

**SOCIETY OF BIBLICAL LITERATURE**  
**ICI REPORT FOR APRIL 2022**

**(a) THE SBL ANNUAL MEETING 2022, DENVER, COLORADO**

November 19-22, 2022, Colorado Convention Center in Denver, Colorado, USA.

**Call for papers is now closed.** Check back here for registration opening:

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

**(b) THE SBL INTERNATIONAL MEETING 2022, SALZBURG**

**Call for papers is now closed. Registration is open.**

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

The upcoming 2022 SBL International Meeting will be held in Salzburg, Austria from July 17-21, 2022. We are excited for the opportunity to meet with international scholars again, for an in-person event. ... We recommend that you secure housing for our meeting well in advance of the timeframe you would typically use.

**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.

(The [Regional Scholars Awards](#) are intended to encourage North American members to participate in their region as well as receive travel assistance to the Annual Meeting.)

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 2021, 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.

**Please see the [SBL Meeting International Travel Grants page](#) for information regarding eligibility, award inclusions, application procedure, and criteria for awards.**

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.

The International Travel Awards defray transportation, hotel accommodations, and other expenses incurred for the Annual or International Meetings. Award monies will be distributed as reimbursement for expenses incurred for travel to/from the meeting and meals while attending the meeting.

- Please contact the [travel grant administrator](#) with any questions.

**Deadlines**

**The present Travel Grants Awards cycle is now closed.** Award decisions will be announced in April.

**The Award Panels**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Panel</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Years of Term</u>
Pablo R. Andiónach	Latin America and Caribbean	2	2021-2023
Benjamin Giffone	Eastern Europe	2	2021-2023
Madipoane J. Masenya	Africa and Middle East	2	2021-2023
Dora Rudo	Africa and Middle East	2	2021-2023
Mbuwayesango			
Nelson Morales	Latin America and Caribbean	1	2019-2021
Ester Petrenko	Eastern Europe	2	2021-2023
Carmen Palmer (Chair)	All Panels	1	2021-2023
Juan Manuel Tebes	All Panels	2	2021-2023
Nasili Vaka'uta	Asia and Pacific	2	2021-2023
Elaine M. Wainwright	Asia and Pacific	2	2021-2023

**(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](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:

**NOEGEL, Scott B. *Wordplay in Ancient Near Eastern Texts*. Ancient Near East Monographs – Monografías sobre el Antiguo Oriente, Volume 26. Atlanta: SBL Press – Centro de Estudios del Antiguo Oriente, 2021, forthcoming. ISBN 9781628372939**

The first comprehensive taxonomy of functions and types of “wordplay” in ancient Near Eastern texts.

This book from Scott B. Noegel offers a comparative, in-depth study of “wordplay” in ancient Near Eastern texts. Noegel establishes comprehensive taxonomies for the many kinds of devices that scholars label as wordplay and for their proposed functions. The consistent terminology Noegel proposes offers students and scholars of Sumerian, Akkadian, Egyptian, Ugaritic, Hebrew, and Aramaic a useful template for documenting and understanding the devices they discover. The book concludes by suggesting potential avenues for future research.

#### **(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 of IVBS:*****Terror in the Bible: Rhetoric, Gender, and Violence*****Edited by Monica Jyotsna Melanchthon and Robyn J. Whitaker. IVBS 14. Atlanta: SBL, 2021.**

This volume of essays, inspired by Phyllis Trible's *Texts of Terror*, examines the terrorizing potential of biblical texts as they intersect with issues of context, gender, caste, violence, and colonization/imperialism. Contributors writing from Australia, India, New Zealand, Tonga, South Africa, and the US interrogate biblical texts from the Hebrew Bible and New Testament to bring to the fore their terrorizing and terrifying potential and their violent and violating impact particularly on women and minoritized men as they intersect with cultures in their home contexts. Essays engage Trible by paying attention to some of the same biblical texts through new questions, extending the repertoire of Trible's terrorizing texts to include those not always seen as texts of terror and stretching and extending her interpretations into new contexts. Contributors include Karen Eller, Rachelle Gilmour, Laura Griffin, Jione Havea, Dorothy A. Lee, Monica Jyotsna Melanchthon, Brent Pelton, Angela Sawyer, David Tombs, Gerald O. West, Robyn J. Whitaker, and Adela Yarbro Collins. A foreword by Phyllis Trible reflects on what motivated her work and how this volume pushes the academy and the church to deal with the violence inherent in some biblical texts.

**A Thank-You Note from Jione Havea on behalf of the IVBS Editorial Board [jhavea@gmail.com](mailto:jhavea@gmail.com):**

Jione Havea has been requesting volunteers to assist with proofreading, copyediting, and typesetting manuscripts for authors who write in English as a second language.

**Thank you to the volunteers who have responded to the call!**

Heather McKay, John Goldingay, Eric Smith, Lynn Huber, Ian Atkinson, Ashraf Hanna, Brenna Salverson, Yan Kalampung, Erin Newton, Olubunmi A. Adegbola.

If you would still like to volunteer, please be in touch with Jione at the email address above.

**(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](http://www.sbl-site.org/publications/Books_ICIbooks.aspx)

**Check out these volumes that have been added since January, 2022!**

**Collett, Donald, Mark Elliott, Mark Gignilliat, and Ephraim Radner, eds. *Identity of Israel's God in Christian Scripture. Resources for Biblical Study 96*. Atlanta: SBL Press, 2020.**

Biblical scholars and theologians engage an important question: Who is Israel's God for Christian readers of the Old Testament? For Christians, Scripture is the Old and New Testament bound together in a single legacy. Contributors approach the question from multiple disciplinary vantage points. Essays on both Testaments focus on figural exegesis, critical exegesis, and the value of diachronic understandings of the Old Testament's compositional history for the sake of a richer synchronic reading. This collection is offered in celebration of the life and work of Christopher R. Seitz. His rich and wide-ranging scholarly efforts have provided scholars and students alike a treasure trove of resources related to this critical question.

**Runia, David T., and Gregory E. Sterling, eds. *Studia Philonica Annual: Studies in Hellenistic Judaism, Volume XXXII*. Atlanta: SBL Press, 2020.**

Friends and colleagues of Professor Gregory E. Sterling offer essays honoring his life and work in this special edition of *The Studia Philonica Annual*. This volume includes Sterling's biography and a bibliography of his scholarship. Contributors include Harold W. Attridge, Ellen Birnbaum, Adela Yarbro Collins, John J. Collins, Michael B. Cover, Jan Willem van Henten, Carl R. Holladay, Andrew McGowan, Karl-Wilhelm Niebuhr, Maren R. Niehoff, James R. Royse, and David T. Runia. Essays cover a range of topics of related to Hellenistic Judaism, including Philo, the Bible, and Josephus.

**Thuren, Lauri, ed. *Rhetoric and Scripture: Collected Essays of Thomas H. Olbricht*. Emory Studies in Early Christianity 23. Atlanta: SBL Press, 2021.**

This book offers a unique overview of the development of rhetorical criticism both in North America and internationally through the work of pioneering New Testament scholar Thomas H. Olbricht. Lauri Thurén has gathered nineteen of Olbricht's essays as a guidebook to rhetorical criticism for students, clergy, and scholars. The range of essays from throughout Olbricht's career illuminate the history of rhetorical criticism and reflect the different motivations of ancient and contemporary rhetorical approaches. Essays focus on the history of biblical rhetorical analysis, the rhetorical analysis of biblical texts, the characteristics of rhetorical analysis, and types of biblical rhetorical criticism. A foreword by Thurén and a memorial essay by Carl R. Holladay contextualize Olbricht's work. Anyone interested in the rhetorical study of the New Testament will find this volume inspiring and informative.

**Rubenstein, Jeffrey L., ed. *Studies in Rabbinic Narratives: Volume One*. Providence: Brown Judaic Studies, 2021.**

Rabbinic literature includes hundreds of stories and brief narrative traditions. These narrative traditions often take the form of biographical anecdotes that recount a deed or event in the life of a rabbi. Modern scholars consider these narratives as didactic fictions—stories used to teach lessons, promote rabbinic values, and grapple with the tensions and conflicts of rabbinic life. Using methods drawn from literary and cultural theory, including feminist, structuralist, Marxist, and psychoanalytic methods, contributors analyze narratives from the Babylonian Talmud, midrash, Mishnah, and other rabbinic compilations to shed light on their meanings, functions, and narrative art. Contributors include Julia Watts Belser, Beth Berkowitz, Dov Kahane, Jane L. Kanarek, Tzvi Novick, James Adam Redfield, Jay Rovner, Jeffrey L. Rubenstein, Zvi Septimus, Dov Weiss, and Barry Scott Wimpfheimer.

**Berlin, Andrea M., and Paul J. Kosmin, eds. *The Middle Maccabees: Archaeology, History, and the Rise of the Hasmonean Kingdom*. *Archaeology and Biblical Studies* 28. Atlanta: SBL Press, 2021.**

*The Middle Maccabees* lays out the charged, complicated beginnings of the independent Jewish state founded in the second century BCE. Contributors offer focused analyses of the archaeological, epigraphic, numismatic, and textual evidence, framed within a wider world of conflicts between the Ptolemies of Egypt, the Seleucids of Syria, and the Romans. The result is a holistic view of the Hasmonean rise to power that acknowledges broader political developments, evolving social responses, and the particularities of local history. Contributors include Uzi ‘Ad, Donald T. Ariel, Andrea M. Berlin, Efrat Bocher, Altay Coskun, Benedikt Eckhardt, Gerald Finkielsztejn, Christelle Fischer-Bovet, Yuval Gadot, Erich Gruen, Sylvie Honigman, Jutta Jokiranta, Paul J. Kosmin, Uzi Leibner, Catharine Lorber, Duncan E. MacRae, Dvir Raviv, Helena Roth, Débora Sandhaus, Yiftah Shalev, Nitsan Shalom, Danny Syon, Yehiel Zelinger, and Ayala Zilberstein.

**Lemos, T. M., Jordan D. Rosenblum, Karen B. Stern, Debra Scoggins Ballentine, eds. *With the Loyal You Show Yourself Loyal: Essays on Relationships in the Hebrew Bible in Honor of Saul M. Olyan*. *Ancient Israel and Its Literature* 42. Atlanta: SBL Press, 2021.**

Contributors to this volume come together to honor the lifetime of work of Saul M. Olyan, Samuel Ungerleider Jr. Professor of Judaic Studies and Professor of Religious Studies at Brown University. Essays by his students, colleagues, and friends focus on and engage with his work on relationships in the Hebrew Bible, from the marking of status in relationships of inequality, to human family, friend, and sexual relationships, to relationships between divine beings. Contributors include Susan Ackerman, Klaus-Peter Adam, Rainer Albertz, Andrea Allgood, Debra Scoggins Ballentine, Bob Becking, John J. Collins, Stephen L. Cook, Ronald Hendel, T. M. Lemos, Nathaniel B. Levtow, Carol Meyers, Susan Niditch, Brian Rainey, Thomas Römer, Jordan D. Rosenblum, Ru’diger Schmitt, Jennifer Elizabeth Singletary, Kerry M. Sonia, Karen B. Stern, Stanley Stowers, Andrew Tobolowsky, Karel van der Toorn, Emma Wasserman, and Steven Weitzman.

**(g) PEDAGOGY AND TEACHING SUPPORT PEER BLOG FOR FRIENDS OF THE ICI**

<https://internationalpedagogies.wordpress.com>

**RECENT POST SUMAMRIZING THE SBL ICI PANDEMIC PEDAGOGIES SESSION!** Other entries are welcome on the topic of pedagogical learnings / teaching adaptations made during the ongoing pandemic. If you would also like to contribute to the Friends of the ICI International Pedagogies blog, please be in touch with [Carmen Palmer](#).

**(h) ICI TEACHING COLLABORATION PROGRAM**

The Teaching Collaboration Program of SBL's International Cooperation Initiative was established a number of years ago to facilitate faculty cooperation, including exchange and co-supervision among scholars and institutions in different parts of the world.

ICI Scholar List: <https://www.sbl-site.org/educational/ICIScholarList.aspx>

These scholars have expressed an interest in mentoring students via the Internet, teaching online reading courses, or traveling abroad to teach [n.b., when the pandemic is over].

Individuals who need a mentor or institutions who are in need of teachers with a particular area of expertise may review the information provided to find those whose qualifications and time available match their needs. You are invited to contact any of these scholars directly. SBL is not responsible for making arrangements between institutions or students and scholars; SBL serves only as the host of the data so that the interested parties may identify and contact each other.

To be included in the Instructor's Database, please complete the form here <https://www.sbl-site.org/educational/ICIScholar.aspx>

**(i) JOURNAL OF BIBLICAL LITERATURE (JBL) ARCHIVE**

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



**(j) 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, SBL's *Review of Biblical Literature* is now a part of the new SBL Central site, where you will find the 10,000+ book reviews that RBL has published since its initial launch in 1998.

<https://www.sblcentral.org/home>

**(k) JSTOR**

**News! “JSTOR and participating publishers are making an expanded set of content freely available to help during the ongoing crisis.**

**Support for participating institutions**

Access to unlicensed collections for participating academic institutions that currently license some, but not all, JSTOR Archive and Primary Source collections through June 30, 2022.”

[https://about.jstor.org/covid19/?utm\\_source=jstor&utm\\_medium=display&utm\\_campaign=dsp\\_jstor\\_home\\_right\\_covid19\\_03\\_2020](https://about.jstor.org/covid19/?utm_source=jstor&utm_medium=display&utm_campaign=dsp_jstor_home_right_covid19_03_2020)

The [JSTOR Access Initiative](#) program provides free or reduced-fee access according to a tiered system. It offers unlimited access to a collection of all archival journals and primary sources on JSTOR.

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. Then, under the tab “Membership,” click on “Member Benefits” and scroll down to “Subscriptions.”

### **(I) UPCOMING EVENTS**

The SBL maintains a significant list of events taking place anywhere in the globe. For the full list please go to <http://www.sbl-site.org/meetings/events.aspx>

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

#### **6/2-6/3 SNSF MARK16 second online conference**

**“The Transmission of Mark’s Endings in Different Traditions and Languages”, org. by Claire Clivaz, Mina Monier and Dan Batovici (Lausanne, CH & Leuven, BE).**

29 papers will present an overview and recent discoveries about the endings of the Gospel according to Mark in nine ancient languages and traditions. Papers will be available online before the conference to enrolled participants! Inscriptions by email to [claire.clivaz@sib.swiss](mailto:claire.clivaz@sib.swiss).

More information: <https://claireclivaz.hypotheses.org/2208>

#### **8/1-8/3 Colloquium Biblicum Lovaniense LXXI (2022) on Qumran and the New Testament**

The Colloquium Biblicum Lovaniense is an annual international conference on Biblical Studies jointly organised by the theological faculties of the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven and the Université catholique de Louvain. The meetings take place in the Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies at the KU Leuven and are alternately dedicated to a topic in Old and in New Testament Studies. The Colloquium offers a forum and meeting place for research and scholarly discussion in the field of Biblical Studies. As a rule the annual conference focuses on a biblical book or a collection of writings, but it also addresses thematic subjects.

**(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>

**(n) BIBLE ODYSSEY****Great online source in times of the COVID-19 ongoing pandemic**

Remember to check the newly-developed **Bible Odyssey** online portal. See [www.bibleodyssey.org](http://www.bibleodyssey.org). This portal offers wonderful educational resources, but also resources for broader popular audiences. Use this site to popularize our academic studies in faith communities! Any topics you would like to see Bible Odyssey address? Just send a message to: [bow@sbl-site.org](mailto:bow@sbl-site.org)

**Recent new entry from Bible Odyssey:**

This month: showcasing this faculty-undergraduate collaboration by Dr. Shawna Dolansky and Mr. Andrew Wilson, in Member Spotlight (under Bible Odyssey interviews): <https://www.sbl-site.org/membership/MemberSpotlight.aspx>

[Nile](#)

[Sign up for the Bible Odyssey Newsletter](#)

**Bible Odyssey Translation Project**

The ICI is taking on the role of networking with other non-anglophone biblical studies learned societies around the world to translate Bible Odyssey articles into several key languages.

**News!:** The following Spanish translations have been added recently to Bible Odyssey:

<https://www.bibleodyssey.org/tools/bible-basics/how-do-biblical-scholars-read-the-hebrew-bible-spanish>

<https://www.bibleodyssey.org/passages/related-articles/woman-adulterer-motif-spanish>

<https://www.bibleodyssey.org/tools/bible-basics/did-the-authors-of-the-canonical-gospels-know-each-other-spanish>

<https://www.bibleodyssey.org/passages/main-articles/good-samaritan-spanish>

<https://www.bibleodyssey.org/tools/video-gallery/a/abraham-in-judaism-christianity-and-islam-said-reynolds-spanish>

<https://www.bibleodyssey.org/tools/bible-basics/how-do-biblical-scholars-study-the-new-testament-Spanish>

<https://www.bibleodyssey.org/tools/video-gallery/w/woman-favorite-bible-meyers-Spanish>

<https://www.bibleodyssey.org/en/people/main-articles/Isaac-Spanish>

<https://www.bibleodyssey.org/passages/related-articles/akedah-in-jewish-tradition-spanish>

<https://www.bibleodyssey.org/people/related-articles/postcolonial-reading-of-hagar-spanish>

<https://www.bibleodyssey.org/passages/related-articles/political-significance-of-lukes-christmas-story-spanish>

<https://www.bibleodyssey.org/tools/video-gallery/f/formation-of-the-penteteuch-ska-spanish>

<https://www.bibleodyssey.org/tools/bible-basics/how-has-new-testament-scholarship-changed-over-time-spanish>

<https://www.bibleodyssey.org/tools/bible-basics/gender-and-the-hebrew-bible-spanish>

<https://www.bibleodyssey.org/passages/main-articles/binding-and-sacrifice-of-isaac-spanish>

There are translations to Vietnamese, made by the Vietnamese Biblical Theology Society (VBTS) <https://www.vietbib.org/>, and to Spanish, made by the Argentinean Biblical Association (ABA), <https://www.abargentina.org/>.

We soon expect more developments for Portuguese, Korean, and Mandarin Chinese. For Chinese, talks are held with the Center for Judaic and Inter-religious Studies at Shandong University. For Portuguese, talks are held with Portuguese Jesuits' Communication Office. Stay tuned for more developments!

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

If someone you know anyone has been asking for a quick introduction to the work of the ICI Committee, feel free to direct them to this brief SBL Member Spotlight interview: <https://www.sbl-site.org/membership/MemberSpotlight.aspx>

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.

Thank you for your ongoing interest and support!

Carmen Palmer  
Chair, International Cooperation Initiative of the Society of Biblical Literature