

2018 MIDWEST REGION SBL/AOS BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA

Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame, Indiana

February 3, 2018

1. Approval of the minutes from the February 2017 meeting—**approved**

2. Officer Nominations

SBL—two-year terms—**all approved**

- Regional Coordinator—Stacy Davis

- Vice President—Eric F. Mason

- President (present VP)—Nancy Pardee

- SRSC coordinator—Jenny De Vivo (renewal)

- *Conversations with the Biblical World* journal HB editor (first term)—Robert Wallace

- *Conversations with the Biblical World* journal NT editor (second term)—D. Dale Walker

- announcement: new SBL Student Representative Abelardo Rivas Santini, Andrews University

3. Financial report for AOS—**approved**

4. Financial report for SBL—**approved**

5. Student Religious Studies Conference report—**21 papers, about 40 in attendance**

6. Graduate Student Paper Competition (\$300 prizes)—winners were Preston L. Atwood, University of Wisconsin—Madison (HB/ANE) and Murray Vasser, Asbury Theological Seminary (NT/EC)

7. Regional Scholar Nominations (\$400 regional prize; advance for national consideration)—**four candidates [Nathan Mastnjak, Indiana University, announced as 2018 winner after the meeting]; 2017 regional honoree Chontel Syfox (University of Notre Dame) was also selected as a national winner (our fourth national honoree in the last six years)**

8. Date and location for 2019 meeting—**plan to return to Saint Mary's College on Feb. 8–10, 2019**

9. Resolution—**Stacy Davis to prepare letter of appreciation to Saint Mary's College for hosting us**

10. Other Business—**all the following were approved except ***

- **AOS and SBL traditionally have alternated years for presidential address and plenary/theme planning, but AOS will now do so only every fourth year (next in 2021); SBL likely will bring in a featured speaker from outside the region for 2019 for two speaking slots (and likely no banquet)**

- **the national ASOR eliminated its program for regions, so we may no longer promote our regional meeting as including ASOR, but ASOR members can organize distinct "ASOR member-sponsored sessions" at the meeting per guidance from the national ASOR executive director**

- **region will cover hotel expenses for SRSC coordinator and SBL student representative (effective 2018)**

- **a person may not apply for the Regional Scholar award and the Graduate Student Paper Competition in the same year**

- **beginning in 2019, the region will award up to three Graduate Student Paper Awards with prize money increased from \$300 to \$400, and the Regional Scholar prize money will increase from \$400 to \$500**

- **officers are authorized to develop a new registration fee structure for contingent/adjunct faculty members, retired faculty members, and/or independent scholars**

* - **we began initial discussion of how the region might manage future growth in the number of papers proposed for the meeting, whether through scheduling changes or higher selectivity of proposals accepted**