



Journal of Race, Ethnicity, and Religion

Farewell

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Five years ago, on January 1st 2010, we launched the *Journal of Race, Ethnicity and Religion*. At the time, our goal was modest, to address, through scholarship, the invisibility of scholars of color in the production of academic knowledge. To that end, we founded a journal that would seek articles that paid close attention to the intersection of race/ethnicity and religion. At first, we thought that a few hundred scholars would subscribe to this free journal and maybe we might publish a couple of articles a year. What transpired surprised us.

Over the past five years, some six thousand different scholars have interacted with *JRER*. That's one new person every six hours, non-stop, over five years! These scholars are not limited

to the United States, but hail from ninety percent of the countries in the world. Over the past five years we have published some seventy-five scholarly, cutting-edge articles over a vast range of topics and issues. Contributors found an outlet for their scholarship not necessarily available elsewhere. Their articles have been used in classrooms throughout the world. A spinoff of the journal was the establishment of the Society of Race, Ethnicity and Religion. We will meet for our second conference on April 17-19, 2015 in Denver, Colorado and hope many of you can join us (<http://societyofraceandreligion.org/>).

Today, many institutions have counted publication with our journal toward tenure and promotion. *JRER* has carved out a space where different ethnic and racial based scholarship occurs; raising the consciousness that more work is needed in this area. I am grateful, as founding editor, to have been part of this venture. But alas, it is time to move on. Not because I necessarily want to, but because new blood is needed to take the journal to the next level. I am confident that our next editor, Yung Suk Kim, who teaches New Testament at Virginia Union University, will bring to *JRER* new vision and direction, making a strong organization stronger!

On December 31, 2014, I officially resigned as editor of the *Journal*. Although somewhat saddened, I look forward, with great anticipation, toward the next five years as *JRER* continues to impact, in positive and profound ways, the academic discourse. Thank you to Jon Berquist, our publisher and the entire editorial committee for the heavy lifting that made this journal possible. Thank you also to our readers for the honor of allowing me to serve as your editor. *Un gran abrazo.*