
Series C: Interreligious Activities. 1952-1992

CONSULTATION ON MONOTHEISM AND EASTERN RELIGION

List of Invitees for Initial Planning Meeting
October 29, 1978
at
The Council on Religion and International Affairs
170 East 64th Street
New York City

1. Professor Thomas Altizer
   Department of Religious Studies
   SUNY - Stony Brook
   Stony Brook, N.Y. 11790

2. Professor Gerhardt Bowering
   Department of Religion
   Box 36, College Hall
   University of Pennsylvania
   Philadelphia, Pa. 19174

3. Ms. Avery Brooke
   The Vineyard Press
   129 Nearwater Lane
   Noroton, Conn. 06820

4. Professor John Carman
   Center for the Study of World Religions
   Harvard University
   42 Francis Avenue
   Cambridge, Ma. 02138

5. Professor Harvey Cox
   The Divinity School
   45 Francis Avenue
   Harvard University
   Cambridge, Mass. 02138

6. Professor Ewert Cousins
   Department of Theology
   Fordham University
   60th Street & Columbus Avenue
   New York, N.Y. 10019

7. Professor Avery Dulles
   Department of Theology
   Catholic University
   620 Michigan Ave., N.E.
   Washington D.C. 20064

8. Professor Louis Dupre
   Department of Religious Studies
   Yale University
   New Haven Conn. 06520

9. Professor Michael Fishbane
   Department of Near Eastern Studies
   Brandeis University
   Waltham, Mass. 02154

10. Professor Arthur Green
    c/o Department of Religion
    Box 36, College Hall
    University of Pennsylvania
    Philadelphia, Pa. 19174

11. Professor Irving Greenberg
    The National Jewish Conference Center
    250 W. 57th Street
    New York, N.Y. 10019

12. Professor Elaine Pagels
    Department of Religion
    Barnard College
    Broadway & 119th Street
    New York, N.Y. 10027

13. Rabbi Marc Tannenbaum
    Department of Interreligious Affairs
    American Jewish Committee
    165 E. 56th Street
    New York, N.Y. 10022

14. Professor Robert Thurman
    Department of Religion
    Amherst College
    Amherst, Mass. 01002

15. Professors Michael and Edith Wyshogrod
    151 W. 86th Street
    New York, N.Y. 10024

16. Mr. Philip Johnson, President
    Council on Religion and International Affairs
    170 East 64th Street
    New York, N.Y. 10021

Convener: Professor Peter L. Berger
Department of Sociology
Rutgers University

Staff: Steven Shaw, Director of the Radius Institute
David Szonyi, Program Associate
MEMORANDUM
STEVE SHAW

September 28, 1978

Rabbi Marc Tannenbaum
The American Jewish Committee
165 East 56th Street
New York, New York 10022

Dear Marc:

The attached note was sent to all the participants in our consultation for October 29th. I'm sending it along to you for your records despite the fact that I already know you can't be there.

Although it's still premature to mention sponsorship, in addition to the Committee, we have also involved the Council for Religion and International Affairs, the American Buddhist Society, the Center for the Study of World Religions at Harvard and the National Jewish Conference Center. What their roles will be in another question and something which I would like to discuss with you on a separate occasion. In any case, it may involve designing a program strategy after the consultation has completed its work a year or two from now.

In order to insure our funding from the Emet Foundation, it is important that we have a written confirmation from you of the American Jewish Committee's commitment. The Conference Center has agreed to provide up to $2,000 and I hope that you will be able to contribute $1,500. If budgetary limitations for this year are a factor, payment can be spread out over the next year and a half. Any individuals you might put us in touch with who could be helpful in providing additional funding, would also be very much appreciated.
MEMORANDUM
RABBI STEVEN SHAW

September 28, 1978

Rabbi Marc Tannenbaum
Dept. of Interreligious Affairs
American Jewish Committee
165 East 56th Street
New York, N.Y. 10022

Dear Marc,

I am writing you at the request of Professor Peter Berger, who would like to invite you to participate in a planning meeting to discuss his proposal for a Consultation on Monotheism and Eastern Religions, which is enclosed.

We will be getting together at the Council for Religion and International Affairs, 170 East 64th Street (between Lexington and Third Avenues) in New York City on Sunday, October 29th from ten in the morning until four in the afternoon.

This project is being sponsored by the Radius Institute, a recently-formed programming institution which in the Spring of 1978 organized the dialogue series held at the Jewish Museum and is described in the attached brochure.

Please let me know as soon as possible if you will be attending on October 29th.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

SS:gp
Encl.

The Radius Institute/250 W. 57th St./Suite 216/N.Y.C. 10019
(212) 582-6116
Let's plan to meet after the 29th of October so I can fill you in about what went on during our first meeting. If it turns out to be useful, I'll also share the tapes of the session with you then.

Finally, please accept my best wishes for a very joyous and meaningful New Year.

Regards,

Steven Shaw
MEMORANDUM
RABBI STEVEN SHAW

3-4 r 1/3 78
(201) 985-1195
9:30-10 am 582-6116

Dear Marc—

The attached material will keep you up to date on our "Coalition on Monotheism and World Religions."

The latest memo (January 21) summarizes a preliminary second planning meeting we had on December 17 to projects the agenda for our "core group" meeting in January 21.

Also included is a rather disjointed summary of our longer first meeting of October 29. You'll be invited to our first full meeting—probably in March when Elaine Fagan of Barwood will present the first (over)
Paper on quantum.

I'm still waiting for your letter affirming the AIC's involvement in a "partnership" institution to your commitment of funding to help carry out our work.

I realize you're busy, but your letter will release matching funds from the Grant Foundation, so it's particularly important. Hope things are well.

S, R.
Dear [Name],

I'd appreciate you calling and letting me know on Saturday night (or Sunday morning before 10 a.m.) to let me know if you're coming.

Since this meeting will only include the paper presenters, (2019-07/19) I hope to see you.

[Signature]
Dear Marc,

You're the most difficult person in the world outside the Lubavitcher Rebbe to reach in person, so I've finally been forced to write a letter with the hope that this may catch your eye.

Over the Summer, I was able to raise approximately $8000 - enough to begin our Consultation on Monotheism and Eastern Religions with Peter Berger.

Our first meeting, which will involve most of the participants (approximately five presenters of major papers and ten others) will be held on Sunday, October 29 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

I hope that, as a potential sponsor, the A.J.C. would host these all-day Sunday meetings (probably eight over a two-year period) and might also provide for our meals. If this is not feasible, perhaps we could discuss a way the Committee could contribute to help meeting our costs or to help make funds available to us from other sources with which you may be in touch.

Since letters of invitation must go out almost immediately, it is crucial that I hear from you as soon as possible. You can reach me Friday at home (201-935-7196) or Monday before 1 p.m. at the Conference Center (582-6116).

Best regards,

Steven Shaw