

2016 MIDWEST REGION SBL/AOS/ASOR BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Olivet Nazarene University, Bourbonnais, IL—February 7, 2016

meeting opened at 10:35 a.m.

1. Approval of the minutes from the February 8, 2015 meeting—approved
2. Officer Nominations—all approved
Midwest SBL officers (all nominated offices are for two-year terms)
 - affirm president-elect Jeffrey Stackert
 - nominate Nancy Pardee for vice president
 - nominate Eric F. Mason for final term as regional coordinator
 - *Conversations with the Biblical World* journal HB editor (second term)—Pauline Viviano
 - *Conversations with the Biblical World* journal NT editor (new slot)—D. Dale Walker
 - affirm Jenny De Vivo as coordinator for the Student Religious Studies Conference
 - recognize SBL Student Advisory Board representative J. David Woodington
3. Financial report for AOS—accepted
4. Financial report for SBL—accepted
5. Student Religious Studies Conference report—45 present (increase over 2015); approximately 17 papers
6. Graduate Student Paper Competition (\$300 prizes)
 - Kevin J. Mattison, University of Wisconsin-Madison (abstract on p. 25)
 - Cambry Pardee, Loyola University Chicago (abstract on p. 28)
7. Regional Scholar Nominations (\$400 regional prize; advance for national consideration)
 - no selection was made for 2015
 - 2016 nominee to be determined by RS committee (Troy W. Martin, Eric F. Mason, Clare K. Rothschild, and Jeffrey Stackert)—[later announced as Rebecca Scharbach Wollenberg]
8. Date, location, and theme for 2017 meeting and future plans
 - 2017 will be centennial for regional AOS; theme is “What Difference Does Time Make?”
 - The location and date (Feb. 3–5 or 10–12) are to be determined. The region had planned for several years not to return to Olivet in 2017 in order to allow a break for our volunteer hosts. A motion was made and passed to have the AOS and SBL officers make the final decision about the 2017 date and location. [will be Feb. 10-12 at Saint Mary’s College, Indiana]
 - The possibility of raising registration rates to accommodate a potential increase in costs for 2017 was discussed as well as subsidizing student housing should hotel costs rise substantially. No decision made.
 - The national SBL Council is taking up the issue of the online petition criticizing the MWSBL for meeting at Olivet Nazarene University. The Council will keep us apprised of their work and their decisions as they formulate a general policy regarding regional meetings.
 - It was moved and passed to include in the minutes that the decision not to meet at ONU in 2017 was due to a previous agreement and not the online petition.
 - Future SBL Regional Spotlight speakers are Gabriele Boccaccini (2017) and Troy Martin (2018)
9. Eric F. Mason was thanked for his work as Regional Coordinator.
10. Resolved: Mason will send a letter of thanks to ONU for their gracious hospitality.

Meeting was adjourned.