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Reports & News

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REPORTS & NEWS

Society for Hindu-Christian Studies News

2002 Annual General Meeting

The 2002 Annual General Meeting of the Society for Hindu-Christian Studies will be held at the American Academy of Religion/Society of Biblical Literature 2002 Annual Meeting in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Contact Rachel McDermott at rmcdermo@barnard.edu for more information.

Friday, November 22, 2002

6:30 p.m.

Meet to go to the Toronto Temple of the International Society for Krishna Consciousness.

7:00-8:00 p.m.

Dutch-Treat Dinner at the Temple restaurant

8:00-9:00 p.m.

Panel discussion. Theme: "Negotiating Multiple Religious, Ethnic, and Political Identities in the Contemporary ISKCON Membership." Panelists include scholars and members of ISKCON.

Saturday, November 23, 2002

7:00-8:45 a.m.

Hindu-Christian Society Board Meeting
Location TBA

9:00-11:00 a.m.

Panel discussion. Theme: "Hindu and Christian Worship: Parallels, Differences, Appropriations." This panel explores the phenomenon and implications of Hindu worship settings which have been influenced by Christian liturgical practices, and

Christian worship settings which have been influenced by Hindu liturgical practices.

Chair: **Joseph Prabhu**, California State University

Panelists:

Pravrajika Saradeshprana, Vedanta Society of Southern California

Joseph Prabhu, California State University

Graham Schweig, Christopher Newport University

Tinu Ruparell, Liverpool Hope University College

Discussant:

Pratap Kumar, University of Durban

11:00-11:30 a.m.

Business Meeting

Selva J. Raj, Albion College, Presiding

2001 Annual General Meeting

Friday, November 16, 2001

7:30-9:30 p.m.

A screening and discussion of the film "Poverty, Politics, and Religion" took place (32-minutes, condensed and renamed version of "Fishers of Men," produced by **Ranjan Kamath** and **Padmavati Rao**, 1997). A treatment of tribal Christians in Madhya Pradesh and the attempts of some Hindus to encourage them to return to their Hindu roots. **Frank Clooney**, Boston College, moderated a panel of commentators comprised of **Arti Dhand**, University of Toronto, **James Lochtefeld**, Carthage College, **Selva Raj**, Albion College, and **Mat Schmalz**, Holy Cross. A discussion of the film by the audience followed.

Saturday, November 17, 2001

9:00 - 1:45 a.m.

A panel discussion of "*Hindu Readings of a Christian Classic: The Journey to the Mind of God*" took place. The Presider and Initiator of Discussion was **Brian Pennington**, Maryville College. Panelists were **Deepak Sarma**, Salisbury State University, **Parimal Patil**, Emory University, and **Pravrajika Vrajaprana**, Vedanta Society.

11:00 A Business Meeting was held. **Selva Raj**, Albion College, presided. Details available at the Society's website: <http://www.acusd.edu/theo/hcs-1/>

**ANNOUNCEMENT:
HINDU-CHRISTIAN STUDIES
BOOK AWARD**

The Society for Hindu-Christian Studies invites nominations for the "Best Book in Hindu-Christian Studies, 2000-2002."

At its 2003 annual meeting, which will be held in conjunction with the annual meeting of American Academy of Religion, the Society for Hindu-Christian Studies will present an award to the best book in Hindu-Christian studies published between 2000-2002. To celebrate this work, the Society will also sponsor a panel discussion of the book to which the author will be invited to respond.

Until November 1, 2002 the Society invites nominations for this award. The book must be published in 2000, 2001, or 2002 and be a distinguished contribution to the field of Hindu-Christian studies. Such a

work may be (1) a comparative study of a theme(s) in Hindu and Christian traditions or of two (or more) thinkers from those traditions; (2) a work which traces some aspect of the cultural, historical, political, social, or theological interaction between Hindus and Christians (e.g., in early South Asian history, in the colonial period, in a contemporary setting, in a missionary context, in the diaspora, etc.); and/or (3) a study in which an author, belonging (religiously and/or culturally) to either the Hindu or the Christian tradition, reflexively undertakes a study of a concept, image, ritual, author, text, etc., from the other tradition, and thus bring it into dialogue with his or her own.

Nominations should be sent no later than November 1, 2002 to:

Parimal G. Patil
SHCS Book Committee
Barker Center, 12 Quincy Street
Cambridge, MA 02138-3879
e-mail: patil@emory.edu
phone: 404-727-2103

Authors are welcome to nominate their own books. Publishers are urged to send a copy of the book itself. The committee will make its decision by the spring of 2003. Previous Winners are: 1994-1996: **Francis X. Clooney**, Boston College, *Seeing Through Texts: Doing Theology Among the Srivaisnavas of South India*. (Albany, NY: SUNY Press 1996); 1997-1999: **Julius Lipner**, University of Cambridge, *Brahmobandhab Upadhyay: The Life and Thought of a Revolutionary* (Oxford, England Oxford University Press 1999).