

**2015 SBL Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting**  
March 5-6, 2015  
Layola University, Columbia campus, Columbia MD  
Proposal Due Date: December 19, 2014

Dear Colleagues,

The Executive Committee for the Mid-Atlantic Region of the Society of Biblical Literature (MAR-SBL) cordially invites you to submit proposals for the 2015 MAR-SBL Meeting. The meeting will be held jointly with the American Academy of Religion (AAR) on Thursday March 5th and Friday the 6th. The conference will be hosted by Layola University in Columbia, MD. The Columbia Campus is located between Snowden River Parkway and Dobbin Road at 8890 McGaw Road, about one mile from Exit 41 off Interstate 95, just minutes from the Capital (I-495) and Baltimore (I-695) Beltways. It is also located just a few miles from Jessup train station on MARC Railroad's Camden line. Shuttles to Layola University will be available from Penn Station in Baltimore and from BWI Airport. Attendees should specify during registration whether these services will be desired.

Our meetings will be held in state of the art classrooms, each of which is equipped with AV presentation stations, enabling all presenters to utilize presentation modes of their choice. Our meeting will include lunch and dinner on Thursday as well as breakfast on Friday. These meals are provided as part of the registration fee for all from the beginning of the conference to the end. All conference registrations include these meals, but lodging will be off campus at any of a number of hotels convenient to the area. Rooms have been reserved at the Courtyard Marriott just off campus for this purpose, but attendees will have to book their own reservation.

The conference will begin on Thursday morning. There will be three sessions on Thursday, followed by dinner and the Plenary address on Thursday evening. There will be two sessions on Friday morning, ending at 12:45. Due to time constraints, our plenary address this year is being combined with our presidential address. Robert Seesengood, Associate Professor of Religious Studies at Albright College, will be our Presidential Plenary speaker.

Please consider offering a paper proposal in any area of biblical studies. Any SBL member may submit a proposal regardless of his or her region.

## **Proposal Guidelines and Submissions**

The proposal should state the paper's topic and purpose and give some indication as to 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 MAR-SBL meeting.

To submit a proposal, find the section that you feel best fits your presentation. See the list at the end of this document. Then, email a 150-250 word proposal (250 words maximum) to the section head for the appropriate section. When sending your email, you **MUST** title the subject line of your email: "2015 MAR-SBL 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. Also, it is very important that you indicate any date or time restrictions that you have when you send your proposal. While we try to accommodate all requests, we cannot guarantee that everyone will present during his or her preferred date/time slot. In general, we assume that those submitting proposals will keep March 5-6 open. Proposals are due on **DECEMBER 19, 2014**, but we encourage you to submit as soon as possible. Proposals that do not conform to these guidelines may be disregarded. **You should be notified by the section head regarding the status your proposal by mid-January 2015.**

Each section head will determine the time allotted for each paper presentation. Presentations will generally last **20-25 minutes**, although presenters are encouraged to set aside a few minutes of this time to allow for questions. Usually, your final paper to be presented should be about 10 double-spaced, single-sided pages. Please do not exceed your allotted time out of respect for your fellow presenters.

## **Registration**

Online registration will be available in January. You will be notified by email when our online registration is live. Please utilize the online website for registration, as it saves paper and helps the region promote environmentally sustainable gatherings.

## **Off-Campus Lodging**

There are numerous hotels within five miles of the campus for all attendees. A block of rooms have been set aside at the Courtyard Marriott, which is within walking distance of the campus.

## **Sustainability**

We are asking participants to consider bringing reusable beverage containers and name badge holders from previous conferences in order to cut down on waste at the conference.

## **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 will 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 upfront, in addition to whatever awards and recognition she or he may receive in the society-wide program. To qualify for the SBL Regional Scholars Program scholars should be at least ABD and no more than four years past the receipt of their Ph.D. Women and underrepresented minorities are encouraged to apply. Those interested in either of these prizes should copy their full paper to Nathan LaMontagne (nathan.lamontagne@gmail.com) when submitting a proposal to the appropriate section head by December 19, 2014. 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 between ABD and when you received your Ph.D. (Regional Scholars Program).

## **List of Sections with Section Head Email**

### **Old Testament/Hebrew Bible (3 sessions)**

**Torah.** David Lamb, Biblical Theological Seminary, [dlamb@biblical.edu](mailto:dlamb@biblical.edu)

**Prophets.** Mark Leuchter, Temple University, [mark.leuchter@temple.edu](mailto:mark.leuchter@temple.edu)

**Writings.** Alexandria Frisch, Ursinus College, [afrisch@ursinus.edu](mailto:afrisch@ursinus.edu)

**New Testament (3 sessions)**

Kim Paffenroth, Iona College, [kimpaffenroth@msn.com](mailto:kimpaffenroth@msn.com)

Jason Coker, Pastor of Wilton Baptist Church, [jason@wiltonbaptist.org](mailto:jason@wiltonbaptist.org)

**Biblical Reception History**

Leong Seow, Princeton Theological Seminary, [leong.seow@ptsem.edu](mailto:leong.seow@ptsem.edu)

The section is dedicated to the interpretation, reception, and consequences of the Bible, including commentaries and theological works, but also all manner of encounter with the Bible (in literature, visual and performing arts, liturgy, film, etc.). One session will be devoted to invited papers, and two sessions will be open.

**Hebrew Bible, History, and Archaeology (3 sessions)**

Peter Feinman, Institute of History, Archaeology, and Education, [feinmanp@ihare.org](mailto:feinmanp@ihare.org)

This session is for papers that address the history or historical reconstructions of ancient Israel and the kingdoms of Israel and Judah through the use of texts, archaeology, and anthropological approaches. The use of materials from surrounding cultures in the ancient Near East, Egypt, and the Aegean to develop an integrated understanding of the past are welcome.

If you are unsure which section best fits your proposal, you may contact our regional coordinator, Nathan LaMontagne ([nathan.lamontagne@gmail.com](mailto:nathan.lamontagne@gmail.com)). Priority will be given, however, to proposals that best fit with the sections listed above. You may also direct general inquiries about the meeting to Nathan LaMontagne. All other inquiries regarding your proposal should be sent to the appropriate section head.

Regards,

Nathan LaMontagne

Visiting Assistant Professor, The Catholic University of America

Mid-Atlantic Region SBL Regional Coordinator