



**Society of Biblical Literature**

## **2023 INTERNATIONAL MEETING**



**Pretoria, South Africa**  
**July 3–7, 2023**

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

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## WELCOME TO PRETORIA, SOUTH AFRICA

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At the crossroads of the past and future, at the intersection of cultures and multiple worlds, welcome to Pretoria! Welcome to this second international meeting of SBL in the Republic of South Africa and on the African continent.

The diversity of venues for the international meetings of SBL present opportunities to reflect upon the legacies of the Bible in a particular location. In this city of Pretoria, we meet in a location known for political power and educational innovation. As the executive seat of South Africa's government, as we walk the streets of Pretoria we are reminded of the role of versions and readings of the Bible in the authentication and, at times, confrontation of political power. As we inhabit for a short while the halls of one of the dominant universities in this city, we see again the diverse ways in which knowledge, including biblical knowledge, is now produced and consumed. The different strengths of these universities—whether using the open university model, distance education, or hi-tech innovation—reflect current challenges to reach audiences in multiple ways with the scholarship a meeting like this generates.

Gathering on the African continent presents an opportunity to peer more deeply into the contributions of Africa and African scholars to biblical knowledge. Even more exciting for this current meeting are the openings to look inside of and expand the growing body of biblical scholarship being generated on the African continent. We are grateful to Dirk Human and the University of Pretoria for hosting this meeting. The local organizing committee, led by Alphonso Groenewald, is enthusiastic to exhibit the best of African biblical scholarship and to engage in meaningful dialogues and strategic conversations that can expand the place of African biblical scholarship that includes African scholars as vital partners in an international effort. In the jacaranda city we may learn again the potential of growing closer in our common humanity.

This year's program features over 100 sessions. Included in these sessions are 30 sessions that reflect the interests and concerns of the local organizing committee. The work to set up the location, identify suitable meeting rooms, ensure available technology, and most of all curate sessions takes many hands. Special thanks to SBL staff who have been working on this meeting for six years and whose work behind the scenes ensure a successful meeting. The presence of exhibitors ensures suitable inspiration to continue the work of producing biblical knowledge. Among us this year are Brill, De Gruyter, Logos Bible Software, Peeters Publishers, SBL Press, and VK Innovations.

Although we are out of season for the jacarandas, may we be in season for cooperation, conversation, and dreaming of bright futures.

***Steed Vernyl Davidson***  
Executive Director

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

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<b>PROGRAM INFORMATION</b> .....	4
Restaurant Recommendations.....	5
Internet Access.....	5
Site Map — Conference Venues.....	6
SBL Professional Conduct Policy .....	7
<b>PROGRAM</b>	
Monday, July 3.....	8
Tuesday, July 4.....	8
Wednesday, July 5 .....	15
Thursday, July 6.....	22
Friday, July 7.....	31
<b>SBL INFORMATION</b> .....	34
<b>PARTICIPANT INDEX</b> .....	44
<b>SESSION INDEX</b> .....	47
<b>EXHIBITORS</b> .....	52

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## CONFERENCE LOCATION & SCHEDULE

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The conference venue is the University of Pretoria. Please see the maps below for the locations of the buildings being used in the conference.

**OPENING SESSION AND RECEPTION:**

Monday, July 3 ..... 4:00 PM–6:15 PM

**REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION:**

Monday ..... 12:00 PM–4:00 PM

Tuesday—Thursday..... 8:00 AM–4:00 PM

Friday ..... 8:00 AM–11:00 AM

**EXHIBITS:**

Tuesday—Thursday..... 8:30 AM–4:00 PM

**SESSIONS:**

Tuesday—Thursday..... 8:30 AM–5:00 PM

Friday ..... 8:30 AM–12:00 PM

**Coffee Breaks:**

Tuesday—Thursday..... 10:00 AM–10:30 AM

Tuesday—Thursday..... 3:00 PM–3:30 PM

Friday ..... 10:00 AM–10:30 AM

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## PROGRAM INFORMATION

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**The local program committee has worked with SBL program units, committee, and local and regional affiliates to offer sessions on the following topics. Please refer to the full session listings for more details.**

**Sessions Sponsored by the Local Planning Committee, SBL Committees, and Affiliates.**

- ❖ 4-4 Song of Songs (Part 1)
- ❖ 4-7 The Psalter, Wisdom
- ❖ 4-8 The Role of Context in Biblical Studies/Exegesis
- ❖ 4-14 South African Perspectives on Hagar in the Three Monotheistic Traditions
- ❖ 4-19 Old Testament Postgraduate Session
- ❖ 4-19a Prophets
- ❖ 4-23 Celebrating the Legacy of Madipoane Masenya (ngwan'a Mphahlele)
- ❖ 4-24 Conversations on Reading from a Particular Place
- ❖ 4-27 Trauma Hermeneutics in Biblical Literature
- ❖ 5-2a Book Review: Divided Worlds? Challenges in Classics and New Testament Studies
- ❖ 5-3 Early Christian Studies
- ❖ 5-5 New Testament Postgraduate Session
- ❖ 5-14 Song of Songs (Part 2)
- ❖ 5-15a Fireside Chat: How Do Religious Icons Read-and-Write Bible Texts?
- ❖ 5-17a Biblical Hebrew Poetry
- ❖ 5-21a The ICI into the Next Era: Past, Present, and Future-Looking Dialogue in an African Context
- ❖ 5-26 The Pentateuch and an Ethics of (Im-)Migration
- ❖ 5-27 Translation and Language in the Hebrew Bible
- ❖ 6-2 Between Promise and Contest: Post-colonial Receptions of the Land Theme in the Pentateuch
- ❖ 6-3 Chaos in the Psalms (Part 1)
- ❖ 6-9 Book Review Panel: How Isaiah Became an Author. Prophecy, Authority, and Attribution by David Davage
- ❖ 6-10 Chaos in the Psalms (Part 2)
- ❖ 6-11 Deutero-Canonical Readings
- ❖ 6-14b Fireside Chat
- ❖ 6-17 Biblical Spirituality (Part 1)
- ❖ 6-20 Emerging Queer Biblical Scholarship from Southern Africa
- ❖ 6-22 LXX Receptions and Interpretations (Part 1)
- ❖ 6-24 Conversations on Hermeneutics
- ❖ 6-26 LXX Receptions and Interpretations (Part 2)
- ❖ 6-31 Song of Songs (Part 3)
- ❖ 7-1 Biblical Spirituality (Part 2)
- ❖ 7-9 Early Christian Studies

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## RESTAURANT RECOMMENDATIONS

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### ***Food and Restaurants (On Campus)***

There are the following restaurants/café's on campus (recommended)

- ☞ **Pure Café** (next to the Musaion and Aula)
- ☞ **Artisan Café** (next to the Musaion and Aula)
- ☞ **Adlers Café** (next to the Graduate Centre — main conference centre)
- ☞ A number of fast food outlets in the student centre and/or nearby Hatfield.

### ***Food and Restaurants (Off Campus)***

We can recommend any of the following restaurants and/or dining venues (close to campus) to visit during daytime or during the evenings:

- ☞ **Filos Kitchen Coffee Bar Deli** (Greek restaurant) (trading hours 8:00–21:00). Located opposite of the main entrance to the UP campus. Situated on the premises of the Greek Orthodox Church (corner of Lynnwood Road and Roper street).
- ☞ **Brooklyn Shopping Mall / Brooklyn Square** (there are a number of restaurants situated in this square) — ca. 4 km from the Hatfield campus (use either Uber or Bolt services) (day-time and evenings)
- ☞ **Lynnwood Bridge Mall** (there are a number of restaurants situated in this square) — ca. 5,3 km from the Hatfield campus (use either Uber or Bolt services) (day-time and evenings)
- ☞ **The Village Hazelwood** has a number of street café's, bars and restaurants — ca. 3,8 km from the Hatfield campus (use either Uber or Bolt services) (day-time and evenings)

- ☞ **Loftus Park** (there are a number of restaurants situated in this square) — ca. 1,8 km from the Hatfield campus (use either Uber or Bolt services) (day-time and evenings)
- ☞ **Menlyn Maine** (there are a number of restaurants situated in this square) — ca. 1,8 km from the Hatfield campus (use either Uber or Bolt services) (day-time and evenings)
- ☞ **Hillcrest Boulevard Shopping Centre** (day-time café's) — ca 1,4km from the main campus entrance in Lynnwood Road

### ***Food Delivery Apps***

If you are at your hotel or guest house, and don't want to go out in the evening, you can order food from a number of restaurants for delivery to your place of accommodation:

- ☞ **Mr D** (a South African developed app), with a network of delivery options
- ☞ **Uber Eats** (making use of the Uber network for delivery)

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## INTERNET ACCESS

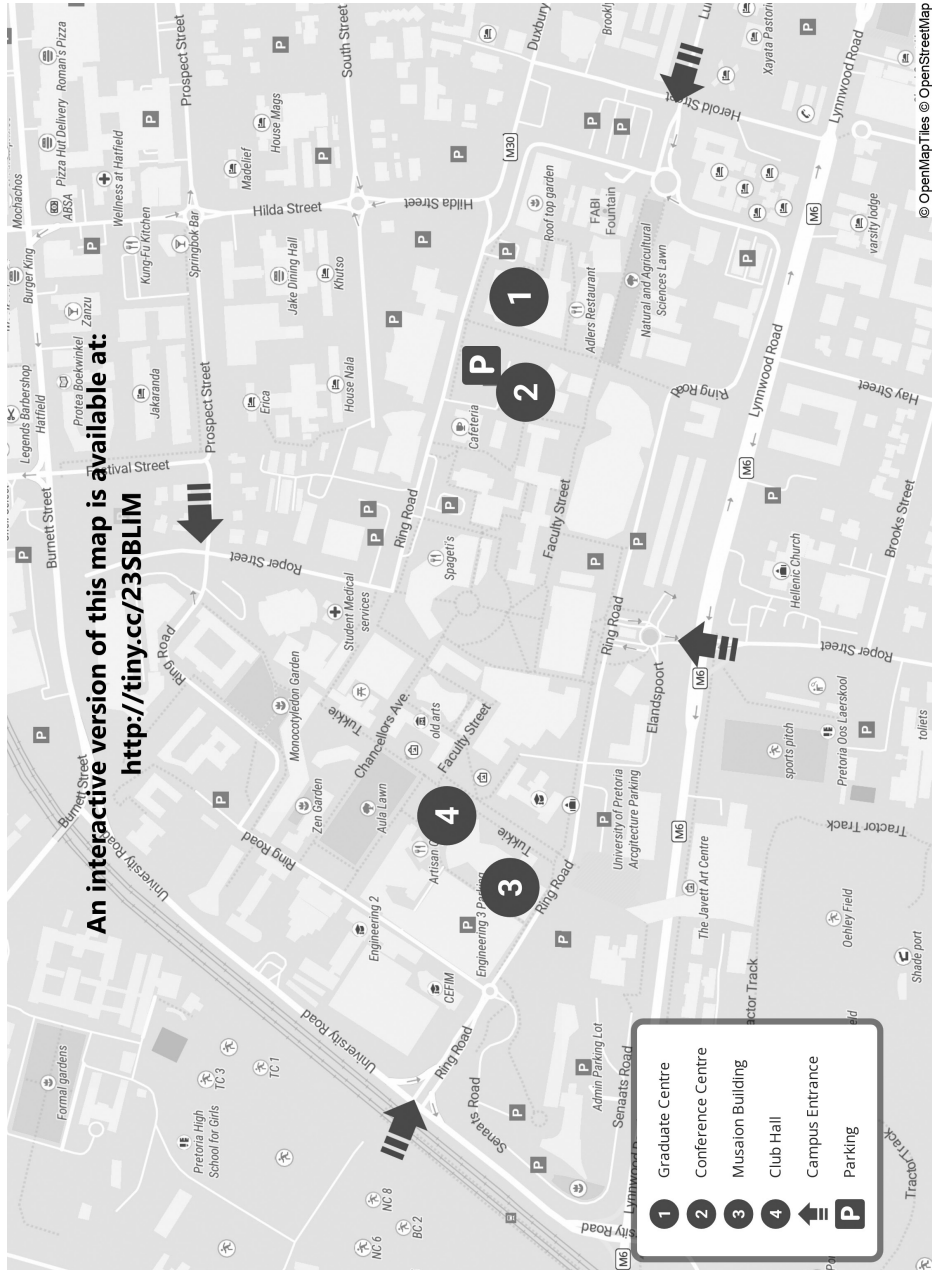
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Internet access via WiFi is available two ways:

1. Eduroam users can use their own Eduroam credentials on the Eduroam network.
2. Other may use the "Tuks guest" with the following credentials:

**User:** `sbl@up.ac.za`  
**PW:** 3770

## SITE MAP — CONFERENCE VENUES



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## SBL PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT POLICY

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The members of the SBL constitute a community of scholars dedicated to promoting the critical investigation of biblical literature and history, together with other related literature, by the exchange of scholarly research in published form and in public forum.

While freedom of inquiry is at the heart of this enterprise, such freedom carries with it the responsibility of professional conduct. As a learned society, the SBL requires professional conduct of its members as they exchange scholarly research in SBL publications and when they convene at SBL meetings and programs.

Professional conduct includes, but is not limited to, conduct based on respect for others which does not in any way exploit power and/or status differences such as those that exist between faculty and students, between senior and junior colleagues, between employers and those seeking employment, or between those who grant access to publication or presentation and those who seek such access. It also includes conduct based on respect in peer to peer relationships.

Professional conduct is free of all forms of harassment and discrimination.

Discrimination means a distinction, whether intentional or not, relating to personal characteristics of an individual or group, which has the effect of imposing burdens, obligations, or disadvantages on such individual or group not imposed on others; or which withholds or limits access to opportunities, benefits and advantages available to other members of the SBL. Discrimination on the basis of race, ancestry, place of origin, color, ethnic group, citizenship, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, creed, age, marital/family status, or any other characteristic protected by law is prohibited by SBL in all of its sanctioned activities (including regional, annual, and international meetings, sponsored events and programmatic activities, and committee and editorial board meetings).

Harassment may be defined as vexatious comment or conduct in relation to a person or group of persons on the basis of personal characteristics (i) which has the effect or purpose of creating a hostile or intimidating environment; or (ii) which has the effect or purpose of offending or demeaning a person or group of persons; or (iii) which functions implicitly or explicitly to limit participation in a professional program, activity, or opportunity. It is also the case that the victim of harassment can be anyone affected by the offensive conduct, not just the individual at whom the conduct is directed. In other words, what one or two persons may consider joking around may be unwelcome to and offensive to a bystander.

Sexual harassment includes unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal comment or physical conduct of a sexual nature by a person who knows or ought reasonably to know that such conduct is unwanted, including situations in which (i) the request or conduct involves any implied or expressed promise of professional reward for complying; or

(ii) the request or conduct involves any implied or expressed threat of reprisal or denial of opportunity for refusing to comply; or (iii) the request or conduct results in what reasonably may be perceived as a hostile or intimidating environment. Such examples are illustrative, not exhaustive. Sexual harassment does not refer to occasional compliments of a socially acceptable nature or consensual personal and social relationships without a discriminatory effect. It refers to behavior that reasonably situated persons would regard as not welcome and as personally intimidating, hostile, or offensive.

The SBL is committed to the creation and maintenance of a discrimination- and harassment-free environment in all of its sanctioned activities. The professional conduct of all members who participate in such activities is essential for preserving this standard. SBL is also committed to preventing harassment by or toward its employees and third parties involved in its activities, including contractors, vendors, volunteers, or guests.

Any person who has experienced a serious verbal threat or any physical assault should contact law enforcement officials immediately.

**Any person who desires to report a possible violation of the SBL Professional Conduct Policy at an SBL sanctioned event should promptly contact the SBL Executive Director, the Chair of SBL Council, or the Professional Conduct Committee Chair. SBL has established Professional Conduct Investigation Procedures ([https://www.sbl-site.org/assets/pdfs/Meetings/Professional\\_Conduct\\_Procedure.pdf](https://www.sbl-site.org/assets/pdfs/Meetings/Professional_Conduct_Procedure.pdf)) that provide guidelines for gathering information, maintaining confidentiality to the extent possible, reaching an initial determination, allowing for an appeal, and determining disciplinary action. SBL will carefully investigate all complaints according to these guidelines. No individual will be retaliated against for making a complaint or assisting with the investigation of a complaint.**

Anyone who is found to have engaged in discrimination or any form of harassment will be subject to disciplinary action, which may include, but is not limited to, reprimand and/or suspension or termination of the individual's membership and/or participation in current or future SBL operated, sponsored or affiliated events..

*This policy was approved by the SBL Council November 2015.*

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## MONDAY, JULY 3

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**REGISTRATION ..... 12:00 PM–4:00 PM**

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**3-1 Opening Session**  
**4:00 PM–5:00 PM**  
**Musaion Building - Musaion Theatre**

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**3-2 Opening Reception**  
**5:15 PM–6:15 PM**  
**Club Hall - Club Hall**

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## TUESDAY, JULY 4

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**REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION ..... 8:00 AM–4:00 PM**

**EXHIBITS ..... 8:30 AM–4:00 PM**

**GENERAL SESSIONS ..... 8:30 AM–5:00 PM**

**COFFEE BREAKS ..... 10:00 AM and 3:00 PM**

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**4-1 SBL Apocalyptic Literature Section**  
**8:30 AM–10:00 AM**  
**Graduate Centre - 1-56**

**Theme: Session 1**

Philip Wilson, Harvard University  
*The Hills Have Eyes: Revelation and Pastoral Poetry*  
(20 min)

**Discussion (8 min)**

Kristi Lee, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities  
*Desire, Rage, and the Woman Babylon: Feeling*  
*Revelation 17–19* (20 min)

**Discussion (8 min)**

Jonathan Redding, Nebraska Wesleyan University  
*Be an Apocalyptic Man! Reading Men in Revelation*  
*as a Critique of Hegemonic Masculinity* (20 min)

**Discussion (8 min)**

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**4-2 SBL Biblical Interpretation in Early Christianity Section / Apostolic Fathers and Related Early Christian Literature Section**  
**8:30 AM–10:00 AM**  
**Graduate Centre - 1-64**

**Theme: Early Christian Interpretation of Exodus and Passover**

H. H. Williams, Evangelische Theologische  
Faculteit, Presiding  
Francesca minonne, Università Cattolica del  
Sacro Cuore  
*Reading the Language of Exodus in Origen's Work*  
*On Passover* (35 min)

**Discussion (10 min)**

Merja Vuolteenaho, Independent Researcher  
*Patristic Interpretations of 1 Cor. 14:33b–37 versus*  
*Reference to Exodus* (35 min)

**Discussion (10 min)**



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## PRETORIA, SOUTH AFRICA

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### 4-3 SBL Families and Children in the Ancient World Section 8:30 AM–10:00 AM Graduate Centre - 1-68

#### Theme: Space

Jeremy Punt, Stellenbosch University  
*Placing Pauline Children* (25 min)

#### Discussion (5 min)

Annette Potgieter, Hugenote Kollege  
*Space and Sonship: Revisiting Paul's Familial Metaphors in Rom 8* (25 min)

#### Discussion (5 min)

Avraham Faust, Bar-Ilan University  
*From "Old Men and Old Women Sitting" to "Boys and Girls Playing": Reconstructing Family Life in Building 101 at Tel 'Eton* (25 min)

#### Discussion

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### 4-4 Song of Songs 8:30 AM–10:00 AM Graduate Centre - 1-70

#### Theme: Sponsored by the Local Programming Committee

Eben Scheffler, University of South Africa, Presiding  
Gavin Fernandes, University of Pretoria  
*Vineyards and Other Obstructions to Love's Unity in Song 2:14 (as Part of 2:8–17)* (25 min)

#### Discussion (5 min)

Bruno Biermann, Universität Bern - Université de Berne  
*'Pleasure, Pain, and ...God?' Trajectories of Feminist, Gender, and Queer Approaches to the Song of Songs* (25 min)

#### Discussion (5 min)

Pieter van der Zwan, North-West University (South Africa)  
*Comparing Boundary Transgressions in the Books of Job and Song of Songs through a Psychoanalytic Lens* (25 min)

#### Discussion (5 min)

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### 4-5 SBL Stylistics and the Hebrew Bible Section 8:30 AM–10:00 AM Graduate Centre - 1-72

#### Theme: Ambivalence and Complexity in Biblical Narrative

Zvi Shimon, Bar-Ilan University, Presiding (2 min)

Ayelet Seidler, Bar-Ilan University  
*Ambivalence in Biblical Narrative and Its Expression in Medieval and Modern Traditional Jewish Exegesis* (22 min)

Beat Weber, University of Pretoria  
*Monocola, Ambiguity, and Propositional Density: Poetic Art, Technique, and Rhetoric in Psalm 81* (22 min)

Frederique Dantone, Goethe Universität Frankfurt am Main  
*Polar Contrasts and Gray Zone in the Book of Proverbs* (22 min)

Zvi Shimon, Bar-Ilan University  
*Complexity and Moderating Tendencies in the Depiction of the Character of Joshua* (22 min)

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### 4-6 SBL Textual Criticism: Manuscripts & Methods Section 8:30 AM–10:00 AM Graduate Centre - 1-74

#### Theme: Textual Criticism of the Torah

Jeff Cate, California Baptist University, Presiding  
Hanneke van der Schoor, KU Leuven  
*Targum Onkelos Disguised as Neofiti? Unclassified Targum Fragments from the European Genizah* (30 min)

Domenico Lo Sardo, Pontifical University Antonianum  
*Textual Development of the Bronze Basin (Exod 38:8; 1 Kings 7:23–38; 2 Chr 4:2, 6) among the Textual Witnesses (MT, LXX, VL, Qumran)* (30 min)

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## PROGRAM BOOK 2023

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### 4-7     **The Psalter, Wisdom** **8:30 AM–10:00 AM** **Graduate Centre - 1-76**

#### **Theme: Sponsored by the Local Programming Committee**

Chris de Wet, University of South Africa,  
Presiding  
Gert Prinsloo, University of Pretoria  
*הללויה Exclamations in the Psalter: Scribal  
Practices in Ancient Biblical Manuscript Traditions  
and Their Redactional and Exegetical Implications*  
(25 min)

#### Discussion (5 min)

Gert Steyn, Ewersbach University of Applied  
Sciences  
*Cosmology in Book IV of the Septuagint Psalter  
(LXX Pss 89–105)* (25 min)

#### Discussion (5 min)

Ananda Geyser-Fouché, University of Pretoria  
*The Development of the Character of Lady Wisdom  
and Folly in Judaic Literature* (25 min)

#### Discussion (5 min)

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### 4-8     **The Role of Context in Biblical Studies/Exegesis** **8:30 AM–10:00 AM** **Graduate Centre - 2-65**

#### **Theme: Sponsored by the Local Programming Committee**

This panel discussion is interested in how a dialogue between North and South enhances the study of the Old Testament/Hebrew Bible. All panel members are participants of ProPent, a project initiated by the late Jurie le Roux and Eckart Otto. The project aims to facilitate debate between Europe and Africa on studying the Pentateuch. The panel looks back at the history of ProPent and forward to unexplored potential.

Christian Frevel, Ruhr-University Bochum,  
Presiding  
Christo Lombaard, University of Pretoria,  
Panelist (15 min)  
Thomas Römer, Collège de France - University of  
Lausanne, Panelist (15 min)  
Madipoane Masenya, University of South Africa,  
Panelist (15 min)

Katharina Pyschny, University of Graz, Panelist  
(15 min)

Louis Jonker, Universiteit van Stellenbosch -  
University of Stellenbosch, Panelist (15 min)

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### 4-9     **SBL Bible and Empire Section** **10:30 AM–12:00 PM** **Graduate Centre - 1-56**

#### **Theme: The Ghosts of Empire**

Empires through their presences stalk territories and even after their demise leave spectral traces evident in territories, cultures, economies, and textual artifacts. The papers in this session explores the ghosts of empires that stalk the writing of history and the scripting of futures in biblical texts.

Ana Valdez, Universidade de Lisboa, Presiding  
Lucas Waweru Mburu, Vanderbilt University  
*Reading Mathew 28:16–20 as a Mobilization  
Strategy* (30 min)

Sonia Kwok WONG, The Chinese University of  
Hong Kong  
*The Spectral Presence of the Persian Empire in the  
Deuteronomistic (Hi)Story* (30 min)

Steed Vernyl Davidson, McCormick Theological  
Seminary, Respondent (15 min)

#### Discussion (15 min)

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### 4-10    **SBL Feminist Interpretations Section** **10:30 AM–12:00 PM** **Graduate Centre - 1-64**

#### **Theme: Feminist Engagement with Violence and Loss**

This session places feminist studies of violence and loss in conversation with one another, connecting African American womanist and southern African scholars on gender based violence, maternal grief, and biblical representations of sexualized violence against women.

Ericka Shawndricka Dunbar, Baylor University  
*Biblical and Africana Maternal Grief: Womanish  
Resistance to Child Fatalities* (25 min)

Malebogo Kgalemang, University of Botswana  
*Tamar Said, 'No!!' Towards a Decolonial Feminist  
Analysis of Gendered Rape Violence in 2 Samuel 13*  
(25 min)

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## PRETORIA, SOUTH AFRICA

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Sheurl Davis, North West University SA  
*"Her Eyes Were Watching God": Grappling with  
the Violent Image of the Old Testament God in a  
Pandemic (25 min)*

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### 4-11 SBL Paul and Pauline Literature Section

10:30 AM–12:00 PM

Graduate Centre - 1-68

#### Theme: Romans

Merja Vuolteenaho, Presiding  
Jae Jun "Daniel" Cho, Perkins School of Theology  
*Church and State: A Re-reading of Romans 13:1–7  
in the Context of Modern South Korea (30 min)*

Jacob Chengwei Feng, Fuller Theological  
Seminary (Pasadena)  
*Pneumasis/Pneumatification Based on Romans  
8:1–17: Highlighting the Spirit's Role in Deification  
(30 min)*

Annette Potgieter, Hugenote Kollege  
*Possessing Places: Investigating Paul's Metaphors in  
Rom 7:14–25 (30 min)*

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### 4-12 SBL Pentateuch (Torah) Section

10:30 AM–12:00 PM

Graduate Centre - 1-70

#### Theme: Studies in the Ancestral Narratives

Talia Sutskov, Tel Aviv University  
*The Theological Value of Seeing and Hearing in the  
Hagar Narratives (20 min)*

Discussion (10 min)

Joshua Joel Spoelstra, Stellenbosch University  
*Pursuing the Alleged Pilferer: Examining a Similar  
Scene in the Jacob Cycle and Joseph Novella  
(20 min)*

Discussion (10 min)

Fabrizio Ficco, Pontificia Università Gregoriana  
*Jacob, My Father! The Characterization of Judah in  
Gen 37–50 (20 min)*

Discussion (10 min)

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### 4-13 SBL Psychological Hermeneutics of Biblical Themes and Texts Section

10:30 AM–12:00 PM

Graduate Centre - 1-72

#### Theme: Intense Emotions

Pieter van der Zwan, North-West University  
(South Africa), Presiding

Young Park, Independent

*Examining Two Hebrew Words, אִשָּׁר and שִׂמְחָה  
through the Emotion Theories (30 min)*

June Dickie, University of KwaZulu-Natal  
*Why Do So Few "Rejoice with Those Who Rejoice"?  
(30 min)*

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### 4-14 South African Perspectives on Hagar in the Three Monotheistic Traditions

10:30 AM–12:00 PM

Graduate Centre - 1-74

#### Theme: Sponsored by the Local Programming Committee

Louis Jonker, Universiteit van Stellenbosch -  
University of Stellenbosch, Presiding

Slindile B. Thabede, Stellenbosch University  
*Navigating the Threshold: An African-Feminist  
Reading of the Hagar Narrative in Judaism,  
Christianity, and Islam (25 min)*

Discussion (5 min)

Gudrun Lier, University of Johannesburg  
*The Figure of Hagar in Early Jewish Exegetical  
Traditions (25 min)*

Discussion (5 min)

Ashraf Dockrat, University of Johannesburg  
*The Featuring of Hagar in Islamic Tradition  
(25 min)*

Discussion (5 min)

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### 4-16 SBL Biblical Hebrew Language and Linguistics Consultation

1:30 PM–3:00 PM

Graduate Centre - 1-64

Nili Samet, Bar-Ilan University, Presiding  
Elizabeth Robar, Cambridge Digital Bible  
Research

*Psalms 22 according to Deictic Space Theory  
(30 min)*

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## PROGRAM BOOK 2023

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Rachel Krohn, Trinity College Queensland  
*Enjambment as a Syntactic Phenomenon and Poetic Technique in the Songs of Ascent* (30 min)

Marcus Joubert, Stellenbosch University  
*How Bones Keep Time: An Investigation into the Conceptual Metonymy of a Body Part Term* (30 min)

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### 4-17 SBL Contextual Interpretation of the Bible (Hebrew Bible/Old Testament and New Testament) Seminar

1:30 PM–3:00 PM

Graduate Centre - 1-68

**Theme: Bible and Texts in East Asian Contexts**

Wei Huang, Shanghai University, Presiding  
Liu Guangsheng, Confucius Research Institute of China

*A New Inquiry into the Formation of the Analects and the Unearthed Confucian Documents* (20 min)

Ehud Ben Zvi, University of Alberta, Respondent (10 min)

Ning Zhenjiang, Shanghai University  
*The Early Form and Dating of the Dao De Jing: Evidences from the Unearthed Texts* (20 min)

Tian Haihua, Sichuan University, Respondent (10 min)

Lin Yan, Shenzhen University  
*Re-reading Genesis 1–3 in the Light of Ancient Chinese Creation Myth* (20 min)

Discussion (10 min)

Nowadays, there are many studies working on the bible in cross-textual conversation with other textual traditions. But biblical scholars are not necessarily well versed with recent trends in critical scholarship in other textual traditions. It is hoped that this special session would perhaps be more beneficial to have scholars in Classical Chinese textual traditions speak of recent trends in critical scholarship. We welcome biblical scholars speak of these trends in relation to biblical studies to enrich the discussion.

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### 4-18 SBL Healthcare and Disability in the Ancient World Section

1:30 PM–3:00 PM

Graduate Centre - 1-70

Laura Zucconi, Stockton University  
*Reading Ancient Temples through the Lens of Disability Studies and Mobility Design* (30 min)

Chris de Wet, University of South Africa  
*Fertile Faith and Closed Wombs: John Chrysostom's Interpretation of the Infertile Women of the Bible* (30 min)

Rebecca Raphael, Texas State University  
*Scribal Ability and Disability* (30 min)

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### 4-19 Old Testament Postgraduate Session

1:30 PM–3:00 PM

Graduate Centre - 1-74

**Theme: Sponsored by the Local Programming Committee**

Ananda Geyser-Fouché, University of Pretoria, Presiding

Ursula Haasbroek, University of Pretoria  
*Nehemiah and the Jerusalem Wall* (25 min)

Discussion (5 min)

Gavin Michal, University of Pretoria  
*Blood Libels, Vengeance, Pogroms, Mysticism, and Conservatism: The Rise of the Eighteenth-Century Chassidic Movement* (25 min)

Discussion (5 min)

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### 4-19a Prophets

1:30 PM–3:00 PM

Graduate Centre - 1-76

**Theme: Sponsored by SASNES (South African Society of Near Easter Studies)**

Kevin Chau, University of the Free State, Presiding

Godwin Mushayabasa, North-West University  
*Ezekiel's Vocative Address, we' attah (ven' adam) and Its Translation Involving the Particle dyn in the Peshitta to Ezekiel* (25 min)

L Bergh, University of the Free State  
*Holding with Hope: A Spaciotemporal Perspective on Isaiah 41:10* (25 min)

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## PRETORIA, SOUTH AFRICA

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Allan Dyssel, North-West University  
*God's ruach in Jonah 1:4 and Gen 1:2: Vestiges of a Deeper Breath? (25 min)*

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### 4-20 SBL Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls Section

1:30 PM–3:00 PM

Graduate Centre - 1-72

#### Theme: Open Session on the Dead Sea Scrolls

Matthew Goff, Florida State University, Presiding  
Hanneke van der Schoor, KU Leuven  
*Mistakes Corrected and Letters Refined: Corrections in Aramaic Dead Sea Scrolls as a Window into Copying Practices and the Functions of Manuscripts (30 min)*

Esther Eshel, Bar-Ilan University  
*The Genesis Apocryphon (1Q20): The Story of Noah's Sacrifice as a Test Case for Exegesis and Halakha (30 min)*

Angela Kim Harkins, Boston College School of Theology and Ministry  
*Presence in the Heavenly Realm (30 min)*

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### 4-21 SBL Ancient Near East Section

3:30 PM–5:00 PM

Graduate Centre - 1-56

Renate Marian van Dijk-Coombes, University of Pretoria  
*Revisiting the 'kriegersicher Gott' of the Akkadian Period (20 min)*

Tara Woodward, Princeton Theological Seminary  
*Looking beyond a Lioness' Lamentation: ANE Iconographic Exegesis of Ezekiel 19 (20 min)*

Ariel Cohen, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev  
*Are There Ancient Near East Parallels to the Siloam Tunnel Inscription? (20 min)*

Discussion (10 min)

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### 4-22 SBL Catholic Epistles Section

3:30 PM–5:00 PM

Graduate Centre - 1-64

#### Theme: Exploring the Catholic Epistles

David Moffitt, University of St. Andrews  
*The Direction of Jesus's Sacrifice in 1 John (25 min)*

Discussion (5 min)

Albert J. Coetsee, North-West University (South Africa)

*"I Will Never Leave You nor Forsake You": An Intertextual Study of Hebrews 13:5 (25 min)*

Discussion (5 min)

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### 4-23 Celebrating the Legacy of Madipoane Masenya (ngwan'a Mphahlele)

3:30 PM–5:00 PM

Graduate Centre - 1-68

#### Theme: Sponsored by the Status of Women in the Profession Committee

In this special session sponsored by the Committee on the Status of Women in the Profession, we will critically engage with the contributions of Prof Madipoane Masenya (ngwan'a Mphahlele) to the field of African Biblical Hermeneutics and Feminist/Womanist Scholarship of the Hebrew Bible. Prof Masenya is one of South Africa's most esteemed biblical scholars and rightly can be described as a trailblazer who through many years have developed and applied her Bosadi approach to reading the Hebrew Bible.

Juliana Claassens, Universiteit van Stellenbosch - University of Stellenbosch, Presiding

Hulisani Ramantswana, University of South Africa, Panelist (15 min)

Lerato Mokoena, North-West University (South Africa), Panelist (15 min)

Madipoane Masenya, University of South Africa, Respondent (15 min)

Discussion (30 min)

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## PROGRAM BOOK 2023

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**4-24 Conversations on Reading from a Particular Place**  
**3:30 PM–5:00 PM**  
**Graduate Centre - 1-70**

**Theme: Sponsored by OTSSA (Old Testament Society of South Africa)**

Funlola Olojede, Universiteit van Stellenbosch - University of Stellenbosch  
*Naomi: Her Story, My Story; A Theoretical Grounding for Retelling Biblical Narratives in an African Setting (25 min)*

Discussion (5 min)

Stefanie Rembold, University of Pretoria  
*Re-examining the Representation of Land in Hosea 1–3 in Light of Sacred Space (5 min)*

Discussion (5 min)

Blessing Onoriode Boloje, University of Pretoria  
*Fragmented Family Life (Mic 6:7) and Family Reconciliation (Mal 3:24): An Intertextual Reading of the Collapse of Family Solidarity and Peacefulness (25 min)*

Discussion (5 min)

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**4-25 SBL Quran and Islamic Tradition in Comparative Perspective Section**  
**3:30 PM–5:00 PM**  
**Graduate Centre - 1-72**

**Theme: Special Talk: The Hebrew Bible and the Qur'an**

Abdulla Galadari, Khalifa University, Presiding  
David Penchansky, University of Saint Thomas (Saint Paul, MN)  
*A Brief Rumor Narrative in Surat-al-Nur and Related Biblical Passages (45 min)*

Discussion (15 min)

Business Meeting (30 min)

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**4-26 SBL Synoptic Gospels Section**  
**3:30 PM–5:00 PM**  
**Graduate Centre - 1-74**

**Theme: Lukan Parables and Matthew on Wealth and Poverty**

Robert Cousland, University of British Columbia, Presiding (3 min)

Thomas E. Goud, University of New Brunswick  
*Archelaus, Antipas, and the Parable of the minas (15 min)*

Discussion (6 min)

Bekele Deboch Anshiso, Ethiopian Graduate School of Theology  
*How Does Matthew View the Rich and the Poor (Is It Different than in Luke?) (15 min)*

Discussion (6 min)

Discussion (35 min)

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**4-27 SBL Trauma Hermeneutics in Biblical Literature**  
**3:30 PM–5:00 PM**  
**Graduate Centre - 1-76**

**Theme: Sponsored by the Local Programming Committee**

Alphonso Groenewald, University of Pretoria, Presiding

Carly L. Crouch, Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen  
*Traumatised Bodies as Modes of Communication: Sign Acts in Jeremiah and Ezekiel (30 min)*

Liza Esterhuizen, University of Pretoria and Alphonso Groenewald, University of Pretoria  
*Rereading Isaiah's Vision (Isa. 6) through the Lens of Generational Imprinted Trauma and Resilience (30 min)*

Kamagano Sethono, University of Pretoria  
*Post-Apartheid Reading of Jeremiah 8:18–9:22: An Approach for Intergenerational Healing (30 min)*

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## WEDNESDAY, JULY 5

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REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION .....8:00 AM–4:00 PM  
EXHIBITS .....8:30 AM–4:00 PM  
GENERAL SESSIONS .....8:30 AM–5:00 PM  
COFFEE BREAKS .....10:00 AM and 3:00 PM

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**5-1 SBL Apocalyptic Literature Section**  
**8:30 AM–10:00 AM**  
**Graduate Centre - 1-56**

**Theme: Session 2**

Ana Valdez, Universidade de Lisboa, Presiding  
(6 min)

Nebeyou AT, Wycliffe Ethiopia and University of  
the Free States

*Some Notes on Fəkarə Iyyäsus ("The Explanation/  
Exposition of Jesus")* (20 min)

Discussion (8 min)

Tekalign Duguma Negewo, Ethiopian Graduate  
School of Theology  
*New Age Began, Israel Restored, and "Saints"  
Identity Redefined: Revisiting Matt. 27:50–54*  
(20 min)

Discussion (8 min)

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**5-2 SBL Biblical Hebrew Language and  
Linguistics Consultation**  
**8:30 AM–10:00 AM**  
**Graduate Centre - 1-64**

Elizabeth Robar, Cambridge Digital Bible  
Research, Presiding

Ian Atkinson, Cambridge Digital Bible Research  
*Desituated Discourse and the Unfolding of Ps 22*  
(30 min)

Ariel Cohen, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev  
*Unframed Direct Speech in Biblical Hebrew and Its  
Application to Psalm 82* (30 min)

Jin Gyusang, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam  
*Analysis of Participants and Main Players at a Verb  
in Exodus* (30 min)

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**5-2a Book Review: Divided Worlds?**  
**Challenges in Classics and New  
Testament Studies**  
**8:30 AM–10:00 AM**  
**Graduate Centre - 2-67**

*Divided Worlds? Challenges in Classics and New  
Testament Studies*, edited by Caroline Johnson Hodge,  
Timothy A. Joseph, and Tat-siong Benny Liew (SBL  
Press, 2023).

Gerald West, University of KwaZulu-Natal,  
Presiding

Erika Valdivieso, Yale University, Panelist  
Dan-el Padilla Peralta, Princeton University,  
Panelist

Ranjani Atur, University of Minnesota-Twin  
Cities, Panelist

Timothy Joseph, College of the Holy Cross,  
Respondent

Tat-siong Benny Liew, College of the Holy Cross,  
Respondent

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**5-3 SBL Johannine Literature Section**  
**8:30 AM–10:00 AM**  
**Graduate Centre - 1-68**

**Theme: Interpreting the Gospel of John**

Dirk van der Merwe, University of South Africa,  
Presiding

Thang S Mung, Oral Roberts University  
*A Burman Version of John 1:1–5: A Biblical  
Response to Burman Search of "T'ra/Taya"* (20 min)

Discussion (10 min)

## PROGRAM BOOK 2023

Paul N. Anderson, George Fox University  
*The "Early Death" That Never Was and the  
 Negation of Johannine Authorship Possibilities: An  
 Embarrassment to Modern Critical Scholarship*  
 (20 min)

Discussion (10 min)

Roundtable Discussion (30 min)

### 5-4 SBL Judaica Section 8:30 AM–9:30 AM Graduate Centre - 1-70

**Theme: Jewish Philosophy and Theology**

Michael Knowles, McMaster Divinity College,  
 Presiding

Michael Knowles, McMaster Divinity College  
*Onomastic Numerical Architecture in the Hebrew  
 Canon* (20 min)

Jaco Gericke, North-West University (South  
 Africa)

*The Hebrew Bible in Jewish Philosophy (of Religion):  
 A Comprehensive Typology of Current Research*  
 (20 min)

### 5-5 New Testament Postgraduate Session 8:30 AM–10:00 AM Graduate Centre - 1-72

**Theme: Sponsored by the Local Programming  
 Committee**

Ananda Geyser-Fouché, University of Pretoria,  
 Presiding

Kenosi Patson Motuku, University of Pretoria  
*Marginality and Othering in Luke's Gospel: An  
 Anti-imperial Reading in the Light of Racism and  
 Xenophobia in South Africa* (25 min)

Discussion (5 min)

Yaw Boadu, University of Pretoria  
*The Politics of Revelation: An Interpersonal Analysis  
 of Revelation 2–3* (25 min)

Discussion (5 min)

Charel du Toit, Charel Daniël du Toit  
*Women, Innkeeping, and the Parable of the Good  
 Samaritan: A Realistic Reading and a Call for  
 Academic Inclusion* (25 min)

Discussion (5 min)

### 5-6 SBL Paul and Pauline Literature Section 8:30 AM–10:00 AM Graduate Centre - 1-74

**Theme: First Corinthians**

Asigor Parongna Sitanggang, Jakarta Theological  
 Seminary, Jakarta, Indonesia, Presiding

Yichen Liang, Garrett-Evangelical Theological  
 Seminary

*The Pauline Theology of Body in 1 Corinthians  
 6:12–20 in the Pandemic World* (30 min)

H. H. Drake Williams III, Evangelische  
 Theologische Faculteit

*What Memory Is More Likely? Memory and Its  
 Effect on Identity in the Practice of the Lord's Supper  
 in 1 Corinthians 11:23–26* (30 min)

Merja Vuolteenaho, Independent Researcher  
*Gen. 3:15–21 and Exodus/Passover in 1 Cor.  
 14:34–36* (30 min)

### 5-7 SBL Quran and Islamic Tradition in Comparative Perspective Section 8:30 AM–10:00 AM Graduate Centre - 1-76

**Theme: Context and Tradition**

Nasim Hassani, Shahid Beheshti University,  
 Presiding

Ehsan Mousavi Khalkhali, Independent Scholar  
*Qur'an 7:157 out of Biblical Context* (20 min)

Sedigheh Maleklou, Independent Scholar  
*Abraham and Islam Originality: Rereading the  
 Story of Abraham in Meccan and Medinan Surahs*  
 (20 min)

Morteza Mosafer, Independent Scholar  
*Examining Some Common Components of  
 Citizenship Rights in Nahj al-Balagha and New  
 Testament* (20 min)

Omar Naisan, Graduate Theological Union  
*She Who Was Chosen: A Comparative Survey of  
 the Role of Mary in the Qur'ān and New Testament*  
 (20 min)

Discussion (10 min)



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## PRETORIA, SOUTH AFRICA

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### 5-8 SBL Ugarit and Its World Consultation 8:30 AM–10:00 AM Graduate Centre - 2-65

**Theme: Exploring Oral and Written Traditions in Ugarit**

Tania Notarius, University of the Free State, Presiding

Asterios Kechagias, North-West University (South Africa)

*The Rephaim, the Rapiuma, and the Orphics* (25 min)

Shirly Natan-Yulzary, Tel Aviv University, Beit-Berl College and Gordon College, Israel  
*Twice-used Songs and Other Oral Traditions in Ugaritic Epics* (25 min)

Dylan Lawrence Gibson, Stellenbosch University, Africa Open Institute

*Exploring the Concept of Local Ugaritic and 'Foreign' Hurrian Music Traditions* (25 min)

Discussion (15 min)

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### 5-8a SBL Ancient Near East and Hebrew Bible 10:30 AM–12:00 PM Graduate Centre - 1-76

**Theme: Sponsored by SASNES (South African Society of Near Eastern Studies)**

At Lamprecht, North West University, Presiding  
M.J. Kruger, NWU

*A Conceptual Approach to Gods in the Book of Job* (25 min)

Renate van Dijk-Coombes, University of Pretoria  
*Mesopotamian Standards of the Third and Fourth Millennia BCE: The Iconographic Evidence* (25 min)

S. J. Harris, Independent Researcher  
*A Feather in Her Cap: Symbolism of an Elaborate Ancient Egyptian New Kingdom Court Headdress* (25 min)

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### 5-9 SBL Bible and Empire Section 10:30 AM–12:00 PM Graduate Centre - 1-56

**Theme: Enslavement and Empire**

The papers in this session explore practices of enslavement within ancient empires and their depiction within biblical texts. By interrogating different impact of enslavement upon bodies, they offer ways of reading biblical texts that are attentive to the visceral realities of empire.

Steed Vernyl Davidson, McCormick Theological Seminary, Presiding

Luis Menéndez-Antuña, Boston University  
*Towards a Historiography of Pain amid Empire: Galatians 4, Enslavement, Inheritance, and Flesh* (25 min)

Bunmi Adegbola, Vanderbilt University  
*The Slave Girls of Emecheta and Acts 16:16–40: Cases of Biopolitical Displacement of Marginalized Subjects* (25 min)

Discussion (15 min)

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### 5-10 SBL Biblical Characters in Three Traditions (Judaism, Christianity, Islam) Seminar 10:30 AM–12:00 PM Graduate Centre - 1-64

**Theme: Characters and Colours in Three Traditions (Judaism, Christianity, Islam)**

This panels examine the use of colours in the context of biblical characters in a variety of religious traditions and reception histories.

Zohar Hadromi-Allouche, Trinity College - Dublin, Presiding

Eric Ziolkowski, Lafayette College  
*The Multicolored Opal of Lessing's Nathan der Weise* (30 min)

Asigor P. Sitanggang, Jakarta Theological Seminary, Jakarta, Indonesia  
*Purple (or Scarlet): The Function of This Color in Passio Christi according to the Canonical Gospels* (30 min)

Georgina Jardim, University of Gloucestershire  
*From True Blues to True Greens: "Mothers of the Believers" as Emerging Tradition of Islamic Identity in the Qur'an* (30 min)

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## PROGRAM BOOK 2023

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**5-11 SBL Contextual Interpretation of the Bible (Hebrew Bible/Old Testament and New Testament) Seminar**

**10:30 AM–12:00 PM**

**Graduate Centre - 1-68**

**Theme: Bible and Texts in Context (1)**

Michael Mensah, University of Ghana, Presiding  
Yuan-Min Chang, University of Leeds  
*Wandering in the (Semi-)Justice World(s)/ Horizon(s): Sediq Mother-tongue Reading on Deuteronomy 16:20 (30 min)*

Yichen Liang, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary  
*A Cross-Cultural Reading on the Metaphor of Light in the Gospel of John and Zhuangzi (30 min)*  
Abdulla Galadari, Khalifa University of Science & Technology  
*Interpreting the Cost of Discipleship in the Gospels from within a Rabbinic Context (30 min)*

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**5-12 SBL Families and Children in the Ancient World Section**

**10:30 AM–12:00 PM**

**Graduate Centre - 1-70**

**Theme: Open Session**

Erik Waaler, NLA University College  
*Age at Marriage around the First Century and Its Relevance for Virgin Mary (25 min)*

Discussion (5 min)

Annéli Machin, University of the Free State  
*Chrysostom's Use of Rhetoric in De inani gloria et de educandis liberis When Exhorting Parents on the Moral Education of Their Children (25 min)*

Discussion (5 min)

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**5-13 SBL Gospel of Mark Section**

**10:30 AM–12:00 PM**

**Graduate Centre - 1-72**

William Warren, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, Presiding  
Jae Jun "Daniel" Cho, Southern Methodist University  
*The Original Ending of Mark's Gospel: Reconstruction of Mark's Authorial Intentions for Mark 16:1–8 (35 min)*

Discussion (10 min)

Jeff Cate, California Baptist University  
*For Love or Honor: An Inquiry into the Origins and Meaning of an Unexplained Reading in Mark 7:6 (35 min)*

Discussion (10 min)

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**5-14 Song of Songs**

**10:30 AM–12:00 PM**

**Graduate Centre - 1-74**

**Theme: Sponsored by the Local Programming Committee**

Stefan Fischer, Universität Wien, Presiding  
Zacharias Kotze, University of South Africa  
*From Allegory to Mythology: On the Beloved in the Song of Songs (25 min)*

Discussion (5 min)

Eben Scheffler, University of South Africa  
*On the When and Where of Sex in Song of Songs (25 min)*

Discussion (5 min)

Marlene Oosthuizen, University of the Free State (South Africa)  
*Song of Songs: Meeting the Need for a Passionate and Realistic Approach to Sexuality (25 min)*

Discussion (5 min)

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**5-15 SBL Ugarit and Its World Consultation**

**10:30 AM–12:00 PM**

**Graduate Centre - 2-65**

**Theme: Exploring Language and Poetry: Ugaritic and Canaanite**

Asterios - Evangelos Kechagias, North-West University (South Africa), Presiding  
Terence J Kleven, Central College and Fulbright Jordan  
*The Critical Evaluation of Poetic Forms and of Canaanite Motifs in Psalm 29 (30 min)*

Tania Notarius, University of the Free State  
*Impersonal Usage of Stative Verbs in Ugaritic Language (30 min)*

Discussion (20 min)

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## PRETORIA, SOUTH AFRICA

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### 5-15a Fireside Chat

12:00 PM–1:00 PM

Conference Centre - SRC Chambers/  
Boardroom

**Theme: How Do Religious Icons Read-and-Write Bible Texts?**

Sponsored by the Local Programming Committee  
Alongside the usual textual, archaeological and hermeneutical methodologies in reading the Bible, and the spiritual-mystical engagements with the Scriptures, the long-existing tradition of icons as meaningful representations of existential meaning from these texts are well known. Icons as meaning-making symbols are however not always well represented in academic discourse. In this informal session, Lisel Joubert (who also writes religious icons) and Christo Lombaard discuss how meaning is taken and given by religious icons as spiritual-artistic presentations on and from the Bible.

Lisel Heleen Joubert, Stellenbosch University,  
Panelist

Christo Lombaard, University of South Africa,  
Panelist

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### 5-16 SBL Apocrypha and Pseudepigrapha Section

1:30 PM–3:00 PM

Graduate Centre - 1-56

Daniel Maier, Universität Zürich, Presiding  
Matthew Goff, Florida State University  
*Hide It in a Box: The Disappearance and Survival of the Apocalypse of Peter in Ethiopia* (30 min)  
Matthias Henze, Rice University  
*The Storehouses in Heaven: History and Meaning of a Literary Motif* (30 min)

Nathan Betz, Beyond Canon Centre, University of Regensburg  
*"Apocryphal" and "Patristic" Receptions of John's New Jerusalem: Some Patterns and Parallels* (30 min)

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### 5-17 SBL Biblical and Ancient Near Eastern Wisdom Section

1:30 PM–3:00 PM

Graduate Centre - 1-64

**Theme: Qohelet**

A special session on new directions in the study of the Book of Qohelet.

Elizabeth Robar, Cambridge Digital Bible  
Research, Presiding

Samuel Adams, Union Presbyterian Seminary  
*Sources of Authority for Defining "Wisdom Literature"* (30 min)

Nili Samet, Bar-Ilan University  
*(Re)contextualizing Qohelet after Two Centuries of Modern Research* (30 min)

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### 5-17a Biblical Hebrew Poetry

1:30 PM–3:00 PM

Graduate Centre - 1-76

**Theme: Sponsored by SASNES (South African Society of Near Eastern Studies)**

Godwin Mushayabasa, North-West University,  
Presiding

Kevin Chau, University of the Free State  
*Brotherly Nature in Jacob's Farewell Poem: Metaphor and Poetry in Gen 49:1–12* (25 min)

C. Sibanyoni, University of Pretoria  
*A Critical Spatial Reading of Psalm 137* (25 min)

Moretsi H. Lekgetho, Northwest University  
Potchefstroom Campus  
*The Role Psalms Play in the Lives of Jews and Christians Employing Psalm 56 and 57 as a Lament: An Exegetical Investigation* (25 min)

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### 5-18 SBL Political Biblical Criticism Section

1:30 PM–3:00 PM

Graduate Centre - 1-68

**Theme: Biblical Studies and Global South Epistemologies**

Tat-siong Benny Liew, College of the Holy Cross,  
Presiding (2 min)

Fatilua Fatilua, Malua Theological College  
*Reading the Canaanite Woman from the Perspective of Samoan Political Discourse: Determining Who Gets What, Where, and How* (25 min)

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## PROGRAM BOOK 2023

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David Trobisch, Technische Universität Dresden  
*Early African Gospels* (25 min)

Luis Menéndez-Antuña, Boston University  
*Epistemologies of the South: A Decolonial Proposal for Biblical Studies* (25 min)

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**5-19 SBL Psychological Hermeneutics of Biblical Themes and Texts Section**  
**1:30 PM–3:00 PM**  
**Graduate Centre - 1-70**

**Theme: Confused Identities**

Pieter van der Zwan, North-West University (South Africa), Presiding  
Robin Gallaher Branch, Christian Brothers University, North-West University  
“Your Turtledove”: *The Importance of Nicknames in the Bible* (30 min)

Business Meeting (30 min)

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**5-20 SBL Stylistics and the Hebrew Bible Section**  
**1:30 PM–3:00 PM**  
**Graduate Centre - 1-72**

**Theme: Open Session**

Talia Sutscover, Tel Aviv University, Presiding (2 min)  
Marie-France Dion, Concordia University - Université Concordia  
*Myths of Origins and the Election of Israel* (22 min)  
Patricia R. Jelbert, University of Gloucestershire  
*The Developing Patterns of Tracking Time in the Ancient Near East: Time-Recording Styles in Assyrian, Babylonian, and Biblical Chronographic Writings* (22 min)  
Jin Gyusang, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam  
*Discourse Analysis in the First Major Division of Numbers Based on Text-Hierarchical Structure* (22 min)

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**5-21 SBL Synoptic Gospels Section**  
**1:30 PM–3:00 PM**  
**Graduate Centre - 1-74**

**Theme: Crowds and People on the Move**

For the last 20 minutes of this session we have scheduled a general meeting to discuss possible themes and directions for the Synoptic Gospels unit for the upcoming meetings in Amsterdam (2024) and Uppsala (2025). We look forward to your participation.

Thomas E. Goud, University of New Brunswick, Presiding

Vadim Wittkowsky, Humboldt University, Berlin  
*Missionary Issues in the Synoptic Geography: Capernaum in Mark and Matthew, 72 Disciples in Luke 10, and Cana in John 2–4* (15 min)

Discussion (6 min)

Susan Brasier, The Church of St. Andrew & St. Paul, Montreal Canada  
*Women and Families on the Move with Jesus in Ancient Palestine*. (15 min)

Discussion (6 min)

Robert (J.R.C.) Cousland, University of British Columbia  
*The “Jerusalem Crowds” in Matthew and Other Mythical Entities* (15 min)

Discussion (6 min)

Business Meeting (20 min)

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**5-21a The ICI into the Next Era: Past, Present, and Future-Looking Dialogue in an African Context**  
**1:30 PM–3:00 PM**  
**Graduate Centre - 2-65**

Jaqueline du Toit, University of the Free State, Presiding

Introduction to ICI

Louis Jonker, Universiteit van Stellenbosch - University of Stellenbosch, Panelist (30 min)

Open Discussion

Michael Mensah, University of Ghana, Panelist (60 min)

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## PRETORIA, SOUTH AFRICA

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**5-22 SBL Biblical and Ancient Near Eastern Wisdom Section**  
**3:30 PM–4:30 PM**  
**Graduate Centre - 1-56**

Nili Samet, Bar-Ilan University, Presiding  
 Annette H M Evans, University of the Free State  
*The Role of Dreams in Resolving Ambiguous Theodical Dialogue in Job and Fourth Ezra: A Psychological-Literary Approach (30 min)*  
 Sakkie Spangenberg, University of South Africa  
*Lest We Forget: A Century of Studying Proverbs 22:17–24:22 (30 min)*

**5-23 Early Christian Studies**  
**3:30 PM–5:00 PM**  
**Graduate Centre - 1-64**

**Theme: Space, Place, and Religious Discourse in Early Christianity**

Sponsored by New Testament Society of Southern Africa

Chris de Wet, University of South Africa, Presiding  
 Laura Carnevale, Università degli Studi di Bari  
 Aldo Moro and Fabio Caruso, Loyola University of Chicago  
*Rituals, Practices, and Places Consecrated to Michael the Archangel: Late Antique Mediterranean Patterns and Perspectives (25 min)*

Discussion (5 min)

Gerhard van den Heever, University of South Africa  
*Spatiality, Material Religion, and Projecting Sacred Narratives on a Landscape (25 min)*

Discussion (5 min)

Tim Ledgerwood, University of South Africa  
*Aphrahat and Christianity in the Early Fourth-Century Sasanian Empire: An Emerging Identity (25 min)*

Discussion (5 min)

**5-24 SBL Feminist Interpretations Section**  
**3:30 PM–5:00 PM**  
**Graduate Centre - 1-68**

**Theme: Feminist Reading Practices**

This session presents the textual and embodied practices of women and queer folk in African churches.

Amanda Dillon, Dublin City University  
*Bible Journaling amongst South African Women: An Overview of an Emerging Practice (20 min)*  
 Charlene van der Walt, University of KwaZulu-Natal  
*Stabilized African Biblical Hermeneutics Exploring the Contours of an African Iizitabane Biblical Hermeneutics (20 min)*

**5-25 SBL Textual Criticism: Manuscripts & Methods Section**  
**3:30 PM–5:00 PM**  
**Graduate Centre - 1-70**

**Theme: Textual Criticism of the Jewish and Christian Scriptures**

Jeff Cate, California Baptist University, Presiding  
 Merja Vuolteenaho, Independent Researcher  
*The Original Location of Verses 1 Cor. 14:34–35 Is Transferred behind Verse 40 in Some Later Manuscripts: Textual Critical Approach (30 min)*  
 Bill Warren, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary  
*Non-Original Variant Readings as Commentaries: Examples from the General Epistles (30 min)*  
 Jeroen Verrijssen, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven  
*The Peculiar Transmission of the Arba Kitin in Liturgical Manuscripts (30 min)*

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## PROGRAM BOOK 2023

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**5-26 The Pentateuch and an Ethics of (Im-)Migration**  
**3:30 PM–5:00 PM**  
**Graduate Centre - 1-72**

**Theme: Sponsored by the Local Programming Committee**

Esias E. Meyer, University of Pretoria, Presiding  
Blessing Onoriode Boloje, University of Pretoria  
*From Canaan to Egypt (Gen 12:4–20): Abraham's Sojourn and Its Ethical Dilemma for Migrants in Socio-economic Circumstances (25 min)*

Discussion (5 min)

Johanna Erzberger, Theologisches Studienjahr Jerusalem (Jerusalem School of Theology)/ Sant'Anselmo, Rome  
*Joseph and His Brothers: Shifting Readings of Shifting Identities in the Context of Migration (25 min)*

Discussion (5 min)

Carly Crouch, Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen  
*A Deuteronomic Perspective on Migrant Integration (25 min)*

Discussion (5 min)

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**5-27 Translation and Language in the Hebrew Bible**  
**3:30 PM–5:00 PM**  
**Graduate Centre - 1-74**

**Theme: Sponsored by SASNES (South African Society of Near Eastern Studies)**

Gudrun Lier, University of Johannesburg, Presiding  
Jaco Gericke, North-West University (South Africa)  
*The Hebrew Text of Job and the Philosophical Puzzles of Ancient Religious Language (25 min)*  
Tshokolo J Makutoane, University of the Free State  
*The Influence of the Decipherment of Egyptian Hieroglyphs on the Development of Sesotho Orthography and Its Implications for Bible Translation (25 min)*

Ntozakhe Simon Cezula, Stellenbosch University  
*Ukuzala Kukuzolula (To Bear a Child Is to Stretch Oneself): A Comparative Reading of Deuteronomy 25:5–6 to Illuminate an isiXhosa Proverb (25 min)*

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**5-28 SBL Writings (including Psalms) Section**  
**3:30 PM–5:00 PM**  
**Graduate Centre - 1-76**

David Davage, Orebro School of Theology, Presiding

George Athas, Moore Theological College  
*"Blessed Is the One Who Waits and Reaches 1,335 Days": Understanding Daniel's Chronological Claims (30 min)*

Sunwoo Hwang, Chongshin University  
*The Chronicler's Intention Reflected in the Comparison of the Athaliah Accounts between Kings and Chronicles (30 min)*

## THURSDAY, JULY 6

REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION .....8:00 AM–4:00 PM  
 EXHIBITS .....8:30 AM–4:00 PM  
 GENERAL SESSIONS .....8:30 AM–5:00 PM  
 COFFEE BREAKS .....10:00 AM and 3:00 PM

**6-1 SBL Apocalyptic Literature Section / Bible and Empire Section**  
**8:30 AM–10:00 AM**  
**Graduate Centre - 1-56**

**Theme: The Case of the 'Clavis Prophetarum'**

**6-2 Between Promise and Contest: Post-colonial Receptions of the Land Theme in the Pentateuch**  
**8:30 AM–10:00 AM**  
**Graduate Centre - 1-64**

**Theme: Sponsored by the Local Programming Committee**

Christian Frevel, Ruhr-University Bochum, Presiding  
 Ntozakhe Simon Cezula, Stellenbosch University  
*Traditional African Ontology and Epistemology on Land: The Burial of Jacob and the Death of Joseph Viewed from the Ideology of Attachment (25 min)*

Discussion (5 min)

Brigitte Rabarijaona, United Bible Societies  
*Women's Inheritance, a Right or a Favor? A Contextual Reading of the Story of the Daughters of Zelophehad (25 min)*

Discussion (5 min)

Jaeyoung Jeon, University of Lausanne  
*Biblical Struggle against Colonial Ideology of the Land and the Internalized Colonialism in Korean Churches (25 min)*

Discussion (5 min)

**6-3 Chaos in the Psalms**  
**8:30 AM–10:00 AM**  
**Graduate Centre - 1-68**

**Theme: Part I**

Sponsored by the Local Programming Committee

Nancy deClaissé-Walford, Mercer University, Presiding  
 David Davage, Academy of Leadership and Theology and University of the Free State  
*Chaos Deserved? On the Relation between Suffering and Sin in Psalm 69 (30 min)*

Sampson S. Ndogo, University of Pretoria  
*Psalm 106 as a Portraiture of Israel's Chaotic History of Covenantal Infidelity (30 min)*

Dirk J Human, University of Pretoria  
*Chaos and Chaostkampf: Some Perspectives from the Psalms (30 min)*

**6-4 SBL Paul and Pauline Literature Section**  
**8:30 AM–10:00 AM**  
**Graduate Centre - 1-70**

H. H. Williams, Evangelische Theologische Faculteit, Presiding  
 Adewale Joshua Adalokun, Obafemi Awolowo University

*Gods in Paul's Thought and Theology (30 min)*

Arjan van den Os, Theologische Universiteit Apeldoorn

*The Avenging God: The Motif of Divine Vengeance in Pauline Ethics (30 min)*

Daniel Maier, Universität Zürich  
*(Anti-)Apocalypticism in the Letters Attributed to Paul: Discourses within the New Testament (30 min)*

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## PROGRAM BOOK 2023

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**6-5 SBL Qumran and the Dead Sea  
Scrolls Section  
8:30 AM–10:00 AM  
Graduate Centre - 1-72**

**Theme: Ethiopic Texts and the Qumran Scrolls**

Angela Kim Harkins, Boston College STM,  
Presiding  
Matthew Goff, Florida State University  
*The Ethiopic Book of Enoch: Evidence for Greek as  
an African Language (20 min)*  
Daniel Assefa, Addis Abeba Univesrity  
*Enoch in the Ethiopian Book of Saints (20 min)*  
Kelley Coblenz Bautch, St. Edward's University,  
Respondent (20 min)  
Discussion (10 min)

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**6-6 SBL Quran and Islamic Tradition in  
Comparative Perspective Section  
8:30 AM–10:00 AM  
Graduate Centre - 1-74**

**Theme: Modern and Future**

David Penchansky, University of Saint Thomas  
(Saint Paul, MN), Presiding  
Natana J. DeLong-Bas, Boston College  
*The Wind beneath Their Wings: A Comparative  
Ethical and Theological Engagement of Birds in the  
Bible and the Qur'an (20 min)*  
Discussion (10 min)  
Zohar Hadromi-Allouche, Trinity College -  
Dublin  
*Who's Laughing Now: Sarah in the Qur'an and  
Modern Yiddish Poetry (20 min)*  
Discussion (10 min)  
Nasim Hassani, Shahid Beheshti University  
*Signs of the End Times from Christianity to Islam:  
Dating the Elaboration of a Concept (20 min)*  
Discussion (10 min)

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**6-7a SASNES Program Continued and  
Van Selms Lecture  
8:30 AM–10:00 AM  
Graduate Centre - 2-65**

Sponsored by SASNES (South African Society of Near  
Easter Studies).

Muhammad Ashraf Dockrat, University of  
Johannesburg, Presiding  
Adriaan Lamprecht, Northwest University, South  
Africa  
*Job 9:5–13 and the K 8538 Planisphere Clay Tablet  
from the "Library" of Ashurbanipal (30 min)*  
Gudrun Lier, University of Johannesburg  
*The Import of Aramaic Rendering of Scripture for  
Contemporary Bible Translation (60 min)*

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**6-7 SBL Synoptic Gospels Section  
8:30 AM–10:00 AM  
Graduate Centre - 1-76**

**Theme: Source, Redaction, and Intertextual  
Criticism**

Thomas Goud, University of New Brunswick,  
Presiding (3 min)  
Jonathan Lo, Ambrose University  
*Synoptic or "Bi-Optic" Studies? Welcoming John to  
the Party (15 min)*  
Discussion (6 min)  
Marius J Nel, Universiteit van Stellenbosch -  
University of Stellenbosch  
*The ἀφ'ἑμῶν-λογία in the Synoptic Gospels (15 min)*  
Discussion (6 min)  
Rev. Kimberly C. Orr, University of South Africa  
*The Jehoshaphat Connection: A Possible Missed  
Precedent for Matthew's Jesus (15 min)*  
Discussion (6 min)  
Tekalign Duguma Negewo, Ethiopian Graduate  
School of Theology  
*ἡλι ἡλι λεμα σαβαχθανι: A Call for Elijah, End of  
God's Wrath, Restoring Israel, and New Exodus  
(15 min)*  
Discussion (6 min)



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## PRETORIA, SOUTH AFRICA

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### **6-8 SBL Allusions in the Gospels and Acts Section**

**10:30 AM–12:00 PM**

**Graduate Centre - 1-56**

#### **Theme: Allusions in Acts**

Vadim Wittkowsky, Humboldt University, Berlin  
*Is 8:23–9:6LXX in Luke 1:57–79 (“Benedictus”) and Acts 10 against the Backdrop of the Quotation in Matt 4:13–16 (25 min)*

Discussion (5 min)

Ruth Mathieson, St Francis College, University of Divinity  
*Exploring the Royal Commands to “Bind Hands and Feet” in Matthew 22:13 as an Allusion to the Work of the Archangel Raphael Restraining Evil Beings in Tobit 8:3 (GII) and 1 Enoch 10:4 (25 min)*

Discussion (5 min)

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### **6-9 Book Review Panel: How Isaiah Became an Author. Prophecy, Authority, and Attribution by David Davage**

**10:30 AM–12:00 PM**

**Graduate Centre - 1-64**

#### **Theme: Sponsored by the Local Programming Committee**

Alphonso Groenewald, University of Pretoria, Presiding  
Christopher B. Hays, Fuller Theological Seminary (Pasadena), Panelist  
Dominic Sundararaj Irudayaraj, Pontificio Istituto Biblico, Panelist  
Alphonso Groenewald, University of Pretoria, Panelist  
David Davage, ALT School of Theology, Respondent

Discussion (20 min)

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### **6-10 Chaos in the Psalms**

**10:30 AM–12:00 PM**

**Graduate Centre - 1-68**

#### **Theme: Part 2**

Sponsored by the Local Programming Committee

Lodewyk Sutton, University of the Free State, Presiding

Nancy deClaissé-Walford, Mercer University/University of Pretoria

*Psalms and the Primordial Waters (30 min)*

Phil Botha, University of Pretoria

*“When the Foundations Are Destroyed, What Can the Righteous Do?” (Ps 11:3): Psalms 3–14 as a Call to YHWH to Restore Order in a World Characterised by Political Chaos (30 min)*

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### **6-11 SBL Deutero-Canonical Readings**

**10:30 AM–12:00 PM**

**Graduate Centre - 1-70**

#### **Theme: Sponsored by the Local Programming Committee**

Peter Nagel, Stellenbosch University, Presiding  
Sanrie de Beer, North-West University (South Africa) and Pierre Jordaan, North-West University (South Africa)  
*Excavating the Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: The Potency of Chiasmus in LXX-Susanna (25 min)*

Discussion (5 min)

Risimati Hobyane, North-West University (South Africa)  
*The Nature and Function of Character Focalisation in Judith 8–16 (25 min)*

Discussion (5 min)

Pierre Jordaan, North-West University (South Africa)  
*The Beheading of Holofernes (Judith 13:1–9) as Possible Stage Play (25 min)*

Discussion (5 min)

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### **6-12 SBL Feminist Interpretations Section**

**10:30 AM–12:00 PM**

**Graduate Centre - 1-72**

#### **Theme: Fertility and Female Embodiment**

This session facilitates dialogue between scholars investigating two key New Testament texts on female infertility and their lived reception in African church and academic communities today.

Nina Muller van Velden, Universiteit van Stellenbosch - University of Stellenbosch  
*Revisiting Fertility Ideals: A South African Feminist Exploration of Mark’s “Bleeding Woman” (20 min)*

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## PROGRAM BOOK 2023

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Olubiyi Adewale, National Open University of Nigeria  
*Nigerian Women in Church, Society, and Home: A Socio-rhetorical Reading of Luke 10:38–42 (20 min)*

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### 6-13 SBL Hellenistic Greek Language and Linguistics Section

10:30 AM–12:00 PM

Graduate Centre - 1-74

Steven Runge, Clear Bible, Inc., Presiding  
Herman du Toit, Universities of Stellenbosch and the Free State

*A Comparison between the Use of the Imperfect Indicative in the Gospels of Mark and Matthew (20 min)*

Discussion (10 min)

Steven E. Runge, Clear Bible, Inc.  
*Understanding Greek Middle Voice: A New Proposal for a Persistent Problem (20 min)*

Discussion (10 min)

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### 6-14 SBL Psychological Hermeneutics of Biblical Themes and Texts Section

10:30 AM–12:00 PM

Graduate Centre - 1-76

Theme: Children in Distress

Pieter van der Zwan, North-West University (South Africa), Presiding  
Sue Hodson, Self employed  
*"Let the Children Come to Me, and Do Not Prevent Them": How Has Society Prevented Children Being Able to Respond Freely to Jesus' Invitation? How Can Movement Help Traumatized Children to Come to a sp (30 min)*

Zukile Ngqeza, North-West University (South Africa)  
*Telling the Stories of the Traumatized Mothers and Children? Re-reading Lamentations 2:20 and 4:10 through the Lens of Trauma (30 min)*

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### 6-14a SASNES Business Meeting

10:30 AM–12:00 PM

Graduate Centre - 2-65

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### 6-14b Fireside Chat

12:00 PM–1:00 PM

Conference Centre - SRC Chambers/Boardroom

A conversation about biblical studies as a career, biblical interpretation in light of colonialism, and necessary transformations for biblical studies in a new age.

Musa Dube, Emory University, Panelist  
Steed Davidson, Society of Biblical Literature, Panelist

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### 6-15 SBL Apostolic Fathers and Related Early Christian Literature Section

1:30 PM–3:00 PM

Graduate Centre - 1-56

Clayton Jefford, Saint Meinrad School of Theology, Presiding  
Clayton N. Jefford, Saint Meinrad School of Theology  
*A Patristic Hand within Didache Tradition (30 min)*  
H. H. Drake Williams, III, Evangelische Theologische Fakultät  
*The Eucharist and Early Christian Identity from the Letter of Ignatius of Antioch (30 min)*  
David E. Nyström, Johannelund School of Theology  
*From Exclusion to Inclusion: The Purpose and Audience of The Epistle to Diognetus (30 min)*

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### 6-17 Biblical Spirituality

1:30 PM–3:00 PM

Graduate Centre - 1-68

Theme: Surprising Re/turns in Hebrew Bible Later Interpretations

Sponsored by the Local Programming Committee  
Christo Lombaard, University of Pretoria, Presiding  
David Biernot, Charles University of Prague  
*God and History in the Dystopian Novel Ha-Shlishi ("The Third") by Yishay Sarid (25 min)*

Discussion (5 min)

Dace Balode, University of Latvia  
*Moses, in the Law, Commanded Us That Such Should Be Stoned: Law and Its Interpretation in John 8 (25 min)*

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## PRETORIA, SOUTH AFRICA

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Discussion (5 min)

Gavin Michal, University of Pretoria  
*From Nihilism to Existentialism: The Radical School of Kitz in the Light of a Revisited Frankian Doctrine* (25 min)

Discussion (5 min)

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### 6-18 SBL Contextual Interpretation of the Bible (Hebrew Bible/Old Testament and New Testament) Seminar

1:30 PM–3:00 PM

Graduate Centre - 1-70

**Theme: Bible and Texts in Context (2)**

Jaqueline S. du Toit, University of the Free State, Presiding  
Mark Aidoo, Trinity Theological Seminary, Legon Ghana  
*"The Voice of God Is over the Waters": A Contextual Reading of Psalm 29 toward Reclaiming the Sakumo Wetlands in Ghana* (30 min)

Wei Huang, Shanghai University  
*Emotions of the Exiles in a Foreign Land: Reading Psalm 137 with Chinese Classics* (30 min)

Tara Woodward, Princeton Theological Seminary  
*Reading Rural: Intersecting African Modern Agrarian Theology with Psalm 65* (30 min)

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### 6-19 SBL Early Christianity and the Ancient Economy Section

1:30 PM–3:00 PM

Graduate Centre - 1-72

**Theme: Economic Roles of the Church**

Zachary Thornburg, Catholic University of America  
*The History of Wage Theft from the Vantage of Antiquity* (30 min)

Zhou Zhihuan, Università di Pisa  
*Legislation, Fiscal Immunity, and Donation: Northern Italian Bishops and Political Authorities in Economic Affairs from 476 to the End of the Fifth Century* (30 min)

Catherine T. Keane, Koç University  
*Resilience and the Economic Role of the Church in the Eastern Mediterranean* (30 min)

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### 6-20 Emerging Queer Biblical Scholarship from Southern Africa

1:30 PM–3:00 PM

Graduate Centre - 1-74

**Theme: Sponsored by the Local Programming Committee**

The panel, consisting of four paper presentations, aims to offer a showcase of the emerging Queer Biblical Scholarship from Southern Africa. The panel brings together a diversity of scholars, senior graduate students, NGO practitioners, and civil society actors based in or linked to Southern Africa, and doing work drawing on a Queer methodology when engaging the Bible that illustrates a commitment to exploring LGBTIQA+ embodied lived realities. The presentations highlight Queer and Contextual Bible Reading examples and practises from the Global South and will form the basis for further collective discussion and critical engagement about the emerging field in the Southern African context. The session aims to create a collective space for conversation to reflect on Queer Bible Scholarship being done from Southern Africa and to think through emerging themes, challenges, and opportunities.

Charlene Van der Walt, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Presiding

Sizwesamajobe Sithole, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Hanzline Davids, University of South Africa, Greyson Thela, and Charlene van der Walt, University of KwaZulu-Natal  
*Engaging African Trans, Intersex, and Gender Diverse Lived Realities: A Contextual Bible Study Praxis Reflection on Acts 8:26–40* (15 min)

Tracey Sibisi, University of KwaZulu-Natal and Charlene van der Walt, University of KwaZulu-Natal

*The Princess Dress: LGBTI+ Activism through the Reading of Genesis 37* (15 min)

Helder Luis Carlos, University of KwaZulu Natal  
*The Economic Struggle of Ruth in Israel: Discerning an Affirming Economic Ethics for Context of Non-conforming Gender Identities in Mozambique* (15 min)

Zandré Marais, University of Stellenbosch  
*The "Unmanliest" Prophet: Reading Moses through a Gender-Critical and Queer Lens* (15 min)

Discussion (30 min)

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## PROGRAM BOOK 2023

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**6-21 SBL Johannine Literature Section**  
**1:30 PM–3:00 PM**  
**Graduate Centre - 1-76**

**Theme: The Passion and the Resurrection in John's Gospel**

Stan Harstine, Friends University, Presiding  
Yutaka Maekawa, Kwansei Gakuin University  
*Peter in John 13: How the Fourth Evangelist Described Him?* (20 min)

Discussion (10 min)

Benjamin White, Clemson University  
*The Revelation of the Father's Doxa: Jesus' Seamless Tunic as Temple Veil in John 19:23–24* (20 min)

Discussion (10 min)

Alexander Bevan, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven  
*εἰρήνη ὑμῖν (John 20:19, 21): A Post-resurrection Re-reading of Jesus' Traumatic Death through Ricœur's "The Difficulty to Forgive"* (20 min)

Discussion (10 min)

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**6-22 LXX Receptions and Interpretations I**  
**1:30 PM–3:00 PM**  
**Graduate Centre - 2-65**

**Theme: Sponsored by the Local Programming Committee**

Pierre Jordaan, North-West University (South Africa), Presiding  
Gerald West, University of KwaZulu-Natal  
*Septuagint Production and Reception: Conceptualising the LXX as 'African'* (25 min)

Discussion (5 min)

Chris de Wet, University of South Africa  
*Studying the Septuagint in the Fifth Century CE: Adrian's Introductio in sacras scripturas and Early Christian Biblical Interpretation* (25 min)

Discussion (5 min)

Annette Evans, University of the Free State  
*Job as a Burden to Himself or to God? William Blake's Interpretation of Job's Nightmares as a Clue to Resolution of the Ambiguity* (25 min)

Discussion (5 min)

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**6-23 Bibles and Texts in East and South Asian Contexts (Hinduism)**  
**3:30 PM–5:00 PM**  
**Graduate Centre - 1-56**

Louis Jonker, Universiteit van Stellenbosch - University of Stellenbosch, Presiding (5 min)  
Pratap Kumar Penumala, University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa  
*Brahmanism and the Epic Texts in the Post-Buddhist Period* (20 min)

Jeffery D. Long, Elizabethtown College  
*A Hindu Bible? Methodology and Ideology in the Study of Hindu Texts* (20 min)

Angela Harkins, Boston College School of Theology and Ministry, Respondent (10 min)

Discussion (25 min)

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**6-24 Conversations on Hermeneutics**  
**3:30 PM–5:00 PM**  
**Graduate Centre - 1-64**

**Theme: Sponsored by OTSSA (Old Testament Society of South Africa)**

Gerald West, University of KwaZulu-Natal  
*Contending for Invented Space in African Context and Biblical Text: Intersecting Gender, Sexuality, Ethnicity, and Economics* (25 min)

Discussion (5 min)

Barnard O. Mokwena, Independent Scholar  
*Self-validation of African Biblical Hermeneutics as a Necessary Post-apartheid Consciousness in Re-imagining the Ancient Text* (25 min)

Discussion (5 min)

Juliana Claassens, Universiteit van Stellenbosch - University of Stellenbosch  
*"You Strike a Woman, You Strike a Rock:" Delving into the Rich Legacy of Feminist Biblical Interpretation in South Africa* (25 min)

Discussion (5 min)

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## PRETORIA, SOUTH AFRICA

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### 6-25 SBL Hellenistic Judaism Section

3:30 PM–5:00 PM

Graduate Centre - 1-68

Dominic Sundararaj Irudayaraj, Pontificio Istituto Biblico, Presiding  
Lucia Lombardi, Salerno/Tübingen  
*“Reason Demands That the Father and Maker Exercise Care for That Which Has Come into Being”* (Opif. 10): *The Creator* (ποιητής) in Philo of Alexandria (40 min)  
Ursula Westwood, Stellenbosch University  
*The Power of Silence: Josephus on the Limitations of Persuasive Speech* (40 min)

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### 6-26 LXX Receptions and Interpretations 2

3:30 PM–5:00 PM

Graduate Centre - 2-65

**Theme: Sponsored by the Local Programming Committee**

Risimati Hobyane, North-West University (South Africa), Presiding  
Megan Braithwaite, University of the Free State  
*Interpreting Imagery of Sexual Violence in Ancient Texts of Lamentations* (25 min)

Discussion (5 min)

Annette Potgieter, Hugenote Kollege  
*Moral Meanings: Reflections on the Reception of Susanna* (25 min)

Discussion (5 min)

Peter Nagel, Stellenbosch University  
*Working towards a Kyriology of Early Christianity: Should Greek Old Testament and Related Content Be Considered?* (25 min)

Discussion (5 min)

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### 6-27 SBL Pentateuch (Torah) Section

3:30 PM–5:00 PM

Graduate Centre - 1-70

**Theme: Open Session**

Idan Dershowitz, Universität Potsdam  
*What Was “the Place YHWH Will Choose”?* (20 min)

Discussion (10 min)

Llewellyn Howes, University of Johannesburg  
*The Implicature of Expulsion: ἐξβάλω in the Septuagint’s Translation of the Pentateuch* (20 min)

Discussion (10 min)

Terence J Kleven, Central College and Fulbright Jordan  
*Targum Onqelos on Genesis 2* (20 min)

Discussion (10 min)

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### 6-28 SBL Place, Space, and Identity in the Ancient Mediterranean World Section

3:30 PM–5:00 PM

Graduate Centre - 1-72

**Theme: Spatial Dimensions in Psalm**

Gert Prinsloo, University of Pretoria, Presiding (2 min)

Lodewyk Sutton, University of the Free State  
*Inner Chaos: A Spatial Reading of Psalms 42 and 43 in the Light of Chaos and Chaotkampf* (22 min)

Gert Prinsloo, University of Pretoria  
*Departure and Arrival: Towards an Intertextual and Spatial Reading of Psalms 93 and 100* (22 min)

RC (Marina) Kok-Pretorius, University of Pretoria  
*Remembered Space: Memory and Imagination in Psalms 90–92 and Psalms 105–106* (22 min)

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## PROGRAM BOOK 2023

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### **6-29 SBL Postcolonial Studies Section 3:30 PM–5:00 PM**

**Graduate Centre - 1-74**

Postcolonialism, History, Literature & Bible

Sonia WONG, Chinese University of Hong Kong,

Presiding

Philip La G. Du Toit, North-West University  
(South Africa)

*The Epistemological Irony of Postcolonial Biblical  
Criticism: A Pauline Theological Perspective*  
(25 min)

Discussion (5 min)

Kristi Lee, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities  
*Judith as Hero/Heroine: Ambivalence and  
Transnational Feminism in the Book of Judith*  
(25 min)

Discussion (5 min)

Samaria Divine, University of Georgia  
*A Tale of Two Partitions: Solomon's Annexation  
through the Lens of Colonial Nigeria* (25 min)

Discussion (5 min)

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### **6-30 SBL Psychological Hermeneutics of Biblical Themes and Texts Section**

**3:30 PM–5:00 PM**

**Graduate Centre - 1-76**

**Theme: Trauma and Suffering**

Eben Scheffler, University of South Africa

*Reflecting on the Gospel of Matthew's Beatitudes  
from the Perspective of Positive Psychology* (30 min)

Paul Anderson, George Fox University

*Trauma Theory and the Psalms: From Loss and  
Anxiety to Reflection and Healing* (30 min)

Liza Esterhuizen, University of Pretoria and  
Wilhelm Wessels, University of South Africa

*The Trauma of War: Reflection on Aspects of Fear,  
Loss, but Also Disempowerment of the Enemy  
(Hope) in the Book of Nahum* (30 min)

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### **6-31 Song of Songs 3:30 PM–5:00 PM**

**Graduate Centre - 2-67**

**Theme: Sponsored by the Local Programming  
Committee**

Gavin Fernandes, Presiding

Stefan Fischer, University of Vienna / University  
of the Free State (South Africa)

*Teaching and Preaching Song of Songs* (25 min)

Discussion (5 min)

Alice Volkonski, University of Tartu/University  
of Tallinn

*A Comparative Analysis of the Biblical Song of  
Songs and Arabic Early Poetic Tradition* (25 min)

Discussion (5 min)

Christo Lombaard, University of Pretoria  
*The Post-secular Future of Song of Songs* (25 min)

Discussion (5 min)

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## FRIDAY, JULY 7

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**REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION..... 8:00 AM–11:00 AM**  
**GENERAL SESSIONS .....8:30 AM–12:00 PM**  
**COFFEE BREAKS ..... 10:00 AM**

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**7-1 Biblical Spirituality**  
**8:30 AM–10:00 AM**  
**Graduate Centre - 1-56**

**Theme: Hellos and Goodbyes on the Bible and Religious Experience**

Sponsored by the Local Programming Committee

David Biernot, Charles University of Prague,  
Presiding

Lisel Heleen Joubert, Stellenbosch University  
*Living with the Desert [G]od (25 min)*

Discussion (5 min)

Christo Lombaard, University of Pretoria  
*Some Afrikaans "Goodbyes" to the Bible-and-Faith (25 min)*

Discussion (5 min)

Peter Nagel, University of Stellenbosch  
*Reflections on Exegesis Misunderstood: The Relationship between Bible Scholarship and Church-and-Society (25 min)*

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**7-2 SBL Early Christianity and the Ancient Economy Section**  
**8:30 AM–10:00 AM**  
**Graduate Centre - 1-64**

**Theme: Wealth, Resource Dispersal, and Hunger**

Gideon S. S. Paulraj, Church of South India  
*Hunger amidst Surplus Production: Material and Cultural Dimensions of Destitution in Luke-Acts (30 min)*

Daniel Nii Aboagye Aryeh, Perez University College (Ghana)  
*The Concept of Resource Dispersal in the Early Church: Socio-rhetorical Criticism of Acts 4:32–35 (30 min)*

Thomas Tops, Universität Regensburg  
*Wealth Management in the Acts of John and Ancient Treatises on Property Management (30 min)*

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**7-3 SBL Judaica Section**  
**8:30 AM–9:30 AM**  
**Graduate Centre - 1-68**

**Theme: Biblical Exegesis**

Meir Seidler, Ariel University Center of Samaria,  
Presiding

Meir Seidler, Ariel University  
*Rabbi Joseph Tsvi Carlebach on the Three Great Prophets (20 min)*

Madalina Vartejanu-Joubert, INALCO Paris  
*Malbim on the Book of Esther: An Illustration of Jewish Systematic Political Thinking (20 min)*

Abdulla Galadari, Khalifa University of Science & Technology  
*The Liturgical Tradition of the Jews of the Qur'an (20 min)*

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**7-4 SBL Paul and Pauline Literature Section**  
**8:30 AM–10:00 AM**  
**Graduate Centre - 1-70**

Annette Potgieter, Hugenote Kollege, Presiding  
David Tabb Stewart, California State University - Long Beach  
*Philemon and Leviticus (30 min)*

Joseph R. Dodson, Denver Seminary  
*Unsolved Mysteries and Burdensome Superstitions: Seneca's Epistle 95 and the Colossian Error (30 min)*

Asigor P. Sitanggang, Jakarta Theological Seminary, Jakarta, Indonesia  
*Passivum Divinum in the Proto Pauline Letters (30 min)*

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## PROGRAM BOOK 2023

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**7-6 SBL Writings (including Psalms) Section**  
**8:30 AM–10:00 AM**  
**Graduate Centre - 1-74**

George Athas, Moore Theological College, Presiding  
David Davage (formerly Willgren), Academy of Leadership and Theology and UFS  
*Hearing the People through the Voice of David: On the Paratextual Framing of Psalm 30 (30 min)*  
Orit Avnery, Shalem College and Shalom Hartman Institute  
*The Marital Metaphor in the Book of Lamentations (30 min)*  
Gavin Fernandes, University of Pretoria (Research Associate)  
*Is the Hebrew Word Tsammah in the Song of Songs Related to "hair" or a "Covering" and Why Is It Important? (30 min)*

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**7-8 SBL Contextual Interpretation of the Bible (Hebrew Bible/Old Testament and New Testament) Seminar**  
**10:30 AM–12:00 PM**  
**Graduate Centre - 1-64**

**Theme: Interpreting the Bible in Pluri-Textual Contexts in Contemporary Africa**

Wei Huang, Shanghai University, Presiding  
Michael Kodzo Mensah, University of Ghana  
*"God Is within Her" (Ps 46:6): Theologizing Urbanization in the Bible and in African Indigenous Sacred Texts (30 min)*  
Nsiah Godfred, University of Ghana, Dept. for the Study of Religions  
*Death and the Afterlife among the Akans of Ghana: A Sacred Texts Reading of 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18 (30 min)*  
John Arierhi Ottuh, Winners Baptist Church, Effurun & Obong University, Obong Ntak, Nigeria  
*"I Am Everybody": (Re)reading the Parable of the Rich Fool (Luke 12:13–21) in the Context of an Urhobo Tortoise Greed Image in Nigeria (30 min)*

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**7-9 Early Christian Studies**  
**10:30 AM–12:00 PM**  
**Graduate Centre - 1-68**

**Theme: Three Vignettes of Early Christian Discourses**

Sponsored by New Testament Society of Southern Africa.

Gerhard van den Heever, University of South Africa, Presiding  
Pieter Botha, University of South Africa  
*Images of God and Perceptions of the Human Body in Early Christian Literature: A Social History (25 min)*

Discussion (5 min)

Peter Nagel, Stellenbosch University  
*Working towards a Kyriology of Early Christianity: Searching for Data in Alexandria (25 min)*

Discussion (5 min)

Chris de Wet, University of South Africa  
*Manichaeology, Early Christianity, and the Fluidity of Religious Identity: Further Explorations (25 min)*

Discussion (5 min)

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**7-10 SBL Johannine Literature Section**  
**10:30 AM–12:00 PM**  
**Graduate Centre - 1-70**

**Theme: The Letters of John**

Yutaka Maekawa, Kwansei Gakuin University, Presiding  
Dirk van der Merwe, University of South Africa  
*The "Righteousness of God's Children" according to the First Epistle of John (20 min)*

Discussion (10 min)

Stan Harstine, Friends University  
*The Rhetorical Role of 1 John 5:9–11 When Viewed through Johannine Repetition (20 min)*

Discussion (10 min)

Roundtable Discussion (30 min)



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## PRETORIA, SOUTH AFRICA

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### 7-11 LXXSA Business Meeting

10:30 AM–12:00 PM

Graduate Centre - 2-65

**Theme:** Sponsored by the Local Programming Committee

Pierre Jordaan, North-West University (South Africa), Presiding

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### 7-12 SBL Prophets Section

10:30 AM–12:00 PM

Graduate Centre - 1-72

**Theme:** Prophets - General Themes

Rosanne Liebermann, Aarhus Universitet  
*The Painful Theodicies of the Hebrew Prophets* (30 min)

Szabolcs-Ferencz Kató, Protestant Theological Institute of Cluj-Napoca  
*Prophetic Leadership: An Invention of the Deuteronomist? Hos 12:14 in the Light of the Former Prophets* (30 min)

Henk (Johan) Potgieter, University of Pretoria  
*The Structuring Function of the "Tricolon" in Jonah 1* (30 min)

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### 7-13 SBL Psychological Hermeneutics of Biblical Themes and Texts Section

10:30 AM–12:00 PM

Graduate Centre - 1-74

**Theme:** Supernatural Experiences

Pieter van der Zwan, Northwest University, South Africa

*Disruptive Eruptions from the Unconscious in the Book of Job: A Psychoanalytic Perspective* (30 min)

Annette H M Evans, University of the Free State  
*A Comparison of the Role of Dreams and/or Visions in Resolving Ambiguous Theodical Dialogue in Tobit, Job, and and Fourth Ezra* (30 min)

Ntozakhe Simon Cezula, Stellenbosch University  
*King Saul Contravenes the Law: A Reading of 1 Samuel 28 from the Perspective of the Psychology of Conviction* (30 min)

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### 7-14 SBL Rethinking Biblical Written Tradition through Slavonic Interpretations Section

10:30 AM–12:00 PM

Graduate Centre - 1-76

Ljubica Jovanovic, American Military University, Presiding

Candace Mirkovik, University of South Florida  
*How Serbian Slavonic Manuscripts Became Westernized* (20 min)

Discussion (10 min)

Ljubica Jovanovic, American Military University  
*The Eighteenth Century Serbian Translation of Ephraim the Syrian's Homily on Joseph (Івсифъ Прѣкрасни) in Old Church Slavonic* (20 min)

Discussion (10 min)

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## SBL INFORMATION

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The mission of the Society of Biblical Literature is to foster biblical scholarship. This mission is accomplished through seven strategic goals:

- ❧ Collaborate with educational institutions and other appropriate organizations to support biblical scholarship and teaching
- ❧ Develop resources for diverse audiences, including students, religious communities and the general public
- ❧ Encourage study of biblical literature and its cultural contexts
- ❧ Facilitate broad and open discussion from a variety of perspectives
- ❧ Offer members opportunities for mutual support, intellectual growth, and professional development as teachers and scholars
- ❧ Organize congresses for scholarly exchange
- ❧ Publish biblical scholarship

These strategic goals are, in turn, pursued through a number of SBL programs and initiatives under the leadership of SBL volunteers and staff.

### PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES

#### *Congresses*

The Society's meetings bring together scholars from around the world to foster biblical scholarship by:

- ❧ showcasing the latest in biblical research
- ❧ fostering collegial contacts
- ❧ advancing research
- ❧ highlighting a wide range of professional issues

#### *Annual Meeting*

The Annual Meeting, held yearly in North America, is the largest international gathering of biblical scholars in the world. Each meeting highlights the study of the Bible, archaeology, related languages and literatures, theology, religion, and contemporary issues such as the Bible in American public education. The Annual Meeting also features the world's largest exhibit of books and digital resources for biblical studies—all of which are also for sale at this congress. Members benefit from the meetings of other organizations that convene at the same time.

#### *International Meeting*

The International Meeting is held annually outside North America. Drawing between 500 and 1000 attendees from over 40 countries, the size and varying locales of this meeting provide a unique and intimate forum for scholarly discourse across continents. The program draws attention to the regional interests of biblical scholarship, both in our host institution and as represented in the institutions of our attendees. The meeting usually takes place between the beginning of July and the middle of August.

#### *Global Virtual Meeting*

The SBL Global Virtual Meeting launched for the first time in 2023. As a meeting designed from the ground up for a virtual environment, it offered experiences, opportunities, mentoring possibilities, presentation formats, and accessibility that are not possible in an in-person meeting. This meeting typically takes place in March or April.

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## PRETORIA, SOUTH AFRICA

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### ***SBL Press***

SBL Press offers a wide variety of resources for biblical studies specialists as well as students in colleges, universities, and seminaries; leaders in church and synagogue settings; and members of the general public. Books published include major reference works, commentaries, text editions and translations, scholarly monographs, tools for teaching and research, and works of general interest. In addition, SBL Press serves as the exclusive distributor of all Brown Judaic Studies titles. The *Journal of Biblical Literature* is one of the oldest and most distinguished journals in biblical scholarship, while the online *Review of Biblical Literature* offers the most comprehensive review of biblical studies publications. Finally, SBL Press also sponsors the online journal *TC: A Journal of Biblical Textual Criticism* and the Online Critical Pseudepigrapha.

## PROFESSIONS

### ***Career Resources***

The Society provides resources for employment and professional development information in a variety of ways. Jobs are posted year-round at the Employment Services website: [aarsbl.org](http://aarsbl.org). The societies also offer helpful events such as panel reviews of pertinent topics that focus on the “how to” of the application and job-interview process as well as career paths and options for those pursuing degrees in biblical studies.

### ***Professional Development Committee***

The SBL Professional Development Committee addresses the variety of needs that arise throughout the career life cycle of all the society’s members. Its major responsibilities are to:

- ✧ focus on all aspects of the career landscape and life cycle, including the ways in which our members’ identities and personal lives intersect with their careers
- ✧ develop resources for members in all institutional locations
- ✧ educate members regarding professional issues, especially when new concerns arise (e.g., the rise of adjunct positions over tenure track, cultural taxation, retirement planning in a depressed economy)
- ✧ advocate with other organizations on behalf of the interests and needs of members

### ***International Cooperation Initiative***

The Society’s International Cooperation Initiative (ICI) was launched in 2007, and each year SBL has seen growth in participation and interest from scholars and students from all over the globe. Since the initial organizational meeting in Vienna, ICI has established an online depository of published resources available freely to anyone in ICI countries; initiated two online, open-access monograph series; set up a communications network of liaisons; sponsored a database of scholars to facilitate scholarly exchange, mentoring programs, and possibilities for collaborative teaching; provided over four hundred students and scholars in ICI countries with special rates for SBL membership; and maintained a calendar of events covering biblical studies and related conferences all over the world.

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## PROGRAM BOOK 2023

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### ***ICI Online Books***

The Online Book depository now has over six hundred titles from SBL Press and our publishing partners: Brown Judaic Studies, Catholic Biblical Association, Fortress Press, Gorgias Press, Instituto Multidisciplinario de Historia y Ciencias Humanas (IMHICIHU), Sheffield Phoenix Press, Universidad Católica Argentina, Westminster John Knox, and Wiley-Blackwell.

### ***Open-Access Monograph Series***

**Ancient Near East Monographs** (ANEM) is a copublication effort between SBL Press and the Centro de Estudios de Historia del Antiguo Oriente at the Universidad Católica Argentina. The entire series is available online, and most titles are available through print-on-demand.

**International Voices in Biblical Studies** (IVBS) is guided by an editorial board of international scholars. The series is designed to provide a venue for publication and distribution of scholarly work from all areas of the world, particularly to make the excellent scholarship from underresourced areas available to the more traditional centers of biblical scholarship. The titles published to date are all available online or through print-on-demand.

### ***ICI Liaison Network***

In order to facilitate worldwide communications, the Liaison Network engages scholars in ICI countries to facilitate the two-way flow of information pertaining to SBL and global biblical scholarship. A monthly newsletter serves the ICI liaisons and other interested parties by providing updates to conferences, publications, and other SBL news.

### **AWARDS**

SBL offers the following awards. Award winners will be featured in the annual Society Report.

#### ***A. R. Pete Diamond Award for Integrative Scholarship***

The A. R. Pete Diamond Award for Integrative Scholarship supports junior scholars demonstrating innovative approaches in biblical studies that advance methodological work at the intersection of historical criticism, critical theory, and cultural studies. In order to compete for the award a paper of publishable quality must be submitted. It must not have been previously published or accepted for publication; however, a paper may be submitted that is under review by a journal or other academic press if a decision to publish has not been reached at the time of submission. If the paper was delivered at an annual or international SBL meeting, it must exhibit significant revision, as demonstrated by submission of both the original draft and the revision. There is a \$1,000 monetary award.

**Bernadette J. Brooten Award for Scholarship in Gender, Sexuality, and Embodiment**

The primary goal for the Bernadette J. Brooten Award is to support and encourage early career researchers developing innovative approaches to the critical study of gender, sexuality, and/or embodiment in relation to biblical texts and traditions (broadly cast), especially with projects that foreground feminist, womanist, queer, and, or, as trans approaches.

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## PRETORIA, SOUTH AFRICA

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### ***Daniel Tran Foskett Hudgins Memorial Student Travel Award***

The Daniel Tran Foskett Hudgins Memorial Student Travel Award is named in memory of Daniel Tran Foskett Hudgins, the beloved son of SBL member Mary Foskett and Scott Hudgins. In late 2021, Daniel was diagnosed with a devastating cancer. He died on 1 March 2022, at the age 21. His brief but beautiful life was characterized by love and service. As a testimony to Daniel's life and service, the Ethnic Chinese Biblical Colloquium initiated and helped establish this SBL award in his honor.

### ***David Noel Freedman Award for Excellence and Creativity in Hebrew Bible Scholarship***

The primary goal of the David Noel Freedman Award for Excellence and Creativity in Hebrew Bible Scholarship is to encourage the finest scholarship in biblical studies. In order to compete for the award a paper of publishable quality must be submitted. It must not have been previously published or accepted for publication; however, a paper may be submitted that is under review by a journal or other academic press if a decision to publish has not been reached at the time of submission. If the paper was delivered at an annual or international SBL meeting, it must exhibit significant revision, as demonstrated by submission of both the original draft and the revision. There is a \$1,000 monetary award.

### ***Paul J. Achtemeier Award for New Testament Scholarship***

The primary goal of the Paul J. Achtemeier Award for New Testament Scholarship is to stimulate the finest and most penetrating work in New Testament studies. In order to compete for the award a paper of publishable quality must be submitted. It must not have been previously published or accepted for publication; however, a paper may be submitted that is under review by a journal or other academic press if a decision to publish has not been reached at the time of submission. If the paper was delivered at an annual or international SBL meeting, it must exhibit significant revision, as demonstrated by submission of both the original draft and the revision. There is a \$1,000 monetary award.

### ***The Richards Award for Public Scholarship***

The Richards Award honors members of the Society of Biblical Literature who have demonstrated excellence in public scholarship. It seeks to recognize the powerful role of sacred texts in society and how those texts shape culture. The award is given in honor of Kent Richards and on behalf his mother, Eva Richards, who made a difference in seeking the common good, always encouraging the relevance of religion scholarship.

### ***SBL International Travel Awards***

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) administer the awards each year, serving four geographic regions:

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

Each ITAP administers \$3,000 in awards in each region.

### ***Society of Biblical Literature – De Gruyter Prize for Biblical Studies and Reception History***

The De Gruyter Prize for Biblical Studies and Reception History promotes the study of the reception history of the Bible and aims to highlight the broad impact of the Bible in a wide variety of historical contexts and cultural settings. SBL is grateful to De Gruyter for investing in this growing area of research and teaching, one that also cultivates interdisciplinary studies in the humanities.

Beginning in 2020, the award will be for papers in two categories: Textual Culture and Reception of the Bible, and Material and Visual Culture and Reception of the Bible. De Gruyter will support each category with an annual cash prize of \$750. The awarded papers will be published in the *Journal of the Bible and its Reception*. In addition to being published, the awarded papers will be delivered at the SBL Annual Meeting followed by a panel discussion.

### ***Status of Women in the Profession Committee Mentor Award***

Each year at the SBL Annual Meeting, CSWP honors women who have been excellent mentors to women in the field. These mentors have provided invaluable guidance, advice, and encouragement. They serve as role models and assist other women in navigating career choices, building professional networks, and developing strategies for work-life balance. CSWP honors mentors in order to recognize their contributions and to encourage mentoring relationships. If you would like to nominate a mentor, please send your nomination with a descriptive letter of endorsement to the chairs of the committee. Nominations must be received by May 1st. Nominations received after the deadline will be considered for the following year.

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## PRETORIA, SOUTH AFRICA

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### ***The Underrepresented Racial and Ethnic Minorities in the Profession Committee's Outstanding Mentor Award***

Many biblical scholars of color provide exceptional mentoring service to other scholars of color in the context of doctoral programs and/or in less formal but significant ways. They provide invaluable advice at various stages of one's career, help develop important networks, offer support in the process of navigating intricacies of the guild, and serve as role models. CUREMP seeks to honor such outstanding mentors.

If you wish to nominate someone for this award, please send their name along with a letter of nomination to the chair of the committee. The letter should describe the ways the nominee helped your professional advancement and why you think the nominee stands out as an exceptional mentor. You are welcome to nominate your current or former doctoral advisor or someone who has mentored you in less formal ways. Anyone can nominate but the nominees should have been scholars/faculty members at the time of mentoring. The committee might supplement nominations from its historic and ongoing work as needed. Deadline is July 31. Nominations received after the deadline will be considered for the following year.

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### **Administration**

The work of the Society is guided by its Council and is administered through SBL's professional staff and key volunteers who serve on various committees.

The **Council** consists of fourteen members of the Society and the Executive Director. This board approves general policies.

Hugh Rowland Page, Jr., chair  
Musa Dube, president  
Tamara Cohn Eskenazi, vice president  
Tammi J. Schneider, secretary  
Christian Brady  
Stephanie Buckhanon Crowder  
Kristin De Troyer  
Joseph Lam  
Laura S. Nasrallah  
Jeremy Punt  
Dalit Rom-Shiloni  
C. L. Seow  
Juan Manuel Tebes  
Alice Yafeh-Deigh  
Steed Vernyl Davidson, ex officio  
Glory Emekeme, staff liaison

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### **Committees**

The **Annual Meeting Program Committee** approves program units and program unit chairs, evaluates the Annual Meeting program, and recommends strategic directions for the growth and improvement of the program.

Jeremy Hutton, chair  
Dexter E. Callender  
Mark Goodacre  
Karina Hogan  
Melanie Johnson-DeBaufre  
Joseph P. Marchal  
Cynthia Shafer-Elliott  
Katherine Shaner  
Christopher Hooker, staff liaison

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## PROGRAM BOOK 2023

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The **Development Committee** advises the Executive Director in developing and fostering a culture of giving in the Society and identifying resources.

Ann Marie B. Bahr  
Bruce C. Birch  
Marc Brettler  
Daniel Schowalter  
John T. Strong  
Glory Emekeme, staff liaison

The **Educational Resources and Review Committee** works in public contexts, including congregations and K–12 schools, to develop curricular guidelines in order to vet and approve resources brought to SBL for review. It also publishes guidelines for teaching the Bible, tracks public policy discussion and legislation, and advocates for religious literacy as a core outcome of a broad and liberal education.

David L. Eastman, chair  
Michael J. Chan  
Frances Flannery  
Aron Freidenreich  
Brian LePort  
Kelly Murphy  
Kristin Rose-Bean  
Christopher Hooker, staff liaison

The **Finance/Audit/Investment Committee** advises the Executive Director in preparing the annual budget for recommendation to the Council and oversees the societal investments.

Cynthia Briggs Kittredge, chair  
Uriah Kim  
Melody D. Knowles  
Laura S. Nasrallah  
Dalit Rom-Shiloni  
Pam Kennemore, staff liaison

The **International Cooperation Initiative Committee** facilitates mutual cooperation among colleagues from around the globe in the effort to foster biblical scholarship.

Carmen Palmer, chair  
Pablo R. Adinach  
S. Teofilo Correa  
Jaqueline S. Du Toit  
David Joy  
Lukasz Niesiolowski-Spano  
Nasili Vaka'uta  
LaToya Leary, staff liaison

The **International Meeting Program Committee** approves program units and program unit chairs, evaluates the International Meeting program, and recommends strategic directions for the growth and improvement of the program.

Martti Nissinen, chair  
Katherine Dell  
Matthias Henze  
Koog P. Hong  
Andres Piquer Otero  
Ekaterini Tsalamponi  
Christopher Hooker, staff liaison

The **LGBTIQ+ Scholar and Scholarship Committee** was constituted to identify ways that SBL can best support LGBTIQ+ scholars and scholarship.

Joseph A. Marchal, chair  
Lynn Huber  
Peter Anthony Mena  
Melissa Harl Sellew  
Eric Thomas  
Charlene van der Walt  
LaToya Leary, staff liaison



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## PRETORIA, SOUTH AFRICA

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The **Nominating Committee** nominates the President, Vice-President, and Council members for election by the Society, and members of standing committees and other representatives for election by Council.

Kristin De Troyer, chair  
Margaret Aymer  
Mahri Leonard-Fleckman  
Althea Spencer Miller  
C.L. Seow  
Steed Vernyl Davidson, staff liaison

The **Professional Conduct Committee** serves to implement the *Professional Conduct Policy*. SBL has established *Professional Conduct Investigation Procedures* that provide guidelines for gathering information, maintaining confidentiality to the extent possible, reaching an initial determination, allowing for an appeal, and determining disciplinary action. SBL will carefully investigate all complaints according to these guidelines. No individual will be retaliated against for making a complaint or assisting with the investigation of a complaint. Any person who desires to report a possible violation of the SBL Professional Conduct Policy at an SBL sanctioned event should promptly contact the SBL Executive Director, the Chair of SBL Council, or the Professional Conduct Committee Chair.

Melissa Harl Sellew, chair  
Kelsey Spinnato  
Rhiannon Graybill  
Ahida Calderon Pilarski  
Caroline Vander Stichele  
Kimberly D. Russaw  
Steed Vernyl Davidson, staff liaison

The **Professional Development Committee** is concerned with career issues throughout the life cycle of the Society's members both within and beyond the classroom.

Richard M. Adams, Jr., chair  
Jo Carruthers  
Michael D. Coogan  
Bridgett A. Green  
Shanell T. Smith  
Eric Thomas  
Jessica Tinklenberg  
Christopher Hooker, staff liaison

The **Research and Publications Committee** works with the Press Director, reviews publishing activities, recommends policies, and approves editors and editorial boards.

Jennifer L. Koosed, chair  
Alicia Batten, ex officio  
Colleen M. Conway  
Susan E. Hysten, ex officio  
Susanne Scholz  
Abraham Smith  
Nicole Tilford, staff liaison  
Bob Buller, Director of SBL Press

The **Status of Women in the Profession Committee** works in areas of mentoring and networking, opening the Society to greater participation by women and calling attention to the ways in which the Society speaks to and about women through its various activities.

Meira Kensky, chair  
Valerie Bridgeman  
Juliana Claassens  
Rhiannon Graybill  
S.R.C. Johnson  
Vanessa Lovelace  
Caroline Vander Stichele  
Sonia Kwok WONG  
Christine Yoder  
Glory Emekeme, staff liaison

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## PROGRAM BOOK 2023

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The **Students in the Profession Committee** advocates for the needs and interests of student scholars to the Society and their institutions. It supports and fosters participation among student scholars within the Society and in all professional areas of biblical studies.

Camille Angelo, chair  
Andrew Nagel  
Natalie Reynoso  
Kelsey Spinnato  
Megan Wines  
James Yuile  
Paige Schmidt, staff liaison

The **Underrepresented Racial and Ethnic Minorities in the Profession Committee** encourages the participation of minorities in all areas of biblical studies through mentoring, networking, and other forms of support.

Raj Nadella, chair  
Jin Young Choi  
Ahida Calderon Pilarski  
Kimberley D. Russaw  
Mitzi J. Smith  
Ekaputra Tupahamu  
Glory Emekeme, staff liaison

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### Boards

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The **Bible Odyssey Editorial Board** advises on the direction and continued development of a website that is designed to improve public understanding of the Bible and its contexts.

Martien Halvorson-Taylor, general editor  
James Baker, general editor  
Daniel Fisher-Livne  
Meghan Henning  
Vanessas Lovelace  
Kelly Murphy  
Gilberto A. Ruiz  
Scott C. Ryan  
Rodney A. Werline  
Tyler R. Yoder  
Jonthan Potter, managing editor  
Nicole Tilford, managing editor

The **Disabilities and Accessibility Task Force** is a working group established to identify how SBL can best support scholars who are differently abled; serve as allies of scholars who are differently abled; communicate regularly with the ED; and provide a report including recommendations within two years of the Task Force's constitution.

Meghan Henning, chair  
David Maldonado Rivera  
Candida Moss  
Isaac Soon  
Helen Rhee  
David Schones

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## PRETORIA, SOUTH AFRICA

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### SBL Staff

Bob Buller, Director of SBL Press  
Steed Vernyl Davidson, Executive Director  
Glory Emekeme, Executive Assistant and  
Manager of Development  
Courtney Godwin, Coordinator of  
Programming Initiatives  
Kaite Hightower, Press Assistant  
Christopher Hooker, Director of  
Membership and Programs  
Pam Kennemore, Director of Finance and  
Administration  
Eric McDonnell, Digital Initiatives and Web  
Content Manager  
Trista Krock, Director of Global  
Conferences  
LaToya Leary, Manager of Member  
Relations and Administration  
Lindsay Lingo, SBL Press Editorial Assistant  
Heather McMurray, SBL Press Marketing  
and Sales Manager  
Chris O'Connor, Director of Information  
Technology  
Jonathan Potter, SBL Press Serials Manager  
Alexis Reed, Press Assistant  
Paige Schmidt, Manager of Programs  
Leigh Ann Simpson, Manager of  
Registration & Housing  
Samantha Spitzner, International Meeting  
Manager  
Nicole Tilford, SBL Press Production  
Manager

### Contact Information

#### **General Information**

Society of Biblical Literature  
The Luce Center  
825 Houston Mill Road  
Atlanta, GA 30329  
Email: [sblexec@sbl-site.org](mailto:sblexec@sbl-site.org)  
Telephone: 404-727-3100  
Fax: 470-777-2464

#### **Membership, Journals, or Billing**

Society of Biblical Literature  
Customer Services Department  
825 Houston Mill Road  
Atlanta, GA 30329  
Email: [sblservices@sbl-site.org](mailto:sblservices@sbl-site.org)  
Telephone: 866-727-9955  
404-727-9498 (outside N. America)  
Fax: 404-727-2464

#### **Annual or International Meeting**

##### **Program Questions:**

Christopher Hooker, Director of  
Membership and Programs  
Email: [christopher.hooker@sbl-site.org](mailto:christopher.hooker@sbl-site.org)  
Telephone: 404-727-3095

##### **All Other Questions:**

Trista Krock, Director of Global  
Conferences  
Email: [trista.krock@sbl-site.org](mailto:trista.krock@sbl-site.org)  
Telephone: 404-727-3137

#### **Contributions**

Email: [sbldevelopment@sbl-site.org](mailto:sbldevelopment@sbl-site.org)  
Telephone: 404-727-3100  
Fax: 404-727-2419

#### **Archives**

Brandon Wason, Curator of Archives and  
Manuscripts, Pitts Theology Library,  
Emory University  
Email: [bwason@emory.edu](mailto:bwason@emory.edu)  
Telephone: 404-727-1222

## PARTICIPANTS INDEX

The indices are accurate as of 5 June 2023. Changes made to the program after that date may not be reflected in the indices.

### A

Adams, Samuel, 5-17  
Adegbola, Bunmi, 5-9  
Adelakun, Adewale, 6-4  
Adewale, Olubiyi, 6-12  
Aidoo, Mark, 6-18  
Anderson, Paul, 5-3, 6-30  
Anshiso, Bekele, 4-26  
Athas, George, 5-28, 7-6  
Atkinson, Ian, 5-2  
Atur, Ranjani, 5-2a  
Avnery, Orit, 7-6

### B

Balode, Dace, 6-17  
Beer, Sanrie de, 6-11  
Ben Zvi, Ehud, 4-17  
Bergh, L, 4-19a  
Betz, Nathan, 5-16  
Bevan, Alexander, 6-21  
Biermann, Bruno, 4-4  
Biernot, David, 6-17, 7-1  
Boadu, Yaw, 5-5  
Boloje, Blessing Onoriode, 4-24, 5-26  
Botha, Pieter, 7-9  
Botha, Phil, 6-10  
Braithwaite, Megan, 6-26  
Branch, Robin Gallaher, 5-19  
Brasier, Susan, 5-21

### C

Carlos, Helder, 6-20  
Carnevale, Laura, 5-23  
Caruso, Fabio, 5-23  
Cate, Jeff, 4-6, 5-13, 5-25  
Cezula, Ntozakhe Simon, 5-27, 6-2  
Chang, Yuan-Min, 5-11  
Chau, Kevin, 4-19a, 5-17a

Cho, Jae Jun, 4-11, 5-13  
Claassens, Juliana, 4-23, 6-24  
Coblentz Bautch, Kelley, 6-5  
Coetsee, Albert, 4-22  
Cohen, Ariel, 4-21, 5-2  
Cousland, Robert, 4-26, 5-21  
Crouch, Carly, 4-27, 5-26

### D

Dantonel, Frederique, 4-5  
Davage, David, 5-28, 6-3, 6-9, 7-6  
Davids, Hanzline, 6-20  
Davidson, Steed, 4-9, 5-9, 6-14b  
Davis, Sheurl Valene, 4-10  
de Wet, Chris, 4-7, 4-18, 5-23, 6-22, 7-9  
deClaissé-Walford, Nancy, 6-3, 6-10  
DeLong-Bas, Natana J., 6-6  
Dershowitz, Idan, 6-27  
Dickie, June, 4-13  
Dillon, Amanda, 5-24  
Dion, Marie-France, 5-20  
Divine, Samaria, 6-29  
Dockrat, Muhammad Ashraf, 4-14, 6-7a  
Dodson, Joseph, 7-4  
du Toit, Jaqueline, 5-21a, 7-8  
du Toit, Charel, 5-5  
Du Toit, Hermanus C., 6-13  
Du Toit, Philip, 6-29  
Dube, Musa, 6-14b  
Dunbar, Ericka, 4-10  
Dyssel, Allan, 4-19a

### E

Erzberger, Johanna, 5-26  
Eshel, Esther, 4-20  
Esterhuizen, Liza, 4-27, 6-30  
Evans, Annette, 5-22, 6-22, 7-13

### F

Fatilua, Fatilua, 5-18  
Faust, Avraham, 4-3  
Feng, Chengwei, 4-11  
Fernandes, Gavin, 4-4, 6-31, 7-6  
Ficco, Fabrizio, 4-12  
Fischer, Stefan, 5-14, 6-31  
Frevel, Christian, 4-8, 6-2

### G

Galadari, Abdulla, 4-25, 5-11, 7-3  
Gericke, Jaco, 5-4, 5-27  
Geyser-Fouché, Ananda, 4-7, 4-19, 5-5  
Gibson, Dylan Lawrence, 5-8  
Goff, Matthew, 4-20, 5-16, 6-5  
Goud, Thomas, 4-26, 5-21, 6-7  
Groenewald, Alphonso, 4-27, 6-9  
Guangsheng, Liu, 4-17

### H

Haasbroek, Ursula, 4-19  
Hadromi-Allouche, Zohar, 5-10, 6-6  
Haihua, Tian, 4-17  
Harkins, Angela Kim, 4-20, 6-5  
Harris, S. J., 5-8a  
Harstine, Stan, 6-21, 7-10  
Hassani, Nasim, 5-7, 6-6

## PRETORIA, SOUTH AFRICA

Hays, Christopher, 6-9  
 Henze, Matthias, 5-16  
 Hobyane, Risimati, 6-11, 6-26  
 Hodson, Susan, 6-14  
 Howes, Llewellyn, 6-27  
 Huang, Wei, 4-17, 6-18  
 Human, Dirk, 6-3  
 Hwang, Sunwoo, 5-28

### I

Irudayaraj, Dominic  
 Sundararaj, 6-9, 6-25

### J

Jardim, Georgina L., 5-10  
 Jefford, Clayton, 6-15  
 Jelbert, Patricia, 5-20  
 Jeon, Jaeyoung, 6-2  
 Jin, Gysang, 5-2, 5-20  
 Jonker, Louis, 4-8, 4-14, 5-21a, 6-23  
 Jordaen, Pierre Johan, 6-11, 6-22, 7-11  
 Joseph, Timothy, 5-2a  
 Joubert, Lisel Heleen, 5-15a, 7-1  
 Joubert, Marcus, 4-16  
 Joubert, Madalina, 7-3

### K

Kassaye, Daniel Assefa, 6-5  
 Kato, Szabolcs-Ferencz, 7-12  
 Keane, Catherine, 6-19  
 Kechagias, Asterios - Evangelos, 5-8, 5-15  
 Kgalemang, Malebogo, 4-10  
 Khalkhali, Ehsan Mousavi, 5-7  
 Kleven, Terence, 5-15, 6-27  
 Knowles, Michael, 5-4  
 Kok-Pretorius, Marina, 6-28  
 Kotze, Zacharias, 5-14  
 Krohn, Rachel, 4-16  
 Kruger, M.J., 5-8a

### L

Lamprecht, Adriaan, 6-7a  
 Lamprecht, At, 5-8a  
 Ledgerwood, Tim, 5-23  
 Lee, Kristi, 4-1, 6-29  
 Lekgetho, Moretsi H., 5-17a  
 Liang, Yichen, 5-6, 5-11  
 Liebermann, Rosanne, 7-12  
 Lier, Gudrun, 4-14, 5-27, 6-7a  
 Liew, Tat-siong Benny, 5-2a, 5-18  
 Lo, Jonathan, 6-7  
 Lo Sardo, Domenico, 4-6  
 Lombaard, Christo, 4-8, 5-15a, 6-17, 6-31, 7-1  
 Lombardi, Lucia, 6-25  
 Long, Jeffery D., 6-23

### M

Machin, Annéli, 5-12  
 Maekawa, Yutaka, 6-21, 7-10  
 Maier, Daniel, 5-16, 6-4  
 Makutoane, Tshokolo, 5-27  
 Maleklou, Sedigheh, 5-7  
 Marais, Zandr , 6-20  
 Masenya, Madipoane, 4-8, 4-23  
 Mathieson, Ruth, 6-8  
 Mburu, Lucas, 4-9  
 Men  ndez-Antu  a, Luis, 5-9, 5-18  
 Mensah, Michael, 5-11, 5-21a, 7-8  
 Meyer, Esias, 5-26  
 Michal, Gavin, 4-19  
 Michal, Gavin, 6-17  
 Moffitt, David, 4-22  
 Mokoena, Lerato, 4-23  
 Mokwena, Barnard, 6-24  
 Mosafer, Morteza, 5-7  
 Motuku, Kenosi, 5-5  
 M  ller van Velden, Nina, 6-12  
 Mung, Thang San, 5-3  
 Mushayabasa, Godwin, 4-19a, 5-17a

### N

Nagel, Peter, 6-11, 6-26, 7-1, 7-9  
 Naisan, Omar, 5-7  
 Natan-Yulzary, Shirly, 5-8  
 Ndoga, Sampson S., 6-3  
 Negewo, Tekalign, 5-1, 6-7  
 Nel, MJ, 6-7  
 Ngqeza, Zukile, 6-14  
 Nii Aboagye Aryeh, Daniel, 7-2  
 Notarius, Tania, 5-8, 5-15  
 Nsiah, Godfred, 7-8  
 Nystr  m, David, 6-15

### O

Olojede, Funlola, 4-24  
 Oosthuizen, Marlene, 5-14  
 Orr, Kimberly, 6-7  
 Ottuh, John, 7-8

### P

Padilla Peralta, Dan-el, 5-2a  
 Park, Young, 4-13  
 Penchansky, David, 4-25, 6-6  
 Penumala, Pratap Kumar, 6-23  
 Potgieter, Annette, 4-3, 4-11, 6-26, 7-4  
 Potgieter, Johan, 7-12  
 Prinsloo, Gert, 4-7, 6-28  
 Punt, Jeremia, 4-3  
 Pyschny, Katharina, 4-8

### R

Rabarijaona, Brigitte, 6-2  
 Ramantswana, Hulisani, 4-23  
 Raphael, Rebecca, 4-18  
 Redding, Jonathan, 4-1  
 Rembold, Stefanie, 4-24  
 Robar, Elizabeth, 4-16, 5-2, 5-17  
 R  mer, Thomas, 4-8  
 Runge, Steven, 6-13

---

## PROGRAM BOOK 2023

---

### S

Samet, Nili, 4-16, 5-17, 5-22  
Scheffler, Eben, 4-4, 5-14, 6-30  
Seidler, Ayelet, 4-5  
Seidler, Meir, 7-3  
Sethono, Kamagano, 4-27  
Shimon, Zvi, 4-5  
Sibanyoni, C., 5-17a  
Sibisi, Tracey, 6-20  
Simeon Paulraj, Gideon Sam,  
7-2  
Sitanggang, Asigor Parongna,  
5-6, 5-10, 7-4  
Sithole, Sizwe, 6-20  
Spangenberg, Izak, 5-22  
Spoelstra, Josh, 4-12  
Stewart, David, 7-4  
Steyn, Gert, 4-7  
Sutskover, Talia, 4-12, 5-20  
Sutton, Lodewyk, 6-10, 6-28

### T

Terefe, Nebeyou, 5-1  
Thabede, Slindile, 4-14  
Thela, Greyson, 6-20  
Thornburg, Zachary, 6-19  
Tops, Thomas, 7-2  
Trobisch, David, 5-18

### V

Valdez, Ana, 4-9, 5-1  
Valdivieso, Erika, 5-2a  
van den Heever, Gerhard, 5-23,  
7-9  
van den Os, Arjan, 6-4  
van der Merwe, Dirk, 5-3, 7-10  
van der Schoor, Hanneke, 4-6,  
4-20  
Van der Walt, Charlene, 5-24,  
6-20  
van der Zwan, Pieter, 4-4, 4-13,  
5-19, 6-14, 7-13

van Dijk-Coombes, Renate,  
4-21, 5-8a  
Verrijssen, Jeroen, 5-25  
Vitkovskiy, Vadim, 5-21, 6-8  
Volkonski, Alice, 6-31  
Vuolteenaho, Merja, 4-2, 4-11,  
5-6, 5-25

### W

Waler, Erik, 5-12  
Warren, William, 5-13, 5-25  
Weber, Beat, 4-5  
Wessels, Wilhelm, 6-30  
West, Gerald, 5-2a, 6-22, 6-24  
Westwood, Ursula, 6-25  
White, Benjamin, 6-21  
Williams, III, H. H. Drake, 4-2,  
5-6, 6-4, 6-15  
Wilson, Philip, 4-1  
Wong, Sonia Kwok, 4-9, 6-29  
Woodward, Tara, 4-21, 6-18

### Y

Yan, Lin, 4-17

### Z

Zhenjiang, Ning, 4-17  
Zhou, Zhihuan, 6-19  
Ziolkowski, Eric, 5-10  
Zucconi, Laura, 4-18

---

## SESSION INDEX

---

### Program Units

#### *Allusions in the Gospels and Acts*

6-8      Thu 10:30 AM–12:00 PM ..... Graduate Centre - 1-56

#### *Ancient Near East*

4-21     Tue 3:30 PM–5:00 PM ..... Graduate Centre - 1-56

#### *Apocalyptic Literature*

4-1      Tue 8:30 AM–10:00 AM ..... Graduate Centre - 1-56

5-1      Wed 8:30 AM–10:00 AM ..... Graduate Centre - 1-56

6-1      Thu 8:30 AM–10:00 AM ..... Graduate Centre - 1-56

#### *Apocrypha and Pseudepigrapha*

5-16     Wed 1:30 PM–3:00 PM ..... Graduate Centre - 1-56

#### *Apostolic Fathers and Related Early Christian Literature*

4-2      Tue 8:30 AM–10:00 AM ..... Graduate Centre - 1-64

6-15     Thu 1:30 PM–3:00 PM ..... Graduate Centre - 1-56

#### *Bible and Empire*

4-9      Tue 10:30 AM–12:00 PM ..... Graduate Centre - 1-56

5-9      Wed 10:30 AM–12:00 PM ..... Graduate Centre - 1-56

6-1      Thu 8:30 AM–10:00 AM ..... Graduate Centre - 1-56

#### *Biblical and Ancient Near Eastern Wisdom*

5-17     Wed 1:30 PM–3:00 PM ..... Graduate Centre - 1-64

5-22     Wed 3:30 PM–4:30 PM ..... Graduate Centre - 1-56

#### *Biblical Characters in Three Traditions (Judaism, Christianity, Islam)*

5-10     Wed 10:30 AM–12:00 PM ..... Graduate Centre - 1-64

#### *Biblical Hebrew Language and Linguistics*

4-16     Tue 1:30 PM–3:00 PM ..... Graduate Centre - 1-64

5-2      Wed 8:30 AM–10:00 AM ..... Graduate Centre - 1-64

#### *Biblical Interpretation in Early Christianity*

4-2      Tue 8:30 AM–10:00 AM ..... Graduate Centre - 1-64

#### *Catholic Epistles*

4-22     Tue 3:30 PM–5:00 PM ..... Graduate Centre - 1-64

#### *Contextual Interpretation of the Bible (Hebrew Bible/Old Testament and New Testament)*

4-17     Tue 1:30 PM–3:00 PM ..... Graduate Centre - 1-68

5-11     Wed 10:30 AM–12:00 PM ..... Graduate Centre - 1-68

6-18     Thu 1:30 PM–3:00 PM ..... Graduate Centre - 1-70

7-8      Fri 10:30 AM–12:00 PM ..... Graduate Centre - 1-64

#### *Early Christianity and the Ancient Economy*

6-19     Thu 1:30 PM–3:00 PM ..... Graduate Centre - 1-72

7-2      Fri 8:30 AM–10:00 AM ..... Graduate Centre - 1-64

---

## PROGRAM BOOK 2023

---

### ***Families and Children in the Ancient World***

4-3	Tue 8:30 AM–10:00 AM.....	Graduate Centre - 1-68
5-12	Wed 10:30 AM–12:00 PM.....	Graduate Centre - 1-70

### ***Feminist Interpretations***

4-10	Tue 10:30 AM–12:00 PM .....	Graduate Centre - 1-64
5-24	Wed 3:30 PM–5:00 PM .....	Graduate Centre - 1-68
6-12	Thu 10:30 AM–12:00 PM.....	Graduate Centre - 1-72

### ***Gospel of Mark***

5-13	Wed 10:30 AM–12:00 PM.....	Graduate Centre - 1-72
------	----------------------------	------------------------

### ***Healthcare and Disability in the Ancient World***

4-18	Tue 1:30 PM–3:00 PM.....	Graduate Centre - 1-70
------	--------------------------	------------------------

### ***Hellenistic Greek Language and Linguistics***

6-13	Thu 10:30 AM–12:00 PM.....	Graduate Centre - 1-74
------	----------------------------	------------------------

### ***Hellenistic Judaism***

6-25	Thu 3:30 PM–5:00 PM .....	Graduate Centre - 1-68
------	---------------------------	------------------------

### ***Johannine Literature***

5-3	Wed 8:30 AM–10:00 AM .....	Graduate Centre - 1-68
6-21	Thu 1:30 PM–3:00 PM .....	Graduate Centre - 1-76
7-10	Fri 10:30 AM–12:00 PM.....	Graduate Centre - 1-70

### ***Judaica***

5-4	Wed 8:30 AM–9:30 AM .....	Graduate Centre - 1-70
7-3	Fri 8:30 AM–9:30 AM .....	Graduate Centre - 1-68

### ***Paul and Pauline Literature***

4-11	Tue 10:30 AM–12:00 PM .....	Graduate Centre - 1-68
5-6	Wed 8:30 AM–10:00 AM .....	Graduate Centre - 1-74
6-4	Thu 8:30 AM–10:00 AM .....	Graduate Centre - 1-70
7-4	Fri 8:30 AM–10:00 AM .....	Graduate Centre - 1-70

### ***Pentateuch (Torah)***

4-12	Tue 10:30 AM–12:00 PM .....	Graduate Centre - 1-70
6-27	Thu 3:30 PM–5:00 PM .....	Graduate Centre - 1-70

### ***Place, Space, and Identity in the Ancient Mediterranean World***

6-28	Thu 3:30 PM–5:00 PM .....	Graduate Centre - 1-72
------	---------------------------	------------------------

### ***Political Biblical Criticism***

5-18	Wed 1:30 PM–3:00 PM .....	Graduate Centre - 1-68
------	---------------------------	------------------------

### ***Postcolonial Studies***

6-29	Thu 3:30 PM–5:00 PM .....	Graduate Centre - 1-74
------	---------------------------	------------------------

### ***Prophets***

7-12	Fri 10:30 AM–12:00 PM.....	Graduate Centre - 1-72
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## PRETORIA, SOUTH AFRICA

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### *Psychological Hermeneutics of Biblical Themes and Texts*

4-13	Tue 10:30 AM–12:00 PM .....	Graduate Centre - 1-72
5-19	Wed 1:30 PM–3:00 PM .....	Graduate Centre - 1-70
6-14	Thu 10:30 AM–12:00 PM .....	Graduate Centre - 1-76
6-30	Thu 3:30 PM–5:00 PM .....	Graduate Centre - 1-76
7-13	Fri 10:30 AM–12:00 PM .....	Graduate Centre - 1-74

### *Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls*

4-20	Tue 1:30 PM–3:00 PM .....	Graduate Centre - 1-72
6-5	Thu 8:30 AM–10:00 AM .....	Graduate Centre - 1-72

### *Quran and Islamic Tradition in Comparative Perspective*

4-25	Tue 3:30 PM–5:00 PM .....	Graduate Centre - 1-72
5-7	Wed 8:30 AM–10:00 AM .....	Graduate Centre - 1-76
6-6	Thu 8:30 AM–10:00 AM .....	Graduate Centre - 1-74

### *Stylistics and the Hebrew Bible*

4-5	Tue 8:30 AM–10:00 AM .....	Graduate Centre - 1-72
5-20	Wed 1:30 PM–3:00 PM .....	Graduate Centre - 1-72

### *Synoptic Gospels*

4-26	Tue 3:30 PM–5:00 PM .....	Graduate Centre - 1-74
5-21	Wed 1:30 PM–3:00 PM .....	Graduate Centre - 1-74
6-7	Thu 8:30 AM–10:00 AM .....	Graduate Centre - 1-76

### *Textual Criticism: Manuscripts & Methods*

4-6	Tue 8:30 AM–10:00 AM .....	Graduate Centre - 1-74
5-25	Wed 3:30 PM–5:00 PM .....	Graduate Centre - 1-70

### *Ugarit and Its World*

5-8	Wed 8:30 AM–10:00 AM .....	Graduate Centre - 2-65
5-15	Wed 10:30 AM–12:00 PM .....	Graduate Centre - 2-65

### *Writings (including Psalms)*

5-28	Wed 3:30 PM–5:00 PM .....	Graduate Centre - 1-76
7-6	Fri 8:30 AM–10:00 AM .....	Graduate Centre - 1-74

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## Special Sessions and Affiliates

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### *Ancient Near East and Hebrew Bible*

5-8a	Wed 10:30 AM–12:00 PM .....	Graduate Centre - 1-76
------	-----------------------------	------------------------

### *Between Promise and Contest: Post-colonial Receptions of the Land Theme in the Pentateuch*

6-2	Thu 8:30 AM–10:00 AM .....	Graduate Centre - 1-64
-----	----------------------------	------------------------

### *Bibles and Texts in East and South Asian Contexts (Hinduism)*

6-23	Thu 3:30 PM–5:00 PM .....	Graduate Centre - 1-56
------	---------------------------	------------------------

### *Biblical Hebrew Poetry*

5-17a	Wed 1:30 PM–3:00 PM .....	Graduate Centre - 1-76
-------	---------------------------	------------------------

---

## PROGRAM BOOK 2023

---

### ***Biblical Spirituality***

7-1 Fri 8:30 AM–10:00 AM ..... Graduate Centre - 1-56

### ***Biblical Spirituality***

6-17 Thu 1:30 PM–3:00 PM ..... Graduate Centre - 1-68

### ***Book Review Panel: How Isaiah Became an Author. Prophecy, Authority, and Attribution by David Davage***

6-9 Thu 10:30 AM–12:00 PM ..... Graduate Centre - 1-64

### ***Book Review: Divided Worlds? Challenges in Classics and New Testament Studies***

5-2a Wed 8:30 AM–10:00 AM ..... Graduate Centre - 2-67

### ***Celebrating the Legacy of Madipoane Masenya (ngwan'a Mphahlele)***

4-23 Tue 3:30 PM–5:00 PM ..... Graduate Centre - 1-68

### ***Chaos in the Psalms***

6-3 Thu 8:30 AM–10:00 AM ..... Graduate Centre - 1-68

### ***Chaos in the Psalms***

6-10 Thu 10:30 AM–12:00 PM ..... Graduate Centre - 1-68

### ***Conversations on Hermeneutics***

6-24 Thu 3:30 PM–5:00 PM ..... Graduate Centre - 1-64

### ***Conversations on Reading from a Particular Place***

4-24 Tue 3:30 PM–5:00 PM ..... Graduate Centre - 1-70

### ***Deutero-Canonical Readings***

6-11 Thu 10:30 AM–12:00 PM ..... Graduate Centre - 1-70

### ***Early Christian Studies***

7-9 Fri 10:30 AM–12:00 PM ..... Graduate Centre - 1-68

### ***Early Christian Studies***

5-23 Wed 3:30 PM–5:00 PM ..... Graduate Centre - 1-64

### ***Emerging Queer Biblical Scholarship from Southern Africa***

6-20 Thu 1:30 PM–3:00 PM ..... Graduate Centre - 1-74

### ***Fireside Chat***

5-15a Wed 12:00 PM–1:00 PM ..... Conference Centre - SRC Chambers/Boardroom

### ***Fireside Chat***

6-14b Thu 12:00 PM–1:00 PM ..... Conference Centre - SRC Chambers/Boardroom

### ***LXX Receptions and Interpretations 2***

6-26 Thu 3:30 PM–5:00 PM ..... Graduate Centre - 2-65

### ***LXX Receptions and Interpretations I***

6-22 Thu 1:30 PM–3:00 PM ..... Graduate Centre - 2-65

### ***LXXSA Business Meeting***

7-11 Fri 10:30 AM–12:00 PM ..... Graduate Centre - 2-65

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## PRETORIA, SOUTH AFRICA

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### ***New Testament Postgraduate Session***

5-5 Wed 8:30 AM–10:00 AM .....Graduate Centre - 1-72

### ***Old Testament Postgraduate Session***

4-19 Tue 1:30 PM–3:00 PM .....Graduate Centre - 1-74

### ***Opening Reception***

3-2 Mon 5:15 PM–6:15 PM .....Club Hall - Club Hall

### ***Opening Session***

3-1 Mon 4:00 PM–5:00 PM .....Musaion Building - Musaion Theatre

### ***Prophets***

4-19a Tue 1:30 PM–3:00 PM .....Graduate Centre - 1-76

### ***SASNES Business Meeting***

6-14a Thu 10:30 AM–12:00 PM .....Graduate Centre - 2-65

### ***SASNES Program Cont'd and Van Selms Lecture***

6-7a Thu 8:30 AM–10:00 AM .....Graduate Centre - 2-65

### ***Song of Songs***

6-31 Thu 3:30 PM–5:00 PM .....Graduate Centre - 2-67

### ***Song of Songs***

5-14 Wed 10:30 AM–12:00 PM .....Graduate Centre - 1-74

### ***Song of Songs***

4-4 Tue 8:30 AM–10:00 AM .....Graduate Centre - 1-70

### ***South African Perspectives on Hagar in the Three Monotheistic Traditions***

4-14 Tue 10:30 AM–12:00 PM .....Graduate Centre - 1-74

### ***The ICI into the Next Era: Past, Present, and Future-Looking Dialogue in an African context***

5-21a Wed 1:30 PM–3:00 PM .....Graduate Centre - 2-65

### ***The Pentateuch and an Ethics of (Im-)Migration***

5-26 Wed 3:30 PM–5:00 PM .....Graduate Centre - 1-72

### ***The Psalter, Wisdom***

4-7 Tue 8:30 AM–10:00 AM .....Graduate Centre - 1-76

### ***The Role of Context in Biblical Studies/Exegesis***

4-8 Tue 8:30 AM–10:00 AM .....Graduate Centre - 2-65

### ***Translation and Language in the Hebrew Bible***

5-27 Wed 3:30 PM–5:00 PM .....Graduate Centre - 1-74

### ***Trauma Hermeneutics in Biblical Literature***

4-27 Tue 3:30 PM–5:00 PM .....Graduate Centre - 1-76

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## EXHIBITORS

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Brill

De Gruyter

Logos Bible Software

Mohr Siebeck

Peeters Publishers

Save Ancient Studies

SBL Press

W. Kohlhammer GmbH

VK Innovations