

## **SOCIETY OF BIBLICAL LITERATURE ICI REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2018**

### **(a) THE SBL ANNUAL MEETING 2019, SAN DIEGO**

The next SBL Annual Meeting will take place in Denver, Colorado, from 23 to 26 November 2019. The Call for Papers is not open yet, Registering is not open yet. Program Book is not yet available.

See this link: <https://www.sbl-site.org/meetings/Annualmeeting.aspx>

### **(b) THE SBL INTERNATIONAL MEETING 2019, ROME**

The next SBL International Meeting will take place in the Pontifical Biblical Institute and the Gregorian University, Rome, from 1 to 5 July 2019. The Call for Papers is **open**.

See this link: <https://www.sbl-site.org/meetings/Internationalmeeting.aspx>

### **Visa letters for travel to the Annual or International Meetings**

In order to facilitate attendance by those in ICI countries at SBL Congresses, [Samantha Spitzner](#) has been appointed as the SBL visa coordinator. Samantha will advise members who need visas in order to travel to and participate in the Annual or International Meetings. She will not prepare applications, but will be a source of information to aid members in submitting applications and will provide letters of intent if needed by those participating in the meeting as presenters or committee members. For more information, please contact Samantha directly.

### **SBL INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL AWARDS**

As of December 1, 2018, the SBL Travel Grant program will begin accepting Applications.

### **Deadlines**

**1 December 2018:** International Travel Award application opens.

**15 February 2019:** Deadline – Application form and recommendation letter.

15 April 2019: Award decisions will be announced.

The SBL International Travel Awards offer opportunities to current SBL members outside North America to attend the Annual or International Meeting, to participate in the program, to enhance their professional development, and to build their network with fellow scholars. These grants help facilitate the work of Program Units and the International Cooperation Initiative (“ICI”). These grants are intended to support underrepresented and underresourced scholars. As such, preference will be given to women, people of historically underrepresented ethnicities, and members from ICI-qualifying countries. A key criterion is an applicant’s demonstrable financial need.

Four International Travel Award Panels (ITAP) will administer the awards each year, serving four geographic regions:

- Africa and Middle East
- Asia and Pacific
- Eastern Europe
- Latin America and Caribbean

For awards offered in 2018, each ITAP will administer \$3,000 in awards in each region. The panels may determine the best distribution of funds (e.g., as one \$1000 and one \$2000 award, or as three awards of \$1000 each). The applicants must attend the Annual or International Meetings, but may or may not participate in the program, depending upon their needs expressed in the application. All grants include lodging (one room, single or shared) for four nights and complimentary meeting registration. Recipients may not have attended an Annual or International Meeting within the last five (5) years.

<https://www.sbl-site.org/membership/AMtravelgrant.aspx>

(c) **PUBLICATION IN ANCIENT NEAR EAST MONOGRAPHS (ANEM)**

ANEM is a series that was established by the SBL at the request of the International Cooperation Initiative (ICI), jointly published with the Universidad Católica Argentina's Centro de Estudios de Historia del Antiguo Oriente (CEHAO) and co-edited by Jeffrey Stackert and Juan Manuel Tebes. The series publishes volumes on the Ancient Near East (including ancient Israel) both in print and electronically, making them freely available for download. Paperback and hardback versions of the volumes are available, for a reasonable price.

To view the volumes published in the series, please go to

[http://www.sbl-site.org/publications/Books\\_ANEMonographs.aspx](http://www.sbl-site.org/publications/Books_ANEMonographs.aspx) (SBL English version)

<http://www.uca.edu.ar/anem> (CEHAO Spanish version)

The latest volume in ANEM is:

**FARBER, Zev I., Jacob L. WRIGHT (eds.) Archaeology and History of Eighth-Century Judah. Ancient Near East Monographs – Monografías sobre el Antiguo Oriente, Volume 23. Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature – Centro de Estudios del Antiguo Oriente, 2018. 593 pp. ISBN 9781628372335**

Essays from an international group of experts.

Essays from an international group of experts on the ancient Near East and the Hebrew Bible honor Oded Borowski's pioneering work in the archaeology and history of ancient Israel and Judah. Contributors approach the question of what we know of eighth-century Judah from multiple angles, including a survey of Judah's neighbors, the land of Judah and its cities, daily life and material culture, religious beliefs and practices, and early forms of what are now biblical texts. Contributors include Rami Arav, Shawn Zelig Aster, Assaf Avraham, Jeffrey A. Blakely, Sandra Blakely, Elizabeth Bloch-Smith, Efrat Bocher, Erin Darby, Jennie Ebeling, Zev I. Farber, Avraham Faust, Daniel E. Fleming, Yuval Gadot, Kristine Garroway, Seymour Gitin, James W. Hardin, Gilad Itach, Hayah Katz, Reinhard G. Kratz, Joel M. LeMon, Shani Libi, Oded Lipschits, Donald Redford, Christopher Rollston,

Bruce Routledge, Yair Sapir, Konrad Schmid, Cynthia Shafer-Elliott, Brent A. Strawn, Andy Vaughn, Jacob L. Wright, and K. Lawson Younger Jr.

Features:

- Emphasis on the influence of Assyria in Judah's political, religious, and material cultures.
- Multiple models for the early stages of biblical writing and composition.
- Updated information on pottery typologies.

#### **(d) PUBLICATION IN INTERNATIONAL VOICES IN BIBLICAL STUDIES (IVBS)**

IVBS is a series that was established by the SBL at the request of the International Cooperation Initiative (ICI), and which is co-edited by Monica Melanchthon and Jione Havea. IVBS encourages in particular submissions from scholars in the present seven international regions for which it has editorial boards: Africa, Central and Eastern Europe, Latin America, Middle East-South Asia, Northeast Asia, Pacific, and Southeast Asia. Interregional collaborations are also welcome. IVBS publishes works in English and in any other language for which its editors can find qualified peer reviewers. Any work published in IVBS is freely available to anyone in perpetuity. The series publishes work generally in the area of reception history and criticism. The scope is not limited to any particular biblical text or historical timeframe. The works will mainly be published in English and, wherever possible, also in primary languages of authors. For more information please go to <http://ivbs.sbl-site.org/home.aspx>. If you would consider publishing your work in this series, feel free to contact one of the two general editors, [Monica Melanchthon](#) or [Jione Havea](#).

The latest volume in IVBS is:

**Nofoaiga, V. A Samoan Reading of Discipleship in Matthew. Atlanta: SBL Press, 2017.**

A reading of discipleship as service from the ancient Galilee to contemporary Samoa

The Bible contains a collection of perspectives that should not be privileged over and against the perspectives of readers from other lands. This book offers an alternative understanding of discipleship under the influence of the Samoan *tautua* (servant), for whom the needs of family and local people are foremost, and approaches in biblical criticism that affirm locatedness of readers. Because discipleship is also about place, which might be in-between spaces, Nofoaiga offers *tautuaileva* (service in-between spaces) readings of Matthew 4:12–25 and Matthew 7:24–8:22 that emphasize place (Galilee) as well as the marginalized and excluded (the crowd). With the twirlings and ebbings expected from natives of oral cultures, Nofoaiga holds the complexity of *tautuaileva* in this study and offers it as his contribution to the assembling and assembly of islander criticism.

Features:

*Tautuaileva*, or service in-between spaces or in relational places, as a method of islander criticism.

A critique of traditional interpretations of the meaning of discipleship as abandoning family, duty, and responsibility.

Glossary of important Samoan terms and phrases.

#### (e) PUBLICATIONS: ONLINE BOOKS

For a full alphabetic list of all publications available for free in the ICI book repository program, please go to:

[http://www.sbl-site.org/publications/Books\\_ICIbooks.aspx](http://www.sbl-site.org/publications/Books_ICIbooks.aspx)

**New books added to the repository!:**

**Runia, David T., and Gregory E. Sterling, eds. *Studia Philonica Annual: Studies in Hellenistic Judaism, Volume XXIX*. Atlanta: SBL Press, 2017.**

The *Studia Philonica Annual* is a scholarly journal devoted to the study of Hellenistic Judaism, particularly the writings and thought of the Hellenistic-Jewish writer Philo of Alexandria (circa 15 BCE to circa 50 CE).

**Lozada, Francisco, Jr. *Toward a Latino/a Biblical Interpretation. Resources for Biblical Studies* 91. SBL Press, 2017.**

In *Toward a Latino/a Biblical Interpretation*, Francisco Lozada Jr. explores the complex and diverse issues related to Latino/a biblical interpretation and to applying it. He introduces three sample readings of biblical texts leading readers through the intricacy of interpretation that has historically and culturally surrounded understanding what it means to do Latino/a biblical interpretation. Throughout, Lozada attempts to work out various strategies that Latinos/as have employed to read biblical texts. He argues that Latino/a biblical interpretation is concerned with identity and belongingness with the goal toward the transformation/liberation of the Latino/a community. The future of Latino/a biblical interpretation is recognizing its interdisciplinary approach and the identification of the great diversity among its community.

**de Bruyn, Theodore S., Stephen A. Cooper, and David G. Hunter. *Ambrosiaster's Commentary on the Pauline Epistles: Romans. Writings from the Greco-Roman World* 41. Atlanta: SBL Press, 2017.**

Ambrosiaster was a pioneer in the revival of interest in the Pauline epistles in the later fourth century. He was read by Latin writers, including Pelagius and Augustine, and his writings, passed on pseudonymously had a long afterlife in the biblical commentaries, theological treatises, and canonical literature of the medieval and the early modern periods. In addition to his importance as an interpreter of scripture, Ambrosiaster provides unique perspectives on many facets of Christian life in Rome, from the emergence of clerical celibacy to the development of liturgical practices to the subordination of women.

[JSTOR provides free or low cost access to more than 1,500 institutions in 69 countries](#)

More than 1,500 institutions in Africa and other developing nations receive access to JSTOR free of charge or for steeply reduced fees. This is made possible through a combination of philanthropic support and the fees paid by libraries in other countries around the world, as well as publishers' eagerness to support this work. More information is available about JSTOR's [African Access Initiative](#) and [Developing Nations Access Initiative](#) programs.

#### Need JSTOR Access?

As part of your Society of Biblical Literature membership, save 50% on the annual JPASS plan, your personal access to the JSTOR archive. With more than 1,900 scholarly journals, JSTOR is one of the world's leading academic databases. Millions of users worldwide rely on JSTOR for research, fact checking, and book reviews. This discounted subscription includes unlimited reading access and 120 article downloads. JSTOR adds new titles every month so you'll have a growing collection of the world's leading peer-reviewed journals only a click away.

To access the discounted JPASS, log-in to the SBL website with your member ID. Just below where you entered your member ID, click membership benefits. You will see JSTOR's JPASS among the benefits and a link "To get your savings: click here."

#### **(f) ICI TEACHING COLLABORATION PROGRAM**

In order to facilitate the exchange of scholars and institutions in biblical studies across the globe, a teaching collaboration program is run by the ICI. The facility consists of lists of scholars and institutions interested in exchanges that are made available on the SBL website.

See: <http://sbl-site.org/educational/ICITeaching.aspx>. If you or your institution is interested in such collaboration, please visit the site and enroll yourself in these lists. For more information, contact [Jackie du Toit](#).

#### **(g) JOURNAL OF BIBLICAL LITERATURE (JBL) ARCHIVE**

Take note that an archive with JBL articles from volume 122.1 of 2003 through volume 130.1 of 2011 is available online to people accessing the SBL website from

any ICI country. See [http://www.sbl-site.org/publications/ICI\\_JBLarchive.aspx](http://www.sbl-site.org/publications/ICI_JBLarchive.aspx). All articles in those volumes can be downloaded for free!

#### (h) THE SBL WEBSITE

The SBL website (on the SBL Press page) has a facility where one can search the full text of all SBL books! For this very convenient tool, see:

<http://sbl-site.org/publications/default.aspx>

For searching reviews of a vast number of academic publications, see the website of Review of Biblical Literature (RBL) at (you have to log in with your membership number):

<http://www.bookreviews.org/>

#### (i) EVENTS

The SBL maintains a significant list of events taking place anywhere in the globe.

For the full list please go to <http://www.sbl-site.org/meetings/events.aspx>

A selection of events is listed below—mainly those taking place in ICI regions. Please provide information on conferences in your region, including calls for papers, to Sharon Johnson at [sharon.johnson@sbl-site.org](mailto:sharon.johnson@sbl-site.org).

##### **2019**

##### **1/23-1/25 Prayer and the Ancient City: Influences of Urban Space**

The Martin-Luther-University Halle-Wittenberg will host the conference. The workshop is a first attempt to investigate the impact of urban space on prayer practices and related religious thought and belief in antiquity

<https://www.theologie.uni-halle.de/nt/aktuelles/>

##### **7/1-7/5 SBL International Meeting**

Our host institutions are the Pontifical Biblical Institute and the Gregorian University, Rome, Italy.

<https://www.sbl-site.org/meetings/Internationalmeeting.aspx>



**7/16-7/19 Congreso Internacional de Estudios Bíblicos**

Con ocasión de cumplirse los 80 años de la Revista Bíblica, la “Asociación Bíblica Argentina” (ABA) y los Consejos Editoriales de la Revista, junto con la “Asociación Brasileira de Pesquisa Bíblica” (ABIB), la Asociación Bíblica Chilena (ABCh), la Asociación de Biblistas de México y varios colegas de distintos países latinoamericanos y de los Estados Unidos, hemos organizado un “Congreso Internacional de Estudios Bíblicos” que tendrá lugar en la sede de Buenos Aires de la Pontificia Universidad Católica Argentina “Santa María de los Buenos Aires”.

On the occasion of the 80th anniversary of Revista Bíblica, the “Asociación Bíblica Argentina” (ABA) and the Revista Editorial Board, together with the “Asociación Brasileira de Pesquisa Bíblica” (ABIB), the Asociación Bíblica Chilena (ABCh), the Asociación de Biblistas de México and several colleagues from different Latin American countries and the United States, have organized an “International Congress of Biblical Studies” that will take place in the Buenos Aires headquarters of the Pontificia Universidad Católica Argentina “Santa María de los Buenos Aires”.

<http://congresobiblico2019.org/>

**7/21-7/24 The British Association of Jewish Studies Conference**

BAJS Annual Conference will be held at the University of Oxford. Theme: What is Commentary?

<https://britishjewishstudies.org/about/conference-2018/>

**7/30-8/2 Society for New Testament Studies**

SNTS 2019 General Meeting will be held in Marburg, Germany.

<http://snts.international/general-meetings/>

**8/4-8/9 International Organization for the Study of the Old Testament**

The 23rd Congress of IOSOT will be held at the University of Aberdeen.

<https://www.abdn.ac.uk/events/conferences/iosot/index.php>

**8/11-8/14 European Association of Biblical Studies**

2019 Annual Conference will be held in Warsaw, Poland.

<https://www.eabs.net/>

**(j) SBL EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES FREELY AVAILABLE**

There are links to numerous educational resources on the SBL website. The following are freely available: (i) Resources on Teaching the Bible; (ii) Freely downloadable Hebrew, Greek and Transliteration fonts (amongst others); (iii) Resources on Bible translations and commentaries; and (iv) Research tool resources.

See <http://sbl-site.org/educational/default.aspx>

Also remember to check the newly-developed **Bible Odyssey** online portal. See [www.bibleodyssey.org](http://www.bibleodyssey.org). This portal offers wonderful educational resources, but also resources for broader popular audiences. Use this site to popularize our academic studies in faith communities!

Any topics you would like to see Bible Odyssey address? Just send a message to: [bow@sbl-site.org](mailto:bow@sbl-site.org)

**(k) PLEASE PASS ON THE INFORMATION**

Please share this newsletter with your colleagues and students and become a liaison for your institution and SBL. (Please contact our liaison officer, [Jackie du Toit](#), if you would like to assist as contact person in your region.) Your advocacy for ICI strengthens biblical studies as a discipline and builds relationships in the global community. Thank you to those who have done so in the past—we also receive letters from people who received the newsletter from someone else.

Thanks a lot for your interest and spread the word!

Juan

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