**British Association for the Study of Religions Annual Conference**

**Theme: ‘Religion Beyond the Textbook’**

**Keynote Speaker: Prof. Martin Stringer (Swansea University)**

**University of Wolverhampton, 5-7 September 2016**

People enact, perform and live religion in a multitude of specific contexts, which are studied through a wide range of methods and approaches; and yet mainstream discourse on religion – public, media and textbook – too often reverts to generic, out-dated essentialisms concerning the lives of religious actors and the classification of ‘religion’ itself. However, new methodological approaches are emerging which ensure diverse forms of religion – often contradictory and complicated, offering counter-narratives to the textbook accounts – are understood, which allow different voices to be heard, texts to be re-read, phenomena to be re-interpreted and identity boundaries to be challenged.

The BASR invites colleagues from the across the UK, Europe and beyond to the University of Wolverhampton – the heart of multicultural Britain – to contribute papers or panels on the above theme. Papers will be 20-25 minutes with 5-10 minutes for questions/discussion. Panels will be 90 minute sessions, to normally include 3 papers. Roundtables and poster presentations may also be accepted – please contact the below email for details. Ideas for papers and panels may include, but are not limited to:

* Lived and vernacular religion
* Multiple religious belonging
* Contested identities within and between religions
* Minority and muted voices
* Counter-cultural practices and purposefully ‘discordant’ worldviews
* Non-Religion in diverse forms
* Pedagogic challenges and opportunities
* Emergent methodologies and paradigms in the Study of Religion/s

**Abstracts (200 words plus paper title, author name and institutional affiliation in Microsoft Word format) should be submitted to basrconference@gmail.com before 31st May 2016. Panels should be submitted in the same way, with details for each paper along with the panel title and the name of the convener/chair.**

Deadline for paper/panel submissions: 31st May 2016

Notification of acceptance of papers/panels: No later than 6th June 2016

Online registration for conference open from: 1st June 2016

Deadline for registration: 31st July 2016

A limited number of student bursaries will be made available to support research students to attend the conference. Please see the separate Call for Bursary Applications on the BASR Website and Mailing List.

Further updates and announcements, including registration details, will appear on the BASR Website ([www.basr.ac.uk](http://www.basr.ac.uk)), and across social media in due course. For any general enquiries, please contact the Conference Organisers, Dr. Stephen E. Gregg & Dr. Opinderjit Takhar on basrconference@gmail.com.