

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

**Date: March 12-13, 2017
Location: Stoney Creek Hotel and Conference Center
Columbia, Missouri 65203**

**Keynote Speaker for the 2017 Meeting:
Dr. Dan Fleming
Edelman Professor of Hebrew and Judaic Studies, Skirball Department
Of Hebrew and Judaic Studies, New York University**

DANIEL E. FLEMING, the Edelman Professor of Hebrew and Judaic Studies at New York University, has written extensively and has given numerous lectures on the Hebrew Bible and the ancient Near East. His groundbreaking work on the sociopolitical structure of Mari during the reign of Zimri-Lim, which was supported by a Senior Fulbright Scholar grant (1997-1998) and culminated in the publication of *Democracy's Ancient Ancestors* (Cambridge University Press, 2004), has brought to light, among other things, the important role collective governance played in the ancient world. In his most recent monograph, *The Legacy of Israel in Judah's Bible: History, Politics, and the Reinscribing of Tradition* (Cambridge University Press, 2012), Fleming uses similar methods and data to isolate Israelite traditions in the Hebrew Bible. Fleming's capacity to subvert interpretive paradigms that have dominated the field and ask new questions of the evidence make his texts and his talks a compelling experience.

The Central States Region Society of Biblical Literature invites papers for its annual meeting, to be held in Columbia, Missouri 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, 2016 (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.
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.

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 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.

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 New Testament and Ethics, Past and Present” Proposed papers can address ethics in the original historical contexts or subsequent ethical and unethical uses of NT texts to the present. **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. **Email is preferred.**

Pedagogy: “*Ancient Texts for Modern Sensibilities*” Have you successfully incorporated film, popular media, technology, or a contemporary issue in the classroom to help present, illustrate, and/or increase the relevancy of a critical idea in your analysis of the Bible or a related text? In what ways have your strategies enriched the study of ancient texts in the modern classroom? 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) and Kristin Swanson (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

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. **Proposals should be received by DEC 16, 2016.**

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 10, 2017** (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). 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 10, 2017** to **Dr. Victor Matthews** (College of Humanities and Public Affairs, Missouri State University, 901 S. National Ave., Springfield, MO 65897; (VictorMatthews@missouristate.edu)). Please direct any questions to Dr. Matthews. Announcement of the award will be made at the evening banquet and Monday's business meeting.