

# ***Religion & American Culture Conference***

## **Indianapolis, 4-7 June 2009**

### **Thursday, June 4<sup>th</sup>**

3:00-7:00pm Registration  
6:00-7:30pm Thursday evening reception, Severin Ballroom

### **Friday, June 5<sup>th</sup>**

9:15-11:15 **How did we get here?** *A discussion of disciplinary lines, how we in American religious studies are divided into groups and subgroups, the forces that keep us separated or encourage interdisciplinarity, the role of funding in all of this.*

Welcome: Philip Goff, Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture and Department of Religious Studies, IUPUI

Host: Stephen Stein, Department of Religious Studies, Indiana University-Bloomington

Panel: Jon Butler, American Studies, History, and Religious Studies, Yale University  
Jay Demerath, Department of Sociology, University of Massachusetts, Amherst  
Paula Kane, Department of Religious Studies, University of Pittsburgh

1:15-3:00 **Competing and complementary approaches in American religious history** *How seriously do historians take religion, or religious studies scholars take history? Whence goeth monographs? The rise of ethnography. What about grand narratives?*

Host: Peter Thuesen, Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture and Department of Religious Studies, IUPUI

Panel: John Corrigan, Department of Religious Studies, Florida State University  
Dennis Dickerson, Department of History, Vanderbilt University  
Robert Orsi, Department of Religious Studies, Northwestern University

3:30-5:15 **Competing and complementary approaches in social scientific studies of religion in America** *Are the important divisions less those between social scientists and humanists and instead those that divide social scientists into quantitative and qualitative? What role do non-sociological social sciences play in the larger picture?*

Host: Arthur Farnsley II, Society for Scientific Study of Religion and the Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture, IUPUI

Panel: Penny Edgell, Department of Sociology, University of Minnesota  
Rhys Williams, Department of Sociology, University of Cincinnati  
Jerry Park, Department of Sociology, Baylor University

## Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup>

8:30-10:00     **Explaining religion in America: What can we learn from each other?** *What can those working in the humanities learn from social scientists, and vice versa? How do we view one another? What do we consider the other to be doing right and wrong?*

Host: Brian Steensland, Department of Sociology, Indiana University-Bloomington

Panel: Courtney Bender, Department of Religion, Columbia University  
Carol B. Duncan, Department of Religion and Culture, Wilfrid Laurier University  
David Hall, Harvard Divinity School

10:30-12:15     **Politics, Secularization, and the Public Square**

Host: Sheila Kennedy, School of Public and Environmental Affairs, IUPUI

Panel: Daniel Walker Howe, Department of History, UCLA and Oxford University  
Winnifred Fallers Sullivan, University at Buffalo Law School  
Mark Silk, Department of Religion, Trinity College

2:00-3:45        **Race, Ethnicity, and Religious Pluralism**

Host: Edward Curtis IV, Department of Religious Studies, IUPUI

Panel: Helen Rose Ebaugh, Department of Sociology, University of Houston  
Rudy Busto, Department of Religious Studies, UCSB  
David Wills, Department of History, Amherst College

4:15-5:15        **Where do we go from here?**

Host: Sylvester Johnson, Department of Religious Studies, Indiana University-Bloomington

Panel: James Lewis, Louisville Institute, Louisville Theological Seminary  
Amanda Porterfield, Department of Religious Studies, Florida State University

6:00-7:00        Reception

7:00-8:30        Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture Hosted Dinner, Severin Ballroom  
Main speaker: Daniel Walker Howe, 2008 Pulitzer Prize Winner

## Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup>

Depart