

2014 MIDWEST REGION SBL/AOS/ASOR BUSINESS MEETING
AGENDA AND MINUTES
Olivet Nazarene University, Bourbonnais, IL
February 9, 2014

decisions in bold

1. Approval of the minutes from the Feb. 10, 2013 meeting—**approved**
2. New Officer Nominations—Midwest SBL (all for two-year terms)—**all approved**
 - *Conversations with the Biblical World (Proceedings)* journal OT editor—Pauline Viviano
 - Vice President (and President-elect)—Jeffrey Stackert
 - Regional Coordinator (renewal/second term)—Eric F. Mason
 - affirm Jenny DeVivo as assistant coordinator for the Student Religious Studies Conference
3. Financial report for AOS—**approved**
4. Financial report for SBL—**approved**
5. Student Religious Studies Conference report—**20 papers presented and approximately 40 attendees from a wide range of states and institutions**
6. Resolutions—**approved**

Midwest Society of Biblical Literature, American Oriental Society, and American Schools of Oriental Research

Resolutions:

Be it resolved that on this cold and snowy winter weekend in February the Midwest Society of Biblical Literature, American Oriental Society, and American Schools of Oriental Research have been treated with warmth and much kindness, care, and generosity by the Olivet Nazarene University, Bourbonnais, Illinois. We thank President Dr. John Bowling for the gracious hospitality of the University, and we thank Dean Dr. Carl Leth of the School of Theology and Christian Ministry for kindly hosting us. The Societies want the administration, faculty, and staff of ONU to know how much we appreciate the hospitality this year and in all the years we have held our meetings here. We consider it a special gift and blessing from you to us.

We especially thank Professor Kevin Mellish of the School of Theology and Christian Ministry who has taken charge of the local arrangements in a most gracious manner, along with Drs. Eddie Ellis and Larry Murphy, New Testament professors at the School of Theology and Christian Ministry. Special thanks are also due to Mrs. Jean Bakke, Secretary of the School of Theology and Christian Ministry for her kind administrative assistance along the way up to and through the time of the meeting, and for the aid of Lauren Shander, a student assistant at ONU. Special thanks are also offered to the ONU Physical Plant, Food Service, and Information Technology/Media Departments.

We owe special thanks to Eric F. Mason the Midwest SBL Regional Coordinator for the very fine program he arranged and managed this year, and the Midwest AOS Secretary/Treasurer JoAnn Scurlock for her good work in arranging the AOS sessions. Finally, we thank the publishers and book vendors Ada Books, Baker Publishing Group, *Conversations with the Biblical World* (journal), Eisenbrauns, Fortress Press, IVP Academic, The Society of Biblical Literature, William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, and Zondervan for their presence at the meeting and the essential services they render to our members.

Respectfully and gratefully submitted,

Richard E. Averbeck, PhD
Trinity Evangelical Divinity School

7. Graduate Student Paper Competition

- 2014 honorees are Justin Buol (University of Notre Dame; abstract on p. 12 of the meeting program) and Matthew Monkemeier (Wheaton College; abstract on p. 24), and each received a \$300 prize

8. Regional Scholar Nominations

- 2013 nominee Toan Do selected as national honoree

- 2014 nominee to be determined by the region's Regional Scholar selection committee (Ann Fritschel, Troy Martin, Clare Rothschild, Eric F. Mason; regional award is \$400)—**[James W. Barker, visiting assistant professor at Luther College, Iowa, was selected for the award after the conclusion of the meeting]**

9. Date and location for 2015 meeting and future plans—**we will return to Olivet Nazarene University for the 2015 (Feb. 6-8) and 2016 (dates TBD) meetings; we will continue to explore sites for the 2017 meeting that coincides with the AOS (Middle-West Branch) centennial**

- we have invitations from Olivet Nazarene University and Valparaiso University; also, tourism departments of five cities in the region have inquired about the meeting (Indianapolis, Iowa City, Milwaukee, Rockford, and Springfield)

- our regional governance document states that we are to meet on the second week of February (which would be Feb. 13-15 in 2015), but we would have to meet the previous weekend instead at either Olivet or Valparaiso (Feb. 6-8)

- 2017 will be centennial for regional AOS; we are seeking a location that would be especially fitting for that year

10. Theme for next year—“Negotiating Diversity,” selected by AOS coordinator JoAnn Scurlock

11. Other Business from the Executive Committee—**the regional coordinator and executive board will discuss issues about online registration with the national SBL office**