



Center for the Study of World Religions  
Harvard Divinity School  
42 Francis Avenue  
Cambridge, MA 02138

## **Information for Prospective Residents**

### **Collaborative Research or Study**

The Center for the Study of World Religions is a research facility and residence for scholars of world religions whose research or study will complement the Center's goal of connecting the CSWR to the wider Harvard community. The Center therefore prefers to offer residency to those scholars who have existing connections to and will collaborate with Harvard faculty during the course of their research or study at the Center.

### **Participation in the Life of the Center**

Those invited to live at the Center have been selected based upon their particular interests in world religions and their potential for contributing to and benefiting from residency at the Center. As such, the CSWR expects its residents to participate actively in the scholarly and social life of the Center.

Each resident is invited to take part in a regularly scheduled discussion series (entitled "World Religions Café") that is held at the Center and is open to the Harvard community. This series showcases the interests and research of the CSWR residents and provides them with an opportunity to gather with other Harvard students, researchers, and faculty to discuss scholarly topics of common interest. Each resident is asked to present an informal paper and lead a discussion about his/her research or another topic of interest related to world religions once during the academic year.

Residents are asked to submit a written report to the director at the end of their residency at the Center. The report should summarize their work over the past year and describe their experience as residents of the Center. If a resident writes a book during the course of his/her stay at the Center, the Center asks that he/she present a copy of the book to the Center once it is published for inclusion in the CSWR library collection.

Residents are also encouraged to join in the Center's numerous social gatherings (both formal and informal) and attend the Center's regularly scheduled public lectures and colloquia on topics related to world religions.

## **Benefits of Residency at the CSWR**

In any given year, the CSWR community is comprised of scholars at varying stages in their academic and professional careers, including graduate students, independent postdoctoral researchers, and senior faculty. This variety, combined with the diversity in our residents' nationalities and religious traditions, makes the CSWR a place to live and learn that is both dynamic and inspiring.

The CSWR residents have access to a shared residents' study at the Center. The study is equipped with a limited number of IBM-compatible computers, a laser printer, and general office equipment. The study can accommodate two people at computer stations on a first-come-first-served basis, and provides workspace for personal laptop use. In periods of high demand, there is a two-hour limit to computer use in the study. Given the limited number of computers in the study, the Center recommends that residents bring their own PC/laptop computers for use in their apartments. Wireless internet via HDS login is available throughout the common spaces and in the apartments at no charge.

The Center has assembled a particularly good collection of language reference books in religion that, together with other collections maintained by the Center, is available to residents. Although the books in the Center's collection do not circulate, residents may use the texts on site.

By virtue of the Center's location within Harvard University, the CSWR residents have ready access to the University's excellent library collections and countless scholarly and intellectual offerings. We also encourage you to take advantage of the rich cultural life of the University and of the Cambridge/Boston area.

## **Other Requirements of Residency**

The CSWR prefers to rent its apartments for durations not less than the 10-month academic year (September through June) with the option of extending the rental term for the summer months of July and August. Only under exceptional circumstances will the Center rent an apartment for a 5-month term (September through January or February through June). No other rental durations are possible and rent is not prorated.

Each resident is responsible for paying the assigned rent for his/her apartment at the beginning of each month of occupancy. Rental agreements for the upcoming academic year must be signed and returned with a check for your first month's rent no later than June 30 of the prior academic year.

New residents are requested to arrive at the Center on a weekday (Monday through Friday) between the hours of 9 AM and 5 PM (EST). Only with extenuating circumstances will the Center accommodate new arrivals on weekends (Saturday and Sunday) or on official U.S. holidays, as the CSWR offices are closed.

Smoking is not permitted in any part of the Center or on CSWR grounds. Pets are not permitted at the Center.

14-Jan-09