

News of the Society

Greetings from the Society for Buddhist-Christian Studies! The spring newsletter contains important information about the society and its activities. (Check out our [website](#), [blog](#), or [facebook](#) page).

In this issue please find:

- Report about the Annual Meeting of the Society for Buddhist-Christian Studies
- SBCS and the Interfaith Coalition Conference for Global Citizens
- Information about the European Network of Buddhist-Christian Studies
- Membership, contribution, and other contact info



**SBCS Holds Its Second
Online Annual Meeting
November 19-20, 2021**

by Sandra Costen Kunz
SBCS Secretary

For the second year in a row, the Society for Buddhist-Christian Studies held its annual meeting online due to the corona virus pandemic. For several decades prior to the pandemic, we met face-to-face in conjunction with the annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion (AAR) as one of its "related scholar organizations." Having applied in 2020 to continue as an AAR "RSO," we were delighted that AAR renewed our status in March, 2021 because we see our own mission as having some important overlap with AAR's. (For these two mission statements see:

<https://www.society-buddhist-christian-studies.org/mission> and
<https://www.aarweb.org/AARMBR/Who-We-Are-/Mission-and-Values.aspx>).

This year, in addition to its face-to-face sessions at San Antonio's convention center and downtown hotels, AAR again offered an online video conference platform on which we held our paper sessions late Friday afternoon and Saturday morning. We sincerely hope that conditions are such that early next fall we can commit to meeting in person in conjunction

with the 2022 AAR meeting in Denver. Our Friday governing board meetings and members meeting this year were hosted by SBCS President Leo Lefebure on Georgetown University's Zoom platform.

Board of Directors Morning Meeting

Approval of the minutes and slate of nominees
The president called our meeting to order at 9 AM CST. After the minutes from the 2020 meeting were unanimously approved, the board's Nominating Committee presented the following slate for new board officers and directors and committee members:

Vice president:
Carolyn Jones Medine

Journal co-editor:
Kristin Johnston Largen

Journal book review editor:
Jason VonWachenfeldt

At-large board directors:
Elizabeth Tyler (4-year term)
Anh Tran (4-year term)
Insook Lee (3-year term)

Streng Book Award Committee member:
Jason VonWachenfeldt

Social Media & Website Committee members:
Julius-Kei Kato
Alaina Keller

Using Zoom's anonymous polling function, we voted for each person in turn. The result was that each committee nominee was elected, and the officers and at-large board members were given approval to be presented on the board's slate during the online election during the members meeting.

To honor their needs for sleep, we moved next to the reports of our two board members who were zooming in late at night from East Asia.

Social Media and Website Committee

Chair Jonathan Seitz reported from Taipei. Prior to the meeting, he had emailed the board a summary that included statistics that Chera Jo Watts, executive associate for digital services, had collected. The news was very good – and demonstrated the importance of this committee for the Society's work and growth! In this article I've included both written and oral parts of Jonathan's report.

Website

During 2021, journal co-editor Thomas Cattoi, past president Kristin Largen, vice-president Mark Unno, Leo, and Jonathan posted articles and announcements on the blog. These totaled seven posts, which were more than in 2020. The traffic on our website increased during the months in which new content was posted: a pattern also noted in prior years. If you're interested in writing for the blog, you can find tips at: <https://www.society-buddhist-christian-studies.org/topics/2022/2/7/write-for-us-submitting-a-blog-post-to-sbcs>. Our 6623 total website visits showed a 25% increase over last year.

Membership statistics

We currently have 218 dues paying-members who receive a hard copy of the journal. This is a 25% increase over last year! The membership categories and fees are:
79 students (60 in 2020) \$10;

94 (75 in 2020) practitioners and adjunct, independent or retired professors \$25;
45 (39 in 2020) assistant, associate or full professors \$45

Members' online access to the journal

Not long after our publisher, University of Hawai'i Press (UHP), began publishing the journal online as well as in print, issues were made available to our membership electronically through Project Muse via a link from UHP: a very useful research tool for members who don't have free online access to *BCS* through an academic institution. Due to Google Chrome's and Firefox's browser security changes, our Squarespace content management system can no longer readily accommodate the hard code needed for UHP's link to Project Muse. After Jonathan and Chera Jo spent a great deal of time in conversation with UHP and Project Muse, it became apparent that hiring someone with the coding skills to fix the issue would be expensive. Treasurer John Sheveland advised proceeding carefully, given that we've already recently increased our budget for maintaining our website, Facebook page and email account.

After journal co-editor Carol Anderson and other board members thanked Jonathan and Chera Jo for their work on this problem, Carol said it's important to have a game plan to fix it. Leo proposed that the Executive Committee, the treasurer, Jonathan, and Chera Jo explore possibilities and present ideas to the board. Jonathan said that if any members with the needed skills could volunteer some time to work on the problem, he would help in any way he could.

Facebook

As of the 2021 annual meeting we have 1940 Facebook followers: a significant increase over the 1744 at last year's meeting. While the vast majority were from North America, our page does have an international following, for example: 97 in the UK, 78 in India, 27 in the Philippines, 19 in Sri Lanka, 18 in Myanmar and 15 in Brazil.

Committee Work and Expenses

Jonathan commended Chera Jo on her excellent work this year. She was hired for 30 hours this year at the rate her predecessor Alicia Brown was paid. He expressed gratitude to Leo for recommending Alaina as a committee member and hopes that one or two other board members will join the group's work. Many board members concurred in thanking Jonathan, Chera Jo and the rest of the committee for their success in publicizing the voices and work of the Society.

International Advisor Report from Japan

Kuni Terasawa, our international advisor who keeps us abreast of the Japan Society for Buddhist-Christian Studies and other Buddhist-Christian partnerships in East Asia, began by thanking SBCS newsletter editor John Becker for publishing his report of the Japan Society's conference last summer. Noting that the North American and Japanese scholars and practitioners who formed the two societies have "been like twins" since a meeting in 1980 at the University of Hawai'i, he expressed the Japan Society's current desire to work more closely with the SBCS. They're holding a "reconstruction" meeting in light of generational issues, wanting their conferences to be more than a "philosophical salon" and address issues like pastoral care, grief care, and COVID loneliness with practical wisdom.

Kuni said he'd participate the next day (along with board members J. K. Kato and Leo Lefebure) in a panel on Buddhist-Christian dialogue within the South Korean Won Buddhist Interfaith Coalition Conference for Global Citizens titled "Going into the Next Day." Leo added that they're hoping this conference will build ongoing relationships among the several conference collaborators from S. Korea and beyond, including the SBCS. One of the topics, which Leo will address, is "What is the role of religion after COVID?" The group hopes to consider more broadly how interreligious dialogue can help the global community meet other current challenges. In the near future, Kuni will participate in a student discussion "for a New Asia" about reconciliation among

Japanese and Korean people and speak with Rissho Kosei Kai seminarians about Buddhist-Christian dialogue.

Newsletter Editor's Report

John Becker reported that our newsletter subscribers have increased from 617 right before last year's annual meeting to 735 subscribers right now. Sent out by email, the newsletter has a 50% click rate of subscribers who actually open the attachment. As a follow up to Kuni's and Leo's remarks about the desire of East Asians interested in Buddhist-Christian studies to collaborate with the SBCS, he noted that 30% of the people who opened the newsletter (i.e. over a hundred) are outside the US and UK. This indicates that the newsletter, and the Society as a whole, are indeed building an international following. He attributes a lot of this to the work of the Social Media and Website Committee, especially Jonathan and Chera Jo.

Book Review Editor's Report

Massimo Rondolini was unable to join us, so Leo read the report he submitted. The 2020-2021 issue contained six book reviews. Two reviewers had to withdraw due to COVID-related problems. Massimo shared all reviews, reviewer contacts, and other documents with the new book review editor, Jason Von Wachenfeldt, for a smooth transition. We're very grateful to Massimo for his work on the journal and welcome Jason to the SBCS board.

Journal Co-editors' Report

Carol Anderson reported that she and Thomas worked on this year's 2021 Volume 41 with a new copy editor that UHP had hired who, with the rest of the press' staff, bent over backwards to smooth out some transition-related issues. As a result, the volume was published a few weeks later than usual.

Thomas reported that he and Carol were able to shepherd the papers from both the 2019 and 2020 annual meetings into the 2021 issue. Given the pandemic and other challenges, this is an astounding accomplishment, since for very many years SBCS papers have not appeared in *BCS* until right before the annual meeting two

years after they were presented. Carol thanked Mark Unno (who as vice president, and thus Program Committee chair, supervises panel selection and preparation) for helping them eliminate this lag time by repeatedly reminding presenters they're expected to submit their papers to the journal. She reminded all of us that, if you're chairing a panel, please inform all the panelists of this expectation.

Thomas noted that the editors hope to continue to be able to publish our sessions' papers the year after they're presented. He then warned us that, after the 491-page Volume 40, and this year's 350-page Volume 41, they've received very few submissions for the 2022 volume. He attributes this in part to the pandemic, and to fact that many scholars in Buddhist-Christian studies contributed articles this year to the forthcoming *Routledge Handbook of Buddhist-Christian Studies*, which he and Carol are editing, or to a forthcoming Brill volume he's editing. The board is extremely grateful to Carol for her brilliant work as co-editor for seven years – and for her reliably wise comments on other aspects of the Society's work in our board discussions. In our afternoon meeting, Leo thanked past president Kristin Largen for her help during the past two years and for continuing to serve the Society in a different way as the new *BCS* co-editor.

After the journal report, Leo adjourned us for brief break prior to the members meeting. To try to best accommodate all the various schedules and time zones, it was held online from 10:30 to 11:00 CST on Georgetown's platform.

Members Meeting

Streng Book Award

After calling the members meeting to order at 10:30 CST, President Leo Lefebure presented the Streng Book Award to Ayo Yetunde (a former member of the Social Media and Website Committee) for her book *Buddhist-Christian Dialogue, U.S. Law, and Womanist Theology for Transgender Spiritual Care*. The award committee described the book's argument in

this way: "Pastoral care and spiritual giving needs to be grounded in democratic institutions beyond voting, such as education in critical thinking and spiritual leaders who wisely engage in democratic processes in ways that contribute to wisdom and compassion aimed at the diminution of minority rights, especially for transgender people." Leo added that, like the committee, he admired the way Yetunde drew together a lot of areas of scholarship that haven't usually been brought together in Buddhist-Christian studies, as exemplified in her chapter title: "Think like a Lawyer; Act Like a Chaplain."

In her remarks in response to the award, Ayo mentioned two of her motivations for writing this book: first, realizing that, when Donald Trump first ran for office, "many caring people chose not to listen to him and were thus blindsided by the rise of authoritarianism," and second, the lack of full documentation of the policy changes his administration made. In response, "My hope was to offer a little something to people who tend not to pay attention to things like politics and law."

Election of Officers, Board Members, and Committee Members

Using Zoom's polling function, Leo supervised the voting for each board-approved nominee in turn. The result was that all of these nominees were elected to the positions listed at the beginning of this article. Congratulations to all of you, and many thanks for joining the board in leading the SBCS!

Discussion of Panel Topics for Next Year

Most years the board holds an initial discussion of next year's panel topics at its usual Friday meeting and then asks for comments and further suggestions at the usual Saturday morning members meeting. Since we needed to alter the schedule this year, this article weaves comments from the board's Friday afternoon discussion of paper topics into the prior discussion at the member's meeting. Both of these brain-storming sessions were led by Carolyn Medine, newly-elected vice-president and thus Program Committee chair. She began,

at the members meeting, by suggesting three topics herself:

- Buddhist-Christian perspectives on pastoral care-spiritual care-counselling. At the later afternoon meeting she and board member Duane Bidwell agreed to collaborate on the wording of this topic.
- a session on Ayo's award-winning book described above. Mark suggested we subtitle this panel: "Buddhist-Christian perspectives on intersectionality." Duane suggested we contact the AAR's Queer Studies Unit to see if they'd consider co-sponsoring this.
- a panel related to the religious identity/religious change issues sparked by immigration. After Mark made some comments, another related topic emerged: "What does it mean to move from one religious identity to another?" Carolyn and Mark will work together to come up with a suggested topic.

In line with the pastoral care focus of Carolyn's first two suggestions, Thomas suggested another topic at the members meeting:

- Buddhist and Christian approaches to end of life care.

In the afternoon Chera Jo suggested the topic:

- Buddhist and Christian approaches to sexual trauma.

—Updated Information—

After further deliberation, the society has decided on the following panels for AAR 2022:

- "Buddhist-Christian Thought and Spiritual Care"
- "Becoming Buddhist, Becoming Christian: Religious Formation in a Buddhist-Christian Context"
- Co-sponsored session on "Intersectionality and Buddhist-Christian Studies."

Officer Transitions

Mark, as he transitioned from SBCS vice-president to president, thanked Leo for his remarkable leadership to the Society, not only for serving as president during two unprecedented pandemic years, but for being "part of the lifeblood of the SBCS" for many decades. He said, "I hope I can represent our Society even a fraction as well as you have." Leo thanked the officers, the board and committee members, and the staff of the SBCS for their help during the past two years. The pandemic necessitated decisions about the SBCS' future that none of us could have imagined, but so far we've gained more members and online followers, and we've published two of the longest volumes in the history of the journal!

Board of Directors Afternoon Meeting

International advisor report from Europe

Elizabeth Harris, representing the European Network of Buddhist Christian Studies, said the main thing she wanted to report about is the Network's upcoming 2022 conference June 30th to July 4th titled "Euro-Buddhism and the Role of Christianity." It will be held in cooperation with the University of Salzburg at St. Virgil Conference Center (see more information below).

The conference has issued an open call for papers on any topic relevant to Buddhist-Christian studies and will also feature invited speakers. One emphasis of the invited papers will be Christianity as both a partner and an antagonist for European Buddhism, considering especially the role of polemics.

Liz noted that St. Virgil is the most beautiful venue they've used before, with the mountains visible through the windows. John Sheveland remarked that he enjoyed the format and schedule of the Network's conference that he attended because it really facilitated interaction among participants, especially the common meals.

The papers from the Network's last conference were published by EOS in 2021 and titled *A*

Visionary Approach: Lynn A. de Silva and the Prospects for Buddhist-Christian Encounter. Liz and Perry Schmidt-Leukel edited the volume, which celebrates the 100th anniversary of the birth of this Sri Lankan Methodist theologian, Hebrew Bible translator, and pioneer in Buddhist studies and Buddhist-Christian dialogue. It contains six papers on de Silva as a person, six papers on his thought, and six papers responding to his thought. Papers by long-time SBCS members Amos Yong, James Fredericks, and Thomas Cattoi are included.

Liz is the new president of the Association for Buddhist Studies in the UK and said she's in the thick of defending Buddhist studies – and religious studies in general – within UK universities, especially religious studies which pays careful attention to the *inter-relationships* among different religious traditions. The pressure to favor technical fields over the humanities in the UK is intense. Carolyn responded that at University of Georgia introductory religion courses are doing all right, but very few students opt to major. Leo noted that PhD graduates in religious studies are having a very difficult time finding long-term positions.

The Buddhist-Christian dialogue group in London Liz co-moderates now meets three times a year. Their next topic will be Buddhist and Christian attitudes towards mental health, with presentations from a Buddhist and a Christian psychotherapist.

Treasurers' Report

John Sheveland, commenting on a written report he screen-shared with us, reminded us that our accounts wax and wane primarily due to: a) deposits from membership fees and, b) debits for meeting room fees and wages for our executive associate. AAR still owes the Society an \$850 reimbursement for the fees we prepaid for meeting rooms in San Antonio because we moved our sessions onto their online platform by their reimbursement deadline. He hopes they'll pay us soon. He also hopes that the dues from this year's 44 new members will become

an ongoing addition to our balance. Growing our membership grows our accounts.

On November 21, 2020 IRS sent him a letter saying our tax-exempt status had been reinstated. It's currently in fine shape. He'll continue to phone IRS annually to confirm that they've received all the needed documentation, because this seems to be the key to keeping current with them.

In light of the board's ongoing discussion about the possibility of having a backup treasurer in case of emergency, and the questions about whether this could be managed from outside the US, John and Thomas will converse after the meeting. Thomas currently serves as the California resident to whom the state's "Statement of Information" is sent every other year and the person who pays the \$20 fee.

John is planning to step down from the treasurer's position in 2023 and suggests that we begin thinking now about who might be willing to volunteer to step into this role, so that this person could learn the ropes from John in the year between the 2022 meeting and the treasurer election at the 2023 meeting. He explained that the treasurer's primary responsibilities are the federal tax paperwork, the California paperwork, and paying AAR for meeting space and Chera Jo for her work.

Need for a New Strengh Book Award Committee Chair

Paul Ingram, current chair, would like to step down so we'll need to find a replacement. Kristin noted that one of the most time-consuming parts of the position is getting the various books, or pdf's of the books, to committee members. Leo reminded us that the award does not recognize "the book of the year" since sometimes two outstanding books in the field are published the same year. In this case, the committee has awarded one book during its year of publication and the other book the following year.

Peter Feldmeier said he's interested in chairing the committee. Leo noted that this would work

well since Peter's current at-large board term will end at the 2022 meeting. If elected to this committee chair, Peter could transition seamlessly into this different board position.

2023 Chicago Parliament of the World's Religions

Leo reported that the 2023 in-person parliament will be held Aug. 14-18 in Chicago, the site of the first and second parliaments. Several SBCS members were involved in sessions on Buddhist-Christian dialogue during the last in-person parliament, including Jonathan Seitz and a group of Leo's and Ruben Habito's students. Leo recommends the event as a great place for students to explore a huge variety of inter-religious discussions.

Routledge Handbook of Buddhist-Christian Studies

Thomas reported that the volume he and Carol Anderson are co-editing will have forty contributors from "our Society, the Japan Society, the European Network – from everywhere . . . It's really huge!" The unique pressures of the pandemic upon people of color has been one of the factors that has slowed its publication, since several invited contributors had to withdraw. When Thomas asked Carolyn if she'd like to say something about the meeting they had about this dilemma last summer, she responded, "What came out is the pressures that have been on racial-ethnic scholars, on intersectional scholars, during the pandemic. So much of our time has been taken up with matters around race . . . and how the pandemic has intersected with those. We talked about how we thought that was the reason why people just didn't feel they could take on another project." Thomas and Carol issued more invitations, but "We have not been very successful" in recruiting contributors from "nonwhite, nondominant groups." He and Carol will address these issues in their introduction to the volume, which they hope will appear in 2022.

2022 SBCS sessions on AAR's video platform

Reminding the board of the careful deliberations behind our decision in September to support AAR by using their platform for our

two online sessions this year, Kristin explained how to log in to AAR's platform. This year's sessions were:

Friday, Nov. 19, from 4:00 to 6:30 PM (CST)
"Buddhist-Christian Responses to Ecological Catastrophe and Climate Change"

and

Saturday, Nov. 20, from 9:00 AM to Noon (CST)
"Buddhist-Christian Reflections on Nationalism"

The full descriptions of these panel topics and the lists of presenters were published in our Fall, 2021 newsletter. The papers are expected to be published around the end of November, 2022 in Volume 42 of *Buddhist Christian Studies*.

Closing remarks

As Leo closed our annual meeting by reflecting with the board on the unpredictable nature of the pandemic years in which he'd led the SBCS, he said: "I really appreciate all the help and support you've given me during these very challenging times. I had no idea these two years would be like they were when I stepped into this office but, with all of you, it's really been a wonderful experience." Peter responded a little later: "Leo, you've carried us. I don't know how it could have gone any more smoothly than it did during the last two years under your leadership." Peter expressed the immense gratitude of all the board.



SBCS and the Interfaith Coalition Conference for Global Citizens

SBCS leaders are continuing and developing our relationship with Won Buddhist colleagues and the Interfaith Coalition Conference for Global Citizens (ICCGC), which is based in Seoul.

(<https://www.iccgco.co.kr/>). ICCGC invites religious leaders from Asia and North

America and beyond to reflect together on how we can address challenges such as the COVID pandemic, religious and racial bias and misunderstanding, and building better interreligious understanding. Kunihiro Terasawa and Leo Lefebure participated in the ICCGC virtual meeting in 2020; Julius-Kei Kato joined both of them in participating in the virtual program in November 2021. Recently, President Mark Unno and Vice President Caroline Jones Medine joined Kuni, JK, and Leo in a zoom meeting with the Won Buddhist leader, Ven. Sangwon Hwang, and other organizers of ICCGC to discuss possibilities for future collaboration.



13th Conference of the European Network of Buddhist-Christian Studies (in Cooperation with the University of Salzburg):

Euro-Buddhism and the Role of Christianity

St. Virgil, Salzburg, Austria, 30 June - 4 July 2022

Since the late 19th/early 20th century Buddhism began to be practiced in Europe and was often presented by its European followers as a persuasive alternative to Christianity which had come under heavy attack from various sides.

Buddhism in Europe was less a result of missionary activities from Asian countries but arose, to a significant extent, out of the propagation by Europeans who studied Buddhism through various literary sources. However, European Buddhists sought connections to Asian countries from a comparatively early stage onwards, and organizations such as the Mahābodhi Society came to play an important role. Tensions between Buddhism and Christianity in the

West's Asian colonies and the critique of Christianity in the West had their reciprocal impact on each other.

Whereas in the early days of European Buddhism the focus was predominantly on Theravāda, after the Second World War Western interest shifted to Japanese Zen Buddhism and, somewhat later, to Tibetan Buddhism. Increasingly also other forms of Buddhism (such as Pure Land or Nichiren Buddhism) became present in Europe. Immigrants from Asian countries such as Thailand and Vietnam brought along their local forms of Buddhism and established their own centers. While some of these immigrant communities kept largely to themselves, other forms of Asian Buddhism, as for example "Inter-Being", opened their home traditions and adopted distinctly European and even Christian elements. Today, then, Buddhism in Europe exists in a large variety of forms and with different degrees of individual belonging and/or commitment. Nowhere in Asia are so many different types of Buddhisms present in one particular society as is now the case in a number of European countries.

Registration is now open through the Network's website. Please visit: <http://buddhist-christian-studies.org/salzburg2022>

The papers of the ENBCS's last conference have now been published with EOS-Editions as *A Visionary Approach. Lynn A. de Silva and the Prospects for Buddhist-Christian Encounter*, edited by Elizabeth J. Harris and Perry Schmidt-Leukel. For contents and orders see here:

<https://eos-verlag.de/a-visionary-approach/>

Perry Schmidt-Leukel
ENBCS-President

Membership



If you haven't renewed for 2021, please do so now. Membership includes our newsletters, our journal, and other benefits. [You can renew via our website.](#)

Some of you have asked about how membership works. Here is a brief Question & Answer.

What are current dues?

Dues range from \$10 for students to \$25 for Adjunct Professors, Independent Scholars, and Assistant Professors and \$45 for Associate and Full Professors.

What are the terms of membership?

You may join or renew at any point during the calendar year, although it is more convenient to join at the start. Membership is for the current year (2020), but regardless of when you join you receive the same benefits for that year.

What is included in annual membership?

All memberships include an annual print copy of *Buddhist-Christian Studies*, inclusion on our email list (two e-newsletters), and voting rights in member meetings.

How does membership contribute to broader Buddhist-Christian cooperation?

Our dues support a variety of recent efforts. We have worked to make the Journal more easily available, have added to our webpage (for instance, it includes the last 12+ years of newsletters), and continue to work on ways to connect scholars.

Write for us! (Submitting a Blog Post)

A long-term goal in SBCS has been to offer community members a chance to interact and

share news, opinions, and resources via our updated and improved website. We are looking for blog posts on a variety of topics:

- News updates about conferences, events, courses, or other resources
- Topical discussions of important issues
- Posts about pedagogy, teaching, syllabus development, creative exercises, or other topics
- Interviews, samples, or reviews of SBCS member books

Blog posts are vetted by our social media committee and will appear on the website.

Typically, we will also post the blog to our Facebook page; we may ask for permission to use it elsewhere. An ideal post:

- Engages the intersection of Buddhist and Christian traditions
- Is approximately 800 words in length
- Includes an image
- Offers a short bio of the author (25-50 words) and contact info

Please visit our blog for more information: <https://www.society-buddhist-christian-studies.org/about-the-blog>

Also, check out our Facebook page and give it a like:

<https://www.facebook.com/BuddhistChristianStudies/>

To Nominate a book for the Streng Award

The book must have been published within the last five years. Nominations can be made by any person using the [online form](#). The completed form may be sent electronically to Paul Ingram, (poingram@comcast.net), who will respond to all nominations.

Nominations are now welcomed. Publishers of books must be willing to supply review copies to members of the committee for evaluation in order for the book to be considered.

CONTRIBUTE A REPORT TO THE NEWSLETTER

The *Society for Buddhist-Christian Studies Newsletter* is published twice annually: in the spring and the fall. Please contact the Editor to share information with our readers. The deadline for the Spring issue is March 15.

In addition to reports on our annual meeting (concurrent with the American Academy of Religion) and calls for the Frederick Streng Book Award for Excellence in Buddhist-Christian Studies and for the Graduate Student Essay Prize, the *Newsletter* also publishes information on conferences, retreats, lectures, and other events. We

welcome obituaries and reports on major figures in the field of Buddhist-Christian Studies.

We are always grateful for information, news, or other submissions that members and others can share with the Society. Submissions may be edited for clarity and length. Send items to newsletter editor John.Becker@lyon.edu.



SOCIETY FOR BUDDHIST-CHRISTIAN STUDIES NEWSLETTER

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