



# After Earth? Religion and Technology on a Changing Planet

2023  
Arizona State University

Co-organized by:  
The International Society for the Study of  
Religion, Nature, and Culture  
&  
Arizona State University



# Sponsors

## Indigenous Land Acknowledgement

The International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture and the School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies at Arizona State University would like to acknowledge that our 2023 conference is being held on the ancestral lands of indigenous nations. We would like to thank the Native communities of the Salt River Valley, including the Akimel O'odham (Pima) and the Pee Posh (Maricopa) nations who have inhabited this place for centuries, and whose stewardship of the land and waterways allows us to be here today.

## ISSRNC Covid-19 Policy

*After Earth?* is the ISSRNC's first in-person conference since the onset of the novel coronavirus pandemic. And while we acknowledge that the value of gathering in person is worth some measure of risk, we also encourage all conference participants to take proactive steps to mitigate transmission of the virus and protect the health of everyone in our community. Masking, social distancing, and keeping up-to-date with booster shots remain our best tools for keeping infection rates low. Take a moment to review [Arizona State University's COVID19 policies](#). Please note that you will be able to select, at registration, a color-coded sticker for your name badge to indicate your preferences regarding physical contact and personal space.

## With Special Thanks to Our Sponsors

This conference is organized by the International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture (ISSRNC) with the support of Arizona State University. We would like to extend a special thanks to our sponsors for their help making the 2023 "After Earth? Religion and Technology on a Changing Planet" conference possible:

### Arizona State University Partner Organizations:

- ♦ School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies
- ♦ College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- ♦ Interplanetary Initiative
- ♦ Institute for Humanities Research
- ♦ Center for the Study of Religion and Conflict

### Other Partner Organizations:

- ♦ Center for Religion and the Human, Indiana University
- ♦ Equinox Publishing



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# ISSRNC President's Welcome

Dear *After Earth?* Participants,

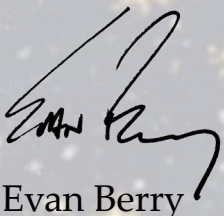
We have missed you. Since the outbreak of the COVID19 pandemic, the wending paths of our lives as students, researchers, teachers, artists, and writers have become yet more difficult; the conversations and intellectual intimacies that sustain us in our work have become rarer, and even risky to our health.

The ISSRNC had a successful experiment with our 2021 *Relations and Relationality* online conference, but we missed you. The opportunity to gather for conversation and connection is not to be taken for granted, and we are glad you could join us for this year's conference, many of you in person and many of you online.

Our theme this year is a timely one: the past few years have underscored the ubiquitous entanglement of technology in our lives. Smartphones, those tiny, omnipresent portals, link us to a digital world that overlays our biophysical realities; the global economic order proliferates extractive industries that rend our futures from their pasts; and technologies like space travel, cryptocurrency, genetic engineering, and renewable energy offer alluring visions of life beyond the limits our forebears knew. Technology is not static, but an evolving feature of the world that we create, and which, reciprocally, creates us. We endeavor to understand technological change as both religiously and environmentally salient. However, technological changes precipitate some of the most complex ethical and moral questions of our time. These are issues suited to interdisciplinary exchange and best addressed together, in sustained, humane dialogue.

The ISSRNC aims to provide space for that kind of dialogue and will continue to do so even when technology and public health concerns are rapidly changing. We are able to gather for the *After Earth?* Conference because of the hard work of the ISSRNC Board of Directors and the Conference Planning Committee. The support of many institutions and staff members at Arizona State University have also helped bring us together. I am grateful to each of them and look forward to celebrating their contributions over the coming few days.

Gratefully,



Evan Berry  
ISSRNC President

# Acknowledgements

This conference was made possible through the generous help and support of a number of individuals, who dedicated their time to help plan, organize, and carry out this event. We would like to extend a special thanks to following individuals for their help making the 2023 “After Earth? Religion and Technology on a Changing Planet” conference possible:

## **ISSRNC Planning Committee**

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Rachel Torres



# Lifetime Achievement Award

## Winona LaDuke

The International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture is pleased to announce Winona LaDuke as the recipient of the 2023 Lifetime Achievement Award. This award recognizes distinguished scholars, writers, and leaders whose work has a relevance and eloquence that speaks not just to scholars, but more broadly to the public and across disciplines.



Winona LaDuke is a Harvard-educated economist, environmental activist, author, hemp farmer, grandmother, and a two-time former Green Party Vice President candidate. LaDuke specializes in rural development, economic, food, and energy sovereignty and environmental justice. Living and working on the White Earth reservation in northern Minnesota, she leads several organizations including Honor the Earth, Anishinaabe Agriculture Institute, Akiing, and Winona's Hemp. Among her many other contributions to environmental and social justice movements, LaDuke was an active leader in the 2017 protests at Standing Rock, where she acted as a Water Protector against the Dakota Access Pipeline.

LaDuke is the author of several books that speak to the intersections of religion, nature, and culture, including the novel *Last Standing Woman* (1997); *All Our Relations: Native Struggles for Land and Life* (1999); *Recovering the Sacred: The Power of Naming and Claiming* (2005); *The Militarization of Indian Country* (2011); and most recently, *To Be a Water Protector: Rise of the Wiindigoo Slayers* (2020).



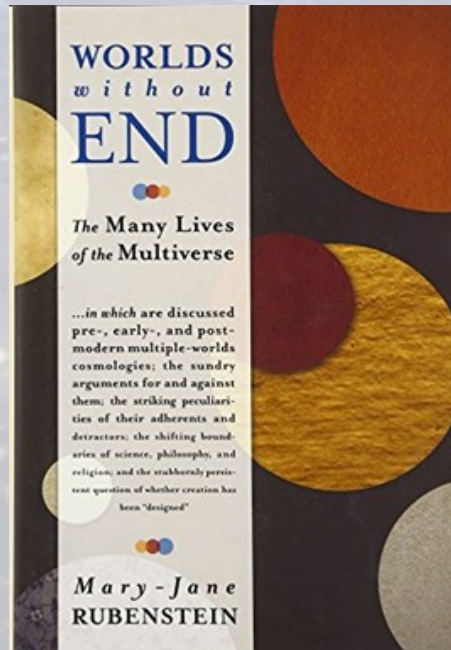
# Iris Book Award



## Mary-Jane Rubenstein

The Iris Book Award is an annual prize honoring outstanding work that offers new insights into the meaning and status of the human in relation to science, technology, nature, and religion. The award is an initiative of the Center for Religion & the Human at Indiana University and overseen by former IU faculty member Lisa Sideris (now at UC Santa Barbara).

**Mary-Jane Rubenstein's 2014 book, *Worlds Without End: The Many Lives of the Multiverse* is the 2022 Winner of the Iris Book Award.**



"Multiverse" cosmologies imagine our universe as just one of a vast number of others. While this idea has captivated philosophy, religion, and literature for millennia, it is now being considered as a scientific hypothesis--with different models emerging from cosmology, quantum mechanics, and string theory. In their very efforts to sidestep metaphysics, theoretical physicists propose multiverse scenarios that collide with it and even produce counter-theological narratives. Far from invalidating multiverse hypotheses, Rubenstein argues, this interdisciplinary collision actually secures their scientific viability. We may therefore be witnessing a radical reconfiguration of physics, philosophy, and religion in the modern turn to the multiverse. Rubenstein is Professor of Religion and Science in Society at Wesleyan University, and is affiliated with the Philosophy Department and the Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program.

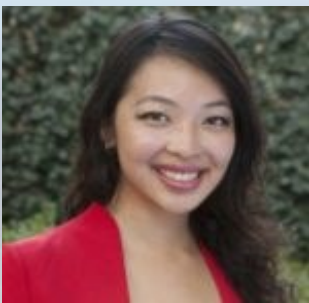
Books considered for the award are nominated by scholars working in interdisciplinary areas of science, nature, religion, and technology, and by academic and popular presses. A rotating jury of scholars selects the prize. More information about the Iris Award and prize recipients can be found at the IU Center for Religion & the Human [website](#).



# Graduate Student Paper Award

At each conference, the ISSRNC selects one graduate student paper to receive a merit-based award for best graduate student paper. Several previous winners have gone on to publish their papers in the *Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture*, which we hope will be the case this year as well. Graduate students were asked to submit their full conference papers, and the submissions were anonymously reviewed by the Awards Committee. This year, the first place winner will receive a \$500 monetary award. The 2023 winners will be announced at the conference banquet.

## Previous Winners



### **Lily Zeng— 2017 Winner**

["Problematizing Ideas of 'Purity' and 'Timelessness' in the Conservation Narratives of Sacred Groves"](#) published in *JSRNC* Vol. 12(2).

Zeng completed her PhD at Yale University in 2018 and now works on biodiversity and conservation in Xishuangbanna Dai Autonomous Prefecture in southwest China



### **Nivedita Nath—2017 Honorable Mention**

"Sacred Space as the Practice of Ecological Ethics" published as ["From Pilgrim Landscape to 'Pilgrim Road'"](#) in *JSRNC* Vol. 12 (4).

Nath is now a UC President's Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of History at UC Irvine.



### **Alexander Grandjean— 2019 Winner**

"Biodynamic Wine-crafting and the 'Spiritualization' of Agroecology: Case Study from Switzerland" published as ["Biodynamic Wine-crafting in Switzerland"](#) in *JSRNC* Vol. 15(3).

Grandjean is now senior researcher at the Institute for Social Sciences of Religions (ISSR) at Université De Lausanne, Switzerland



### **Ben Bridges—2019 Honorable Mentions**

Paper Title: "The Pachamama and Eucalyptus Dialectic: Religious Response to Invasive Species in Southern Peru"

Bridges is now a Ph.D. Candidate in Folklore and Anthropology at Indiana University



# Travel Grant Awardees

ISSRNC offers all in-person conference presenters the opportunity to apply for travel grant funding for conferences. Travel grant applications are anonymously reviewed by the awards committee and are distributed on the basis of need for in-person conference participation. Priority is given to graduate students, international scholars, contingent faculty, and independent scholars without institutional support. While we cannot always provide support to everyone who applies, we endeavor to support as many people as possible for each conference.

**This year, ISSRNC is pleased to provide over \$10,000 in support to travel grant awardees.**

**Elisha Breton** (Indiana University)

**Theodore Camara** (Northeastern Seminary)

**Mariangela Carpinteri** (University of California, Santa Barbara)

**Yael Dansac** (Free University of Brussels, Belgium)

**Nathan Jowers** (Georgetown University)

**Kyle Kaplan** (University of California, Santa Barbara)

**Caitlin Kossmann** (Yale University)

**David Krantz** (Arizona State University)

**Mai Lootah** (Rice University)

**Adelaide Mandeville** (Harvard University)

**Brady McCartney** (Independent Scholar)

**Sara-Duana Meyer** (Independent Scholar, Germany)

**Sarah Nahar** (Syracuse University)

**Libby O'Neil** (Yale University)

**Margaux Crider Robinson** (University of Kentucky)

**Sarah Robinson** (Independent Scholar)

**Harrison Rosenberg** (University of Florida)

**Jason Sexton** (University of California, Los Angeles)

**Jeremy Sorgen** (University of California, Berkeley)

**Emily Theus** (Yale University)

**Dominic Wilkins** (Syracuse University)



## Keynote Speakers

### Sylvester A. Johnson



**Sylvester A. Johnson** is Associate Vice Provost for Public Interest Technology and Executive Director of the “Tech for Humanity” initiative at Virginia Tech. He is the founding director of Virginia Tech’s Center for Humanities, which is supporting human-centered research and humanistic approaches to the guidance of technology. Johnson’s research has examined religion, race, and empire in the Atlantic world; religion and sexuality; national security practices; and the impact of intelligent machines and human enhancement on human identity and race governance. In addition to co-facilitating a national working group on religion and US empire, Johnson led an Artificial Intelligence project that developed a successful proof-of-concept machine learning application to ingest and analyze a humanities text. He is the author of *The Myth of Ham in Nineteenth-Century American Christianity* (Palgrave 2004), a study of race and religious hatred that won the American Academy of Religion’s Best First Book award; and *African American Religions, 1500-2000* (Cambridge 2015), an award-winning interpretation of five centuries of democracy, colonialism, and freedom in the Atlantic world. Johnson has also co-edited *The FBI and Religion: Faith and National Security Before and After 9/11* (University of California 2017); and *Religion and US Empire: Critical New Histories* (NYU Press 2022). He is a founding co-editor of the *Journal of Africana Religions*. He is currently producing a digital scholarly edition of an early English history of global religions and writing a book on human identity in an age of intelligent machines and human-machine symbiosis.



# Keynote Speakers

## Mary-Jane Rubenstein



**Mary-Jane Rubenstein** is Professor of Religion and Science in Society at Wesleyan University, and is affiliated with the Philosophy Department and the Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program. She holds a B.A. from Williams College, an M.Phil. from Cambridge University, and a Ph.D. in from Columbia University. While her early work investigated the disavowal of wonder in phenomenology and deconstruction, her more recent writing has moved into the metaphysical underpinnings of cosmology, astronomy, and space travel, general relativity and quantum mechanics, and nonlinear biology and ecology. Rubenstein is the author of *Astrotopia: The Dangerous Religion of the Corporate Space Race* (University of Chicago, 2022); *Pantheologies: Gods, Worlds, Monsters* (Columbia University Press, 2018); *Worlds without End: The Many Lives of the Multiverse* (Columbia University Press, 2014), and *Strange Wonder: The Closure of Metaphysics and the Opening of Awe* (Columbia University Press, 2009). She is also co-editor with Catherine Keller of *Entangled Worlds: Religion, Science, and New Materialisms* (Fordham University Press, 2017) and co-author with Thomas A. Carlson and Mark C. Taylor of *Image: Three Inquiries in Technology and Imagination* (University of Chicago, 2021).



## Featured Artists

### Christer Lundahl & Martina Seidl

**Lundahl & Seidl** live and work in Stockholm. Their immersive solo projects reinterpret the medium of the exhibition as interpersonal processes via choreography, matter and time. The duo have developed a method and an art form comprising staging, choreographed movement, instructions, and immersive technologies, juxtaposed with material objects and the human ability to organize perception into a world. Notions of freedom, autonomy, and what is real, imagined, and perceived are negotiated in an investigation of virtual reality, not as a form of technology but as an ability or sensibility to a relationship with surroundings, with an increased insight into how technology makes 'us' and lays the ground for 'our' human umwelt – how it connects and disconnects us from each other and other life forms and processes.



### River Biographies-An Exhibition

Thursday, February 2nd, 6:00 – 7:00pm

Friday, February 3rd, 5:30pm – 6:30 pm

ISSRNC will host two sessions of Lundahl and Seidl's "River Biographies" experiential exhibition during the conference. Admission is free, but advance sign up is required and space is limited.

**River Biographies** is an odyssey into the geology of the body as well as of the land, emphasizing that which is not human but of which you are a part. Taking the form of an hour-long session where an audience of 30 people explore embodiments of natural elements of stone and water to form a river collectively, the artwork exists somewhere between performance and a space for healing and repair. Like the life of a river is a measure of the health of a local ecosystem, River Biographies are living artworks where the shifting collective ability of the group passes through the artworks score. Each half of the group embodies the qualities of water and stone, respectively, to physically explore their relationship; the way in which stone affects the flow of the water and how water forms the topography of rock and stone, directing the water's flow, and how both affect each other's temporalities. To view an example of the exhibition, click [here](#).



# Conference Schedule

## Thursday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>

**1:30—4:15pm — Conference Registration and Check In** (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Lobby, Old Main)

### *Official Opening of the “After Earth? Religion and Technology on a Changing Planet” Conference*

**4:15—4:30pm: Welcoming Remarks** (Carson Ballroom, Old Main)

- ♦ **Evan Berry**, ISSRNC President
- ♦ **Jeffrey Cohen**, Dean of Humanities, ASU College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- ♦ **Joan McGregor**, Acting Director, ASU School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies

### **Keynote Address: 4:30—6:00pm**

(Carson Ballroom, Old Main)

#### **Sylvester Johnson**

#### **“Future Humans, [Post]Human Futures: Animism, Human Engineering, and the Life of Things”**

*In centuries past, many religious systems have been both celebrated and marginalized for finding agency and personhood in non-human animals and non-living things. Recent technology innovation has invested centrally in the ability of non-living things to make decisions and interact with the world by emulating biological paradigms. Synthetic biology has now set the future of humanity and nature on a mixed path toward trans-species embodiment, cybernetics, and ecological crisis. How will future humans exist in 2050 and beyond? This keynote talk explains the relationship between digital technology, synthetic biology, and fundamental themes of so-called animistic religion by interpreting the cultural history of distinctions between people and objects. Johnson will demonstrate how a classic problem of materiality has been reintroduced through recent technological innovations in such forms as Artificial Intelligence and cybernetics (human-machine combining). He provides an anticipatory analysis of future humans and their impending consequences for ecology.*

- ♦ **Evan Berry**, Presiding

**6:00—7:00pm — “River Dialogues” Experiential Art Exhibition** (Old Main Lawn)

*(Advanced Sign Up Required)*



# Conference Schedule

## Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>

8:00—11:00am — Conference Registration and Check In (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Lobby, Old Main)

8:00—8:30am — Coffee and Tea (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Lobby, Old Main)

### Concurrent Session 1: 8:30–10:00am

#### Panel A (Carson Ballroom, Old Main)

##### **Multispecies and Human-Technological Relationships: Redefining the Human on a Changing Planet**

- ♦ **Amber Lowe**—Indiana University, Bloomington  
“Apprehending the (Afro)Future: Religion and Time in Octavia Butler’s Parable of the Sower”
- ♦ **Andrea Jain**—Indiana University, Indianapolis  
“The Tillation of Meat and ‘Faking’ It: Black Veganism, Technology, and Multispecies Resistance on a Changing Planet”
- ♦ **Jacob Boss**—Indiana University, Bloomington  
“Gods of Blood and Salt: Dante’s Transhumanism Revisited”
- ♦ **Michael Hemenway**—Case Western Reserve University  
“Inter-facing the Other: Disrupting Domesticating Dispositions Through Encounters with Machines”
- ♦ **Timothy Beal**—Case Western Reserve University  
“Gods, Monsters, and Machines: Artificial Stupidity in the Anthropocene”
- ♦ **Presiding: Whitney A. Bauman**—Florida International University

#### Panel B (Basha Family Library, Old Main)

##### **What Kind of Thought Is Gaia?**

- ♦ **Sébastien Dutreuil**—Aix-Marseille Université, France  
“Gaia vs Earth System Science: Which is the Most Secular? Some Perspectives from History and Philosophy of Science”
- ♦ **Timothy Howles**—Oxford University, UK  
“Theological Retrievals: Understanding Gaia in Light of Concepts of Contingency and Necessity”
- ♦ **Caitlin Kossmann**—Yale University  
“Gaia as Myth and Politics”
- ♦ **Presiding: Alison Renna**—Yale University  
“Gaia’s Cybernetic Spirit”



# Conference Schedule

## **Panel C** (Tooker Boardroom, Old Main)

### **Seeing Climate Technology in Traditional Ecological Knowledges (TEK): Unearthing Technologies in Woman-led Cases of Jewish Beekeepers, Indigenous Restaurateurs, and Catholic Farmers**

- ♦ **Adrienne Krone**–Allegheny College  
“Save the Bees! Pollinator Repopulation, Beekeeping Technologies, and Gender at Shoreside Jewish Environmental Programs”
- ♦ **Sarah Robinson**–Independent Scholar  
“Old Tech, New Tech, Indigenous TEK, Future TEK: Restoring Food-Land Technologies in Traditional Ecological Knowledges (TEK) from an Indigenous Restaurant and a Catholic Farm”

## **Panel D** (Online Session)

*Registered conference participants can access the pre-recorded presentations and live online discussion for this panel through the [ISSRNC website](#).*

### **Animism and Creaturely Agency**

- ♦ **Carrie Dohe**–Bees for Peace  
“Bees for Peace: Educating and Engaging People About Native Bees”
- ♦ **Mick Pope**–Whitley College  
“Biblical Animism and the Holiness Code”
- ♦ **Presiding: Mark Peterson**–University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee

**10:00–10:30am-----BREAK-----**

**And ISSRNC Board Meet and Greet (Tooker Board Room, Old Main)**

*Coffee and Tea will be provided in the Lobby*

*Interested in learning more about the ISSRNC or thinking about running for the board? Grab your coffee and come meet the current members of the ISSRNC board. Find out more about the society and how you can get involved!*



# Conference Schedule

## Concurrent Session 2: 10:30am–12:00pm

### Panel A (Carson Ballroom, Old Main)

#### Representing Nature in an Age of Social Media

- ♦ **Victoria Machado**–Rollins College  
“A World Wide Web of Water: Social Media’s Impact on the Local Environmental Movement”
- ♦ **Theodore Camara**–Northeastern Seminary  
“In TikTok We Trust: The Double-Edged Sword of Social Media in the Battle Against Climate Misinformation within American Christianity”
- ♦ **Mitchel Hickman**–University of California, Santa Barbara  
“Playing Deliberately: What Video Games Have to Teach us About Self and World”
- ♦ **Presiding: Elonda Clay**–Methodist Theological School in Ohio

### Panel B (Tooker Boardroom, Old Main)

#### Roundtable—Mapping Sustainable Cities: Seeking Common Ground Between Theology and Science for Just Transitions

- ♦ **Jason Sexton**–University of California, Los Angeles, Institute of the Environment and Sustainability
- ♦ **Stephanie Pincetl**–University of California, Los Angeles, Institute of the Environment and Sustainability
- ♦ **Alesia Montgomery**–University of California, Los Angeles, Institute of the Environment and Sustainability

### Panel C (Online Session)

#### The Cambridge Companion to Christianity and the Environment Round Table Discussion

- ♦ **Jacob Sherman**–California Institute of Integral Studies  
“The Book of Nature Tradition”
- ♦ **Jame Schaefer**–Marquette University  
“Venerating Earth: Three Sacramental Perspectives”
- ♦ **Charles Taliaferro**–St. Olaf College  
“Human and Nonhuman Animals from Secular and Sacred Perspectives”
- ♦ **Alexander J. B. Hampton**–University of Toronto  
“Nature and Aesthetics: Methexis, Mimēsis and Poiēsis”
- ♦ **Discussant: Robin Globus Veldman**–Texas A&M University

## 12:00–1:00pm -----LUNCH-----

*Please note that there are a number of convenient nearby lunch options available that we encourage participants to take advantage of in order to return and begin the next concurrent session in a timely manner.*



# Conference Schedule

## Concurrent Session 3: 1:00–2:30pm

### Panel A (Carson Ballroom, Old Main)

#### Decolonizing for the Planetary Community

- ♦ **Jay Johnston**–University of Sydney  
“Prosaic Shamanism: Sensory Ecology and ‘Everyday Ethics’”
- ♦ **Lisa Stenmark**–San Jose State University  
“Decolonizing ‘Planetary Thinking’”
- ♦ **Carol Wayne White**–Bucknell University  
“Decolonizing Matters: Envisioning BLM’s Contributions to a More-Than Human Politics of Nature”
- ♦ **Kocku von Stuckrad**–University of Groningen  
“Postcolonial Thinking and Human Regimes of Exploitation: Toward a Biocentric Postcolonial Ethics”
- ♦ **Presiding: Whitney A. Bauman**–Florida International University  
“Planetary Thinking in a Post-Human World”

### Panel B (Basha Family Library, Old Main)

#### Place-Based Nature Spiritualities

- ♦ **Chris Dunn**–Colorado School of Mines  
“Poetics as an Antidote to the Technocratic Management of Wild Nature”
- ♦ **Katherine Usik**–University of Florida  
“Spirits as Eco-Defenders: The Role of Spirits in Western and Northern Europe’s Environmental Development”
- ♦ **Margaux Crider Robinson**–University of Kentucky  
“Spirit of the Land: Gender, Ecology, and Lived Religion”
- ♦ **Presiding: Victoria Machado**–Rollins College

### Panel C (Tooker Boardroom, Old Main)

#### Religion and Nature in Popular Culture

- ♦ **Lucas Johnston**–Wake Forest University  
“Spiritualizing Flow: Technologies of High Performance and Transcendence”
- ♦ **Avalon Jade Theisen**–Arizona State University  
“Avatar, Mining, and Religion”
- ♦ **Discussant: Mark Peterson**–University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee
- ♦ **Discussant: Lisa Sideris**–University of California, Santa Barbara

# Conference Schedule

## Panel D (Online Session)

### **Coming to Your Senses: When Religion & Perception Goes Online (Workshop)**

Registered conference participants can access the live online discussion for this panel through the [ISSRNC website](#).

- ♦ **Beatrice Marovich**–Hanover College
- ♦ **Krista Dragomer**–Independent Artist

**2:30–2:45pm -----BREAK-----**

## **Concurrent Session 4: 2:45–4:15pm**

### Panel A (Carson Ballroom, Old Main)

#### **Right-Wing Religion, Politics, and the Environment in the US**

- ♦ **Chris Crews**–Denison University  
“The Far-Right's Culture War on the Environment”
- ♦ **Matthew Hartman**–Graduate Theological Union  
“The Nature of Anti-Immigration Rhetoric: Religious Identity, Right-Wing Politics, and the History of American Environmentalism”
- ♦ **Bernard Zaleha**–Monterey Peninsula College  
“Intense Apocalypticism, Collective Narcissism, and Hellfire Extremism within the Calvary Chapel Movement: A Review of New Data Revealing Strong Barriers to Climate Change Concern”
- ♦ **Robin Globus Veldman**–Texas A&M University  
“Global Warming and Other Religions: Authenticity Discourse on the Political Right”
- ♦ **Presiding: Sarah McFarland Taylor**–Northwestern University

### Panel B (Basha Family Library, Old Main)

#### **Nature Spirituality Across Cultures**

- ♦ **Bron Taylor**–University of Florida  
“Exhibitionism: Animism, Kinship, and Conservation at Science and Art Museums around the World”
- ♦ **Yael Dansac**–Université Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium  
“Claiming Ancient Wisdom through Geobiology: Occultism, Alternative Knowledge, and Spiritual Aspects of an Emergent Practice in European Megalithic Sites”
- ♦ **Mariangela Carpinteri**–University of California, Santa Barbara  
“Shintō Spiritual Technology: The Case of Ōharae”
- ♦ **Presiding: Jessica Beaudette**–Arizona State University



# Conference Schedule

## **Panel C** (Tooker Boardroom, Old Main)

### **Disaster Capitalism and the Imperative of Reparations in the 21st Century**

- ♦ **Hadiya Sewer**–Brown University  
“Climate Disaster and its Implications for Sovereignty and Questions of the Human”
- ♦ **Imani Daniel**–Former Executive Director, St. Thomas Recovery Team  
“Grassroots Efforts to Recover after Climate Disasters”
- ♦ **Presiding: Shamara Wyllie Alhassan**–Arizona State University  
“Intersectional Approaches to Climate Reparations and the Climate Crisis through the Grassroots Activism of the Rastafari Movement”

## **Panel D** (Online)

*Registered conference participants can access the pre-recorded presentations and live online discussion for this panel through the [ISSRNC website](#).*

### **Apocalyptic Imaginaries: Faith, Fantasy, and Futurity in the End-Times**

- ♦ **Lisa Sideris**–University of California, Santa Barbara  
“Toil and Trouble: Religion and Extractivism in De-Extinction Technologies”
- ♦ **Stefan Skrimshire**–University of Leeds, UK  
“Perishable Goods: An Apocalyptic Critique of Deep Future Technologies of Preservation, Storage and Burial”
- ♦ **Evander Price**–Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen  
“Prospecting Apocalypse: Survivalists, Doomsday Preppers, and Faith of the Technophiles”
- ♦ **Discussant: Sarah Pike**–California State University, Chico

**4:15–4:30pm -----BREAK-----**

## **Concurrent Session 5: 4:30–6:00pm**

## **Panel A** (Carson Ballroom, Old Main)

### **Art Beyond the Data Point: Technosis and the Anthropocene**

- ♦ **Emily Pothast**–Graduate Theological Union  
“Living Portals: Technologies of Black Memory in the Work of Christopher Paul Jordan”
- ♦ **Sara-Duana Meyer**–Independent Researcher and Curator  
“Futuring Like Trees: Forest-Imagining as Climate-Crisis Technology & Art”
- ♦ **Christer Lundahl and Martina Seidl**–Artists, Sweden  
“Technologies of the Invisible: On Unknown Clouds and the Geoaffect of Rock and Water”
- ♦ **Nathalia Bell**–Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology, Berkeley  
“Ziggyettes: The Technology (and Spirituality) of Smoking”
- ♦ **Discussant: Devin Zuber**–Graduate Theological Union

# Conference Schedule

## **Panel B** (Basha Family Library, Old Main)

### **Collapse, Catastrophe, and Disaster**

- ♦ **Kyle Kaplan**—University of California, Santa Barbara  
“Ontological Ambiguity & Climate Catastrophe: Tiantai Experiments Concerning the Environmental Crisis”
- ♦ **Brady McCartney**—University of Florida  
“Latter-day Saints and Natural Disaster Preparedness: A Technological Response to Climate Change”
- ♦ **Bron Taylor**—University of Florida  
“Novel Apocalypticisms: Science, Religion, and the Collapse of Socioecological Systems”
- ♦ **Presiding: Mark Peterson**—University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee

## **Panel C** (Tooker Boardroom, Old Main)

### **Ethical Reflections on Nature and AI**

- ♦ **Joyce Ann Konigsburg**—DePaul University  
“AI Nudging: An Ethical Tug-of-War over Climate Change”
- ♦ **Jessica Beaudette**—Arizona State University  
“Projections of Consciousness: Artificial Intelligence as the Voice of Nature”
- ♦ **Presiding: Jeremy Sorgen**—University of California, Berkeley

## **6:30—7:30pm: “River Dialogues” Experiential Art Exhibition (Old Main Lawn)**

*(Advanced Sign Up Required)*

## **8:00—10:00pm: Reception at The Graduate Hotel, Tempe (Rooftop Bar)**

*All registered conference presenters are invited to join us on the rooftop bar at The Graduate Hotel for an open reception. Drinks and desserts will be provided. ISSRNC name tag required for entry.*



# Conference Schedule

## Saturday, February 4th

8:00 — 11:00am — Conference Registration and Check In (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Lobby, Old Main)

8:00 — 8:30am — Coffee and Tea (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Lobby, Old Main)

### **Concurrent Session 6: 8:30am–10:00am**

#### **Panel A** (Carson Ballroom, Old Main)

##### **Religious Rhetorics of Resource Extraction**

- ♦ **Evan Berry**—Arizona State University  
“Animal, Vegetable, or Mineral? Political Ontologies of Fossil Fuel Extractivism”
- ♦ **Judith Brunton**—Harvard University Weatherhead Center  
“Oil’s Energy: Theorizing Energy Epistemologies with Industrial Religion and Civil Religion in Calgary”
- ♦ **Amanda M. Nichols**—University of California, Santa Barbara  
“@I\_sodope, #Memes, and Religion: Nuclear Technology for a Carbon Neutral Future?”
- ♦ **Discussant: Joseph Witt**—University of Tennessee, Knoxville

#### **Panel B** (Basha Family Library, Old Main)

##### **Ecocriticism: Reflections on Limits and Transgression**

- ♦ **Ryan Darr**—Yale University  
“Extinction and De-Extinction on a Human-Dominated Planet: Ethical Reflections on Recent Literature”
- ♦ **Emily Theus**—Yale University  
“Peripheral Visions of Ecological Crisis: Refusal and Revelation in Jeff VanderMeer’s ‘Hummingbird Salamander’ and Rumaan Alam’s ‘Leave the World Behind’”
- ♦ **Wendy Wiseman**—University of California, Santa Barbara  
“In Defense of Prometheus: Reverence for Geocosmic Limits in Aeschylus’ Prometheus Bound”
- ♦ **Presiding: Devin Zuber**—Graduate Theological Union

# Conference Schedule

## **Panel C** (Tooker Boardroom, Old Main)

### **Negotiating Science and the Secular**

- ♦ **Dominic Wilkins**–Syracuse University  
“How Are Geographers Engaging Religion, Nature, and Culture?”
- ♦ **Shakir Stephen**–University of California, Santa Barbara  
“Translating for a Better Future: Strategies and Perspectives of Professional Scientific Christian Organizations”
- ♦ **Adelaide Mandeville**–Harvard University  
“Changes in the Sky: The Rise and Fall of Weather Control in the Twentieth-Century U.S.”
- ♦ **Presiding: Alison Renna**–Yale University

## **10:00–10:30am-----BREAK-----**

### **And JSRNC Meet and Greet (Tooker Board Room, Old Main)**

*Coffee and Tea will be provided in the Lobby, sponsored by Equinox Publishing*

*Interested in learning more about the Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture? Grab your coffee and come meet the members of the JSRNC editorial team. Find out more about the journal, what kind of work we publish, and how you can get involved!*

## **Plenary Session: 10:30am–12:00pm** (Carson Ballroom, Old Main)

### **DON'T PANIC: An ISSRNC Goers' Guide to Geo-Orientations, Earth Escape Narratives, Space Colonization, TikTok Starseeds, and Elon Musk Devotional Digital Fandoms**

- ♦ **Sarah McFarland Taylor**–Northwestern University  
“The Wrong Way Home: St. Elon’s Digital Cult of Personality, Messianic Mediations of Mars, and the Musketeer Meme Militia”
- ♦ **Catherine Newell**–University of Miami  
“After Us: Contrasting Scientific and Religious Visions of an Earth Without People”
- ♦ **Benjamin E. Zeller**–Lake Forest College  
“To Infinity, but Not Beyond? Unicult’s (Trans)Humanist New Religion”
- ♦ **Presiding: Eric Michael Mazur**–Virginia Wesleyan University  
“Strangers in a Really Strange Land: Jews, Geo-Orientation, and the Yenevelt of Outer Space”



# Conference Schedule

**12:00–1:00pm -----LUNCH-----**

*Please note that there are a number of convenient nearby lunch options available that we encourage participants to take advantage of in order to return and begin the next concurrent session in a timely manner.*

**12:00–1:00pm – JSRNC Editorial Board Meeting and Luncheon**

**Sponsored by Equinox Publishing** (Closed Meeting, Tooker Board Room, Old Main)

## **Concurrent Session 7: 1:00–2:30pm**

**Panel A** (Carson Ballroom, Old Main)

**The Arts and Humanities Beyond Gravity – Interplanetary Initiative Roundtable**

- ♦ **Lance Gharavi**–Arizona State University
- ♦ **Julie Anand**–Arizona State University
- ♦ **Elena Rocchi**–Arizona State University
- ♦ **Granville Carroll**–Arizona State University
- ♦ **Presiding: Evan Berry**–Arizona State University

**Panel B** (Basha Family Library, Old Main)

**Imagining the Future on and Beyond Earth**

- ♦ **Daniel Capper**–University of Southern Mississippi  
“Buddhism, Moon Mining, and Multipurpose Lunar Land Reserves”
- ♦ **Nathan Jowers**–Georgetown University  
“Beyond the Dust from Which We Came: Theological Reflections on Dying in Space”
- ♦ **Brett Esaki**–University of Arizona  
“Grace Lee Boggs’s Post-Industrial New Age”
- ♦ **Presiding: Whitney Bauman**–Florida International University

# Conference Schedule

## **Panel C** (Tooker Boardroom, Old Main)

### **Land and Food Practices in an Age of Technology**

- ♦ **Harrison Rosenberg**—University of Florida  
“Gardening as Nature Spirituality: Dark Green Religion and Direct Connections to the Earth”
- ♦ **Adrienne Krone**—Allegheny College  
“Scientists, Cells, and Rabbis: The Co-Constitutive Nature of Religion and Technology in the Development of Cultured Meat”
- ♦ **Sr. Damien Marie Savino**—Aquinas College  
“The Ecological and Spiritual Benefits of Small-Scale Rewilding: A Franciscan Case Study”
- ♦ **Presiding: Lucas Johnston**—Wake Forest University

**2:30—2:45pm**-----**BREAK**-----

## **Plenary Session: 2:45—4:00pm**

(Carson Ballroom, Old Main)

### **Iris Book Award and Discussion**

*The Iris Book Award is an annual prize honoring outstanding work that offers new insights into the meaning and status of the human in relation to science, technology, nature, and religion. The award is an initiative of the Center for Religion & the Human at Indiana University and overseen by former IU faculty member Lisa Sideris (now at UC Santa Barbara).*

#### **Recipient:**

**Mary-Jane Rubenstein**—Wesleyan University  
*Worlds Without End: The Many Lives of the Multiverse* (2014)

#### **Discussants:**

**Catherine Newell**—University of Miami  
**Alexus McLeod**—Indiana University

#### **Presiding:**

**Lisa Sideris**—University of California, Santa Barbara



# Conference Schedule

4:00—4:15pm-----BREAK-----

## **Keynote Address: 4:15—5:45pm**

(Carson Ballroom, Old Main)

**Mary-Jane Rubenstein**

### **“Heaven on Mars: Messianic Ecocide and the New Corporate Space Race”**

*Following the messianic lead of charismatic billionaires, public and private interests are racing to colonize outer space by building permanent outposts on the Moon, mining water and metals from planets and asteroids, and eventually colonizing Mars—all under the seemingly noble auspices of “fulfilling our destiny,” building a “clean, green future,” and even “saving humanity.” Such salvation, we are told, can only be accomplished by leaving the Earth, converting the cosmos itself into capital, and conquering the “final frontier.” What lessons can terrestrial extraction and colonialism teach us about this escalating effort to conquer the cosmos? How is utopian religious discourse bolstering this extravagant economic, political, technological, and scientific expansion? And how might alternative religious discourses offer different ways of inhabiting and making worlds?*

♦ **Lisa Sideris**, Presiding

5:45—7:00pm-----BREAK-----

## **7:00—9:00pm: Banquet and Awards Ceremony (Carson Ballroom, Old Main)**

*Banquet attendance is limited to invited guests and those who requested an add-on banquet meal with their registration.*

### **Welcome Remarks**

**Evan Berry**, ISSRNC President

### **Lifetime Achievement Award**

**Presented by: Bron Taylor**, ISSRNC Founder

### **Graduate Student Paper Award**

**Presented by: Jessica Beaudette**, ISSRNC Student Representative

### **Travel Grant Awards**

**Presented by: Alison Renna**, ISSRNC Student Representative

# Conference Schedule

## Sunday, February 5<sup>th</sup>

**8:00—9:00am — Conference Registration and Check In (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Lobby, Old Main)**

**8:00—8:30am — Coffee and Tea (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Lobby, Old Main)**

### **Concurrent Session 8: 8:30–10:00am**

#### **Panel A** (Carson Ballroom, Old Main)

##### **Judaism in the Anthropocene: New Research in Jewish-Environmental Thought and Action**

- ♦ **Ellen Bernstein**—Independent Scholar  
“Towards a Holy Ecology: A Meditation on the Song of Songs”
- ♦ **Ariel Mayse**—Stanford University  
“As a Deep River Rises: Rights, Obligations, and Jewish Environmental Thinking”
- ♦ **Presiding: David Krantz**—Arizona State University  
“A History and Typology of the Jewish-Environmental Movement in the United States”

#### **Panel B** (Basha Family Library, Old Main)

##### **Publicly Engaged Scholarship: Climate Insecurity, Socio-Political Unrest, and the Future of Academic Research**

- ♦ **Judith Ellen Brunton**—Harvard University Weatherhead Center
- ♦ **Chris Crews**—Denison University
- ♦ **Victoria Machado**—Rollins College
- ♦ **Jeremy Sorgen**—University of California, Berkeley
- ♦ **Joseph Witt**—University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- ♦ **Presiding: Amanda M. Nichols**—University of California, Santa Barbara



# Conference Schedule

## **Panel C** (Tooker Boardroom, Old Main)

### **Not a Moment to Waste: Religions Address the Discarded in Daily Life**

- ♦ **Sharon Moran**–SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry  
“World without End: Religion and Waste”
- ♦ **Elizabeth Allison**–California Institute of Integral Studies  
“Wasting Shangri-La? The Contradictions of Consumption Colonialism in Himalayan Bhutan”
- ♦ **Presiding: Sarah Nahar**–SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry  
“When the Earth Goes to Shit”

## **Panel D** (Online Session)

*Registered conference participants can access the pre-recorded presentations and live online discussion for this panel through the [ISSRNC website](#).*

### **Technology, Transhumanism, and the End Times**

- ♦ **Tory Field**–Center for Earth Ethics, Union Theological Seminary  
“Digital Dominance and the Pawnshop of Earthly Belonging”
- ♦ **Jessica Lombard**–Catholic University of Lille  
“Eschatological Religions and the Transhumanist Grand Narrative: Links and Interrelations”
- ♦ **Jurji Dobravec**–NOEMIS Institute - JARINA Bohinj  
“The Fisherman and His Wife: From Eco-apocalypse and Eco-anxiety to Cyclical Coexistence”
- ♦ **Presiding: Çağdaş Dedeoğlu**–Yorkville University and University of Toronto

**10:00–10:30am**-----**BREAK**-----  
*Coffee and Tea will be provided in the Lobby*

## **Concurrent Session 9: 10:30–12:00pm**

## **Panel A** (Carson Ballroom, Old Main)

### **A Transhuman Panelfesto**

- ♦ **Jeremy Cohen**–McMaster University  
“I am a Death Positive Transhumanist”
- ♦ **Sharday Mosurinjohn**–Queen’s University, Canada  
“Morphological Freedom isn’t Free without Cognitive Liberation”
- ♦ **Elisha S. Breton**–Indiana University  
“Reframing Transhumanism: A New Jewish Perspective on Future Possibilities”
- ♦ **Presiding: Jacob Boss**–Indiana University  
“Transhumanism is for Punks”

# Conference Schedule

## Panel B (Basha Family Library, Old Main)

### Technology and Human Becoming

- ♦ **Christine Chou**–Fu Jen Catholic University  
“A Kierkegaardian Ironic Re-imagination of Post/Human Myths in The Concept of Anxiety and Tomorrow’s Eve”
- ♦ **Libby O’Neil**–Yale University  
“Systems, Cybernetics, and Catholic Mysticism: The Case of Ludwig von Bertalanffy and Nicholas of Cusa”
- ♦ **Braden Molhoek**–Graduate Theological Union  
“Beyond Biological Autonomy: Rolling Blackouts, Brainjacking, and the Threat of Planned Obsolescence”
- ♦ **Presiding: Elonda Clay**–Methodist Theological School in Ohio

## Panel C (Tooker Boardroom, Old Main)

### Religious Conceptions of Nature, Science, and Technology

- ♦ **Mai Lootah**–Rice University  
“Cosmic Chaos and Transformation in Scientific Qu’rānic Exegeses”
- ♦ **Tanhum Yoreh**–University of Toronto  
“Shades of Green: Environmental Action in Places of Worship”
- ♦ **Anna Lisa Beck**–Université libre de Bruxelles  
“Technology, Control, and Violence: The Cost of Ritual Propriety in Ancient Chinese Philosophy”
- ♦ **Presiding: Elizabeth Allison**–California Institute of Integral Studies

## Panel D (Online Session)

*Registered conference participants can access the pre-recorded presentations and live online discussion for this panel through the [ISSRNC website](#).*

### Rewilding’s Radical Roots and Uncertain Future

- ♦ **Michael Lynn Wellman**–California Institute of Integral Studies  
“An Ecology of Rewilding: Weaving Resistance, Reskilling, and Remembering”
- ♦ **Sarah Pike**–California State University, Chico  
“Rewilding Technologies and the Ritualization of Loss and Redemption”
- ♦ **Chantal Noa Forbes**–Randolph-Macon College  
“Post-Humanist Futures of Becoming Earth: Ontological-Fluidity, a Transspecies Rewilding”
- ♦ **Presiding: Matt Switzer**–California Institute of Integral Studies  
“Rewilding’s Radical Roots and Uncertain Future”



# Conference Field Trip

**12:30 — 6:30pm: ----- Field Trip to Oak Flat-----**

*Conference participants registered for the Field Trip will need to make their way to the East side of Lattie F. Coor Hall where the bus will pick them up. All participants need to be seated on the bus by 12:20pm as the bus will leave at exactly 12:30. Boxed lunches will be provided when we arrive on site at Oak Flat. Please make sure to bring water and comfortable walking shoes.*

## Oak Flat



To conclude the 2023 *After Earth?* Conference, we will travel to Oak Flat, the site of a struggle over a proposed copper mine near the town of Superior, AZ.

Called *Chi'chil Bilgagoteel* in Apache, this site is currently controlled by the U.S. Forest Service, which was mandated in a controversial addendum to a 2014 defense spending bill to trade the land to Resolution Copper in exchange for less valuable land elsewhere. The proposed copper mine would be one of the largest in the United States and would desecrate a place sacred to Apache people, disrupt public recreation, and damage local hydrological systems. This land swap has not yet been finalized and faces legal and political challenges from Indigenous advocacy groups and environmental protection organizations, including an appeal to the Supreme Court on religious freedom grounds. But the movement to stop the proposed mining operation faces an uphill battle.

At the Oak Flat campground, we will meet with and learn from representatives of Apache Stronghold, the Native organization leading the fight to protect this beautiful place. To learn more about Apache Stronghold and their efforts to protect Oak Flat, visit their [website](#).



# ISSRNC Board of Directors

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Professor of Philosophy, University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee



# ISSRNC Mission & Prospects

The International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture (ISSRNC) is an international and interdisciplinary community of scholars, founded in 2006, who are engaged in critical inquiry into the relationships among human beings, their diverse cultures and environments, and their religious beliefs and practices.

The ISSRNC facilitates scholarly collaboration and research and disseminates research findings through workshops, lectures, conferences and its affiliated, peer reviewed, *Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture*, which has been published quarterly since 2007. In the coming years, the society intends to continue to grow our social media platforms to better connect with our members and to develop additional ways to make our research and conferences digitally accessible.

The ISSRNC was organized and is governed through democratic processes. Our Board of Directors cordially invites all individuals interested in the scholarly investigation of religion, nature, and culture to join and to participate in ISSRNC activities. Members not only enjoy a growing number of benefits, including free online access to the Society's journal; they also increase the profile and strength of this important and growing scholarly field and help create further opportunities for religion and nature scholars.

After its inception in 2006 the society grew steadily, reaching 215 members by the end of 2008. Although annual membership declined after that due to the global economic crisis, society numbers grew dramatically in 2016 and 2017. They dipped again during the first two years of the Covid-19 Pandemic but are now approaching our previous high point. We urge conference participants and current members to strengthen the ISSRNC by renewing their memberships, donating to the society when possible, submitting their scholarly work for consideration by the reviewers and editors of the *JSRNC*, and in other creative ways by offering talents that could advance the mission of the society.

The ISSRNC is recognized by the United States Internal Revenue Service as a 501 (c)(3) charitable/ educational organization.

# Conferences 2006—2023

- 2006**      **Exploring Religion, Nature and Culture**  
In collaboration and with the support of University of Florida,  
Gainesville, Florida, USA
- 2008**      **Re-enchantment of Nature Across Disciplines: Critical  
Intersections of Science, Ethics and Metaphysics**  
In collaboration and with the support of CIGA-UNAM, Morelia, and  
with Universidad Autónoma de San Luis Potosí, Mexico
- 2009**      **Religion, Nature and Progress**  
In collaboration and with the support of University of Amsterdam,  
Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2010**      **Living on the Edge**  
In collaboration and with the support of the University of Western  
Australia, Perth, Australia
- 2011**      **Religion, Nature and Art**  
Co-sponsored with the Ethnological Museum of the Vatican Museums,  
Vatican City State
- 2012**      **Nature and the Popular Imagination**  
In collaboration and with the support of Pepperdine University, Malibu,  
California, USA
- 2016**      **Religion, Science and the Future**  
In collaboration and with the support of University of Florida,  
Gainesville, Florida, USA
- 2017**      **Mountains and Sacred Landscapes**  
Co-sponsored by the India China Institute, The New School, New York  
City, USA
- 2019**      **Religion / Water / Climate: Changing Cultures and Landscapes**  
In collaboration and with the support of University College Cork, Ireland
- 2021**      **Religion and Environment: Relations and Relationality**  
Hosted virtually by Arizona State University's Julie Ann  
Wrigley Global Futures Lab
- 2023**      **After Earth? Religion and Technology on a Changing Planet**  
In collaboration and with the support of Arizona State  
University, Tempe, Arizona, USA



# Maps—ASU Campus

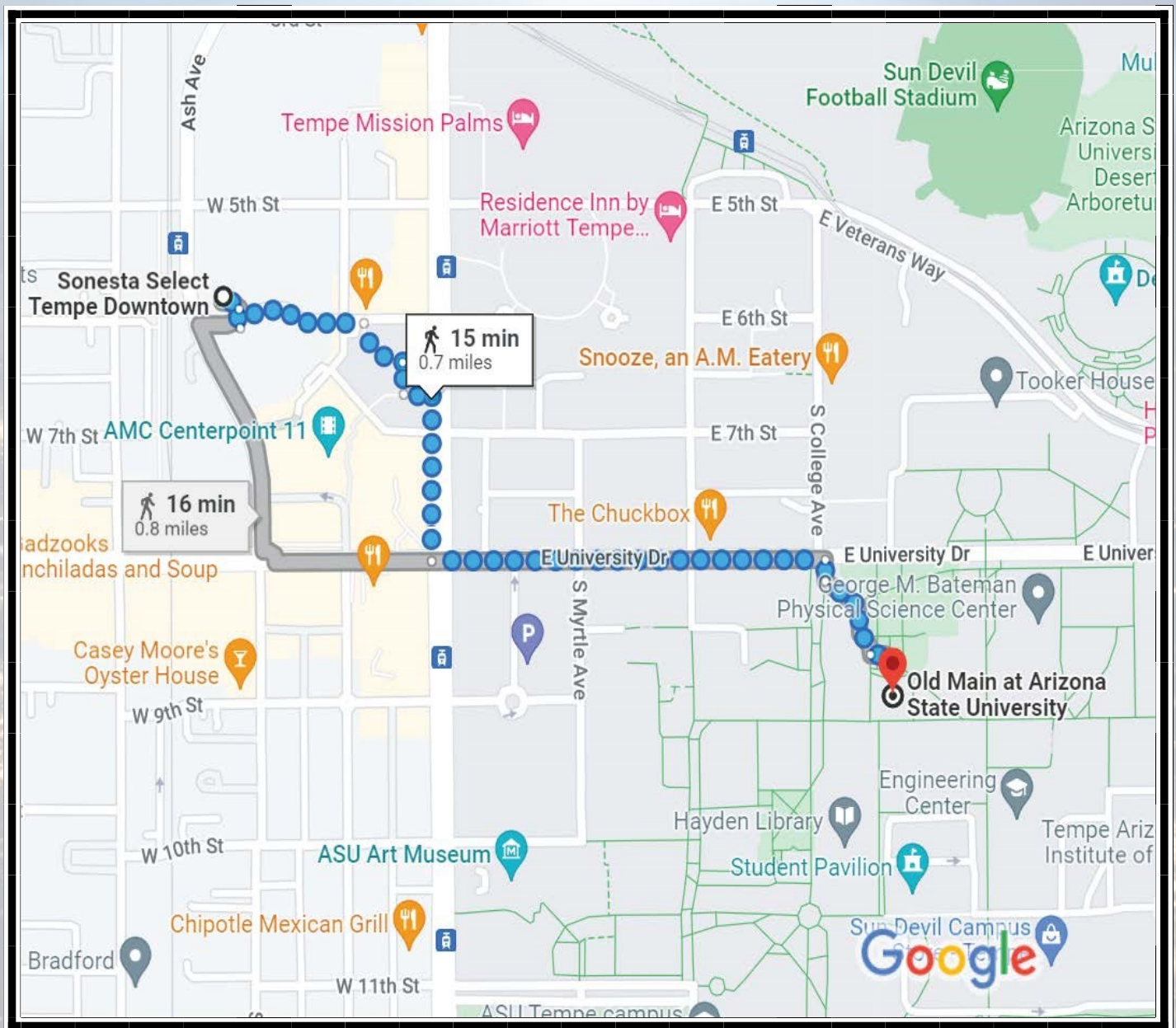




# Maps—Conference Hotels

This map shows the [walking directions](#) between the Conference Hotel, the Sonesta Select Tempe Downtown, and Old Main, where the conference will be held.

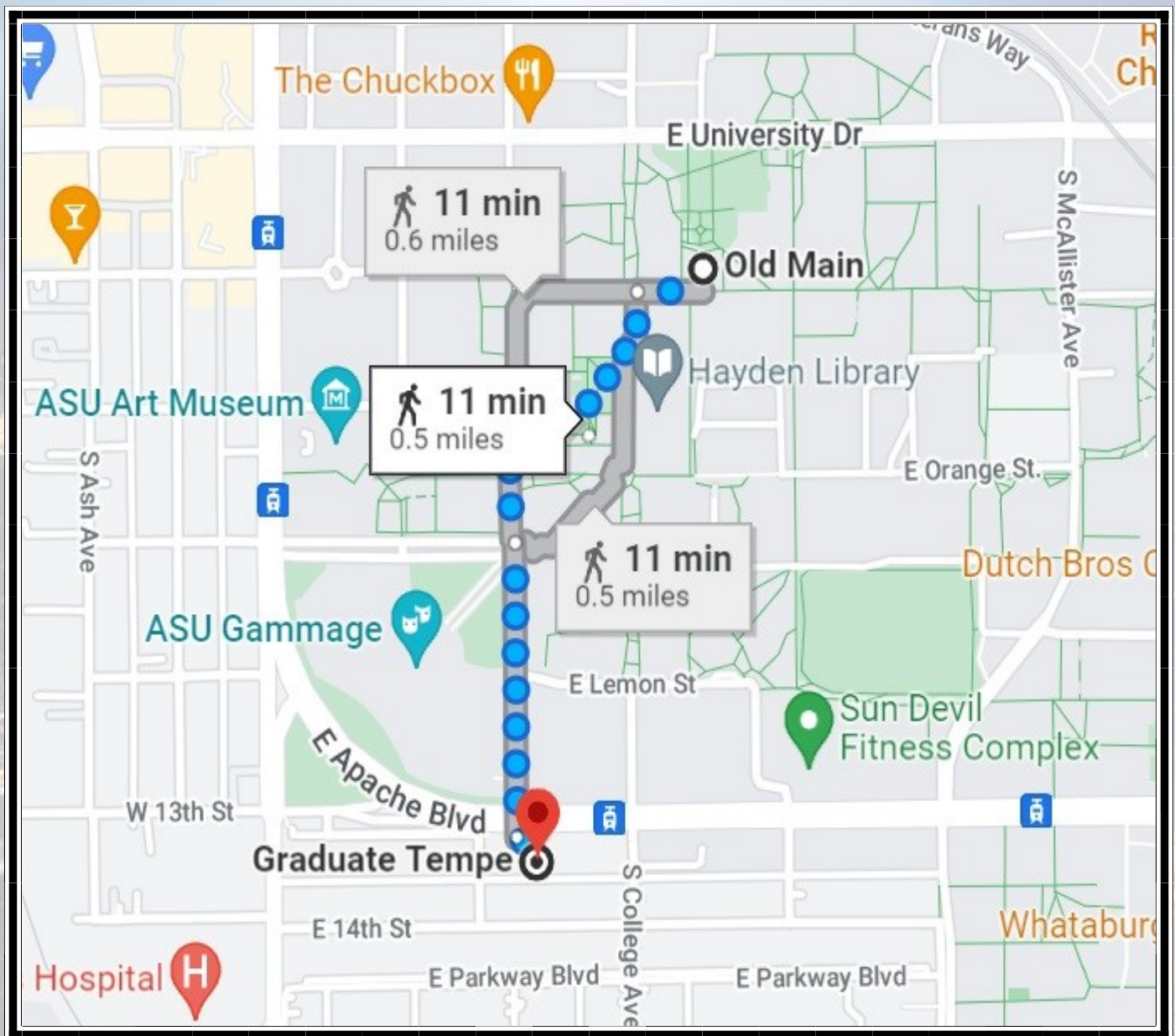
The Sonesta is located at 601 S Ash Ave.



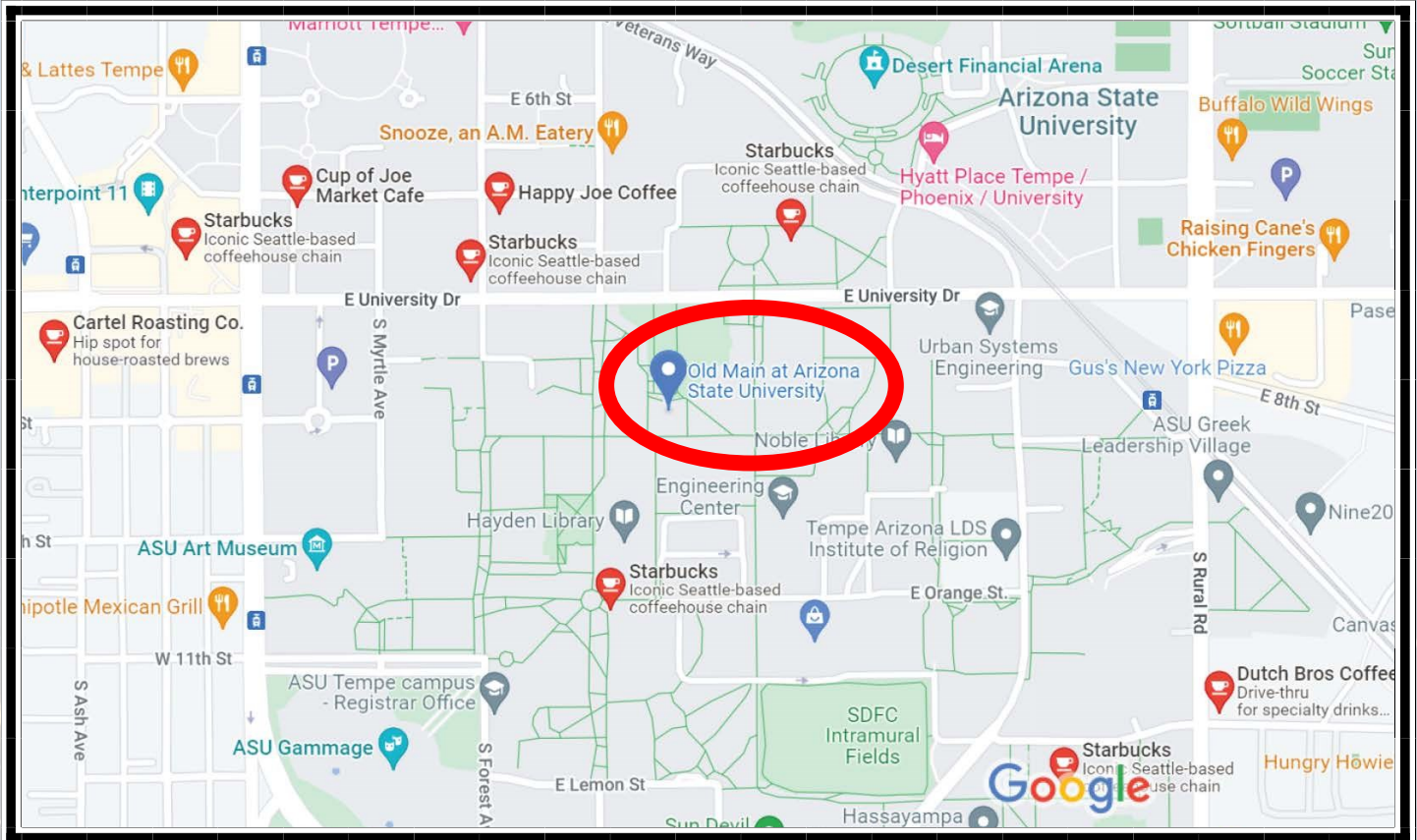


# Maps—The Graduate Hotel

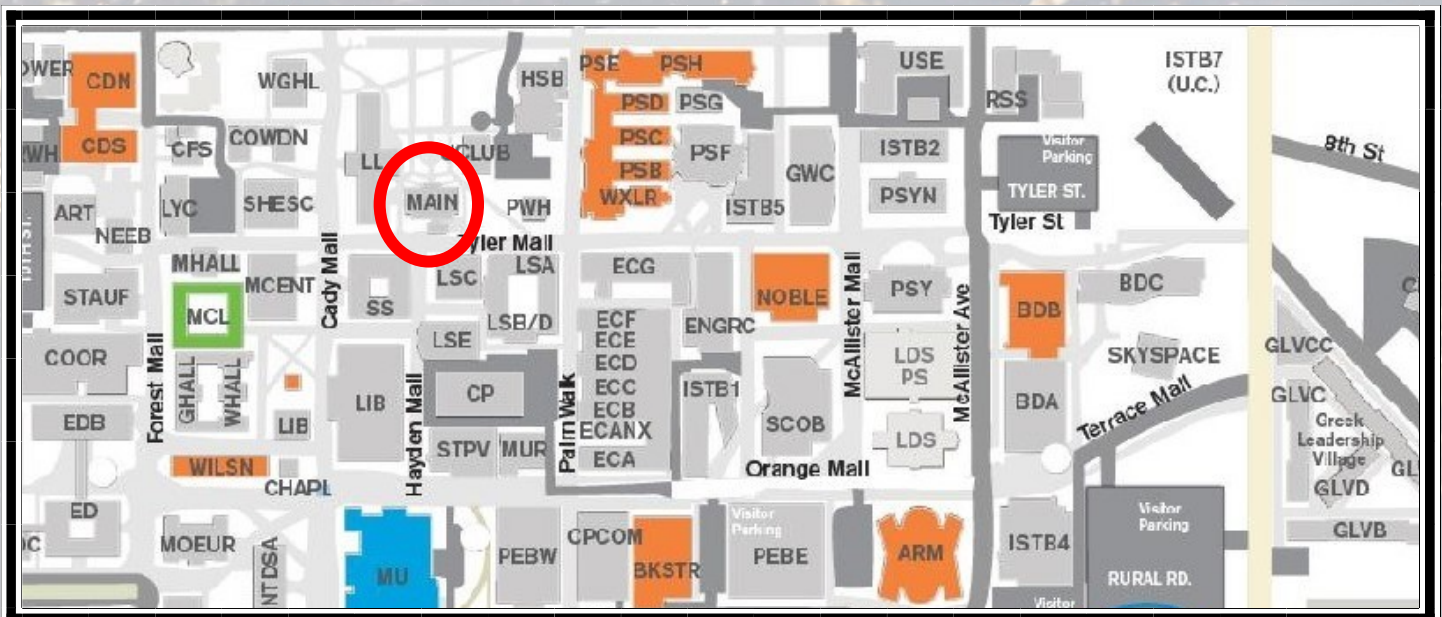
This map shows the [walking directions](#) between Old Main, where the conference will be held, and The Graduate, where the Friday night Reception will be held. The Graduate is located at 225 E Apache Blvd.



# Maps—Coffee Shops + Dining



Above: This map shows coffee shops located near Old Main



Above: This map shows ASU Dining Halls highlighted in orange



# Guest Resources

## **Pharmaceutical and Medical Needs**

CVS (two locations near campus)

- 802 S Mill Ave (closest) and 909 E Apache Blvd

Urgent Care: Fast Med—725 S Rural Rd, Unit 120; +1-480-214-0622

-Walk in clinic is open 7 days a week, including evenings.

Hospital: St. Luke's—1500 S Mill Ave; +1-480-784-5500

-Walkable from Old Main Building, where the conference is located

## **Prayer and Meditation Spaces**

### **[Danforth Interfaith Chapel](#)**

Danforth Chapel is open to the public Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. It also serves as an intimate space that may be reserved for weekend weddings, memorial services and small special events

### **[Private Reflection Rooms](#)**

This room is provided to the ASU Community for quiet contemplation, meditation, reflection or prayer.

## **Gender Neutral Bathrooms**

Gender-neutral and wheelchair accessible bathrooms are in pretty much every building on campus. For more details, [view gender neutral-restrooms](#) by clicking the “Gender-Neutral Restroom” box under “Services” on the left side of the ASU campus map.

## **Lactation Spaces**

There are a number of clean, comfortable and private designated lactation spaces on the ASU campus. The spaces listed below provide electrical outlets, comfortable chairs, and nearby running water. [This website](#) provides you with their locations and, if needed, reservation information.

## **Parking**

The closest parking lot to Old Main for guests is located next to Wrigley Hall (800 S. Cady Mall) and is accessible via University Drive, between Forest Ave and S. Cady Mall.

## **Alternative Parking**

[Union Tempe Garage](#)—712 S. Forest, Tempe

[All Saints Newman Center Surface Lot](#)— 221 E 7th Street, Tempe

[Church Lot](#)—100 E 7th Street, Tempe

[The Brickyard Parking Garage at 7th St](#)—7th St @ Mill Avenue, Tempe

## **ASU Interactive Maps**

[Campus Map](#)

[Dining Map](#)

[Virtual Campus Tour](#)

# Breakfast and Lunch

## Coffee/Café—On Campus

[The Crepe Club](#)—550 E. Tyler Mall, Tempe AZ 85281, by Wexler Hall

[Starbucks](#)—ASU Memorial Union - 1290 S Normal Ave, Tempe, AZ 85281

## Coffee/Café—Off Campus

[Cafetal Coffee](#)—777 S College Ave, #101

[Cartel Coffee Lab](#)—225 W University Dr #101

[Royal Coffee](#)—502 S College Avenue

[Starbucks](#)—116 E. University Drive, Suite 105

## Lunch—On Campus

[ASU Memorial Union](#)—301 E Orange Mall

Memorial Union has a number of dining options including: Engrained Cafe, Pitchforks, Burger King, Chick-fil-A, Einstein Bros. Bagels, Devils' Greens, Jamba Juice, Bento Sushi, Qdoba, Pei Wei, Subway, Rosie's at the MU, and the MU P.O.D convenience market. All venues accept payment via cash, credit, and meal plan.

[Vegetarian and Vegan Options](#)—ASU on campus dining also offers a number of Vegetarian and Vegan options.

## Lunch—Off Campus

[Nocawich](#)—777 S College Ave (also serves breakfast)

[Pita Jungle](#)—4 E University Drive (Vegetarian, Vegan, and Gluten Free options)

[Original Chop Shop](#)—222 E University Dr. (Vegetarian, Vegan, and Gluten Free options)

[Loving Hut](#)—405 W University Dr. (Vegan Cuisine)

[Tocaya](#)—702 S Forest Ave Suite 103 (Vegan and Gluten Free options)



# Dinner, Dessert, & More

## Dinner

[Postino Annex](#) — 615 S. College Ave (Vegetarian and Gluten Free Options)

[Alter Ego](#) — 108 E University Dr.

[Shady Park](#) — 26 E University Dr.

[Terra Tempe Kitchen and Spirits](#) — 11 E 7th Street, Tempe (also serves breakfast and lunch)

[The Chuckbox](#) — 202 E University Dr, Tempe (cash only)

[Café Lalibela](#) — 849 W University Dr. (Vegetarian and Vegan options)

## Juice/Smoothies

[Nekter Juice Bar](#) — 116 E. University Drive

[Emerald City Smoothie](#) — 777 S. College Ave.

## Pastries and Desserts

[Arai Pastry](#) — 1335 W University Dr Ste 4

[Insomnia Cookies](#) — 116 E University Drive

[Sparky's Creamery](#) — 510 S. Mill Ave

## Grocery Stores

[Trader Joe's](#) — 940 E University Dr.

[Whole Foods](#) — 750 S Ash Ave

[Salam's Market & Deli](#) — 616 S Forest Drive

[Sun Devil Marketplace](#) — 660 S College Ave

# Hikes and Day Trips

## Nearby Hikes

### [“A” Mountain \(aka Hayden Butte\) \(Tempe\) — Easy/Moderate](#)

Located in Downtown Tempe. There are trailheads located behind Tempe Mission Palms Hotel off of Third and Fourth Street and Mill Avenue, behind the Hayden Flour Mill at Mill Avenue and Rio Salado Parkway and behind the Tempe Transportation Center on Veterans Way and College Avenue. Be sure to keep your eyes peeled for petroglyphs that were left by Tempe’s first settlers, the Ancestral Sonoran Desert People.

### [Lost Dog Wash Trailhead \(Scottsdale\) - Easy/Moderate](#)

Lost Dog Wash Trailhead is one of the major access points for the southern Preserve. This award winning trailhead offers somewhat shorter and easier trails that wander around and across a natural desert wash.

### [Camelback Mountain \(Phoenix\) — Moderate/Difficult](#)

There are two trailheads, each with their own challenges. During peak hours, like weekend mornings, parking is at a premium. The trail is open from sunrise to sunset for hikers to enjoy beautiful views of the city.

### [Wind Cave Trail \(Mesa\) - Moderate/ Difficult](#)

Located about 30 minutes East of Tempe, discover this 2.9-mile out-and-back trail near Mesa, Arizona. Generally considered a moderately challenging route, it takes approximately 1.5 to 2 hours to complete.

### [Pima Canyon Trailhead \(Tucson\) - Moderate/ Difficult](#)

Discover this 10.1-mile out-and-back trail near Tucson, Arizona. Generally considered a moderately challenging route, it takes an average of 6 h 25 min to complete.

## Day/Overnight Trips

### [Tucson Gem Mineral & Fossil Showcase \(Tucson, AZ\) - 2.5 hours Southeast of Tempe](#)

The world-renowned Tucson Gem, Mineral & Fossil Showcase will take place from January 28—February 12, 2023. Every winter, over 65,000 guests from around the globe descend upon Tucson, AZ, to buy, sell, trade, and bear witness to rare and enchanting gems, minerals, and fossils at over 48 gem show locations across the city.

### [Mount Lemmon \(Tucson, AZ\) - 2.5 hours Southeast of Tempe](#)

Mount Lemmon’s peak, at 9,171 feet, is the highest point in the Santa Catalina Mountains and is one of the Sky Islands in Coronado National Forest. Sky Islands offer drastically different environments as the elevation changes rapidly. The Sky Island Scenic Byway is the biological equivalent of driving from the deserts of Mexico to the forests of Canada in a stretch of only 26 miles! Listen to the award-winning [Mt. Lemmon Science Tour](#) app which narrates interesting observations and facts, timed perfectly for the drive to the top of Mount Lemmon.

### [Antelope Canyon \(Page, AZ\) - 4.5 hours North of Tempe](#)

Book a tour at Upper Antelope Canyon to experience the breathtaking sandstone canyon carved by many years of wind and water. Nearby, you can visit Lake Powell, Lone Rock Campground, Glen Canyon Dam, Horseshoe Bend, and the Vermillion Cliffs. Drive the Marble Canyon Loop to the Vermillion Cliffs and head south to go to the north rim of the Grand Canyon (2.5 hours from Page) or head north to go to Kanab, Utah (2 hours from Page). Along the way, make sure to stop at the [Navajo Bridge](#) to try and spot the endangered California Condor and at [Lee’s Ferry](#) on the Colorado River! In Kanab, you can enter a lottery to get a permit to hike [Coyote Buttes and The Wave](#), or drive another half hour west to [Zion National Park](#).



# Local Tempe Attractions

## ASU Art Museum

With a social justice and equity lens and the experimental, scholarly nature of the university art museum, ASU will have a meteoric impact on museums in the future. The museum harnesses the university's breadth and depth of expertise to pioneer new models for arts learning, engagement and innovation that integrates relevancy, trust and resilient communities with museum institutions. The museum is open Wednesday—Sunday, 11am—5pm. Admission is free and open to the public.

## "Air Apparent" A Skyscape designed by James Turrell

Arizona State University is home to artist James Turrell's "Air Apparent." Located near the intersection of Rural and Terrace Road, this artistic interpretation of Native American Hohokam shade ramadas and pit houses is especially dramatic at sunrise and sunset.

## Desert Botanical Garden

Desert Botanical Garden is a 140-acre botanical garden located in Papago Park in Phoenix, Arizona. The Garden is open 8am—8pm daily and general admission is \$24.95—\$29.95.

## Tempe Town Lake

Features a 5-mile walking path around the lake and boat rentals.

## Pueblo Grande Museum and Archeological Park (Hohokam Ruins)

Pueblo Grande Museum and Archaeological Park opened in 1929. A visit today consists of a two-thirds of a mile interpretive trail which travels around the remains of the ballcourt and platform mound—constructed by the ancestral Sonoran Desert people, identified by archaeologists as the Hohokam culture. Visit galleries which explore this industrious people and their relationship with the environment, a hands-on gallery that explains the process of archaeology, the changing exhibit gallery, featuring rotating exhibits on a wide-variety of fascinating topics, and a community gallery highlighting the site's connection to the contemporary peoples.

The park is open 9:00am—4:45pm, Monday—Saturday. Tickets for adults are \$6.

## Heard Museum

Dedicated to the advancement of American Indian art, the Heard successfully presents the stories of American Indian people from a first-person perspective, as well as exhibitions that showcase the beauty and vitality of traditional and contemporary art. The Heard Museum sets the standard for collaborating with American Indian artists and tribal communities to provide visitors with a distinctive perspective about the art of Native people, especially those from the Southwest. The Museum is open daily from 10am—4pm. Tickets for adults are \$22.50.

## Phoenix Art Museum

Considered the largest art museum in the southwestern United States, the Phoenix Art Museum is home to a collection of more than 20,000 objects and engage more than 300,000 guests, lifelong learners, and art lovers each year, both within the walls of the Museum and through their multidimensional community programs. The Museum is open daily from 10am—5pm. Tickets for adults are \$24.

# Wi-Fi and Social Media

## ASU Wireless Internet Connections

### Option 1: Eduroam

### Option 2: ASU Guest Connection Instructions

1. On the device, make sure you have Wi-Fi turned on.
2. From the list of available wireless connections, connect to the SSID connection named **asu guest**.
3. Open a Web Browser and try and connect to the internet. If you have not recently connected to **asu guest** then a pop up screen will be displayed to begin the ASU wireless network guest registration process.
4. From this screen, please select **Don't have an account?**
5. Fill in the registration information and click **Register**. You can enter in a valid email address **OR** mobile phone number.
6. After receiving the username and password information, click **Sign On**.
7. On the **Guest Portal** sign in screen, fill in the **username** and **password** that you received via either text or email and select **Sign In**.
8. You will be presented with the ASU Acceptable Use Policy. Please read and review, by selecting **Accept** you agree and are completing the registration process to connect to ASU Guest Wireless.

You're now connected to the ASU Guest Wireless. Your username and password will be valid for **48 hours**. During that time you will not have to go through this registration process again. After 48 hours, you will have to repeat the registration process.

**Note:** The **asu guest** Wireless is limited to 10Mbps speeds.

**Need additional help?** Access 24/7 live chat, create a case from the [My ASU Service Center](#) or call 855-278-5080.

## ISSRNC Social Media

We encourage all participants to like and follow us on social media and to post actively during the conference using the hashtag **#ISSRNC2023**. Click the icons below to be directed to our social media accounts.





# Affiliated Publications—JSRNC

## Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture

Founding Editor and Editor-in-Chief  
**Bron Taylor** University of Florida

Co-Editors  
**Mark Peterson** University of Wisconsin Milwaukee  
**Joseph A.P. Wilson** Fairfield University

Managing Editor  
**Amanda M. Nichols** University of California, Santa-Barbara

Assistant Managing Editor  
**Brady McCartney** Independent Scholar

Book Review Editor  
**Sarah R. Werner** Independent Scholar

### Contents of Volume 16.3 (2022)

#### Special Issue: Ambiguous Legacies, Contested Futures

Introduction to the Special Issue – *Karla Armbruster*

Editors' Introduction – *Rebecca Kneale Gould, Russell C Powell*

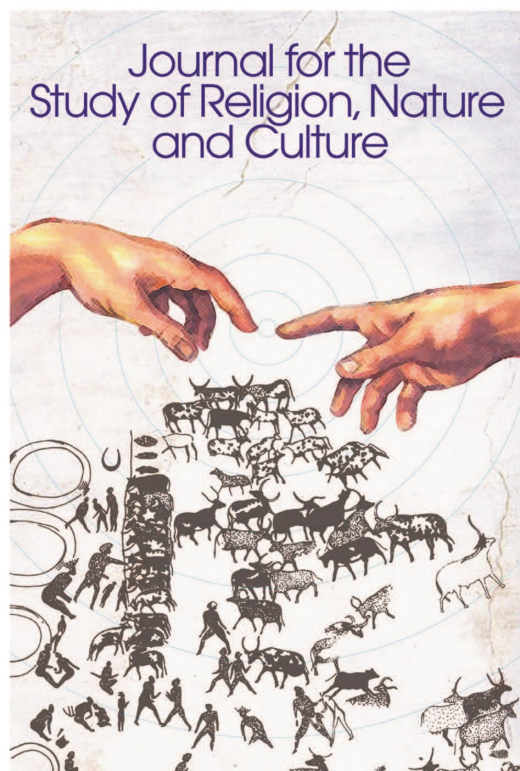
#### Articles

The Redemption of Matter: Margaret Fuller's Fluid Ethics – *Michael Putnam*

'Dash me with Amorous Wet, I can Repay You': Relational Ethics, Queer Ecology, and Walt Whitman's Poetics of Trans-human Kinship – *Caleb Murray*

The Watery Depths of American Environmentalism: Marjory Stoneman Douglas, Rachel Carson, and Sylvia Earle – *Amanda M Nichols, Whitney A Bauman*

Plus Book Reviews



**Journal of Religion, Nature and Culture** explores, through the social and natural sciences, the complex relationships among human beings, their diverse 'religions' and the earth's living systems, while providing a venue for analysis and debate over what constitutes an ethically appropriate relationship between our own species and the environments we inhabit.

The journal is the official journal of the International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture. Members qualify for a membership discount on subscriptions to the journal. To join please visit the Society website at [religionandnature.com](http://religionandnature.com)

### Types of Articles and Special Issues

#### *Social Scientific and Cultural Studies*

Qualitative or quantitative analyses spotlighting the religion variable in human/environment relations. Examples include:

- Research grounded in cultural studies, ecological anthropology; environmental history, cultural geography, sociology, political science; historical ecology; and social movement theory.
- Analyses of the relationships between nature-related religious perceptions and values and human behaviors that impact nature, including the consumption of natural resources, breeding and fertility rates, lifestyle and livelihood choices, and social organization and forms of political mobilization.
- Analyses of the role of nature-related religion in environmental degradation, protection or restoration; or in precipitating or exacerbating social conflict, or in ameliorating such conflict.

#### *Natural Science Studies*

Research exploring through any branch of the natural sciences the

connections between humans and the living systems upon which they depend. Examples include:

- Research grounded in cognitive science or evolutionary biology.
- Analyses of theories that purport to reveal the natural, evolutionary roots of religious and ethical beliefs, values and behaviors, such as "sociobiology."
- Analyses of the role of natural science in religious thought and behavior, such as those exploring how scientific narratives and cosmologies are being integrated into religious belief systems, and how environmental "conservation sciences" can assume a religious dimension in their formulation and practice.
- Critical reflections on the theoretical, philosophical, practical aspects of ecological science for religious traditions and ethical debates.

#### *Constructive and Normative Studies*

Religious and ethical perspectives on human obligations to ecosystems and other living things. Examples include:

- Research rooted in religious and philosophical investigations of a traditions understanding of what constitutes the proper relationships between human beings (and their social structures) and the Earth's living systems.
- Analyses or articulation of ethical arguments from one or more religious perspectives, including "world religions," "nature religions," "new religious movements," "lived religion," and so on. Such thematic issues and articles may explore any religious form of nature-related spirituality.
- Perspectives on and debates engaging postmodern theory and the "social construction of nature;" and related to domestic and international law, political philosophies, and public policies.

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