

NUMEN BOOK SERIES  
STUDIES IN THE HISTORY  
OF RELIGIONS

EDITED BY

W.J. HANEGRAAFF  
P. PRATAP KUMAR

ADVISORY BOARD

P. ANTES, M. DESPLAND, RIJ. HACKETT, M. ABUMALHAM MAS, A.W. GEERTZ,  
G. TER HAAR, G.L. LEASE, M.N. GETUI, I.S. GILHUS, P. MORRIS, J.K. OLUPONA,  
E. THOMASSEN, A. TSUKIMOTO, A.T. WASIM

VOLUME CIII



R-19.-399

THE FUTURE OF THE  
STUDY OF RELIGION

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS 2000

EDITED BY

SLAVICA JAKELIĆ AND LORI PEARSON



BRILL  
LEIDEN · BOSTON  
2004

## CONTENTS

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Acknowledgements .....   | ix  |
| Introduction: Whither the Study of Religion? .....   | 1   |
| SLAVICA JAKELIĆ AND LORI PEARSON   |     |
| The Stubborn Persistence of Religion: Some Post-Secular<br>Reflections .....   | 23  |
| FRIEDRICH WILHELM GRAF   |     |
| The Stubborn Persistence of Debates about Religion:<br>A Response to Friedrich Wilhelm Graf .....                              | 43  |
| PETER BERGER   |     |
| The Study of Religions in the Twentieth Century .....  | 47  |
| HANS G. KIPPENBERG   |     |
| The History of Religions and the Study of Religions:<br>A Response to Hans Kippenberg .....                                    | 65  |
| CHRISTOPH SCHWÖBEL   |     |
| Difference and Coherence in the Worldwide Study<br>of Religions .....  | 77  |
| MICHAEL PYE  |     |
| Response to Michael Pye .....  | 97  |
| ROBERT CUMMINGS NEVILLE  |     |
| Globalization and the Future Study of Religion .....   | 103 |
| BRYAN S. TURNER  |     |
| Response to Bryan Turner .....   | 139 |
| ADAM B. SELIGMAN   |     |
| The Proper Object of the Study of Religion: Why It<br>Is Better to Know Some of the Questions Than<br>All of the Answers ..... | 145 |
| IVAN STRENSKI  |     |
| Problems, Questions, and Curiosities: A Response to<br>Ivan Strenski .....   | 173 |
| ELIZABETH A. CASTELLI  |     |

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Diversity and the Study of Mysticism .....  | 189 |
| STEVEN T. KATZ  |     |
| Response to Steven Katz .....   | 211 |
| FRANCIS X. CLOONEY  |     |
| Engendering the Study of Religion .....   | 217 |
| ELIZABETH A. CLARK  |     |
| Agency and Evidence in Feminist Studies of Religion:<br>A Response to Elizabeth Clark .....                                   | 243 |
| AMY HOLLYWOOD   |     |
| Detraditionalizing the Study of Religion .....  | 251 |
| PAUL HEELAS   |     |
| Response to Paul Heelas .....   | 273 |
| ANN BRAUDE  |     |
| Retraditionalizing the Study of Religion: The Conflict<br>of the Faculties: Theology and the Economy of the<br>Sciences ..... | 279 |
| JOHN MILBANK  |     |
| Theology or Religious Studies? The Future of Religious<br>Studies: A Response to John Milbank .....                           | 295 |
| PAUL MORRIS   |     |
| Ernst Troeltsch and the Future of the Study of Religion .....   | 301 |
| TRUTZ RENDTORFF   |     |
| Response to Trutz Rendtorff .....   | 315 |
| SARAH COAKLEY   |     |
| Appendix: <i>Congress 2000 Parallel Sessions and Panels</i> .....   | 321 |
| Index .....   | 325 |

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to thank all who participated in the conference, "Congress 2000: The Future of the Study of Religion," held in Boston, Massachusetts, in September 2000. This book was inspired by their contributions and perspectives on questions facing the field of religious studies today.

Acknowledgement is gratefully made to the American Society of Church History and to the editors of the journal *Church History* for permission to reprint (in a revised form and under a new title) the essay by Elizabeth A. Clark, 'Women, Gender, and the Study of Christian History,' *Church History* 70/3 (2001): 395–426. We also thank The Continuum International Publishing Group for permission to reprint (under a revised title) John Milbank's essay, 'The Conflict of the Faculties: Theology and the Economy of the Sciences,' in *Faithfulness and Fortitude*, ed. Mark T. Nation and Samuel Wells (T & T Clark, 2000), 39–57.

We owe a great debt of gratitude to our editors at Brill Academic Publishers, Mattie Kuiper and Willy de Gijzel, for their patience and guidance throughout the creation and production of this volume. We also express our thanks to Sarah Coakley for her leadership along with John Clayton in the convening of Congress 2000, and for her assistance with editorial matters related to this volume.

Most of all, we wish to remember with gratitude our mentor and teacher, John Clayton (1943–2003). Just as our work on this book was completed, we received the news of his premature death. In the future of the study of religion, John Clayton will surely be remembered for his scholarship and for his leadership in countless collaborative projects and professional organizations. We in the present will remember him also for his devotion to students, his talent as mentor, his intellectual openness, his generosity and warmth, and above all, for his indomitable will to make things happen with charm, style, and good humor. John Clayton's vision was behind the genesis of this project, and his support and guidance behind its completion. This book is dedicated to him.

Slavica Jakelić and Lori Pearson