

**Call for Papers:  
Annual Central States Regional Meeting of the  
Society of Biblical Literature**

**Date: March 13-14, 2016  
Location: St. Louis Marriott West, St. Louis, MO**

**Keynote Speaker for the 2016 Meeting:  
Dr. Carol Meyers  
The Mary Grace Wilson Professor Emerita of Religious Studies at Duke University**

**The “Gender Gap”: Textual and Archaeological Images of Israelite Women**

**CAROL MEYERS**, the Mary Grace Wilson Professor Emerita of Religious Studies at Duke University, has lectured and published widely in biblical studies and archaeology. Her reference work, *Women in Scripture*, is a comprehensive look at all biblical women; and her latest book, *Rediscovering Eve* (2013), is a landmark study of women in ancient Israel. She has been a frequent consultant for media productions, has served as president of SBL, and is currently a trustee of ASOR, the Albright Institute, and the Dead Sea Scrolls Foundation.

The Central States Region Society of Biblical Literature invites papers for its annual meeting, to be held in St. Louis, Missouri, March 13-14, 2016, in the following areas. Please limit proposals to 250 words. Student proposals will be considered, but students should submit a complete manuscript and the name of a sponsoring scholar.

**Important Notice! DEADLINE for submissions to be received by section chair: DECEMBER 1, 2015** (with the exception of TAK [see below]). **All participants, even those invited to present, must submit notification to the section chair.** This notification must include the following personal information: name (as it should appear in the program), mailing address, institutional affiliation (as it should appear in the program), phone and fax number, e-mail, and role in the program (i.e., presider, respondent, panelist, presenting a paper). Questions regarding a proposal should be sent to the relevant section chair. If your proposal does not appear to fit one of the sections above, please contact the Regional Coordinator, Milton Horne: [hornem@william.jewell.edu](mailto:hornem@william.jewell.edu). **All program participants must register for the meeting.**

**Archaeology/ASOR:** ASOR invites paper proposals on any aspect of ancient Near Eastern or Mediterranean archaeology, the history and culture of the ancient Near East, or graphic displays of ancient architecture, material culture, or everyday life. **Send Proposals, via email, to Dr. David Chapman, Covenant Theological Seminary:** [David.Chapman@covenantseminary.edu](mailto:David.Chapman@covenantseminary.edu).

**Hebrew Bible:** The Hebrew Bible section invites proposals dealing with the texts of the Hebrew Bible and their interpretation. Also welcome are papers that concentrate on related extra-textual matters, such as historical backgrounds and culture, related Near Eastern literature, and history of interpretation. **Send Proposals to:** Roger Cotton at email address [cottonr@evangel.edu](mailto:cottonr@evangel.edu) or at Assemblies of God Theological Seminary 1435 N. Glenstone Ave. Springfield, MO 65802.

**Gender Issues:** Proposals are invited for one session dealing with topics that relate Gender Studies to the interpretation of the Bible (be that biblical texts or loci in the history of interpretation of biblical texts). Proposals are especially welcome that engage critical theory about gender in its relation to biblical interpretation. In addition, proposals are welcome from constituency based critical perspectives related to Gender Studies (e.g., Feminist, Womanist, Queer theory) that engage in the interpretation of biblical texts and/or the history of interpretation. **Send Proposals to:** Dr. Laurel Koepf Taylor, Eden Theological Seminary, 475 E Lockwood AVE, Saint Louis, MO 63119 (Ph): (314) 918-2587; [ltaylor@eden.edu](mailto:ltaylor@eden.edu).

**New Testament Studies:** Proposals are invited for at least two open sessions dealing with any topic pertaining to the New Testament and related literature. Related literature includes texts of Second Temple Judaism. Proposals are also invited for a special session devoted to the reception history of the NT, inclusive of Jewish, Christian, Muslim and other responses from antiquity to the present, as well as methodological issues. **Send Proposals to:** Dr. Mark D. Given, Missouri State University, 901 S. National Ave., Springfield, MO 65897 Ph: (417) 836-6261; E-mail: [markgiven@missouristate.edu](mailto:markgiven@missouristate.edu). **Email is preferred.**

**Pedagogy:** Have you found ways to successfully incorporate film, popular media, and/or innovative technology in your classes? What challenges have you encountered? The Pedagogy section invites proposals for brief (5-10 minute) presentations or demonstrations to contribute to a discussion on the use of these tools. Examples may range from instructional techniques to assigned student projects. Proposals should include a title and brief abstract (no more than 250 words); please send via e-mail attachment to Brendon Benz ([benzb@william.jewell.edu](mailto:benzb@william.jewell.edu)) and Kristin Swanson ([swansokr@luther.edu](mailto:swansokr@luther.edu)).

**Religious Studies:** The Religious Studies section invites proposals (including title and an abstract of 250 words or less) focusing on interpretation of the Bible and/or other sacred texts and traditions, drawing on fields outside biblical studies (e.g., philosophy, sociology, anthropology, psychology, political science, literary studies, and classics). **Send Proposals, via email, to:** Brad Chance, William Jewell College, [chanceb@william.jewell.edu](mailto:chanceb@william.jewell.edu)

**Theta Alpha Kappa:** STUDENT MEMBERS OF TAK chapters in the central states region are invited to submit papers for presentation at the regional meeting. All topics relating to religious studies are acceptable. Submissions should come from the TAK advisor and include the presenter's name and contact information plus the entire paper sent electronically in PDF format. Graduate student papers are welcome as space is available, but only undergraduate papers are eligible for the award (currently \$100 given by the national office of TAK). Submit papers, via email, to Dr. Milton Horne, William Jewell College: [hornem@william.jewell.edu](mailto:hornem@william.jewell.edu). **Proposals should be received by DEC 11, 2015.**

#### **Regional Scholar Awards: \$150**

Junior members of SBL (no more than 5 years teaching in a tenure-track position), women or under-represented minority members are encouraged to apply. The paper must be accepted by one of the section chairs for inclusion in the 2016 regional program. A letter of application, the notice of the section chair's acceptance, and an up-to-date vita must be submitted along with the full text of the paper to **Dr. Victor Matthews by February 8, 2016** (College of Humanities and Public Affairs, Missouri State University, 901 S. National Ave., Springfield, MO 65897). Electronic applications are preferred, and should be directed to Dr. Matthews ([VictorMatthews@missouristate.edu](mailto:VictorMatthews@missouristate.edu)). Regional Scholars are eligible for a **National Award** (minimum of \$1,000 per award, see the national website, for details) and possible inclusion at the national meeting. Announcement of the award will be made at the business meeting during the evening banquet.

#### **Student Presentation Awards: \$100**

Candidates must be student members of SBL, and proof of membership must be submitted with the application. Candidates must have a paper proposal accepted by a Central States SBL section, and candidates are responsible for obtaining verification of acceptance. Applicants should send a letter of application, a copy of the notification that the paper was accepted, and the full text of the paper by email attachment no later than **February 8, 2016** to **Dr. Victor Matthews** (College of Humanities and Public Affairs, Missouri State University, 901 S. National Ave., Springfield, MO 65897; [VictorMatthews@missouristate.edu](mailto:VictorMatthews@missouristate.edu)). Please direct any questions in this regard to Dr. Matthews. Announcement of the award will be made at the business meeting during the evening banquet.