

**2016 SBL Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting**

March 10-11, 2016

Hyatt Regency Hotel, Two Albany Street, New Brunswick, NJ, 08901

Proposal Due Date: December 18, 2014

Dear Colleagues,

The Executive Committee for the Mid-Atlantic Region of the Society of Biblical Literature (MAR-SBL) cordially invites you to submit proposals for the 2016 MAR-SBL Meeting. The meeting will be held jointly with the American Academy of Religion (AAR) on Thursday March 10th and Friday the 11th. The conference will be held at the Hyatt Regency hotel in New Brunswick, NJ. The hotel is located in downtown New Brunswick, just a short distance from Rutgers University. It is also located just three blocks from the New Brunswick station on NJ Transit's Trenton Line, which also services Newark International Airport.

Our meetings will be held in hotel's conference spaces. Registration will include meals on Thursday and Friday during conference hours, though details remain to be worked out. Lodging is not included in the registration cost. Rooms have been reserved at the Hyatt Regency at a discount for attendees, but attendees will have to book their own reservation. Other hotels are available in the area.

The conference will begin on Thursday morning and run through Friday afternoon. Our plenary speaker will speak on Thursday night, with a reception to follow. The president of our region, Jeremy Schipper of Temple University, will give our presidential address on Friday. The final cost of the conference is anticipated to be comparable to previous conferences held in hotels, and it would be prudent to budget accordingly.

Please consider offering a paper proposal in any area of biblical studies. Any SBL member may submit a proposal regardless of his or her region. New this year, our region would like to begin fostering undergraduate work in biblical studies as a part of our conference. Therefore, we encourage SBL members who work closely with undergraduates to consider submitting proposals to our new undergraduate section.

On behalf of the Mid-Atlantic Region SBL,  
Sincerely,

Nathan LaMontagne, Regional Coordinator.

## **Proposal Guidelines and Submissions**

The proposal should state the paper's topic and purpose and give some indication as to how the argument will proceed. Provide enough context to show that you are aware of the basic literature in the field and summarize the argument of your presentation. You may submit only one proposal for the MAR-SBL meeting.

To submit a proposal, find the section that you feel best fits your presentation. See the list at the end of this document. Then, email a 150-250 word proposal (250 words maximum) to the section head for the appropriate section. When sending your email, you **MUST** title the subject line of your email: "2016 MAR-SBL PAPER PROPOSAL" (use all capital letters). Proposals must include your full name, title, institution (or location), email address, and, as available, your phone number, mobile number, and mailing address. Also, it is very important that you indicate any date or time restrictions that you have when you send your proposal. While we try to accommodate all requests, we cannot guarantee that everyone will present during his or her preferred date/time slot. In general, we assume that those submitting proposals will keep March 10-11 open. Proposals are due on **DECEMBER 18, 2015**, but we encourage you to submit as soon as possible. Proposals that do not conform to these guidelines may be disregarded. **You should be notified by the section head regarding the status your proposal by mid-January 2016.**

Each section head will determine the time allotted for each paper presentation. Presentations will generally last **20-25 minutes**, although presenters are encouraged to set aside a few minutes of this time to allow for questions. Usually, your final paper to be presented should be about 10 double-spaced, single-sided pages. Please do not exceed your allotted time out of respect for your fellow presenters.

## **Registration**

Online registration will be available in January. You will be notified by email when our online registration is live. Please utilize the online website for registration, as it saves paper and helps the region promote environmentally sustainable gatherings.

## **Lodging**

There are numerous hotels within five miles of the Hyatt Regency. A block of rooms have been set aside at the Hyatt Regency at a discount. Details will be available during the registration process.

## **Sustainability**

We are asking participants to consider bringing reusable beverage containers and name badge holders from previous conferences in order to cut down on waste at the conference.

## **SBL Conference Awards**

MAR-SBL will confer the Howard Clark Kee Award of \$100 for the best student paper by an SBL student from the region. We will also participate in the SBL Regional Scholars Program, sponsored by the society-wide conference of Regional Coordinators. Our region's nominee for this honor will receive a \$100 prize upfront, in addition to whatever awards and recognition she or he may receive in the society-wide program. To qualify for the SBL Regional Scholars Program scholars should be at least ABD and no more than four years past the receipt of their Ph.D. Women and underrepresented minorities are encouraged to apply. Those interested in either of these prizes should submit their full paper to Nathan LaMontagne (nathan.lamontagne@gmail.com) when submitting a proposal to the appropriate section head **by December 11, 2015**. Please clearly indicate: (1) for which prize or prizes you would like to be considered and (2) your exact student status (Kee Award) and/or your exact status between ABD and when you received your Ph.D. (Regional Scholars Program).

## **List of Sections with Section Head Email**

### **Old Testament/Hebrew Bible (3 sessions)**

**Pentateuch.** Alexandria Frisch, Ursinus College, [afrisch@ursinus.edu](mailto:afrisch@ursinus.edu)

**Prophets.** David Lamb, Biblical Theological Seminary, [dlamb@biblical.edu](mailto:dlamb@biblical.edu)

**Writings.** Jennifer Koosed, Albright College, [jkoosed@alb.edu](mailto:jkoosed@alb.edu)

### **New Testament (3 sessions)**

Robert Seesengood, Albright College, [rseesengood@albright.edu](mailto:rseesengood@albright.edu)

Jason Coker, Pastor of Wilton Baptist Church, [jason@wiltonbaptist.org](mailto:jason@wiltonbaptist.org)

### **Biblical Reception History**

Eric Seibert, Messiah College, [eseibert@messiah.edu](mailto:eseibert@messiah.edu)

This section is open to proposals addressing any aspect of the reception history of the Bible.

Proposals dealing with representations of violence in the Bible are especially encouraged.

### **Hebrew Bible, History, and Archaeology**

Peter Feinman, Institute of History, Archaeology, and Education, [feinmanp@ihare.org](mailto:feinmanp@ihare.org)

This session is for papers that address the history or historical reconstructions of ancient Israel and the kingdoms of Israel and Judah through the use of texts, archaeology, and anthropological approaches. The use of materials from surrounding cultures in the ancient Near East, Egypt, and the Aegean to develop an integrated understanding of the past are welcome.

### **Undergraduate Research Presentation**

Kim Paffenroth, Iona College, [kimpaffenroth@msn.com](mailto:kimpaffenroth@msn.com)

The undergraduate section is dedicated to promoting research in biblical fields at the undergraduate level. Each proposal should be submitted by a member of the SBL on behalf of an undergraduate who is that member's student or advisee. The student will be expected to give the presentation, and the faculty mentor should be present during the session. It is not necessary therefore for the student to be a member of the SBL.

If you are unsure which section best fits your proposal, you may contact our regional coordinator, Nathan LaMontagne ([nathan.lamontagne@gmail.com](mailto:nathan.lamontagne@gmail.com)). Priority will be given, however, to proposals that best fit with the sections listed above. You may also direct general inquires about the meeting to Nathan LaMontagne. All other inquiries regarding your proposal should be sent to the appropriate section head.