

For the Midwest regional meeting, all SBL abstracts should be sent directly to Section Leaders by **January 8, 2010**. The paper presented at an SBL, regional or national, meeting must represent fresh research that has not been presented or published before. If your proposal does not fit one of the sections below, please send it to P. Richard Choi (choir@andrews.edu)

1. Apocalyptic Literature: This section solicits proposals that investigate Jewish and Christian (or other) apocalypses and related literature from the “dawn of apocalyptic” through the early Christian church. Papers that deal with later appropriations of ancient texts are also welcome. This year’s theme on “texts and identity” is especially suited to topics for our section, especially in relation to the genre and content of apocalyptic literature: Jewish or Christian? We welcome all presentations on this topic, but all submissions will be considered.

Contact Mark Whitters (mwhitters@emich.edu) for further information or to propose a paper.

2. Apocrypha and Cognate Literature: Participants are invited to present papers concerning the interpretation of apocrypha and cognate literature (Qumran, Hellenistic Judaism, Greco-Roman philosophy and religion, e.g.) and/or the use of these writings in the interpretation of canonical literature.

Please contact Russell Sisson (rsisson@unionky.edu) for more information.

3. Bible Meaning through Time and Tradition: The Bible Meaning through Time and Tradition section will be investigating Susanna [Daniel 13, or “Susanna and the Elders” in the Protestant Apocrypha]. Papers are encouraged that deal with the use, interpretation, or representation of Susanna in Jewish and Christian (or other) traditions. Concern should be not for the biblical text itself, but the hermeneutical, reception-response, or artistic appearance of Susanna throughout subsequent history.

Proposals, papers, and inquiries should be submitted to the chairs of the section: Lowell K. Handy: lhandy@atla.com or Esther Menn: emenn@lstc.edu

4. Early Christianity/Patristics: The focus for the 2010 Early Christianity/Patristics Section will be **Christology in the Early Church**. In keeping with the theme of this year's Midwest SBL/AOS/ASOR meeting, papers dealing with Christology in Jewish Christian thought and its ramifications for Jewish/Christian identity, relations, and/or dialogue, will have priority, but presentations on any aspect of Christology up to the sixth century will also be welcome.

Please email questions and proposals to Nancy Pardee, pardee@sxu.edu.

5. Gender Studies of the Bible: This section welcomes papers which engage in critical discussions of gender, sexuality, hermeneutics, critical theory and the Bible. These

discussions may encompass such themes as gender identity, gender/sexuality and the social sciences, gender/sexuality and cultural studies, feminist/womanist/mujerista perspectives, and queer theory. Papers which explore using creative, interdisciplinary methodologies are especially welcome.

Contact Ann Fritschel (afritschel@wartburgseminary.edu) or Elizabeth McCabe, (b_a_mccabe@yahoo.com) for further information or to propose a paper.

6. The Gospels: The aim of this section is: (1) To encourage the scholarly investigation of the NT and extra-canonical gospels; (2) To support scholars of the Midwest region by providing an annual forum for critical discussion of their work, promoting discussion for mutual benefit. For 2010, The Gospels Section plans an open session dedicated to new work that scholars in the region wish to present at this time.

If you have a new paper, please submit an abstract to the session chair: Clare K. Rothschild (rothscc1@lewisu.edu).

7. Hebrew Bible and Early Interpretive Literature: This section welcomes proposals on any facet of the Hebrew Bible and early Post-Biblical interpretive literature. Presenters are encouraged to submit proposals that address this year's theme, "Text and Identity." Session groupings will be determined later. Please submit proposals to Laurie Braaten

Please submit proposals to Laurie Braaten (lbraaten@judsonu.edu).

8. Paul: This section invites paper proposals on any topic dealing with Paul. Papers addressing the theme of the 2010 meeting "Text and Identity" are especially welcome. This theme, however, may be broadly engaged.

Please contact P. Richard Choi (choir@andrews.edu) to submit proposals and for further information.

9. Teaching the Bible: The focus of this section will be inductive learning strategies. This will be a round table conversation. Participants are asked to bring a hand-out describing one or more inductive learning strategies that they have employed or experienced to share with the group. Questions to be explored include: when and where have inductive learning strategies proved most effective? What limitations have you experienced with inductive learning strategies? How can inductive learning strategies be used to complement deductive learning strategies? The goal of this session is 'side-by-side' with emphasis on learning from each other.

Proposals and inquiries should be submitted to: hhearon@cts.edu

10. Student Member Professional Development Luncheon: All graduate students are invited to lunch courtesy of the Midwest Region. We will use the time as an opportunity to network with other graduate student colleagues from regional institutions and to

receive advice from established professors and researchers in the region on surviving and thriving in the academy. This year's topic will be publishing. We will discuss the importance of publishing, how to pursue early publications, including book reviews and articles, and how best to navigate the world of publishing as one's career progresses from student to seasoned scholar.

Please contact Alec J. Lucas (alec.lucas@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

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Please contact Alec J. Lucas (alec.lucas@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

12. Hebrews and Catholic Epistles: This new section welcomes proposals on topics addressing the Epistle to the Hebrews or texts among the Catholic Epistles.

Please contact Eric F. Mason (Judson University) at HebrewsCatholicEpistles.MWSBL@gmail.com to submit proposals or to request additional information.

13. Student Religious Studies Conference (SRSC): SRSC debuted in 2007 as an initiative of the Midwest Region SBL to encourage development of the next generation of biblical scholars. The conference provides an opportunity for students of various levels—undergraduate, seminary/divinity school, and graduate (pre-dissertation stage)—to participate actively in a regional conference in the supportive context of their peers and academic mentors. Students may present papers in various fields related to biblical and theological studies, including Hebrew Bible/Old Testament, New Testament, Second Temple or rabbinic Judaism, patristics and early Christianity, theology, historical studies, and comparative religions.

For additional information, please contact Eric F. Mason (Judson University) at Midwest.SBL.SRSC@gmail.com.