



SOCIETY OF BIBLICAL LITERATURE

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SOCIETY REPORT 2004

Colleagues and Friends,

In the first of these Society Reports in 1998 we quoted several former presidents of SBL. Each of them spoke of the importance of the “good health” of the organization. One mentioned the necessity of “continual vigilance and care.” Another named the importance of “better understanding the profession and our roles as teachers and scholars.” And yet another mentioned the “need to interpret biblical scholarship to audiences beyond” ourselves.



These words are consonant with the themes of this 2004 Society Report: supporting professional development, encouraging scholarly exchange, connecting with people and institutions, and building an infrastructure.

Another important note sounded in that inaugural report was the recognition that the good accomplished begins with the members. We have an outstanding staff, but they would be the first to recognize that all that we do begins and ends with our members.

The Society is a capacious arena. We have breadth and depth. Our breadth intersects the arts and the humanities. The breadth is found in the diverse methods we employ, the artifacts and texts we study, the issues we confront, the contemporary situations where the Bible and our work have import. Our depth intersects life and meaning. The depth is found in the people we engage; the conversation partners we meet; and the communities we encounter. Our depth and breadth are the hallmark of fostering biblical scholarship.

The Society has led the way with academic integrity, focus on mission, and the ability to respond to change. Few examples of organizations with these qualities and values exist, not to mention ones that eagerly approach their 125th year of service.

Cordially,

Kent Harold Richards
Executive Director
Professor of Old Testament

The Rapid Evolution of the Learned Society

Learned Societies over the last twenty-five years have evolved rapidly. They have widened their focus beyond scholarship and research to supporting professional development. At the founding of many of the organizations in the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS), and we are among the oldest of these constituent organizations, the primary criterion was the publication of a scholarly journal.

Increasingly the annual meetings of learned societies became an added hallmark. Few of the ACLS organizations have evolved as much

as SBL in establishing a central gathering place for everyone associated with the research and scholarship of the continually capacious arena we call biblical scholarship.

In the last twenty five years these organizations began to recognize the need to “care for” the growing number of members who were in many cases teaching and doing research in higher

education. Today almost every ACLS organization has expanded their mission to include mutual support and professional development.

In a 1997 report to Council from a sub-committee chaired by Adele Berlin and which included Harold Attridge, Patrick D. Miller, George Nickelsburg, Fernando Segovia, and Vincent Wimbush

“The Society should not be an ivory tower institution that pays no mind to the context in which the Bible is studied and taught.”

it was stated that the Society “contains elements of both learned society and a professional society....As a learned society it promotes the development

and dissemination of knowledge about the Bible. As a professional society, it serves the professional needs of those who pursue the development and dissemination of knowledge about the Bible. The Society should not be an ivory tower institution that pays no mind to the context in which the Bible is studied and taught.” This statement continues to be the guiding objective.

Biblical Studies Courses Rank Among Most Popular in Higher Education

Four courses all related to the Bible were among the “top courses” in religion offered in higher education according to the new surveys of undergraduate and graduate education. This was reported at a Wabash Conference this fall.

The courses carried the names of Introduction to the Bible, Old Testament, or New Testament. The higher education institutions were segmented into public, private non-sectarian, Roman Catholic, and protestant. In public education the top course was Introduction to World Religions and all but one other of the courses named was in Bible. In each of the other categories of institution New Testament was the top course offered.

Of the other courses named in each of these types of higher education institutions they all included the Old

Testament and Introduction to the Bible. While all of the details can not be discussed it would be fair to say that the necessity of understanding biblical studies in higher education’s top courses is mandatory.

The Society in a renewed sense of its understanding as a learned and professional society is taking up the challenge this type of data brings to our attention. Almost anyone teaching in departments of religion or theology or Bible – by whatever way they name themselves – must understand biblical scholarship. All who teach in these higher education institutions need the knowledge about the Bible. Of necessity the Society has an obligation to meet the professional needs of those who teach it in these diverse institutions.

Regional Scholars

Special attention is given to professional development in the eleven regions by identifying exemplary new scholars, particularly women and underrepresented and minorities. The regional scholars are given stipends and a senior scholar is designated as a mentor to assist the awardees.



Janet S. Everhart
Rocky Mountains
Great Plains Region



Caroline Johnson Hodge
New England Region



William H. Krieger
Pacific Coast Region



Mark Whitters
Midwest Region

The objectives as in 1997 could not be more clearly before us. We must care for the development and dissemination of biblical scholarship and those who pass on that scholarship to students.

On the Horizon...

As we move closer to the 125th anniversary of the founding of the Society of Biblical Literature we have plans for more programs to meet the professional development and mutual support of our members.

The Society conducted a survey of over 1300 student members (with more 400 responding) that seeks to identify ways the Society can better meet student needs. Therefore discussions are underway on responding to student needs with a Student Advisory Group. This will assist us in being more receptive and responsive to student needs. We will develop a more effective and improved link between employee and employer for those seeking employment in teaching, religious communities, libraries, software development, and the many occupations that those with degrees in biblical studies are able to pursue. Since our membership is increasingly international we will need to make certain that we plan to discuss these international employment needs.

We are developing more sessions at the Annual Meeting that deal with a wider range of professional needs. For example, the new programs dealing with a Writers' Workshop to help improve success in one's career as well as success in the classroom. A new workshop on "Teaching the Bible in Racially and Culturally Diverse Classrooms" begins in 2004. We will be looking to address the needs of community college faculty and k-12 teachers as well as the problems of the adjunct workforce.

Committee Helps to Address Needs of Women Members

The Committee on the Status of Women in the Profession has vigorously implemented programs to meet the professional needs of women members. It has especially sought to bring together women new to biblical studies so that they have a better sense of what to expect in selecting areas of study, applying for jobs, and networking.

They have each year recognized outstanding women mentors. In 2003 the following women were honored: Susan Tower Hollis, SUNY Empire State College; Adele Reinhartz, Wilfred Laurier University, Canada; and Katharine

Doob Sakenfeld, Princeton Theological Seminary. In 2004 the mentor awardees are Carolyn Osiek, Brite Divinity School, and Rebecca Idelstrom, Tyndale Seminary.

The committee has awarded travel grants for non-North American women to attend congresses. Travel awards have been given to the following women; 2003 Annual Meeting Tal Ilan, Jerusalem; 2004 International Meeting Amanda Shao Tan, Asian theological Seminary; and 2004 Annual Meeting Gisela Uzukwu, Catholic University of Leuven (originally from Nigeria) and Ping Zhou, Reading University, China.



The screenshot shows the SBL Forum website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with tabs for 'home', 'publications', 'congresses', 'resources', and 'teaching'. Below this is the 'SBL Forum' title and a mission statement: 'The Society of Biblical Literature's mission is to foster...'. A central image shows a book cover with the text 'See You in San Antonio! November 20-23'. To the right, there is a section for 'ANNUAL MEETING' with links for 'Session Room Changes', 'Final Program Book Cover', 'Program Book Affiliation', and 'SBL Seminar Papers Online'. A 'SOCIETY NEWS' section is also visible at the bottom left of the screenshot.

A New Forum

The SBL Forum, newly designed in 2004, is the online presence of the Society, designed to meet the needs of members. The Forum features journalistic essays, interviews, and news of general and professional interest; it describes the activities of the Society, announces opportunities in the field, and provides access to digital resources.

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Administrative

Committees Council

The Council consists of fourteen members of the Society and the Executive Director. This board determines general policies and program initiatives.

Beverly R. Gaventa, Princeton Theological Seminary, Chair
David L. Petersen, Emory University, President
Carolyn Osiek, Brite Divinity School, Vice-President
John T. Fitzgerald, University of Miami, Secretary
Harold W. Attridge, Yale University
Brian K. Blount, Princeton

Theological Seminary
Kristin De Troyer, Claremont School of Theology
Pamela Eisenbaum, Iliff School of Theology
Joel B. Green, Asbury Theological Seminary
Jo Ann Hackett, Harvard University
Kathleen Mary O'Connor, Columbia Theological Seminary
Stephen Breck Reid, Bethany Theological Seminary
Linda S. Schearing, Gonzaga University
James C. Vanderkam, University of Notre Dame

Programs and Initiatives Committee

The Programs and Initiatives Committee reviews existing programs and new initiatives.
Eldon Jay Epp, Case Western Reserve University (Emeritus)
Katharine Doob Sakenfeld, Princeton Theological Seminary
Pamela Eisenbaum, Iliff School of Theology
Gregory L. Glover, Southminster Presbyterian Church
David L. Petersen, Emory University

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee nominates the President, Vice-President, and Council members for election by the Society, and members of standing committees and other representatives for election by Council.
John T. Fitzgerald, University of Miami
Sidnie White Crawford, University of Nebraska, Lincoln
Mikeal C. Parsons, Baylor University

Journal of Biblical Literature Approaches Its 125th Year

The 2004 volume of JBL will contain 21 articles and 5 critical notes. Seven of the articles are on the Hebrew Bible, 13 are on the New Testament, and one is on general biblical topics. There are 2 critical notes on the Hebrew Bible and three on the New Testament. Nine women wrote articles, two on Hebrew Bible and seven on New Testament. The following primary methodologies of articles

in the 2004 volume are text criticism (3), source/form/tradition criticism (5), historical/social context criticism (5), literary criticism (3), gender criticism (4), ideological criticism (3), and three translation notes.

In the period from November 2002 to November 2003, 148 articles were submitted, a 28% increase from the previous year. Of these articles, 25 were accepted, with 4 already assigned to an issue. Six more were sent back for



revisions before further consideration. Of the 25 accepted articles, 6 are by women (3 on Hebrew Bible, 1 on New Testament, and 2 on general biblical topics). Fifty-one others are currently being reviewed.

Fifty-four of the 148 articles were from addresses outside the United States. The countries represented are Canada (12), United Kingdom (10), Israel (8),

Australia (4), Germany (3), Belgium (3), Norway (2), The Netherlands (2), India (2), South Korea, Russia, Argentina, Sweden, Kazakstan, Italy, Switzerland, and New Zealand. Of these, six have been accepted, two have been returned for extensive revision, and 19 are still under review.

JBL will celebrate its 125th year of publication in 2006 thus extending our 125th Anniversary activities beyond 2005.

Upcoming Meetings

The Society invites members to join us at the following congresses:

2004 Annual Meeting

San Antonio, TX

Begins: Saturday, November 20

Ends: Tuesday, November 23

Future Annual Meetings

2005 Philadelphia, PA - Nov. 19-22

2006 Washington, DC - Nov. 18-21

2007 San Diego, CA - Nov. 17-20

2008 Boston, MA - Nov. 22-25

2009 New Orleans, LA - Nov. 21-24

2010 Atlanta, GA - Nov. 20-23

2011 San Francisco, CA - Nov. 19-22

2012 Chicago, IL - Nov. 17-20

Future International Meetings

2005 Singapore - June 26 - July 1

2005 Perth, Australia - July 4-8

2006 Edinburgh, Scotland

2007 Vienna, Austria

2007 Ljubljana, Slovenia

For more information, go to www.sbl-site.org and click on "Congresses."

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Development Committee

The Development Committee reviews and recommends fundraising activities for the Society.

Harold W. Attridge, Yale University
Carolyn Osiek, Brite Divinity School
David L. Petersen, Emory University
Andrew G. Vaughn, Gustavus Adolphus College
Donald Dale Walker, University of Wyoming
L. Michael White, University of Texas

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee advises the Executive Director in preparing the annual budget for recommendation to the Council.

Harold W. Attridge, Yale University
Paul J. Achtemeier, Union Theological Seminary, Richmond (Emeritus)
Eldon Jay Epp, Case Western Reserve University (Emeritus)
Joel B. Green, Asbury Theological Seminary

Program Committee

The Program Committee

approves program units and program unit chairs, evaluates the Annual Meeting program, and recommends strategic directions for the growth and improvement of the program.

Brian K. Blount, Princeton Theological Seminary
Karen L. King, Harvard University
Francisco Lozada Jr., University of the Incarnate Word
Carol Meyers, Duke University
Margaret S. Odell, St. Olaf College
Gregory E. Sterling, University of Notre Dame

Research and Publications Committee

The Research and Publications Committee reviews publishing activities, recommends policies, and nominates editors and editorial boards.

James Vanderkam, University of Notre Dame
Steven L. McKenzie, Rhodes College
Gail R. O'Day, Emory University
Choon-Leong Seow, Princeton Theological Seminary
Benjamin G. Wright, Lehigh University

Books Released Since the 2003 Annual Meeting:

Academia Biblica

Stephen Finlan, *The Background and Content of Paul's Cultic Atonement Metaphors*

Jamie A. Grant, *The King as Exemplar: The Function of Deuteronomy's Kingship Law in the Shaping of the Book of Psalms*

Patrick Gray, *Godly Fear: The Epistle to the Hebrews and Greco-Roman Critiques of*

Superstition

Lawrence J. Mykytiuk, *Identifying Biblical Persons in Northwest Semitic Inscriptions of 1200–539 B.C.E.*

Gerhard Taubers Schmidt, *Secondary Parallelism: A Study of Translation Technique in LXX Proverbs*

Biblical Scholarship in North America

Phillip C. Stine, *Let the Words Be Written: The Lasting Influence of Eugene A. Nida*

Review of Biblical Literature

Marvin A. Sweeney, ed., *Review of Biblical Literature 6* (2004)

Semeia Studies

Jonathan Draper, ed., *Orality, Literacy, and Colonialism in Southern Africa*

Jonathan Draper, ed., *Orality, Literacy, and Colonialism in Antiquity*

Richard A. Horsley, ed., *Hidden Transcripts and the Arts of Resistance: Applying the Work of James C. Scott to Jesus and Paul*

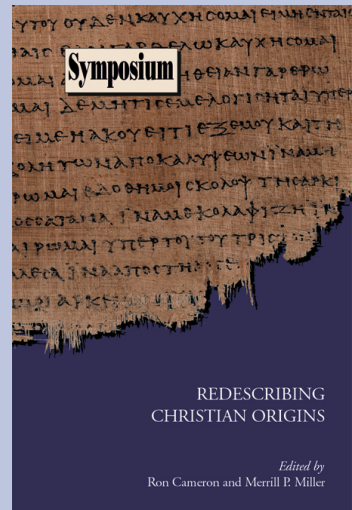
Studies in Biblical Literature

Eric D. Reymond, *Innovations in Hebrew Poetry: Parallelism and the Poems of Sirach*

Symposium Series

Harold W. Attridge and Margot Fassler, eds., *Psalms in Community: Jewish and*

Symposium Series



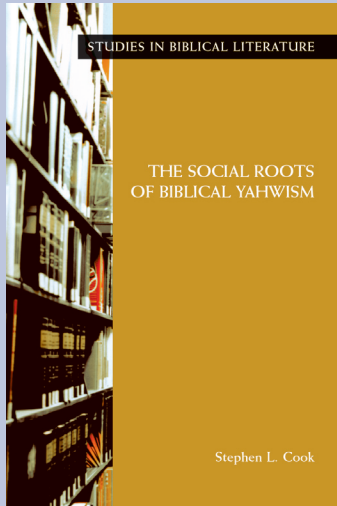
Ron Cameron and Merrill P. Miller, eds., *Redefining Christian Origins*

Christian Textual, Liturgical, and Artistic Traditions Corrine L. Patton and Stephen L. Cook, eds., *Can We Live with This God? Hierarchical Theology in Ezekiel*

Text-Critical Studies

Wayne C. Kannaday, *Apologetic Discourse and the Scribal Tradition: Evidence of the Influence of Apologetic Interests on the Text of the Canonical Gospels*

Studies in Biblical Literature



Stephen L. Cook
The Social Roots of Biblical Yahwism

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Committee on the Status of Women in the Profession

The Committee on the Status of Women in the Profession works in areas of mentoring and networking, opening the Society to greater participation by women, and calling attention to the ways in which the Society speaks to and about women through its various activities.

- Jane S. Webster, Barton College
- Kathleen E. Corley, University of Wisconsin
- Nyasha Junior, Princeton Theological Seminary
- Risa Levitt Kohn, San Diego State University
- Heather A. McKay, Edge Hill

- College (England)
- Lori Rowlett, University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire

Committee on Underrepresented Racial and Ethnic Minorities in the Profession

The Committee on Underrepresented Racial and Ethnic Minorities encourages the participation of minorities in all areas of biblical studies through mentoring, networking, and other forms of support.

- Mary F. Foskett, Wake Forest University
- Stephen Breck Reid, Bethany Theological Seminary
- Stephanie Buckhanon

- Crowder, Vanderbilt University
- Jeffrey Kuan, Pacific School of Religion
- Lai-Ling E. Ngan, Truett Seminary
- Joseph F. Scrivner, Samford University

Conference of Regional Coordinators

The Conference of Regional Coordinators consists of liaisons from the eleven regions in North America. Coordinators oversee regional activities and award Regional Scholar grants.

- Linda S. Shearing, Gonzaga University (Pacific Northwest Region)
- John T. Strong, Southwest Missouri State Universit

- (Central States Region)
- Holly Toensing, Xavier University (Eastern Great Lakes Region)
- Christina Bucher, Elizabethtown College (Mid Atlantic Region)
- Troy W. Martin, St. Xavier University (Midwest Region)
- John R. Lanci, Stonehill College (New England Region)
- Mary Joan Leith, Stonehill College (New England Region)
- Tammi J. Schneider, Claremont Graduate University (Pacific Coast Region)
- Ronald A. Simkins, Creighton University (Rocky Mountains-Great Plains Region)
- B. Diane Wudel, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

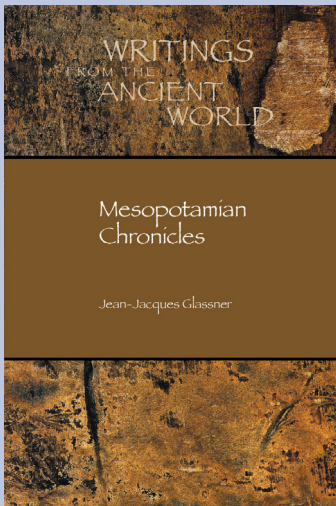
Books Released, cont.

Alexander Kulik, *Retroverting Slavonic Pseudepigrapha: Towards the Original of the Apocalypse of Abraham*

The New Testament and the Greek Fathers

Carroll D. Osburn, *The Text of the Apostolos in Epiphanius of Salamis*

Writings from the Ancient World



Jean-Jacques Glassner, *Mesopotamian Chronicles*

Archaeology and Biblical Studies

Who Were the Babylonians?



Bill T. Arnold

Bill T. Arnold, *Who Were the Babylonians?*

Jean-François Racine, *The Text of Matthew in the Writings of Basil of Caesarea*

Writings from the Greco-Roman World

Ellen Bradshaw Aitken and Jennifer K. Berenson Maclean, eds., *Philostratus's Heroikos: Religion and Cultural Identity in the Third Century C.E.*

Martin C. Albl, Pseudo-Gregory of Nyssa: *Testimonies Against the Jews*

By the numbers...

Total paid members as of this report are 6,632 up from 6,000 at the same date in 2000. Of the total members 1,514 are international. Student members total 1,444. The number of members who receive the discount because they are AAR members has moved in the year 2000 from 871 to 1,090 in the year 2004. The most interesting statistic in the shift is that joint full members have increased from 575 to 882 but student members have decreased slightly from 296 to 228. Associate memberships have grown in 2000 (when we began that category) from 30 to 353 in 2004. Finally, as of the date of this report we have the usual number of expired members at 222 who are 30 days expired; 390 who are 60 days expired; and 585 who are 90 days expired. With our membership in house we will be approaching these members to get them to renew. Were everyone paid up our total membership number would be 7, 829.

Total JBL subscribers as of 123: 4 are 3,630 with nearly one third of those international. Since subscriptions have come in house we are researching the trends but at this point we can not give accurate comparative data. RBL subscriptions stand at 685.

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(Southeastern Region)
James W. Thompson,
Abilene Christian Universit
(Southwestern Region)
Mark T. Schuler, Concordia
University (Upper Midwest
Region)

Employment Information Services

Faith Hawkins, Emory
University

Annual Meeting Program Unit Chairs

(* - New program unit)

Sections

Academic Teaching and Biblical Studies

Charles William Miller,

University of North Dakota
Arthur Walker-Jones,
University of Winnipeg
African-American Biblical Hermeneutics
Hugh Rowland Page,
University of Notre Dame
Cheryl Kirk-Duggan, Graduate
Theological Union

Ancient Fiction and Early Christian and Jewish Narrative

Judith B. Perkins, Saint Joseph
College
Jo-Ann A. Brant, Goshen
College

Aramaic Studies

Deirdre Dempsey, Marquette
University

Archaeological Excavations and Discoveries:

Illuminating the Biblical World

John Spencer, John Carroll
University

Jodi Magness, University of
North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Archaeology of Religion in the Greco-Roman World

Daniel Schowalter, Carthage
College

Bible and Cultural Studies

Jennifer Glancy, Le Moyne
College

Erin Runions, McGill
University

Bible in Ancient and Modern Media

Robert M. Fowler, Baldwin-
Wallace College

Arthur J. Dewey, Xavier
University

Bible Translation

L. J. De Regt, United Bible
Societies

Biblical Criticism and Literary
Criticism

Stephen Reid, Bethany
Theological Seminary

John A. Darr, Boston College

Biblical Greek Language and Linguistics

Matthew Odonnell, University
of Surrey, Roehampton

Biblical Hebrew Poetry

David Howard, Bethel
Theological Seminary

Biblical Lands and Peoples in Archaeology and Text

Ann E Killebrew, Pennsylvania
State University

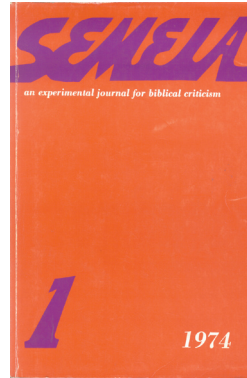
Andrew Vaughn, Gustavus
Adolphus College

SBL Offers Complete Semeia on CD-Rom

The Society has partnered with Logos Research Systems to make every issue of Semeia (1974-2002) available in a fully searchable electronic form.

Semeia will be available as part of the Logos Bible Software package as well as a standalone CD. All 91 volumes of the journal that expanded the horizons of biblical studies by exploring new methods of biblical criticism, such as linguistics, folklore studies, contemporary literary criticism, structuralism, and

social anthropology will be available in one CD. Many issues of Semeia remain classic works in biblical studies, including Apocalypse: The Morphology of a Genre (Semeia 14), The Book of Job and Ricoeur's Hermeneutics (Semeia 19), Social-Scientific Criticism of the New Testament and Its Social World (Semeia 35),



Women, War, and Metaphor (Semeia 61), and Thinking in Signs: Semiotics and Biblical Studies (Semeia 82), to name but a few.

The Semeia CD costs \$19.95 and is due to ship late in 2004 and should be available for purchase at the Annual Meeting.

Society's Greek, Hebrew Fonts Are Expected to Be Completed in 2005

The Font Foundation is a classic example of the Society's encouraging scholarly exchange. The fonts are designed to end a) the frustration from trying to share documents with others, b) the delays in publication caused by redundant proofreading, and d) wasted time and money.

The fonts are expected to be completed in 2005. While the Hebrew is being used the schedule is running slightly behind the projected schedule, all are still expected to be ready by the end of 2005. This initiative provides students, teachers, authors, and publishers with universal fonts for biblical studies. It



works to establish font standards and advocates norms that will expedite scholarly communication. The fonts are provided free of charge for individual use. The founding donors are the American Bible Society, American Schools of Oriental Research, Baker Book House, Brill Academic Publishers, German Bible Society, Logos Research Systems, and Westminster John Knox.

Additional donors are expected to be announced in 2005. The German Bible Society has indicated that the electronic edition of the Biblica Hebraica will be using the SBL fonts.

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Biblical Law

William Morrow, Queen's Theological College

Biblical Lexicography

John Lee, Macquarie University
Bernard Taylor, Loma Linda University

Book of Psalms

Beth La Neel Tanner, New Brunswick Theological Seminary

* Book of the Twelve Prophets

Barry Jones, Campbell University

Christian Apocrypha

F. Stanley Jones, California State University

Christian Theology and the Bible

Stephen E. Fowl, Loyola

College

Ben Ollenburger, Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary

Chronicles-Ezra-Nehemiah

Melody D. Knowles, Princeton Theological Seminary

Computer Assisted Research

Kirk Lowery, Westminster Seminary

Deuteronomistic History

Thomas Romer, University of Lausanne, Switzerland

Marc Brettler, Brandeis University

Early Jewish Christian Relations

Pamela Eisenbaum, Iliff School of Theology

Egyptology and Ancient Israel

Susan T. Hollis, State

University of New York,

Empire State College

Carolyn Higginbotham, Muskingum College

Feminist Hermeneutics of the Bible

Joseph Kozar, University of Dayton

Nancy Bowen, Earlham School of Religion

Greco-Roman Religions

Nancy Evans, Wheaton College

Hebrew Bible, History and Archaeology

William Schniedewind, University of California, Los Angeles

Hebrew Scriptures and Cognate Literature

Daniel Fleming, New York University

Hellenistic Judaism

T. Rajak, University of Reading
Allen Kerkeslager, St. Joseph's University

Hellenistic Moral Philosophy and Early Christianity

L. Michael White, University of Texas

Historical Jesus

Mark Allan Powell, Trinity Lutheran Seminary

History and Literature of Early Rabbinic Judaism

Michael Satlow, Brown University

History of Interpretation

Mark Granquist, Gustavus Adolphus College

Ideological Criticism

Gay L. Byron, Colgate

Society Sees Its Partnerships Flourish

The Society has flourished in part because we have sought partnerships with colleagues and institutions in a range of areas within the humanities. We have benefited at almost every turn by drawing in a wide range of members and cooperating institutions. We were members of the American Council of Learned Societies almost from its inception in 1919 long before any other related organizations in our corner of the humanities with the exception of classics. We have joined from the beginning with other humanities organizations in the National Humanities Alliance (NHA). This relatively new organization seeks to present a unified voice for humanities

funding in the US congress. We have taken a leadership role in Humanities Advocacy Day, an annual spring event in Washington, DC. The purpose is to lobby Congress.

Our congresses are a place where we have most visibly connected with people and institutions. We have not only met with the AAR. We have and will continue to meet with a host of over 50 organizations, regional and international, to widen the conversation so important to the study of the Bible in antiquity and its relationships to the contemporary world.

The founding of the international meeting in 1983 arose out of the need to respond to an increasingly international

membership.

The Society is now an international organization most visibly via the International Meeting. That move to internationalize is also one of the unique features the Society provides its members. No ACLS organization has so effectively advanced the inclusion of international members into the main stream of a learned and professional society.

Our first meeting in Asia (Singapore in 2005), is further evidence of our commitment to broaden our efforts to talk with and listen to all who have committed themselves to rigorous debate and increased contact with those who carry on scholarly traditions.

SBL Takes Part in Coalition on the Academic Workforce

Since its inception the Society has participated in the Coalition on the Academic Workforce (CAW). It is a group in which a variety of ACLS organizations including the American Association of University Professors and Association of American Colleges and Universities participate. The purpose of CAW is to collect and disseminate information on the use of part-time and contingent

faculty members and its implications for students, parents, faculty, and institutions; to articulate and clarify differences in the extent and consequences of changes in the faculty within and among the various disciplines and fields of study; to evaluate the consequences of these developments for achieving and maintaining quality higher education; to evaluate both short-term and long-term consequences for

society and the public good of changes in the academic workforce; to identify and promote strategies for solving the problems created by inappropriate use of part-time, adjunct, and similar faculty appointments; and to strengthen teaching and scholarship.

Through this association we are expanding our connections with adjunct and contingent faculty.

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Rochester Crozer Divinity School
Israelite Prophetic Literature
 Terence E. Fretheim, Luther Seminary
Israelite Religion in its West Asian Environment
 Neal Walls, Wake Forest University
Johannine Literature
 Adele Reinhartz, Wilfrid Laurier University
 Francisco Lozada, Jr., University of the Incarnate Word
John's Apocalypse and Cultural Contexts Ancient and Modern
 Paul Duff, George Washington University

Late Antiquity in Interdisciplinary Perspective
 Leonard Victor Rutgers, University of Utrecht
Linguistics and Biblical Hebrew
 Barry L. Bandstra, Hope College
Matthew
 Amy-Jill Levine, Vanderbilt University
 Elaine Wainwright, University of Auckland
Nag Hammadi and Gnosticism
 Nicola Denzey, Bowdoin College
 Anne M. McGuire, Haverford College
New Testament Textual

Criticism
 Kim Haines-Eitzen, Cornell University
Paleographical Studies in the Ancient Near East
 Jonathan Rosenbaum, Gratz College
Pauline Epistles
 Judith M. Gundry-Volf, Yale University Divinity School
 John M. G. Barclay, University of Glasgow
Pentateuch
 Thomas B. Dozeman, United Theological Seminary
 Diane M. Sharon, Jewish Theological Seminary
Poster Session
 Audrey West, Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago
 Dexter Callender, University of

Miami
Pseudepigrapha
 John C. Reeves, University of North Carolina, Charlotte
 John R. Levison, Seattle Pacific University
Psychology and Biblical Studies
 J. Harold Ellens, University of Michigan
 D. Andrew Kille, Revdak
Q
 Joseph Verheyden, Katholieke Universteit Leuven
 Melanie Johnson-Debaufre, Luther College
Qumran
 Moshe Bernstein, Yeshiva University
 Martin Abegg, Trinity Western University

Wabash Partnership Helps Support Language Teaching

In an effort to respond to the needs of language instruction the Society has been developing the infrastructure for an electronic biblical language resource tool along with the necessary bibliographic resource database. It is being designed for ease of adoption and adaptation by colleges, seminaries and translation training programs. The primary goal is to concentrate on the development of a resource that will facilitate the teaching of Hebrew and Greek.

The Wabash Institute had conducted for several years summer workshops with leading teachers of Greek and Hebrew. They came together to begin to identify some of the greatest needs. Drawing on some of those people and others we asked Andy Vaughn, Gustavus Adolphus College, to work specifically on some of the pieces of this project. He is unveiling a number of tools free of charge that will be available to

New Hebrew teaching tools are to be unveiled soon, with Greek to follow.

everyone teaching Hebrew. He will also convene a meeting this fall with several leading Greek and Hebrew instructors along with others who have knowledge and skills regarding languages to establish a plan to have these tools in one location on the Society web site. We are grateful to Wabash for their continuing support of this project. We also want to thank our members who are playing a key role in this project, just to name two of them, Leong Seow and Brian Blount.

At the foundation of significant resources such as this one we rely on connecting with people and institutions.

New Strategic Vision

Council strengthened its commitment to connecting with people and institutions by adding a new strategic vision – “DEVELOP NEW RESOURCES FOR DIVERSE AUDIENCES, INCLUDING STUDENTS, RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES, AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC.” Never has the Bible been so much in the public eye. We see this through cover stories of our major news magazines, in the newspapers, on web sites, and in the journals of the publishing industry, not even to mention television. This heightened interest in the Bible also is driven by a complex of issues including the values discussions in the US media surrounding the national elections, the Iraqi war, and the expanded interest, in some cases concern, about Islam and its sacred text the Quran.

Through this new strategic vision Council has reinforced the need of the Society to realize that we gain a measure of value in the interpretation of our work to wider audiences. The scholarly task is not only the detailed and careful study of texts and traditions; it is in the conveyance of this work to others. Our work is also enhanced as we listen to the responses of others. Scholarship is a two way street. This new strategic vision will lead us in new ways to concrete actions that will increase our connections to an ever widening group of institutions and people.

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Reading, Theory, and the Bible

Yvonne M. Sherwood, Roehampton Institute

Rhetoric and the New Testament

L. Gregory Bloomquist, Saint Paul University

Scripture in Early Judaism and Christianity

Esther Menn, Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago

Semiotics and Exegesis

David Odell-Scott, Kent State University

Social History of Formative Christianity and Judaism

Hayim Lapin, University of Maryland

Social Sciences and the Interpretation of the

Hebrew Scriptures

Ronald Simkins, Creghton University

Patricia Dutcher-Walls, Knox College Toronto

Social Scientific Criticism of the New Testament

Dennis C. Duling, Canisius College

Philip Esler, University of St. Andrews, Scotland

Social-scientific Studies of the Second Temple Period

John M. Halligan, St. John Fisher College

Alice Hunt, Vanderbilt University

Synoptic Gospels

Mark Goodacre, University of Birmingham, United Kingdom
Greg Carey, Lancaster

Theological Seminary

Textual Criticism of the Hebrew Bible

Russell Fuller, University of San Diego

Theological Perspectives on the Book of Ezekiel

Dexter Callender, University of Miami

Theology of the Hebrew Scriptures

Wonil Kim, La Sierra University

S. Tamar Kamionkowski, Reconstructionist Rabbinical College

Ugaritic Studies and Northwest Semitic Epigraphy

Steve Wiggins, Nashotah House Episcopal Seminary

Wisdom and Apocalypticism in Early Judaism and Early Christianity

Ellen Aitken, Harvard Divinity School

Wisdom in Israelite and Cognate Traditions

Michael V. Fox, University of Wisconsin

Women in the Biblical World

Claudia Camp, Texas Christian University
Pamela Milne, University of Windsor

Groups

Asian and Asian-American Hermeneutics

Mary F. Foskett, Wake Forest

Relationships Expand to Museums, Libraries

As biblical scholars we have long recognized our dependence on museums, libraries, and institutes. We use the texts and resources that museums and libraries provide. Institutes specialize in activities such as digitization and gain the most advanced, expensive tools we can never hope to obtain. Realizing that the connections with these types of institutions support our work we have begun to develop ties with several museums, libraries, and institutes.

For some years we have been associated with the American Theological Library Association (ATLA) and their journal preservation project (ATLAS). The Society receives modest revenues from those who use the digitized volumes of *JBL*. We hope to expand our relationships with ATLA in the coming years since our missions overlap. Providing better resources through services such as those developed by ATLA and EBSCO -- online articles, ancient texts, books -- to those who do not have access to a research library is a relatively inexpensive way the Society can connect our members to what they need.

Examples of our newest partners are the Smithsonian Freer-Sachler Gallery,

Our newest partners include the Smithsonian Freer-Sachler Gallery and the British Library.

British Library, and the Center for the Preservation of Ancient Religious Texts at Brigham Young University (CPART). CPART was established in 1997. Its founding project was the Dead Sea Scrolls Electronic Reference Library, 2 (Leiden: Brill, 1998), the first and only complete image and text database of all non-biblical texts from Qumran. Since then its portfolio has come to include imaging projects at the Biblioteca Nazionale di Napoli, Notre Dame University-Louaize (Lebanon), the Pontifical Oriental Institute, and the Vatican Apostolic Library. CPART's primary objective is to preserve and provide access to manuscripts through digital imaging and dissemination, to provide computer and print instruments for textual research, and to facilitate the publication of critical texts and translations.

CPART and SBL partnered with the Smithsonian Freer-Sachler Gallery to image five Greek biblical codices in the

collection of the Freer. All five codices will be the focus of a major workshop and Freer-Sachler Gallery exhibit at the 2006 SBL Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. Larry Hurtado is heading up a group to produce print and digital publications related to these texts.

The Society is represented on the Advisory Board of the project to digitize Codex Sinaiticus. The purpose of the project is to create a virtual reunification of the Codex, together with a scholarly edition of the manuscript produced with digital images. The greater part of the Codex is held in the British Library and a smaller section at Leipzig University Library, with further portions at St. Catherine's Monastery, Mt Sinai, and the National Library of Russia in St Petersburg. As the only member of the Advisory Board that does not own a piece of the Codex the Society's role is to bring scholarly expertise and the ability to negotiate and to connect all who are interested in fostering biblical scholarship. The images and scholarly work will be published digitally, to allow general public access to the manuscript for the first time and to facilitate further scholarly work on the Codex.

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University
Frank Yamada, Seabury-
Western Theological Seminary
**Character Ethics and
Biblical Interpretation**
Jacqueline Lapsley, Princeton
Theological Seminary
Robert L Brawley, McCormick
Theological Seminary
Early Christian Families
Halvor Moxnes, University of
Oslo
Margaret Macdonald, St.
Francis Xavier University
**Early Jewish and Christian
Mysticism**
Andrea Lieber Merwin,
Dickinson College
**Formation of the Book of
Isaiah**

Hyun Chul Paul Kim,
Methodist Theological School
in Ohio
Roy Melugin, Brite Divinity
School, Texas Christian
University
**Gender, Sexuality and the
Bible**
Fiona Black, Mount Allison
University
**Lamentations in Ancient
and Contemporary Contexts**
Nancy Lee, Elmhurst College
Fred Dobbs-Allsopp, Princeton
Theological Seminary
**Literature and History of
the Persian Period**
John Wright, Point Loma
Nazarene University
Mark

Tom Shepherd, Union College
Lincoln, NE
**New Historicism and the
Hebrew Bible**
Harold Washington, St. Paul
School of Theology
**Papyrology and Early
Christian Backgrounds**
David G. Martinez, University
of Chicago
Paul and Politics
Cynthia Kittredge, Episcopal
Theological Seminary
Richard Horsley, University of
Massachusetts
Pauline Soteriology
A Katherine Grieb, Virginia
Theological Seminary
Philo of Alexandria
Thomas Tobin, Loyola

University
**Prophetic Texts and Their
Ancient Contexts**
Ehud Ben Zvi, University of
Alberta
Alice Ogden Bellis, Howard
Divinity School
Seminars
**Constructions of Ancient
Space**
Jon Berquist, Westminster John
Knox Press
James Flanagan, Case Western
Reserve University
Josephus
Honora Chapman, California
State University, Fresno
Steve Mason, York University
Manichaean Studies

Louisville Institutes Sponsors Two Panels at National Meeting

The Louisville Institute is a Lilly Endowment program for the study of American religion based at Louisville Presbyterian Seminary. The fundamental mission of the Louisville Institute is to enrich religious life and to encourage the revitalization of these institutions, by bringing together those who lead religious institutions with those who study them, so that the work of each might stimulate and inform the other.

The Louisville Institute encourages a broad, collaborative conversation among academics, pastors, and other religious leaders about American religious life. Religious leaders need ready access to the findings of scholars that can help them address more adequately the complex challenges of contemporary ministry. For their part, scholars need to hear pastors/rabbis and laypersons speak of these challenges, and they need to incorporate these distinctive perspectives in their own work. Conversation among them should result in both better-informed scholars and better-equipped leaders. Such a conversation is most likely to be fruitful when the questions under discussion are of urgent importance.

The Louisville Institute will sponsor two panels on "Parish/

Synagogue-based Biblical Scholarship" during the San Antonio Annual Meeting of the Society. Associate Director Bill Brosend, long time member of the Society, will co-convene the panels with Fred Craddock and Marcus Borg. Other panelists include scholars and religious leaders whose work has long been identified with the synagogue and church: David Bartlett, Brad Braxton, Walter Brueggemann, Timothy Cargal, John Donahue S.J., Sharyn Dowd, Greg Glover, Walter Harrelson, Earl Johnson, Barbara Rossing, and Wesley Wachob. The panels will encourage biblical scholars whose institutional home is in the parish/synagogue or other non-academic setting to continue to research and publish. They will foster discussion among biblical scholars with commitment to the synagogue and church regardless of vocational setting. The sessions titles are "Biblical Scholarship from/for Church and Synagogue" and "Publish and Parish – Writing from/for Church and Synagogue."

The Society has for some time recognized that we have many members who are in these synagogue and parish based settings. Now we will more explicitly develop the connections with these people and their institutions.

SBL Strengthens Ties to Theological Education

The Society connections with theological education have been strong throughout our 125 year history. We began a new initiative to renew and strengthen our ties with the Association of Theological Schools (ATS), the accrediting body of theological education, by attending their 2004 biennial meeting and hosting a conversation with the deans and presidents of those institutions. We asked them what we could do to better serve their institutions and faculties. We told them that the Society offers production and publication services on a contract basis to related organizations that do not operate their own publication programs. We ask them to tell us ways we could provide better resources for their students and faculty. We will continue these conversations in other meetings of ATS during 2005.

We believe that the Society mission to foster biblical scholarship is closely akin to the mission of theological education to prepare students through the study of scripture. Drawing in people and institutions to our congresses is one way to increase conversation. The Society has determined that we must not only draw people and institutions to us. We must go to other organizations, meet when they meet, derive a better understanding of the issues that confront them.

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Jason Beduhn, Northern Arizona University

Rethinking Plato's Parmenides and its Platonic, Gnostic and Patristic Reception

John Turner, University of Nebraska

Kevin Corrigan, Emory University

Romans Through History and Cultures

Laurence L. Welborn, United Theological Seminary

Consultations

African Biblical Hermeneutics

Dora Mbuwayesango, Hood Theological Seminary

Assyriology and the Bible

Steven Holloway, University of Chicago

Bakhtin and the Biblical Imagination

Barbara Green, Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology

Bible and Visual Art

Elizabeth Struthers Malbon,

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Heidi Hornik, Baylor University

***Biblical Scholarship and Disabilities**

F Rachel Magdalene, Towson University

Rebecca Raphael, Texas State University, San Marcos

Book of Acts

F. Scott Spencer, Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond

Thomas Phillips, Colorado

Christian University

***Christian Late Antiquity and its Reception**

Stephen Davis, Yale University

***Construction of Christian Identities**

Mauro Pesce, University of Bologna

Edmondo Lupieri, University of Udine

Didache in Context

Aaron Milavec, Center for the Study of Religion and Society

***Disputed Paulines**

Jerry L. Sumney, Lexington

Challenges Bring Opportunities As Well

Building an infrastructure in the rapidly changing world is an ongoing task. Changes make it necessary to constantly review and refine.

The greatest challenges have been revising our web presence, bringing membership services in house which meant establishing better e-commerce, redeploying staff to better use their skills and meet organizational needs, establishing a framework for a major fund raising campaign, and controlling expenses in the presence of these several significant capitalization projects.

These challenges have been met in part by the creative, hard work of staff; a growing cadre of volunteers enthusiastic to move the Society toward the 125th

Changes come to Membership Services

The Society is now processing all memberships, subscriptions, and donations in house. This began in earnest in August but was over a year in the making.

We knew some time ago that we were having problems when a member would go to register for a meeting and correctly assume they had indeed set up automatic billing

only to discover that they had neither been billed without being notified nor been sent a dues notice. This is only one example.

Since mid-August we have the direct responsibility for all of the good service, and the poor service. The “buck” stops in Atlanta. We are still not perfect but that is our aspiration. We are here to serve members.

anniversary celebrations; a strong group of partnering organizations who understand their identities as complimentary to ours and not divisive; and supportive members

who have recognized that the Society is one place that can lead the way with academic integrity.

Online Forum Offers an Inside View of Society

This SBL *Forum* appears on the Society website and is, in many ways, an entry or portal to what we do, who we are, and how we think of ourselves and our profession.

A portion of each monthly issue of SBL *Forum* is devoted to organizational and professional news and notices. Another part is made up of articles by our members and others. In this respect, SBL *Forum* is intended to compliment and supplement all of

Society publications. At the same time, articles, including features, pedagogical reflections, and others, are peer reviewed and of equal scholarly substance as all our publications. The topics and the focus are different, but no less important for our work as scholars in the early 21st century.

SBL *Forum* has had an excellent beginning with the editorship of Frank Ames. Leonard Greenspoon is the recently named editor.

As Leonard said, “I am not beginning ex nihilo, and I have every intention of building on and expanding the very firm foundations that are already in place.

“There is an advisory board, to which I hope to add members, especially younger scholars. In the coming months you will, I hope, notice some differences as well as continuities. Of greatest important is my desire to have an ever increasing number of you as authors or guest editors.”

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Theological Seminary
***Ecological Hermeneutics**

Norman Habel, Flinders University

Formation of Luke-Acts

Gregory Sterling, University of Notre Dame

Thomas Louis Brodie, University of Limerick

***Graduate Biblical Studies: Ethos and Discipline**

Kent Richards, Society of Biblical Literature

Elisabeth Schuessler Fiorenza, Harvard Divinity School

***Homiletics and Biblical Studies**

David Jacobsen, Waterloo Lutheran Seminary

***Jesus Traditions, Gospels and Negotiating the Roman Imperial World**

Warren Carter, St. Paul School of Theology

John, Jesus and History

Tom Thatcher, Cincinnati Bible College and Seminary

Meals in the Greco-Roman World

Dennis Smith, Phillips

Theological Seminary

Hal Taussig, Union Theological Seminary

Midrash

Lieve Teugels, Gorgias Press

Rivka B. Kern-Ulmer, Bucknell University

Penitential Prayer: Origin, Development and Impact

Mark Boda, McMaster Divinity College

Quran and Biblical Literature

Brannon M. Wheeler, University of Washington

***Religion in Roman Egypt**

David Brakke, Indiana University

*** Texts of Wisdom in Israel, Early Judaism, and the Eastern Mediterranean World**

Leo G. Perdue, Brite Divinity School

Katharine Dell, University of Cambridge

***The Use, Influence and Impact of the Bible**

Kenneth Newport, Liverpool Hope University College

Meet the SBL Staff

The Society staff is configured in the following way: 1) Program areas - publications; congresses, profession, and regions; research technology; 2) Operational areas - membership; accounting; and web technology.

Publications

Bob Buller, editorial director, is in charge of all dimensions of publications. He relates directly to Research and Publications as well as giving a number of assists to the digital initiatives. He provides the primary liaison with AIDC (American International Distribution Corporation); our only connection with them is book sales and distribution. He brings skills not only for production but also for financial analysis, marketing savvy, knowledge of the publishing business, and enormous respect from other publishers among our closest allies including the Association of University Presses of which we are a member. **Kathie Klein** and **Leigh Andersen** provide a series of skills for the many and varied publishing tasks. **Phillip Sherman**, a student intern (Emory Ph.D. student), provides part-time operational assistance for the *RBL*. **Chris Hays**, a student intern (Emory Ph.D. student) gives expertise and leadership to a number of content and design aspects of brochures and reports of the Society.

Congresses, Profession, Regions

Matthew Collins, Director of Congresses and Professions, is responsible for leadership in congresses and the related professional initiatives.

He relates directly to the Program Committee, Program Unit Chairs, Regional Coordinators, Committee on the Status of Women in the Profession, and the Committee on the Underrepresented Racial and Ethnic Minorities in the Profession, as well as working closely with related organizations such as ASOR. **Trista Krock** is responsible for operational matters related to congresses and is our primary liaison with external vendors. **Diane Curtis**, a part time student intern (Kennesaw State University) is assisting with a variety of matters related to congresses including some of the student initiatives. **Joel LeMon** is a student intern (Emory PhD student) who provides support for congresses and profession matters.

Research Technology

Patrick Durusau represents the interests of biblical scholarship and provides leadership in the technology world. He gives innovative advice for technology research and development, moves digitization products forward including the development of fonts, and is the voice for biblical scholarship in a number of international contexts where the needs of biblical scholarship have never been heard.

Membership Services

Susan Madara who has long been associated with the business operations is providing the leadership for memberships, subscriptions, and development. Susan provides liaison with the Development Committee and

Nominating Committee. **Theresa Lesnik** is full time in membership and **Deon King** is part time. You will hear their voices when you call about membership, subscription, and development matters so introduce yourself.

Web Technology

Missy Colee provides a variety of leadership functions with regard to staff and web technology. She assists with Luce Center operations, human resources, and the management of part time employees. As important as these matters are she is instrumental in making all of us more aware of the needs of team work. **Lauren Hightower** is our lead software developer. She has developed the online *RBL*; management tools for membership, subscriptions, donations and congresses; the new web site, and a continuing array of projects. She is essentially the lead person with regard to what we refer to as SBL Knowledge, the content and infrastructure of our web technology. **Sharon Johnson** is the manager of our web site. She provides the key link with The Forum editor and Advisory Board. **Erika Fitz** a student intern (Emory PhD student) supports a variety of activities related to our web site.

Accounting

Lorian Warrilow does our accounting and will work with the Finance Committee. Lorian is provided CPA assistance from Pam Kennemore who is also an expert with our MIP accounting software.

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Violence and Representations of Violence among Jews and Christians

Leigh Gibson, Princeton, NJ
Shelly Matthews, Furman University
***Warfare in Ancient Israel**
Brad E Kelle, Emory University

Workshops

***Best Practices in Teaching**

N. Clayton Croy, Trinity Lutheran Seminary

Affiliates

International Organization for Masoretic Studies

Daniel Mynatt, Anderson College

International Organization for Septuagint and Cognate Studies

Benjamin G. Wright, Lehigh University

National Association of Professors of Hebrew

Zev Garber, Los Angeles Valley College

Oriental Institute - University of Chicago

Charles Jones, The Oriental Institute, University of Chicago

International Meeting Program Unit Chairs

Sections

Apocalyptic Literature

Greg Carey, Lancaster Theological Seminary

Apocrypha and Pseudepigrapha

Pierluigi Piovanelli, University of Ottawa

Society's Financial Position Remains Solid

Our financial position is solid. Our Luce Center account has not only the original \$500,000 (50% accounted on Society financials and 50% on AAR financials) but has grown to accumulated earnings in FY 2003-2004 of nearly \$115,000. Our own investments in FY 2003-2004 grew by over \$120,000. Publications revenues as compared to expenses were almost balanced. Subscription revenues were up.

However, we have had deficits the last two years. The biggest strains were in the amount of capitalization required in web technology for the transfer of membership/subscription/donation services in house, the upgrading of the congresses data management system, and the redesigning of our web site. These systems are all integrated. In addition, they were developed with a view to the future so that we could move book marketing, sales, and distribution in house.

An integrated set of management systems for this array of activities is impossible to find with inexpensive off the shelf systems. Furthermore the integration of diverse off the shelf systems would have required even more capitalization not to mention the more complex issues with training staff to deal with those divergent systems.

Budget for 2004-2005

The Society financial goal for FY 2004-2005 is to realize a balanced budget. We are putting in place operations to accomplish this goal.

Revenue	
Book Sales	\$ 375,000.00
Contributions	\$ 50,000.00
Membership/Fees	\$ 430,000.00
Subscriptions	\$ 350,000.00
Congresses	\$ 790,000.00
Rental Income	\$ 20,000.00
Royalties	\$ 70,000.00
Openings	\$ 35,000.00
Investment income	\$ 60,000.00
Marketing	\$ 175,000.00
Other	\$ 35,000.00
Total Revenues	\$2,390,000.00
Expenses	
Administration	\$ 140,000.00
Congresses	\$ 730,000.00
Development / PR	\$ 85,000.00
Membership	\$ 90,000.00
Professions	\$ 60,000.00
Publications	\$ 810,000.00
Regions	\$ 55,000.00
Research and Technology	\$ 420,000.00
Total Expenses	\$2,390,000.00

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Archaeology

Ann E. Killebrew, Pennsylvania State University

Andrew Vaughn, Gustavus Adolphus College

Bible and Social Location

Jeremy Punt, University of Fort Hare

Fernando Segovia, The Divinity School, Vanderbilt University

Biblical and Ancient Near Eastern Law

Gary Knoppers, The Pennsylvania State University
Reinhard Achenbach, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universitaet

Biblical Studies and

Technology

Patrick Durusau, Society of Biblical Literature

Biblical Theology

Harold V. Bennett, Morehouse College

Graduate Biblical Studies:

Ethos and Discipline

Kent Richards, Iliff School of Theology

Elisabeth Schuessler Fiorenza, Harvard Divinity School

Greco-Roman World

John Fitzgerald, University of Miami

Israelite Religion

Saul M. Olyan, Brown University

Johannine Literature

Francisco Lozada, Jr., University of the Incarnate Word

Judaica

Mayer Gruber, Ben-Gurion University

Language and Linguistics

Meir Lubetski, Baruch College

Methods in Hebrew Bible Studies

Gregory Glover, Southminster Presbyterian Church

Methods in New Testament Studies

Matthew Collins, Society of Biblical Literature

Pastoral and Catholic

Epistles

Gabriella Gelardini, University Of Basel

Paul and Pauline Literature

Jerry L. Sumney, Lexington Theological Seminary

Pentateuch (Torah)

Alan J. Hauser, Appalachian State University

Prophets

Martti Nissinen, University of Helsinki

Relevance Theory and Biblical Interpretation

Ronnie Sim, SIL

Gene Green, Wheaton College

Synoptic Gospels

Glenna Sue Jackson, Otterbein

Report of Independent Auditors

We have audited the accompanying statements of financial position of the Society of Biblical Literature as of June 30, 2004 and June 30, 2003, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses, and cash flows for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Organization's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the 2004 and 2003 financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Society of Biblical Literature as of June 30, 2004 and June 30, 2003, and the changes in the net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in conformity with accounting principals generally accepted in the United States of America.

Cherry, Bekaert & Holland, L.L.P.
Atlanta, Georgia
August 20, 2004

Statement of Financial Position

	2004	June 30, 2003
Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 821,438	\$ 958,087
Marketable securities	794,611	611,920
Accounts receivable	73,955	89,081
Prepaid expenses	67,633	67,808
Book inventories, net of valuation reserve	59,616	87,986
Books in production	19,156	4,663
Furniture and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation	16,692	26,944
Net share of Luce Center assets	2,212,934	2,240,150
Total assets	\$ 4,066,035	\$ 4,136,639
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Accounts payable	\$ 190,524	\$ 166,253
Deferred revenue		
Rent	2,320	-
Memberships and subscriptions	409,814	370,637
Annual meetings	434,601	391,696
Total liabilities	1,037,259	928,585
Net assets		
Unrestricted net assets	2,670,629	2,879,837
Temporarily restricted net assets	108,147	78,216
Permanently restricted net assets	250,000	250,000
Total net assets	3,028,776	3,208,053
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 4,066,035	\$ 4,136,639

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College
**The Bible and Its Influence:
History and Impact**
Kenneth Newport, Liverpool
Hope University College
**Whence and Whither?
Methodology and the Future
of Biblical Studies**
Caroline Vander Stichele,
University of Amsterdam

Todd Penner, Austin College
Wisdom Literature
Michael V. Fox, University of
Wisconsin
**Working with Biblical
Manuscripts (Textual
Criticism)**
David Trobisch, Bangor
Theological Seminary
Peter Arzt-Grabner, University

of Salzburg
Seminars
**Concept Analysis and the
Hebrew Bible**
Mignon Jacobs, Fuller
Theological Seminary
**Dead Sea Scrolls and
Hebrew Bible**
Kristin De Troyer, Claremont

School of Theology
Armin Lange, University of
North Carolina, Chapel Hill
Hebrews
Gabriella Gelardini, University
of Basel
**Perceptions of Social
and Ethnic Identities in
Antiquity**
Eibert Tigchelaar, University of

Statement of Activities

	Year Ended June 30,	
	2004	2003
Changes in unrestricted net assets		
Revenues and gains		
Book sales	\$ 393,316	\$ 322,586
Contributions	44,547	36,084
Memberships and fee income	352,795	398,130
Subscriptions	327,395	293,110
Congresses	699,144	691,783
Rental income, net	39,490	50,302
Royalties	73,994	67,556
Openings	29,165	56,303
Investment income	121,538	68,709
Marketing	155,651	151,136
Other	49,006	23,326
Net assets released from restriction	-	6,089
Total unrestricted revenues & gains	2,286,041	2,165,114
Expenses		
Publications	812,136	861,507
Congresses	851,396	707,409
Membership	89,934	155,601
Professions	51,073	43,936
Regions	51,825	42,484
Research and technology	370,489	235,633
Total program expenses	2,226,856	2,046,570
Development and fundraising	106,812	70,491
General administration	161,581	198,673
Total expenses	2,495,249	2,315,734
Decrease in unrestricted net assets	(209,208)	(150,620)
Change in temporarily restricted net assets		
Investment income and change in market value	29,931	31,127
Net assets released from restriction	-	(6,089)
Increase in temporarily restricted net assets	29,931	25,038
Change in net assets	(179,277)	(125,582)
Net assets at beginning of year	3,208,053	3,333,635
Net assets at end of year	3,028,776	3,208,053

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Groningen
Ed Noort, University of Groningen
Pericope: Scripture as Written and Read in Antiquity
Marjo Korpel,
Old Testament in the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature
Stephen Moyise, University College, Chichester, UK
Syriac Lexicography

Terry Falla, Whitley College, University of Melbourne
Consultations
Epigraphical and Paleological Studies Pertaining to the Biblical World
Meir Lubetski, Baruch College
Psychological Hermeneutics of Biblical Themes and Texts

J Harold Ellens, University of Michigan
Workshops
Pedagogy Workshop
Hugh Pyper, University of Leeds
Editors
Academia Biblica
Steven McKenzie, Rhodes College

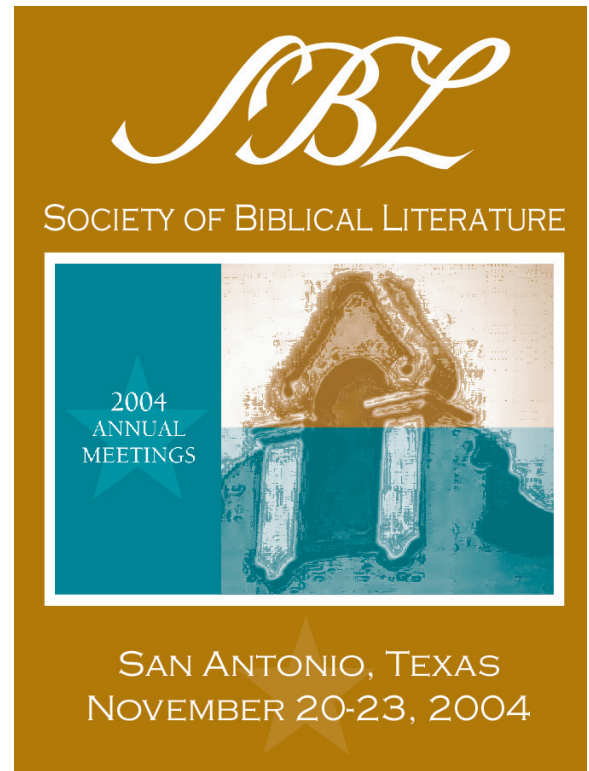
Mark Allan Powell, Trinity Lutheran Seminary
Archaeology & Biblical Studies
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