

SOCIETY OF BIBLICAL LITERATURE
ICI REPORT FOR AUGUST 2019

(a) THE SBL ANNUAL MEETING 2019, SAN DIEGO

The next SBL Annual Meeting will take place in Denver, Colorado, from 23 to 26 November 2019. The Call for Papers is **closed**, Registering is **open**. Program Book is **available**.

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

SOME ADDITIONAL AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN SAN DIEGO!!:

Hotel	Website	Address	Phone	Fees*	Distance to San Diego Convention Center
USA Hostels San Diego*	www.usahostels.com/locations/san-diego/	726 Fifth Ave., San Diego, CA 92101	(619) 232-3100	\$31/night (dorms) to \$95/night (private)	.5 miles
HI San Diego Downtown*	www.hiusa.org	521 Market Street, San Diego, CA 92101	(619) 525-1531	\$45/night (dorms) to \$96/night (single)	.5 miles
Lucky D's Hostel	www.luckydshostel.com	618 Eighth Ave., San Diego, CA 92101	(619) 595-0000	\$58/night (dorms)	.7 miles
Ramada by Wyndham San Diego Gaslamp	www.wyndhamhotels.com	830 6th Avenue, San Diego, CA 92101	(619) 531-8877	\$84/night	.7 miles
Found Hotel San Diego*	www.foundhotels.com	505 West Grape Street, San Diego, CA 92101	(619) 230-1600	\$29/night (dorms) to \$119/night (single)	1.5 miles
Motel 6 San Diego Airport	www.motel6.com	2353 Pacific Highway, San Diego, CA 92101	(619) 232-8931	\$85/night	2 miles

Fees are subject to change

*Hostel or guest house may have common shared dormitories or bathrooms

(b) THE SBL INTERNATIONAL MEETING 2020, ADELAIDE

The next SBL International Meeting will take place in the University of Adelaide, Adelaide, Australia, from 5 to 9 July 2020. The Call for Papers is not open yet, Registering is not open yet. Program Book is not available yet.

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

Visa letters for travel to the Annual or International Meetings

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

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

- Africa and Middle East
- Asia and Pacific
- Eastern Europe

- Latin America and Caribbean

For awards offered in 2020, each ITAP will administer \$3,000 in awards in each region. The panels may determine the best distribution of funds (e.g., as one \$1000 and one \$2000 award, or as three awards of \$1000 each). The applicants must attend the Annual or International Meetings, but may or may not participate in the program, depending upon their needs expressed in the application. All grants include lodging (one room, single or shared) for four nights and complimentary meeting registration. Recipients may not have attended an Annual or International Meeting within the last five (5) years.

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

(d) PUBLICATION IN ANCIENT NEAR EAST MONOGRAPHS (ANEM)

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

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

http://www.sbl-site.org/publications/Books_ANEmonographs.aspx (SBL English version)

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

The latest volume in ANEM is:

SCHELLENBERG, Annette, Thomas KRUGER (eds.) Sounding Sensory Profiles in The Ancient Near East. Ancient Near East Monographs – Monografías sobre el Antiguo Oriente, Volume 25. Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature – Centro de Estudios del Antiguo Oriente, 2019. 422 pp. ISBN 9781628372410

An interdisciplinary essay collection from an international group of experts. For several decades sociologists and cultural anthropologists have intensively researched the role of the senses in a variety of cultures, and their studies show how diverse cultures understand and evaluate the five or more senses differently. In this collection of eighteen essays, biblical and ancient Near Eastern scholars, as well as cultural anthropologists, apply the questions and methods from anthropological and sociological studies to Israel, Mesopotamia, and Egypt. Experts offer insights into the meaning of the senses in the ancient world, examining the classical senses (seeing, hearing, touching, smelling, tasting) as well as other senses (such as kinesthesia and the sense of balance) and sense-related issues (such as disgust, sensory imagination, and disabilities). This collection provides a stimulus and a basis for students and scholars to explore the senses in the ancient Near East.

Features:

- Exploration of the relationship between sensory experience and reasoning.
- Assessments of how theory and practice of the senses relate to each other.
- Essays examining connections between emotions and senses.

(e) PUBLICATION IN INTERNATIONAL VOICES IN BIBLICAL STUDIES (IVBS)

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

<http://ivbs.sbl-site.org/home.aspx>. If you would consider publishing your work in this series, feel free to contact one of the two general editors, [Monica Melanchthon](#) or [Jione Havea](#).

The latest volume in IVBS is:

Byung-Mu Ahn, Hanna in (Translator), Wongi Park (Translator). Stories of Minjung Theology: The Theological Journey of Ahn Byung-Mu in His Own Words Atlanta: SBL Press, 2019.

Trace the theological awakening of one of the foremost Asian theologians. This autobiography combines the personal story of theologian Ahn Byung-Mu with the history of the Korean nation in light of the dramatic social, political, and cultural upheavals of the 1970s. This book traces Ahn's journey from his childhood in Korea under Japanese colonial rule, to his study in Germany, his return to Korea, through his realization of the unsuitability of German scholarship to his own Korean context. It records the history of minjung (the people's) theology that emerged in Asia, Ahn's involvement in it, and his interpretations of major Christian doctrines such as God, sin, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit from the minjung perspective.

Features:

- The first English translation of Ahn's autobiography, considered one of the best works in minjung theology and contextual biblical interpretation.
- Conversations between Ahn and young Korean theologians.
- An introductory essay that situates Ahn's work in its context and discusses the place and purpose of minjung hermeneutics in a vastly different Korea.

(f) ICI ONLINE BOOK REPOSITORY

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

http://www.sbl-site.org/publications/Books_ICIbooks.aspx

New books added to the repository!:

Elayi, Josette. Sennacherib, King of Assyria. Archaeology and Biblical Studies 24. Atlanta: SBL Press, 2018.

Josette Elayi's *Sennacherib, King of Assyria* is the only biography of Sargon II's famous son. Elayi traces the reign of Sennacherib in context in order to illuminate more fully the life and contributions of this warlord, builder, innovator, and social reformer—a unique figure among the Assyrian kings. Elayi offers both an evaluation of this royal figure and an assessment of the Assyrian Empire by interpreting the historical information surrounding the decisive events of his reign.

Finkelstein, Israel. Hasmonean Realities Behind Ezra, Nehemiah, and Chronicles: Archaeological and Historical Perspectives. Ancient Israel and Its Literature 34. Atlanta: SBL Press, 2018.

In this collection of essays, Israel Finkelstein deals with key topics in *Ezra*, *Nehemiah*, and *1 and 2 Chronicles*, such as the list of returnees, the construction of the city wall of Jerusalem, the adversaries of *Nehemiah*, the tribal genealogies, and the territorial expansion of Judah in *2 Chronicles*. Finkelstein argues that the geographical and historical realities cached behind at least parts of these books fit the Hasmonean period in the late second century BCE. Seven previously published essays are supplemented by maps, updates to the archaeological material, and references to recent publications on the topics.

Robbins, Vernon K. Sea Voyages and Beyond: Emerging Strategies in Socio-Rhetorical Interpretation. Emory Studies in Early Christianity 14. Atlanta: SBL Press, 2018.

Essays in this volume from Vernon K. Robbins merge social and rhetorical

strategies of interpretation and set the stage for how socio-rhetorical interpretation has developed in the context of research into the rhetoric of religious antiquity. This book contains “By Land and By Sea: The We Passages and Ancient Sea Voyages” (1978), which initially received widespread praise and then became an object of significant criticism. The volume includes Robbins’s varied, detailed responses to both encouragement and critique of his approach.

(g) JSTOR

JSTOR provides free or low cost access to more than 1,500 institutions in 69 countries.

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

Need JSTOR Access?

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

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

(h) ICI TEACHING COLLABORATION PROGRAM

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

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

(i) SBL WOMEN'S ARCHIVE PROJECT NEW!

The number of women and the types of roles they hold in the SBL have been increasing since Anna Ely Rhoads joined in 1894. Women push methodological boundaries, teach and mentor students, and support guild initiatives by serving as editors, program chairs, committee members, and officers. To honor women's accomplishments and to consider the unique challenges they continue to face, the Society is developing a digital archive to preserve the stories of women in the guild. We invite women members to share their personal stories through video, audio, pictorial, and written reflections. Submissions will become part of the official SBL archival records. It is our hope that this will become the first of many archive projects that will preserve the unique experience of members from a guild that continues to grow, change, and become more inclusive.

For more reflection guidelines and submission instructions, see the SBL Women's Archive [page](#). Check out the [FAQ](#) for additional information about this project and the archive.

(j) JOURNAL OF BIBLICAL LITERATURE (JBL) ARCHIVE

Take note that an archive with JBL articles from volume 122.1 of 2003 through volume 130.1 of 2011 is available online to people accessing the SBL website from any ICI country. See http://www.sbl-site.org/publications/ICI_JBLarchive.aspx. All articles in those volumes can be downloaded for free!

(k) THE SBL WEBSITE

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

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

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

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

(l) EVENTS

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

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

A selection of events is listed below—mainly those taking place in ICI regions.

Please provide information on conferences in your region, including calls for papers, to Sharon Johnson at sharon.johnson@sbl-site.org.

2019**9/2-9/13 Oxford Biblical Hebrew Summer School**

Ten days of intensive teaching in biblical Hebrew - at the Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies. The course corresponds to two terms of intensive teaching for a full-time university student and is open to students with or without experience of the language. The cost of the school is £300 per student for 30 hours of language instruction.

<https://www.ochjs.ac.uk/biblical-hebrew-summer-school/>

9/30 CFP Deadline: Phenomenology of Religious Experience IV: Religious Experience and Description

“Open Theology” (<http://www.degruyter.com/view/j/opth>) invites submissions for the topical issue “Phenomenology of Religious Experience IV: Religious Experience and Description”, prepared in collaboration with the Society for the Phenomenology of Religious Experience (www.sophere.org).

10/15 Deadline for Albright Fellowship Applications

The Albright annually provides up to \$330,000 in fellowships and awards to 32 recipients. In addition, 32 Associate Fellows including Senior, Post-Doctoral, and Research Fellows receive funding from other sources. Fellowships are open to students and scholars in Near Eastern studies from prehistory through the Islamic periods, including the fields of archaeology, anthropology, art history, Bible, epigraphy, historical geography, history, language, literature, philology and religion and related disciplines.

<http://www.aiar.org/fellowships>

10/23-10/24 Signs, Wonders and Mighty Works: God's Activity in the History of Salvation

The Institute of Biblical Studies at the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, Poland, is hosting an international biblical conference dealing with the theme of miracles in the Bible and extra-biblical traditions of the ancient Mediterranean world.

<http://ocs.academicon.pl/index.php/test/Miracles/index>

2020

4/30 CFP Deadline: Women and Gender in the Bible and the Biblical World

"Open Theology" (<http://www.degruyter.com/view/j/opth>) invites submissions for the topical issue "Women and Gender in the Bible and the Biblical World", prepared in collaboration with the conference "Women and Gender in the Bible and the Ancient World", held by University of Glasgow.

<https://www.degruyter.com/page/1972>

(m) SBL EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES FREELY AVAILABLE

There are links to numerous educational resources on the SBL website. The following are freely available: (i) Resources on Teaching the Bible; (ii) Freely

downloadable Hebrew, Greek and Transliteration fonts (amongst others); (iii) Resources on Bible translations and commentaries; and (iv) Research tool resources.

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

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

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

(n) PLEASE PASS ON THE INFORMATION

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

Thanks a lot for your interest and spread the word!

Juan

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