***ASREC 2015***

*Association for the Study of Religion, Economics and Culture*

***Fourteenth Annual Conference***



***Omni Parker House ~ Boston, Massachusets***

***March 20-21, 2015***



Friday March 20th, 2015

**8:00am – 5:00pm: Registration**

**7:45am – 8:30am: Coffee/Tea Station: Press Room**

**8:30am – 10:00am: Parallel Sessions 1**

**1A: Religion, Nature and Disasters: LONGFELLOW**

*Chair & Discussant:* Noel D. Johnson (George Mason University)

* Acts of God: Religiosity and Natural Disasters across 900 Subnational World Districts
	+ ***Jeanet Bentzen****, University of Copenhagen*
* Church Membership and Social Insurance: Evidence from the American South
	+ *Philipp Ager, University of Southern Denmark*
	+ ***Casper Worm Hansen****, University of Copenhagen*
	+ *Lars Lønstrup, University of Southern Denmark*
* Agricultural Risk and the Spread of Religious Communities
	+ ***Philipp Ager****, University of Southern Denmark*
	+ *Antonio Ciccone, University of Mannheim*

**1B: Religion, Culture and Institutions: BRANDEIS**

*Chair:* Jean-Paul Carvalho (University of California, Irvine)

*Discussants:* Jean-Paul Carvalho (University of California, Irvine) and Larry Iannaccone (Chapman University)

* Public Goods, Prosociality, and Institutional Decentralization: An Agent-Based Model of Religion and Political Activism
	+ ***Christopher Hale****, Chapman University*
* Choosing between Traditional and Modern Institutions: The Case of the Amish
	+ ***James Choy****, University of Warwick*
* Embezzlement, Whistleblowing, and Organizational Structure
	+ ***Michael D. Makowsky****, Johns Hopkins University*
	+ *Siyu Wang, George Mason University*

**1C: Castes, Health and Cults in India and China: HOLMES**

*Chair:* Francisco Pino (Université Libre de Bruxelles)

Discussants: Francisco Pino (ULB) and Uwe Sunde (LMU)

* Long-Term Effects of Access to Health Care: Medical Missions in Colonial India
	+ ***Rossella Calvi****, Boston College*
	+ *Federico Mantovanelli, Analysis Group*
* Is Caste Destiny? Occupational Diversification Among Dalits in Rural India
	+ ***Ira Gang****, Rutgers University*
	+ *Kunal Sen, IDPM, University of Manchester*
	+ *Myeong-Su Yun, Tulane University*
* The Almighty God and the Not-So-Almighty Government: An Economic Examination of Religious Cults in China
	+ ***Zhilong Ge****, Mercatus Center at George Mason University*

**1D: Jurisprudence and Lawyers: LOWELL**

*Chair & Discussant:* Sascha O. Becker (Warwick)

* The Lawyers’ Comparative Advantage in Parliamentary Elections
	+ ***Raphael Franck****, Bar Ilan University*
* Do Policies Affect Preferences? Evidence from Random Variation in Abortion Jurisprudence
	+ *Daniel L. Chen, ETH Zurich*
	+ ***Vardges Levonyan, ETH Zurich***
	+ *Susan Yeh, George Mason University School of Law*
* *Unwelcome Guests: Questions about the existence of Syriac and Ezidi refugees in Turkey*
	+ **Ayse Guc Isik**, Social Sciences University of Ankara

**10:00am – 10:15am: Coffee/Tea Station – Press Room**

**10:15am – 12:00pm: Parallel Sessions 2**

**2A: High Holidays: Ramadan and Selichot: LONGFELLOW**

*Chair & Discussant:* Matt Lowe (MIT)

* Do Parents Selectively Time Birth Relative to Ramadan? Impact of Maternal Fasting on Height: Evidence from Matlab, Bangladesh
	+ ***Nazmul Ahsan****, University of Southern California*
* Does Religion Affect Economic Growth and Happiness? Evidence from Ramadan
	+ ***Filipe Campante****, Harvard University*
	+ *David H. Yanagizawa-Drott, Harvard University*
* Does Religiosity Affect Support for Political Compromise?
	+ ***Danny Cohen-Zada****, Ben-Gurion University*
	+ *Yotam Margalit, Columbia University*
	+ *Oren Rigbi, Ben-Gurion University*

**2B: Religion, Health and Life Satisfaction: BRANDEIS**

*Chair & Discussant:* Ira Gang (Rutgers University)

* Suffer for the Faith? Parental Religiosity and Children’s Health
	+ ***Olga Popova****, Institute for East and Southeast European Studies*
* Religiosity and the Canadian Life Satisfaction Puzzle
	+ ***Maryam Dilmaghani****, Sobey School of Business, Saint Mary’s University*
* Right-Skilling: Rabbis and the Rabbinic Role for a New Century
	+ ***Daniel Libenson****, jU Chicago*
	+ *Barak Richman, Duke University*

**2C: Beliefs, Norms and Economic Behavior: HOLMES**

*Chair & Discussant:* Raphael Franck (Bar-Ilan University)

* The Political Economy of Beliefs: Why Fiscal and Social Conservatives/Liberals Come Hand-In-Hand
	+ ***Daniel L. Chen, ETH Zurich***
	+ *Jo T. Lind, University of Oslo*
* From Peer Pressure to Biased Norms: Formation and Collapse
	+ *Moti Michaeli, Hebrew University*
	+ ***Daniel Spiro****, University of Oslo*
* From Religion to Economic Behaviour
	+ ***Niels Kærgård****, University of Copenhagen*

**2D: Culture and Norms in Germany: LOWELL**

*Chair & Discussant:* Philipp Ager (University of Southern Denmark)

* Are there Cultural Effects in Female Labor Supply? Empirical Evidence from Germany
	+ ***Anja Köbrich-Leon****, University of Kassel*
* Music in the Air: Estimating the Social Return to Cultural Amenities
	+ ***Oliver Falck****, Ifo Institute*
	+ *Michael Fritsch, University of Jena*
	+ *Stephan Heblich, University of Bristol*
	+ *Anne Otto, IAB*
* Thou Shall Not Smoke: Religion and Smoking in a Natural Experiment of History
	+ ***Luca Nunziata****, University of Padua*
	+ *Veronica Toffolutti, University of East Anglia*

**12:00pm – 1:30pm: Lunch break**

**1:30pm – 3:00pm: Parallel Sessions 3**

**3A: The Political Economy of Islamic Diversity and Change: LONGFELLOW**

*Chair & Discussant:* Robbie Mochrie (Heriot-Watt University)

* Can Economic Incentives Tame Jihad? The Case of Sudan and Chad
	+ ***Jean-Paul Azam****, Toulouse School of Economics*
* The Sharia and the Transition towards more Democracy and a Market Economy – Restrictions and Opportunities
	+ ***Rahel Schomaker****, Cologne Business School and German Research Institute for Public Administration*
* Islamism and Socialism: A Comparison
	+ ***Mario Ferrero****, University of Eastern Piedmont*

**3B: Religion, Trust, Cooperation and Conflict: BRANDEIS**

*Chair & Discussant:* Enrico Spolaore (Tufts University)

* A Bridge over the (Ethnic) Chasm: Culture and Mistrust over and Cooperation in Rwanda
	+ ***Sharun Mukand****, University of Warwick, IAS Princeton and CAGE*
	+ *Arthur Blouin, University of Toronto and CAGE*
* Resource Shocks and Conflict in Europe, 1400-2000
	+ ***Murat Iyigun****, University of Colorado*
	+ *Nathan Nunn, Harvard University*
	+ *Nancy Qian, Yale University*
* Religion, Division of Labour and Conflict
	+ ***Sascha O. Becker****, University of Warwick*
	+ *Luigi Pascali, University of Warwick*

**3C: Culture, Religion and Trade: HOLMES**

*Chair & Discussant:* Marvin Suesse (HU Berlin)

* Can Markets Overcome Repugnance? Islamic Trade Response to Anti-Muslim Cartoons
	+ ***Daniel L. Chen, ETH Zurich***
	+ *Yehonatan Givati, Hebrew University*
* Time-Varying Effect of Cultural Differences on Trade
	+ ***Gunes Gokmen****, New Economic School and the Center for the Study of Diversity and Social Interactions*
* Theocracy and Resilience Against Economic Sanctions
	+ *Alireza Naghavi, University of Bologna*
	+ ***Giuseppe Pignataro****, University of Bologna*

**3D: Church and Power: LOWELL**

*Chair & Discussant:* Bradley Wright (University of Connecticut)

* The Politics of Sex Abuse in Hierarchies: A Comparative Study of the Catholic Church and the United States Military
	+ ***Carolyn M. Warner****, Arizona State University*
* Book Burning
	+ ***Cheryl Litman****, George Mason University*
* The Paradox of Religiosity: Theocracy Over Time
	+ ***Metin M. Cosgel****, University of Connecticut*

**3E: Book session: *Carmel U. Chiswick (George Washington University): HUTCHINSON***

* Session chair: Larry Iannaccone (Chapman University)
* Discussants: Anthony Gill (University of Washington) and Larry Iannaccone (Chapman University)
* ***Carmel U. Chiswick*** presents her book "Judaism in Transition": http://www.sup.org/books/title/?id=17264

**3:00pm– 3:15pm: Coffee/Tea Station: Press Room**

**3:15pm – 4:45pm: Parallel Sessions 4**

**4A: The Interaction of Public and Private Institutions: LONGFELLOW**

*Chair & Discussant:* James Choy (Warwick)

* Can Religion Explain Persistence? Evidence from American Slavery
	+ ***Matt Lowe****, MIT*
* Where does School Choice Funding Go? The Incidence of Funding on Secular and Sectarian Private-School Finances
	+ ***Daniel Hungerman****, University of Notre Dame*
	+ *Kevin Rinz, University of Notre Dame*
* Quantifying the Supply Response of Private Schools to Public Policies
	+ ***Michael Dinerstein****, Stanford University*

**4B: Diversity and Economic Outcomes in Historical Germany: BRANDEIS**

*Chair & Discussant*: Ralf Meisenzahl (Federal Reserve)

* Religious Diversity and Innovation: Historical Evidence from Patenting Activity
	+ ***Francesco Cinnirella****, IFO Institute Munich*
	+ *Jochen Streb, University of Mannheim*
* Linguistic Fractionalization and Local Expenditure on Primary Education
	+ *Francesco Cinnirella, IFO Institute Munich*
	+ ***Ruth Schueler****, IFO Institute Munich*
* Market Integration, Financial Development and Ethnic Segregation
	+ *Nikolaus Wolf, HU Berlin*
	+ ***Marvin Suesse****, HU Berlin*

**4C: Women, Culture and Religion: HOLMES**

*Chair & Discussant:* Sascha O. Becker (Warwick)

* When Religion Interacts with Economics and Culture to Harm Women: An African Example
	+ ***Carrie A. Miles****, Chapman University and Empower International Ministries*
* Equal Land Rights, Religion, and Outcomes for Women: Evidence From Ethiopia
	+ ***Kelsey Barton-Henry****, University of Connecticut*
* What Makes Russian Women (Un)Happy? A Closer Look at the Family
	+ ***Ekaterina Selezneva****, Institute for East and Southeast European Studies*

**4D: Competition and Religiosity: LOWELL**

*Chair & Discussant:* Sriya Iyer (University of Cambridge)

* The More Religiosity, the Less Creativity Across US Counties
	+ ***Adam Okulicz-Kozaryn****, Rutgers University-Camden*
* Decentralized, Dynamic, and Devout: The Use of Knowledge in Piety
	+ ***Brian Hollar****, Marymount University*
* Estimating the Relationships Among Education, Cognitive Ability, and Religion: Evidence from NLSY
	+ ***Han-Yen Kao****, Rutgers University*
* Religious Markets, Art Words, and New Religious Movements: The Mystery of Kazimir Malevich
	+ ***Massimo Introvigne****, Center for Studies on New Religions (CESNUR)*

**4E: Religion and Economic Performance: HUTCHINSON**

*Chair & Discussant:* Anand Shrivastava (University of Cambridge)

* The Benefits of Economic Growth: Re-Assessing the View from Christian Theology and Morality
	+ *Edd Noell, Westmont College*
	+ ***Stephen L.S. Smith****, Gordon College*

**5:00pm – 6:00pm: Session 5: PLENARY SESSION – THE FUTURE OF ASREC: PRESS ROOM**

*Led by Larry Iannaccone (ASREC President) and Robbie Mochrie (Executive Director), this session will review ASREC’s recent achievements and invite discussion of how the association might develop, and further encourage research in the economics of religion.*

*This replaces the keynote address by Prof. Jonathan Gruber, who is unable to join us.*

**6:00pm - 7:30pm: ASREC Reception: ALCOTT ROOM**

Saturday March 21st, 2015

**8:00am – 2:00pm: Registration**

**7:45am – 8:30am: Coffee/Tea Station: Press Room**

**8:30am – 10:00am: Parallel Sessions 6**

**6A: Human Capital, States, and Culture: LONGFELLOW**

*Chair & Discussant:* Arthur Blouin (University of Toronto)

* The Literary Inquisition: The Persecution of Intellectuals and Human Capital Accumulation in Imperial China
	+ ***Mark Koyama****, George Mason University*
	+ *Melanie Meng Xue, George Mason University*
* Taxes, National Identity, and Nation Building: Evidence from France
	+ ***Noel D. Johnson****, George Mason University*
* Aspiration and Education: The Persistence of Human Capital in China, 1368-2014
	+ ***Melanie Meng Xue****, George Mason University*

**6B: Ideology, Religion and Politics: BRANDEIS**

*Chair & Discussant:* Sera Linardi (University of Pittsburgh)

* Priming Ideology? Electoral Cycles without Electoral Incentives Among Elite U.S. Judges
	+ *Carlos Berdejo, Loyola Law School*
	+ ***Daniel L. Chen, ETH Zurich***
* Faith in Contention: Religious Competition and the Political Representation of Ethnicity
	+ ***Matthew Isaacs****, Brandeis University*
* Religious Riots and Electoral Politics in India
	+ ***Anand Shrivastava****, University of Cambridge*
	+ ***Sriya Iyer****, University of Cambridge*

**6C: Which Role for Religion? HOLMES**

*Chair & Discussant:* Oliver Falck (Ifo Institute)

* “I Am Aware of God at this Moment”: An Experiential Sampling Study of Lived Religion
	+ **Bradley Wright**, University of Connecticut
	+ Jaime Kucinskas, Hamilton College
* Classifying Religions
	+ ***Resit Ergener****, Bogazici University*
* The Great Recession and Wealth: An Examination of Wealth Dynamics By Religious Affiliation
	+ *Sedefka Beck, Valparaiso University*
	+ ***Donka Mirtcheva****, The College of New Jersey*
	+ *Kacey Stuck, Valparaiso University*

**6D: Religious Participation: LOWELL**

*Chair & Discussant:* Christopher Bader (Chapman University)

* Reexamining the Effects of State Religion on Religious Service Attendance
	+ *Matthew Swift, University of Chicago Law School*
	+ ***Charles M. North****, Baylor University*
* A Firm Entry Approach to Religious Pluralism and Religious Participation
	+ ***Michael Walrath****, University of St. Thomas*
* Separating the Sheep from the Goats: Clustering Religious People in Europe
	+ ***Fabio Campanini****, Istituto Universitario Sophia*

**6E: Culture, Religion, and Development (I): HUTCHINSON**

*Chair & Discussant:* Jeanet Bentzen (University of Copenhagen)

* Armenian and Greek Legacy in Modern Turkish Development
	+ *Eren Arbatli, Higher School of Economics (HSE), Moscow*
	+ *Gunes Gokmen, New Economic School and the Center for the Study of Diversity and Social Interactions*
* Market for Missionaries
	+ *Feler Bose, Alma College*

**10:00am – 10:15am: Coffee/Tea Station: Press Room**

**10:15am – 12:00pm: Parallel Sessions 7**

**7A: Islamic Institutions and Ideas: LONGFELLOW**

*Chair & Discussant:* Jared Rubin (Chapman University)

* Religion and the Rise and Fall of Islamic Science
	+ ***Eric Chaney****, Harvard University*
* Less than Grand Ayatollahs: The Unmaking of the Institution of the Marja’ Taqlid in Shia Islam
	+ ***David Patel****, Brandeis University*
* Can Ideas be ‘Killed?’ Evidence from Counterterror Targeting of Jihadi Ideologues
	+ ***Richard Neilson****, MIT*

**7B: Religion and Education: BRANDEIS**

*Chair & Discussant:* Luca Nunziata (University of Padova)

* Religious Norms and Long Term Development: Insurance and Human Capital
	+ *Matteo Cervellati, University of Bologna*
	+ *Marcel Jansen, Universidad Autonóma de Madrid*
	+ ***Uwe Sunde****, LMU Munich*
* Mandatory Schooling Laws and Formation of Beliefs: Education, Religion and Superstition
	+ *Naci Mocan, Louisiana State University*
	+ ***Luiza Pogorelova****, Louisiana State University*
* Have Attempts by the Theocratic Regime to Cultivate Religiosity via the Education System been Successful? The Case of Iran After the Islamic Revolution
	+ ***Babak Rezaeedaryakenari****, Arizona State University*

**7C: Research Projects at TheARDA.com: HOLMES**

*Chair & Discussant:* Rachel McCleary (Harvard)

* Images of God in the Caucasus Region
	+ *Christopher Bader, Chapman University*
	+ *Andrea Molle, Chapman University*
* A Quick Review of 5.2 Million Books: Charting Cultural and Religious Trends with Google’s Ngram Viewer
	+ ***Roger Finke****, Penn State*
	+ *Jennifer McClure, Penn State*
* New and Forthcoming Resources at TheARDA.com
	+ ***Jennifer McClure****, Penn State*

**7D: Culture, Religion and Development (II): LOWELL**

*Chair & Discussant:* Casper Worm Hansen (University of Copenhagen)

* Missionary Influence on Marriage Practices and Fertility: Evidence from the Livingstonia Mission in Malawi
	+ ***Yuya Kudo****, Institute of Developing Economies*
* Cultural Lag, Path Dependency, and the Quality of Government
	+ ***Seth W. Norton****, Wheaton College*

**7E: Giving: HUTCHINSON**

*Chair & Discussant:* Daniel L. Chen, ETH Zurich

* Clerics and Sermons: An Experiment on the Impact of Religious Authority on Inter-Ethnic Giving in Afghanistan
	+ *Luke Condra, University of Pittsburgh*
	+ *Mohammad Isaqzadeh, American University in Afghanistan*
	+ ***Sera Linardi****, University of Pittsburgh*
* Polarized Demands for Public Goods and the Generalized Voluntary Contributions Mechanism
	+ *R. Mark Isaac, Florida State University*
	+ ***Douglas A. Norton****, Florida State University*
	+ *Svetlana Pevnitskaya, Florida State University*
* Gifts of Time and Money: The Impact of Church Leadership Roles
	+ ***Robert J. Stonebraker****, Indiana University of Pennsylvania and Winthrop University*

**12:00pm – 1:30pm: Lunch break**

**1:30pm – 3:00pm: Parallel Sessions 8**

**8A: The Catholic Church, Saints and Power: LONGFELLOW**

*Chair & Discussant:* Dan Hungerman (Notre Dame)

* Habemus Papam? Polarization and Conflict in the Papal States
	+ ***Francisco Pino****, Université Libre de Bruxelles*
	+ *Jordi Vidal-Robert, University of Warwick*
* Saints Marching In, 1590-2009
	+ ***Rachel McCleary****, Harvard University*
	+ ***Robert Barro****, Harvard University*
* The Emperor’s New Mind: On Constantine’s I Decision to Legalize Christianity
	+ ***Constantine Bourlakis****, Athens University of Economics and Business*

**8B: Religion and Finance: BRANDEIS**

*Chair & Discussant:* Vardges Levonyan (ETH Zurich)

* The Financial Power of the Powerless: Socio-Economic Status and Interest Rates Under Partial Rule of Law
	+ *Timur Kuran, Duke University*
	+ ***Jared Rubin****, Chapman University*
* Price of Religion: Experiments in Interest-Based and Profit-Loss Sharing Investments in Islamic Communities
	+ *Sera Linardi, University of Pittsburgh*
	+ *Rebecca Morton, New York University*
	+ *Kai Ou, New York University*
	+ *Gumilang Sahadewo, University of Pittsburgh*
* Financing New Religions
	+ ***J. Gordon Melton****, Baylor University*

**8C: Deep Roots of Development: HOLMES**

*Chair & Discussant:* Mark Koyama (George Mason University)

* Fertility and Modernity
	+ ***Enrico Spolaore****, Tufts University*
	+ *Romain Wacziarg, UCLA Anderson School of Management*
* Origins of Persistent Differences in Human Capital Accumulation
	+ *Jeremiah Dittmar, London School of Economics and Political Science*
	+ ***Ralf Meisenzahl****, Federal Reserve Board*
* Culture and Contracts: The Historical Legacy of Forced Labour
	+ ***Arthur Blouin****, University of Toronto*

**8D: Religion and Prosocial Behavior: LOWELL**

*Chair & Discussant: Francesco Cinnirella (Ifo Institute)*

* On Religious Prosociality, Fairness, and Beauty
	+ ***Ramzi Suleiman****, University of Haifa*
* Love Thy Neighbor – Religion and Prosocial Behavior
	+ ***Guido Heineck****, University of Bamberg*
* Religion and Socially Responsible Investment Decisions – A Microeconometric Analysis for Germany
	+ *Gunnar Gutsche, University of Kassel*
	+ *Anja Köbrich-Leon, University of Kassel*

**8E: Islam and Identity: HUTCHINSON**

*Chair & Discussant:* Mario Ferrero (Università del Piemonte Orientale)

* Identity and Terrorism
	+ *Mukesh Eswaran, Vancouver School of Economics*
	+ *Hugh Neary, Vancouver School of Economics*
* Social Media and the ISIL Narrative
	+ *Sean Everton, Naval Postgraduate School*
* Identity-Based Organizations
	+ *Jean-Paul Carvalho, University of California, Irvine*

**3:00pm – 3:15pm: Coffee/Tea Station: Press Room**

**3:15pm – 5:15pm: Two Special Sessions**

**Special Session 1: Religious Freedom and Economic Flourishing: STOWE**

Session chair and moderator: Timothy Shah (Georgetown)

* Is Religious Liberty Good for Business? A Conceptual and Empirical Analysis
	+ *Brian J. Grim, Religious Freedom & Business Foundation*
* Religious Liberty and the Violence Trap
	+ *Karrie Koesel, University of Oregon*
	+ *Anthony Gill, University of Washington*
* State Restrictions on Proselytization: Comparing Motivations and Implications
	+ *Ani Sarkissian, Michigan State University*
* Religious Freedom and Small Enterprise in India
	+ *Rebecca Samuel Shah, Georgetown University*
* Aid that Works: Missionaries, Economic Development and the “Reversal of Fortunes”
	+ *Robert D. Woodberry, National University of Singapore*

**Special Session 2 (Book session): KING**

Session chair and moderator: Jared Rubin (Chapman University)

**Murat Iyigun (University of Colorado)** presents his forthcoming book "War, Peace, and Prosperity in the Name of God: The Ottoman Role in Europe’s Socioeconomic Evolution

 http://www.press.uchicago.edu/ucp/books/book/chicago/W/bo5918083.html

**5:30pm – 7:00pm: ASREC Farewell Reception: PRESS Room**