

2021 SBL Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting
Virtual Meeting
Friday, March 12 and Monday, March 15, 2021
Proposal Due Date: January 4, 2021

Dear Colleagues,

The Executive Board for the Mid-Atlantic Region of the Society of Biblical Literature (MARSBL) cordially invites you to submit proposals for the 2021 MARSBL meeting. The meeting will be held virtually via webinars on Friday March 12th and Monday March 15th.

The registration fee for access to the entire conference will be \$35, with a reduction in the fee for students at \$20. **We encourage you to reach out to colleagues and students who have not generally attended due to financial constraints. This year provides a great opportunity for new participants!**

Please consider offering a paper proposal in any area of biblical studies. Any SBL member may submit a proposal regardless of the member's region of residence or work. In addition to our usual sections in Hebrew Bible, New Testament, and Reception History, we also invite members to propose an entire session based on a particular methodology, contextual context or theme.

Continuing our efforts from our last conference, we are fostering undergraduate work in biblical studies as a part of our conference. Therefore, we ask SBL members who work closely with undergraduates to encourage their undergraduates to submit proposals to the undergraduate session that will take place in the midst of the conference. Undergraduate papers may address any topic within the field of biblical studies. Undergraduate proposals should be sent to Kim Paffenroth (email address below).

If you had a paper accepted for the 2020 Regional Meeting (which was cancelled due to COVID-19), we encourage you to resubmit the paper. These papers will be given priority consideration, but we cannot guarantee acceptance.

On behalf of the Mid-Atlantic Region of the Society of Biblical Literature,

Dr. Melvin Sensenig
Regional Coordinator

Proposal Guidelines and Submissions

Your proposal should state your paper's topic and purpose and summarize 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 MARSBL meeting.

To submit a proposal, find the section that you feel best fits your presentation (see the list at the end of this document). Email your proposal of 150–250 words to the two section heads for the appropriate section. The subject line of your email should read, “2021 MARSBL 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. Proposals that do not conform to these guidelines may be disregarded.

Important: if this will be your first presentation at a scholarly conference, you **must** include a draft of your entire paper!

With your proposal please indicate any date or time restrictions that you have when you send your proposal.

In general, we assume that those submitting proposals will keep both days open. Proposals are due **January 4th, 2021**, but we encourage you to submit as soon as possible. **You should be notified by the section head regarding the status of your proposal by late-January 2021.**

Each section head will determine the time allotted for each paper presentation. Presentations will generally last **20 minutes**, although presenters are encouraged to set aside a few minutes of this time to allow for questions. Paper length should not exceed ten (9) double-spaced, single-sided pages.

Writing Seminar

MARSBL presenters are invited to participate in a writing seminar section. In these sections papers will not be read; instead the conversation will focus on how the papers can be best readied for publication. We anticipate sections of 3–5 participants, facilitated by an experienced scholar. Seminar participants must email a *complete* paper (not just the draft to be read at the conference) intended for publication to the Writing Seminar Coordinator (WSC) by **Friday, February 19, 2021**. The WSC will then email papers to all seminar participants for their review. Participants will be expected to come prepared to offer constructive feedback to others in their section. If you wish to participate, please so indicate when you make your paper proposal by January 4th, then send the complete paper to Dr. Rob Seesengood at rseesengood@albright.edu.

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 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, in addition to awards and recognition bestowed through the society-wide program. Candidates should be at least ABD and no more than four years past the receipt of their Ph.D.

We especially encourage women and underrepresented minorities to apply. Those interested in either prize should submit their full paper to Dr. Sensenig (msensenig@albright.edu) **by January 4th, 2021**. 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 as ABD or PhD completed (Regional Scholars Program).

Sections, with Section Head Emails:

Old Testament/Hebrew Bible

- Pentateuch** David Moster, Institute of Biblical Culture, davidmoster@gmail.com
Jennifer Koosed, Albright College, jkoosed@albright.edu
- Prophets** Alexandria Frisch, Ursinus College, afrisch@ursinus.edu
Jennifer Koosed, Albright College, jkoosed@albright.edu
- Writings** John Ahn, Howard University, john.ahn@howard.edu
Jennifer Koosed, Albright College, jkoosed@albright.edu

New Testament

- Gospels** Mark Giacobbe, Westminster Theol Seminary, markgia@gmail.com
Robert Seesengood, Albright College, rseesengood@albright.edu
- Acts, Epistles,
Revelation** Greg Carey, Lancaster Theological Seminary, gcarey@lancasterseminary.edu
Robert Seesengood, Albright College, rseesengood@albright.edu

Biblical Reception History

- Sarah Malena, St. Mary's College of Maryland, smalena@smcm.edu
Tamar Kamionkowski, Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, tkamionkowski@rrc.edu

Undergraduate Research Presentation

The undergraduate section is dedicated to promoting research in biblical fields at the undergraduate level. Proposals should be submitted on behalf of undergraduate students by the student's professor or mentor. The professor/ mentor must be an SBL member in good standing, but it is not necessary for the student to be a member of SBL.

- Kim Paffenroth, Iona College, kimpaffenroth@msn.com

If you are unsure which section best fits your proposal, then contact our regional coordinator Dr. Sensenig (msensenig@albright.edu). Priority will be given to proposals that best

fit the sections listed above. You may also direct general inquiries about the meeting to Dr. Sensenig. All other inquiries regarding your proposal should be sent to the appropriate section heads.

Scholars who wish to propose panels or new sections for this meeting should submit their proposals with a description of the topic and purpose of the panel, along with the individual paper proposals of all participants to

Tamar Kamionkowski, Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, tkamionkowski@rrc.edu

Greg Carey, Lancaster Seminary, gcarey@lancasterseminary.edu

Dr. Melvin Sensenig
Regional Coordinator