

Editorial note

The *Journal for the Cognitive Science of Religion* is still a young journal aiming to establish a firm foundation since its inaugural 2013 issue. Like its parent organization, the *International Association for the Cognitive Science of Religion*, the journal serves as a mouthpiece for a growing young science. The development of that science is due to the creative, often voluntary efforts of scholars who, besides pursuing their own research, establish and nurture new organizations, networks, websites, media platforms, databases, conferences, and journals; and encourage and support new talent.

This issue of the *JCSR* marks the last issue to which Dimitris Xygalatas has contributed as editor. He is moving on to other more pressing matters. Having had the honour and pleasure of working together with him in establishing the *JCSR*, we want to warmly thank him for his crucial role. Dimitris has been a paragon of professionalism, efficiency and dedication, who has worked selflessly and tirelessly to maintain the journal's top-notch quality. Dimitris is a pioneer in many respects. First, he has actively developed experimental paradigms and designs to meet the challenges of the new hypotheses generated by CSR scholars. Furthermore, he has developed strategies for applying experimental methods in the field in various parts of the world. Second, he has actively assisted in developing the labs at the Religion, Cognition and Culture Research Unit and the Interacting Minds Centre, both at Aarhus University. From there, he moved on to pioneer the Laboratory for the Experimental Research of Religion (LEVYNA) at Masaryk University in Brno, Czech Republic and is currently establishing the Experimental Anthropology Lab at the University of Connecticut in the U.S. We thank Dimitris for his service to the journal, to the association and to the field more generally, and look forward to celebrating his future achievements.

Kristoffer L. Nielbo has graciously agreed to step in as fellow editor. Kristoffer holds a degree in the Cognitive Science of Religion from Aarhus University. He is a fellow at the Religion, Cognition and Culture Research Unit and is currently employed as Associate Professor at the Department of the Study of Religion and at the Interacting Minds Centre at Aarhus University. He is heavily involved in establishing the Digital Text Laboratory there as well. Kristoffer is a pioneer in developing digital approaches to CSR. Furthermore, he is well versed in experimental design. He has published important articles on ritual behavior and is currently at the forefront of applying the so-called 4th paradigm (i.e., data intensive scientific

discovery) to big text-heavy data. We warmly welcome Kristoffer to the team and look forward to our collaboration.

Armin W. Geertz and Ryan McKay