

# Friday Bulletin, May 2, 2014

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*Department of Religion, University of Florida*

## Publications

Professor **Terje Ostebo's** most recent article (co-written with **Marit Tolo Ostebo**) has just been published: "Are Religious Leaders a Magic Bullet for Social/Societal Change? A critical look at anti-FGM interventions in Ethiopia," in *Africa Today*, Vol. 60, No. 3, 2014, 83-101.

Professor **Mario Poceski** was offered a book contract with Oxford University Press for his new publication, *The Records of Mazu and the Making of Classical Chan Literature*, following successful conclusion of the peer-review process. He will submit the final book manuscript in the fall, and the book will come out in print next year.

## Presentations

Professor **Bron Taylor** has been invited to give the keynote presentation at the conference "Towards Ecocultural Ethics: Recent Trends and Future Directions" at the campus of the Birla Institute of Technology and Science, Pilani, K.K. Birla Goa Campus, India, on October 9-11, 2014.

Professor **Zoharah Simmons** will be one of three Veterans of the Civil Rights Movement speaking at a two-day symposium at the University of Chicago on May 12-13, 2014: "Freedom Summer After 50 Years: Looking Back and Looking Forward." Day one of the symposium – "Until the Killing of Black Mothers' Sons...: The Meaning of Freedom Summer" – will be held at 4:30 pm in SSA Room E-1, 969 E. 60<sup>th</sup> Street, Chicago. Day two of the symposium – "Ask a Real Question: Freedom Schooling Over 50 Years" – will be held at 4:30 pm in CSRPC, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Community Rm., 5733 S. University, Chicago.

Professor **Zoharah Simmons** will serve as a panelist and consultant at a two-day symposium at the University of Illinois-Chicago on May 28 -30, 2014: "FREEDOM DREAMS/FREEDOM NOW." This event will be an intergenerational gathering of scholars, artists, and activists to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Freedom Summer 1964 and to map the landscape of contemporary social justice work. It is being sponsored by UIC's *Social Justice Initiative*. All sessions will be held at Student Center West on the UIC campus.

## Alumni Notes

**Daniel J. Watkins**, who received his B.A. in the Department of Religion (2005) at UF, has completed his Ph.D. in History at Ohio State University and has been offered a tenure-track job at the University of North Florida. Congratulations Daniel!

Note from the editors: During the summer, we will be publishing the bulletin monthly. Have a great summer!