

CALL FOR PAPERS

FOR THE 2010
JOINT MEETING
OF

THE MIDWEST REGION OF THE
SOCIETY OF BIBLICAL LITERATURE

THE MIDDLE WEST BRANCH OF
THE AMERICAN ORIENTAL SOCIETY

THE AMERICAN SCHOOLS OF
ORIENTAL RESEARCH – MIDWEST

February 12-14, 2010

Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, IN

Dear Colleagues:

The 2010 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Region of the SBL, AOS, and ASOR is scheduled for February 12-14, 2010, at the Harre Hall of **Valparaiso University**, Valparaiso, IN, about an hour southeast of Chicago.

The officers of the societies invite you as members to submit **paper proposals** related to your research interests. Please download from this website the Abstract Form. Send SBL proposals to section leaders (Click on **2010 Section Descriptions**) and AOS/ASOR proposals to JoAnn Scurlock, whose address appears on the Abstract Form and below.

Please note that you must be registered to read a paper at the conference. *The deadline for abstracts is January 8.*

- Conference information will be posted on the Midwest SBL site (http://www.sbl-site.org/meetings/rm_midwest.aspx) as it is finalized.
- Please direct AOS/ASOR abstract and inquiries to JoAnn Scurlock c/o The Oriental Institute, 1155 E. 58th St., Chicago Illinois, 60637 (r-beal@uchicago.edu).
- Please send SBL proposals by email directly to section leaders listed online. If further information is needed, please contact P. Richard Choi, Andrews University, Theological

Seminary, New Testament Department, Berrien Springs, MI 49104-1500
(choir@andrews.edu).

We are pleased to be able to offer onsite the third annual **Student Religious Studies Conference** during the day on February 12. It was a great success last year with over 60 participants.

The title of the Friday evening **plenary session** is “**Social Identity based on Texts and Archeology: the Jews.**” The speakers are **Carol Bakhos** of UCLA, **Gary Knoppers**, Pennsylvania State University, **Gabriele Boccaccini** of the University of Michigan, and **David Rudolph** of, MJTA. The title of Carol Bakhos’s lecture is "The World of the Rabbis: Fact and/or Fiction." Gary Knoppers will present his fresh perspective on Jews in the Persian period. Gabriele Boccaccini will present his latest research on Jewish identity in the Qumran and "intertestamental" period. And David Rudolph will discuss recent trends in post-supersessionist interpretation of New Testament texts for better understanding the social identity of Jesus-believing Jews in the first century context.

Mark Whitters (Eastern Michigan University; Regional SBL President) will deliver the **Presidential Address**, entitled “Group Identity and Caricatures of the Shechemites” at the Saturday evening banquet.

Please note the instructions for the **Graduate Student Paper Competition**. Qualifying papers should be submitted to Dr. Clare Rothschild by 15 December, 2009.

Also, we are inviting nominations for the **Midwest SBL Regional Scholar Award**. Nominations should be submitted to Dr. Mark Whitters by December 15, 2009.

Lodging is available at a number of hotels in Valparaiso, IN, each a few minutes car ride to Valparaiso University. A block of rooms have been reserved at the following hotels at a conference rate. Prices do not include 10% room tax. Reservations should be made by January 12, 2010, under the name SBL/AOS.

Courtyard Inn

2301 E. Morthland Drive-U.S. 30 East
Valparaiso, Indiana 46383 USA
219-465-1700

Rates: \$ 85 .00 a night (Convention Rate, Regular \$129.00)

<http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/vrpcy-courtyard-valparaiso/>

Fairfield Inn

2101 E Morthland Drive
Valparaiso, Indiana 46383 USA
219-465-6225

Rates: \$94.00 a night + Breakfast (Convention Rate, Regular \$99.95)

<http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/vrpf-fairfield-inn-and-suites-valparaiso/>

Hampton Inn

1451 Silhavy Road, Valparaiso, Indiana, USA 46385

219-531-6424

Rates: \$89.00 a night + Breakfast (Reserved Block Rate, Valparaiso University Rate: \$99.00, Regular Rate: \$109.00)

<http://hamptoninn.hilton.com/en/hp/hotels/index.jhtml?ctyhocn=VALINHX>

Holiday Inn Express

1251 Silhavy Road

Valparaiso, IN 46385 USA

219-464-9395

Rates: \$85.00 a night + Breakfast (Convention Rate)

<http://www.ichotelsgroup.com/h/d/ex/1/en/hotel/vpzin?rpb=hotel&crUrl=/h/d/hi/1/en/hotelsearchresults>

Please download and mail the **Registration Form** with payment to:

Midwest Region of the Society of Biblical Literature
P. Richard Choi, Ph.D.
c/o Theological Seminary
Andrews University
Berrien Springs, MI 49104

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Please direct SBL inquiries to P. Richard Choi (email: choir@andrews.edu) and AOS/ASOR inquiries to JoAnn Scurlock (e-mail: r-beal@uchicago.edu).

The joint annual meeting offers a wonderful opportunity to meet new colleagues, see old friends, try out research ideas, and enjoy a lively exchange in a friendly environment. All students, teachers, and interested individuals who are involved with religion and the Bible are welcome. The topics this year promise to be especially diverse and stimulating. We hope you will be able to join us in February.

Sincerely,

P. Richard Choi, Coordinator, Midwest SBL
JoAnn Scurlock, Secretary/Treasurer, Midwest AOS