CALL FOR PAPERS
The University of California, Santa Barbara
Evangelical Research Focus Group’s
Graduate Student Conference
April 24th, 2010

“New” Evangelical Studies

During the 2009 American Academy of Religion Annual Conference the North American Religions Section hosted a roundtable discussion entitled “New’ Evangelical History?” It explored the meaning of evangelical history in a plural North American context, suggesting some of the ways that scholars can expand their understanding of evangelicalism by including often overlooked people, places, and perspectives. This graduate conference recognizes that the current generation of graduate students will play an important role in the future direction of evangelical studies. It therefore calls for papers that further this discussion by exploring some of the recent developments among evangelicals and scholars of evangelicalism.

We invite individual paper proposals on the following themes:

“New” Evangelical Studies and Foundational Texts
To advance evangelical studies we might first look to its foundational texts. Proposed papers for this theme are invited to re-visit some of the "classic" studies of evangelicalism. What foundational texts continue to be relevant today? Alternatively, which recent texts might be foundational for the direction of future studies? Interdisciplinary approaches that identify texts outside of the field of Religious Studies are especially welcome.

Evangelicalism and “New” Technologies
Evangelicals have often been among the first to incorporate new technologies into their ministries, but these same technologies are also changing the way scholars study evangelicalism. What technologies are shaping evangelicalism and/or and its scholarship today? Proposals that consider technology in global dimensions are encouraged.
The Politics of Ritual Practices and the Evangelical Body

Proposals on this theme may explore the politicization of evangelical ritual practices and evangelical bodies. What happens when ritual practices become politicized? How is the evangelical body a political object? What recent scholarly contributions to the study of the body or political theory can be brought to the study of evangelicalism from fields beyond Religious Studies?

Evangelicalism in Non-Protestant Traditions

Proposals on this theme might include studies of evangelicalism among Catholics, Buddhists, Hindus, or any other non-Protestant tradition that features evangelicalism. How can the study of non-Protestant evangelicals enrich our understanding of evangelicalism? Comparative and non-Western studies are especially welcome.

Panel proposals (3-4 papers, or 2-3 papers and a respondent) relating to new developments among evangelicals or in the field of evangelical studies are also welcome.

Submission of proposals:

Individual paper proposals should be 250 words or less. Panel proposals should include a 100-word panel abstract, a panel title, and a proposal of 250 words or less for each individual paper.

Deadline for proposal submission: February 22nd, 2010 by 5pm

Email proposals to: David McConeghy and Kristy Slominski evangelicalRFG@gmail.com

Presenters will be notified of the status of their proposals by March 1st.

Updates on the conference will be posted in March to the Evangelical RFG website: www.ihc.ucsb.edu/research/evangelical.html