The 4th International Conference on Media, Religion, and Culture invites proposals for papers, panels, and creative showcases. The conference will focus on five themes: (1) production (how and why diverse print and electronic media have acted as bearers of social, cultural, and religious meaning); (2) community (ways that media have been used in temples, synagogues, mosques, and churches to enrich worship and enhance dialogue and a sense of belonging); (3) audience (how audiences have interpreted or used particular media for both implicit and explicit religious ends); (4) ethics (religious responses to issues of media literacy or media justice); and (5) globalization (worldwide issues, including virtual religion in which a sense of place doesn’t seem to matter).

The purpose of the conference is to share the latest developments in and research on religion, media, and culture. Each of the preceding three international conferences generated continuing conversations as well as a published book. Rethinking Media, Religion, and Culture (Sage, 1997), edited by Stewart Hoover and Knut Lunby, followed the first meeting in Uppsala, Sweden; Practicing Religion in the Age of the Media (Columbia University Press, 2002), edited by Stewart Hoover and Lynn Schofield Clark, followed the second meeting in Boulder, Colorado; and Mediating Religion: Conversations in Media, Religion, and Culture (T&T Clark, 2003), edited by Jolyon Mitchell and Sophia Marriage, followed the third meeting in Edinburgh, Scotland. A selective anthology of quality original work will likely emerge from this conference, too.

Proposals should be no longer than 500 words. They must include:

- Title of proposed presentation
- Name(s) and title(s) of author(s)
- Institutional affiliation(s) and address(es) of author(s)
- Category (paper, panel, or creative showcase)
- Description of presentation

An international panel will evaluate proposals on the basis of originality and significance. Applicants will be notified of their status in February, giving those chosen to present six months to prepare. All presenters must preregister.

Send proposals as email messages or .rtf attachments to ferre@louisville.edu.