); and “Religion’ in the Humanities and in the University,” AAR 2010 Presidential Address (*Journal of the American Academy of Religion*, forthcoming May 2011).

Changing What “Religion” Means

10:30-12:00

Session 2: Revisiting the secularity/secularization question

Nowhere in the study of religion does the approach one takes have a greater impact on the conclusions one reaches. Defined as institutions, organizations, and ideology, secularization seems apparent. Seen from the level of everyday life, religion is all around us. This is an excellent place to focus the conversation about what religion is and what this means to how we think about it.

Panelists:

Tracy Fessenden earned her Ph.D. at the University of Virginia and is Associate Professor of Religious Studies at Arizona State University. She is an Americanist with interests in religion and literature; the interface of religion and the secular; and gender and sexuality in American religious history. Her books include *Culture and Redemption: Religion, the Secular, and American Literature* (Princeton University Press, 2006) and the forthcoming collection *Rethinking Secularism in a Global Age: What Difference Does Gender Make?*

Paul Froese earned his Ph.D. from the University of Washington and is Associate Professor of Sociology at Baylor University. His research interests include religion, social change, ideology, and political sociology. He is the author of *America's Four Gods: What We Say About God and What that Says About Us* (Oxford University Press, 2010) and *The Plot to Kill God: Findings from the Soviet Experiment in Secularization* (University of California Press, 2008).

Rhys Williams received his Ph.D. from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. He is Professor and Chair of Sociology at Loyola University Chicago and is the Director of the McNamara Center for the Social Study of Religion. His research focuses on religion and American politics, American social movements, and contemporary non-Christian immigration. He is the author of “American National Identity, the Rise of the Modern City, and the Birth of Protestant Fundamentalism,” pp.77-98 in *The Fundamentalist City?: Religiosity and the Remaking of Urban Space* (Routledge, 2011) and “Politicized Evangelicalism and Secular Elites: Creating a ‘Moral Other,’” pp. 143-79 in *Evangelicals and Democracy In America, Volume II: Religion and Politics* (Russell Sage Foundation, 2009).

Changing Religion in a Changing Culture

1:30-3:00

Session 3: Religion's role in political identity

This session is intentionally broad and those that follow are not mutually exclusive. But recent political battles over sexuality issues or Islam and the Koran or heated partisan rhetoric need to be considered in terms of changing understandings of religion in American society.

Panelists:

Paul Djupe received his Ph.D. from Washington University, St. Louis. He is currently Associate Professor of Political Science at Denison University and his areas of research include religion and political behavior and social networks. He is the author of *The Political Influence of Churches* (Cambridge University Press, 2009) and *Religious Interests in Community Conflict: Beyond the Culture Wars* (Baylor University Press, 2007).

Sylvester Johnson earned his Ph.D. from Union Theological Seminary, New York City. He is Assistant Professor of Religion, Adjunct Faculty in African American and African Diaspora Studies at Indiana University-Bloomington. His research interests include religion and American empire and race and religion. He is the author of *The Myth of Ham in Nineteenth-Century American Christianity: Race, Heathens, and the People of God* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2004). He is currently writing *African American Religions, 1500-2000: Colonialism, Democracy, and Freedom* (under contract with Cambridge University Press).

Clyde Wilcox received his Ph.D. from Ohio State University and is Professor in the Department of Government at Georgetown University. His research interests include American and comparative politics, including religion and politics, gender politics, public opinion and electoral behavior, campaign finance, and science fiction and politics. He is author of *The Financiers of Congressional Elections: Investors, Ideologues, and Intimates* (with Peter Francia, John Green, Paul Herrnson, and Lynda Power) (Columbia University Press, 2003) and *Onward Christian Soldiers: The Christian Right in American Politics* (with Carin Larson) (Westview, 1996; 2nd edition, 2000; 3rd edition, 2005), among others.

FRIDAY, JUNE 3

Changing Religion in a Changing Culture

3:30-5:00

Session 4: Religion's role in immigration and globalization

In some ways a subset of Session 3, we want to focus the conversation on questions about the religious components of movement, particularly immigration, integration, and the impact of globalization on religion in American culture.

Panelists:

Gerardo Marti received his Ph.D. from the University of Southern California and is the L. Richardson King Associate Professor of Sociology at Davidson College. His research interests include congregations, racial-ethnic dynamics, religious innovation, and social change. He is the author of *A Mosaic of Believers* (Indiana University Press, 2005), *Hollywood Faith* (Rutgers University Press, 2008), and *Worship across the Racial Divide* (Oxford University Press, forthcoming).

Timothy Matovina earned his Ph.D. at The Catholic University of America. He is Professor of Theology and William and Anna Jean Cushwa Director of the Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism at the University of Notre Dame. He specializes in Latino religion and theology in the United States, and is author of *Guadalupe and Her Faithful: Latino Catholics in San Antonio from Colonial Origins to the Present* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2005) and *Latino Catholicism: Transformation in America's Largest Church* (Princeton University Press, forthcoming).

Fenggang Yang received his Ph.D. from The Catholic University of America. Currently he is Professor of Sociology and Director of the Center on Religion and Chinese Society (CRCS) at Purdue University. He is the author of *Chinese Christians in America: Conversion, Assimilation, and Adhesive Identities*. His "Transformations in New Immigrant Religions and Their Global Implications" (with Helen Rose Ebaugh, *American Sociological Review* 66 (2): 269-288) won the 2002 distinguished article award of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. His forthcoming book is *Religion in China: Survival and Revival under Communist Rule* (Oxford University Press).

White River Ballroom F-J (First Floor)

Changing Religion in a Changing Culture

8:30-10:00

Session 5: Religion's role in personal identity

This conversation was left hanging in 2009 and we want to re-focus attention specifically on new understandings of religion and what this says about shifting personal identities (including class, race, ethnicity, and gender).

Panelists:

Sally Gallagher earned her Ph.D. from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst and is Professor of Sociology in the School of Public Policy at Oregon State University. She is author of *Evangelical Identity and Gendered Family Life* (Rutgers 2003) and numerous articles on evangelicals, gender, and family. She is currently writing in the area of gender, family, and congregational culture and has a forthcoming book on gender and religion in Damascus.

Su'ad Abdul Khabeer received her Ph.D. from Princeton University and is Assistant Professor of Anthropology and African American Studies at Purdue University. Her research interests include Islam in America, popular culture studies, identity and race, and performance studies. She is the author of "Rep that Islam: The Rhyme and Reason of American Islamic Hip Hop" (*The Muslim World*, Volume 97, Issue 1, 125:141, 2007).

Laurie Maffly-Kipp received her Ph.D. in History from Yale University. She is Chair and Professor of the Department of Religious Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Her research focuses on religion in the American West, African-American religion, and Mormonism. She is the author of *Setting Down the Sacred Past: African American Race Histories* (Harvard University Press, 2010) and *Religion and Society in Frontier California* (Yale University Press, 1994).

SATURDAY, JUNE 4

Changing Religion in a Changing Culture

10:30-12:00

Session 6: Market models for understanding religion

Somewhat of an outlier in this group, we believe economic models are now so widely used across the social sciences (and as an unquestioned metaphor in the humanities) that it would be impossible for us to ignore this as a key factor in changing definitions of religion in a world increasingly shaped by economic models.

Panelists:

Roger Finke earned his Ph.D. from University of Washington, Seattle. He is professor of Sociology and Religious Studies and Director of the Association of Religion Data Archives (www.theARDA.com) at Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA. He is co-editor, with Rodney Stark, of *The Churching of America 1776-2005: Winners and Losers in our Religious Economy*, 2nd Ed. (Rutgers University Press, 2005) and co-author, with Brian J. Grim, of *The Price of Freedom Denied: Religious Persecution and Conflict in the 21st Century* (Cambridge University Press, 2010).

James Hudnut-Beumler received his Ph.D. from Princeton University and is the Anne Potter Wilson Distinguished Professor of American Religious History at Vanderbilt University and dean of the Divinity School. His current academic interests include the historiography of religion in the American South and religion and philanthropy. He is currently working on a volume on the future of mainline Protestantism, and is the author of *Looking for God in the Suburbs: The Religion of the American Dream and Its Critics, 1945-1965* (Rutgers, 1994) and *In Pursuit of the Almighty's Dollar: A History of Money and American Protestantism* (University of North Carolina, 2007) among other books.

Kathryn Lofton earned her Ph.D. at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She is Assistant Professor of American Studies and Religious Studies at Yale University, and her research is focused on modern U.S. religious history, especially the intersections of religion and sexuality, religion and consumer culture, and religion and modernity. She is the author of *Oprah: The Gospel of an Icon* (University of California Press, 2011) and co-editor, with Laurie Maffly-Kipp, of *Women's Work: An Anthology of African-American Women's Historical Writings from Antebellum America to the Harlem Renaissance* (Oxford University Press, 2010).

Changes in the Future, Real and Imagined

1:30-3:00

Session 7: Changes in the understanding and uses of scripture

In 2011, the 400th anniversary of the King James Version of the Bible, we hope to use this session to forward the Center's interest in changing attitudes toward scripture. Scripture, especially the Bible, continues to play a formative role in American life. If understandings of religion are changing, it stands to reason understandings of scripture are changing too. We want to think about why and how.

Panelists:

Charles Cohen received his Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley. He is Professor of History and Religious Studies and Director of the Lubar Institute for the Study of the Abrahamic Religions at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. His area of research is the Abrahamic traditions, and he is co-editor with Paul Boyer, of *Religion and the Culture of Print in Modern America* (University of Wisconsin Press, 2008), as well as co-editor, with Leonard Kaplan, of *Theology and the Soul of the Liberal State* (Lexington Books, 2010).

Kathleen Flake received her Ph.D. from the University of Chicago. She is Associate Professor of American Religious History, Vanderbilt Graduate Department of Religion and Divinity School. Her primary research interests are in the adaptive strategies of American religions, especially their strategic use of ritual and canonical text, and in First Amendment questions of church and state. Her current project is "Mormon Matriarchy, a Study of Gendered Power in Antebellum America," and she is the author of *The Politics of Religious Identity: the Seating of Senator Reed Smoot, Mormon Apostle* (UNC, 2004) and articles in the *Journal of Religion* and in *Religion and American Culture: A Journal of Interpretation*, and *Journal of Ritual*.

Charles Hambrick-Stowe earned his Ph.D. at Boston University and is Pastor of First Congregational Church of Ridgefield, Connecticut. His areas of study include Colonial American religion and the history of evangelicalism. He is the author of *Charles G. Finney and the Spirit of American Evangelicalism* (Eerdmans, 1996) and "New England Theology in New England," in Douglas Sweeney and Oliver Crisp, eds., *After Jonathan Edwards: The Courses of the New England Theology* (Oxford University Press, forthcoming).

SATURDAY, JUNE 4

Changes in the Future, Real and Imagined

3:30-5:00

Session 8: The future of religion in America

This is a big question, but what is the point of assembling a group like this unless it is to take a step back and ask the big-picture questions from a variety of perspectives? Here we want to think about not only how the study of American religion is changing, but about how religious beliefs and practices are changing at the broadest level. How will technology change religion, or be changed by it? What sacred domains exist beyond what has traditionally been called religion? How will civil religion relate to traditional religion? At its core, this session is concerned with how people will be religious in the coming years.

Panelists:

David Daniels earned his Ph.D. from Union Theological Seminary and is Henry Winters Luce Professor of World Christianity at McCormick Theological Seminary. He is author of various articles on the history of Christianity and book reviews published in *Pneuma*, *Christian Century*, *Encyclopedia of African American Religions*, and *A Sourcebook for the Community of Religions*.

Mark Silk earned his Ph.D. from Harvard University. He is Professor of Religion in Public Life and Director of the Leonard E. Greenberg Center for the Study of Religion in Public Life at Trinity College, Hartford. His research interests focus on religion in contemporary America and the role of religion in Western culture since ancient Rome. He is the author of *Spiritual Politics: Religion and America Since World War II* and *Unsecular Media: Making News of Religion in America*, and co-editor of *Religion by Region*, a nine-volume series on religion and public life in the United States. He blogs on religion and public life at "Spiritual Politics" (www.spiritual-politics.org) and on Beliefnet (<http://blog.beliefnet.com/religionandpubliclife/>).

Julie Byrne earned her Ph.D. from Duke University and is Hartman Chair of Catholic Studies at Hofstra University. Her research interest is U.S. Catholicism. She is the author of *O God of Players: The Story of the Immaculata Mighty Macs* (Columbia University Press, 2003).

5:00-8:00 Concluding Reception Griffin Hall Foyer

Philip Goff received his Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. He is Executive Director of the Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture; Professor of Religious Studies and American Studies; and Dean of Research and Graduate programs in the IU School of Liberal Arts at IUPUI. His research interests include religion and radio in the mid-twentieth century and Protestant individual religious practices. He recently published *The Blackwell Companion to Religion in America* (Wiley, 2010), with 44 interpretive bibliographic essays by leading scholars in the field, and is co-editor of *Religion and American Culture: A Journal of Interpretation*.

Peter J. Thuesen earned his Ph.D. from Princeton University and is Professor and Chair of the Department of Religious Studies at IUPUI. His research focuses on the intellectual history of religion in the U.S. and the Bible in American culture. He is author of *Predestination: The American Career of a Contentious Doctrine* (Oxford, 2009) and *In Discordance with the Scriptures: American Protestant Battles over Translating the Bible* (Oxford, 1999). He is co-editor of *Religion and American Culture: A Journal of Interpretation*.

Arthur E. Farnsley II received his Ph.D. from Emory University. He is Associate Director of the Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture; Research Professor of Religious Studies at IUPUI; and Executive Officer of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. His research interests include American religious individualism and the role of scripture in American life, and his publications include *Rising Expectations: Urban Congregations, Welfare Reform and Civic Life* (IU Press, 2003) and *Sacred Circles, Public Squares: The Multicentering of American Religion*, with Jay Demerath, Etan Diamond, and Mary L. Mapes (IU Press, 2005).

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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