

SOCIETY OF BIBLICAL LITERATURE

SBL Policy on Scholarly Presentation and Publication of Ancient Artifacts

Members of the Society of Biblical Literature encounter issues related to the authenticity and provenance of ancient artifacts (hereafter Artifacts), including but not limited to ancient texts (including papyrus, inscriptions, cuneiform tablets, and codices). This policy applies to SBL program session presentations at Annual, International, and Regional Meetings (hereafter Programs) and books and serials published by SBL Press (Publications). SBL Affiliate sessions shall also be reviewed for conformity with this policy.

1) The Society of Biblical Literature endorses the guidelines for the treatment of antiquities laid out in the American Schools of Oriental Research [Policy on Professional Conduct](#) (approved 18 April 2015). Specifically, section III, parts D and E, are to be applied to SBL's Programs and Publications.

2) When their proposals or manuscripts deal with such materials, members shall be asked to submit relevant information on ancient Artifacts for all conference paper proposals and manuscripts for publication (hereafter Submissions). It is further noted that the submitter of a paper or publication is to inform the Program Unit Chair (hereafter PUC) and Series or Serial Editor (hereafter SE) if any of this information changes prior to presentation or manuscript Submission.

3) PUCs and SEs should familiarize themselves with the ASOR policy when considering Submissions. If a Submission conflicts with the standards of the ASOR policy, the PUCs and SEs are expected either to reject it or work with the submitter to resolve the conflict with the policy.

4) Council will establish and maintain an Artifact Advisory Board (AAB) that will serve in an advisory capacity for the PUCs, SEs, and Council when issues arise related to artifacts in SBL Submissions. The AAB will comprise four members including one Council member. When a Submission is rejected due to a conflict with the policy, the PUC or SE will inform the chair of the AAB, which will keep track of all such conflicts.

This policy will be in effect for Submissions for the 2017 Annual Meeting as well as for Press Submissions beginning in 2017.

Council will review the policy and process no longer than two years after its adoption. This will give ample time to determine how the ASOR policy relates to the needs of SBL and its members, and how the process operates within SBL Programs and Press.