

Membership
Fees

71st General
Meeting
MONTREAL 2016

72nd General
Meeting
PRETORIA 2017

Society
Consultation

New Member
Nominations



SNTS NEWSLETTER

Society News

The minutes of the 71st General Meeting in Montreal will be available on the Society website. Below are some particular highlights:

- The 71st General Meeting of the Society took place in Montreal, the second time this city had hosted the Society. There were 254 registered participants. The Society is grateful to Prof. Gerbern Oegema and his colleagues in Montreal for collaborating to ensure the success of the meeting. A full report of the academic programme of the General Meeting will be published in the April issue of *New Testament Studies*.
- Prof. Carl Holladay (USA) was inducted as *President* of the Society and delivered his Presidential Address, entitled 'Acts as Kerygma: λαλεῖν τὸν λόγον'. He will be the Society's President until the next General Meeting in Pretoria.
- Prof. Michael Wolter (Germany) was elected *President* by the Society for the 2017 General Meeting in Pretoria, South Africa. He now serves on the Committee as *President-Elect*.
- Prof. Jean Zumstein (Switzerland) was nominated by the Committee to become *President* of the Society at the 2018 General Meeting in Athens, Greece.
- Main papers were delivered by Guy Bonneau (Canada), 'Images et émotions: Prolégomènes à l'étude de la réception des textes néotestamentaires dans les tableaux du



Caravage'; Paula Fredriksen (Israel), 'How Jewish is God? Theology and Ethnicity in Ancient Christianity'; Jens Herzer (Germany), 'Zwischen Mythos und Wahrheit: Neue Perspektiven auf die Pastoralbriefe'; and Risto Uro (Finland), 'Cognitive Science in the Study of Early Christianity: How it is helpful, and why?'

- The *Quaestiones Disputatae*, chaired by the *President*, engaged three panellists – Matthias Klinghardt (Germany); Jason BeDuhn (USA); Judith Lieu (UK) – who addressed the question 'Marcion's Gospel and the New Testament: Catalyst or Consequence?'
- Profs Andreas Dettwiler (Switzerland) and Christos Karakolis (Greece) retired from the Committee; and, Profs Uta Poplutz (Germany) and Risto Uro (Finland) were elected to replace them and serve as Trustees on the Committee for a period of three years.

- Eighteen scholars were elected to membership of the Society: Rev. Dr Vicky (Victoria) S. BALABANSKI (Senior Lecturer, Flinders University of South Australia); Dr Bärbel BOSENIUS (Privatdozentin for New Testament, Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany); Dr Marijke H. de LANG (Global Translation Advisor, United Bible Societies); Dr Athanasios DESPOTIS (Privatdozent, Protestant Theological Faculty of the University of Bonn, Germany); Dr Gabriella GELARDINI (Privatdozentin für Neues Testament, Universität Basel, Switzerland); Dr Nathan EUBANK (Associate Professor of New Testament Studies, Oxford University, UK); Dr Patrick GRAY (Associate Professor of Biblical Studies, Rhodes College, Memphis, TN, USA); Prof. George H. GUTHRIE (Benjamin W. Perry Professor of Bible, Union University, Jackson, TN, USA); Dr Juan HERNÁNDEZ, Jr. (Professor of New Testament and Early Christianity, Bethel University, St. Paul, MN); Prof. Christina HOEGEN-ROHLS (Professor für Bibelwissenschaften und ihre Didaktik, Universität Münster, Germany); Dr Fergus J. KING (Conjoint Senior Lecturer, University of Newcastle, NSW, Australia); Dr David LINCICUM (Associate Professor of New Testament and Early Christian Studies, University of Notre Dame, USA); Prof. Christoph MARKSCHIES (Professor of Ancient Christianity, Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany); Dr Kevin B. McCRUDEN (Professor of Religious Studies, Gonzaga University, Spokane, Washington, USA); Dr Nils NEUMANN (Vertretungsdozent für Neues Testament, Universität Bern, Germany); Dr Thomas B. SLATER (Professor of New Testament Language and Literature, Mercer University, Macon, GA, USA); Prof. H. Gregory SNYDER (Professor of Religion, Davidson College, NC, USA); Dr Michael THEOPHILOS (Senior Lecturer in Biblical Studies and Ancient Languages, Australian Catholic University).
- The Society received with regret news of the deaths of the following 32 (former) members: John Ashton (Feb 2016); Donald S. Deer (Jan 2013); Heinz Giesen (Jul 2016); Dikran Hadidian; Ferdinand Hahn (Jul 2015); Robert Hamerton-Kelly (Jul 2013); Daniel J. Harrington (Feb 2014); Niels Hyldahl (Aug 2015); Ivor Jones (Apr 2016); Günter Klein (Jan 2016); Helmut Koester (Jan 2016); Theo

de Kruijf (Jun 2014); Gerard J. Kuiper (2014); I. Howard Marshall (Dec 2015); Stanley B. Marrow (Feb 2012); M.J.J. Menken (Mar 2016); Elliot M. Mgojo (Sep 2012); D. Moody Smith (May 2016); Franz Mussner (Mar 2016); Kurt Niederwimmer (Dec 2015); Dennis Nineham (May 2016); Gonzalo Aranda Perez (Apr 2016); Quentin Quesnell (Nov 2012); Heikki Räisänen; James M. Robinson (Mar 2016); Cyril Rodd (Aug 2015); Jack T. Sanders (Jan 2016); B. Schneider (Jan 2015); Luise Schottroff (Feb 2015); John H. Schütz (Sep 2015); Jan Szlaga (Apr 2012); Jean-Marie Van Cangh (May 2013). Members observed a minute's silence in memory of these scholars. The following members resigned their memberships during the past year: Dafydd Davies; Daniel Fraikin; Leander Keck; Jarmo Kiilunen; Matti Myllykoski; Martin Rese; Willy Rordorf.

- The *Treasurer*, Dr Kathy Ehrensperger (UK), indicated that the Society has had an income deficit over each of the past five years. President Lieu addressed both the need for and rationale behind the Committee's recommendation of an increase in annual subscription fees to address this income shortfall. The Society approved this proposal.
- The *Assistant Secretary for International Initiatives*, Prof. William Loader (Australia), reported on the work of the four Liaison Committees (Eastern European; African; Asia/Pacific; Latin America/Caribbean). His full report will be available on the Society's website, and a summary will be included in the minutes of the 71st General Meeting. The Society's international initiatives include promoting New Testament scholarship in areas

VENUES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Pretoria: 8-11 August, 2017

Athens: 7-10 August, 2018

Marburg: 30 July - 2 August, 2019

The Committee is keen to receive offers to host a General Meeting in 2020 or 2021

Details can be obtained from the *Secretary*

This is a magnificent opportunity to highlight the international significance of your institution

beyond those where such research has traditionally been well represented within the Society, and to identify potential new members. Sponsorships enabled four members (from Jamaica, India, Kenya and Nigeria) and 10 guests (from Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Guatemala, Mexico, South Africa, and Italy) to attend the Montreal General Meeting.

- The *Editor of New Testament Studies*, Prof. Francis Watson (UK), reported that 118 articles had been submitted to the Journal over the past year. Nineteen had been accepted for publication. This represents an acceptance rate of about 16%. Bert Harrill, David Horrell, Antti Marjanen, Heike Omerzu, Tommy Wasserman, and Florian Wilk are due to retire from the Board at the end of 2016. To replace these members, the Editorial Board nominated (and the Society duly elected) the following members to serve in their place for a period of five years: Peter Arzt-Grabner (Austria), Helen Bond (UK), Hugh Houghton (UK), James Kelhoffer (Sweden), Candida Moss (USA), and Joseph Verheyden (Belgium).
- The *Editor of the Monograph Series*, Prof. Paul Trebilco (New Zealand), noted that two monographs had been published since the previous General Meeting, two further volumes were in production, and three titles had been placed under contract. More details will be available in the minutes of the 71st General Meeting. It was noted that Prof. Paul Trebilco will retire as *Editor of the Monograph Series* at the end of 2017. The Editorial Board nominated (and the Society, for its part, duly elected) Prof. Edward Adams (UK) to serve as his successor from 1st January 2018, for a period of 5 years.

Membership Fees

A new CUP payment website will go live early next year and invitations to pay 2017 membership fees will follow shortly. Prompt payment is greatly appreciated. There are a number of secure payment options:

- online (debit/credit card);
- post (cheque/check or debit/credit card);
- email (debit/credit card);
- telephone (debit/credit card).

The following webpage provides full instructions, contact details, a FAQ, and a downloadable form (for options b and c above):

journals.cambridge.org/action/membershipServices/memServHome?name=SNTSHome

CUP Membership Services will, where necessary, send one automated reminder requesting payment; however, the Society's Constitution states that membership will be suspended for those who fail to pay annual subscriptions for two consecutive years.

2017 membership subscription fees

One of the following four categories applies:

A. £65 / \$90 US / €85

subscription for members with pre-tax salaries/benefits/pensions over:

- £50,000
- \$70,000 US
- €60,000

B. £45 / \$60 US / €55 subscription for members with pre-tax salaries/benefits/pensions in the range:

- £25,000 – £50,000
- \$40,000 – \$70,000 US
- €30,000 – €60,000

C. £10 / \$12 US / €10 subscription for members with pre-tax salaries/benefits/pensions less than:

- £25,000
- \$40,000 US
- €30,000

D. Life Membership for those aged 85 or older in 2017 – no subscription payment

For assistance, please contact the Cambridge University Press membership services team at:

memberservices@cambridge.org

or call either 1-845-353-7500 (US, Canada, Mexico); or +44 (0)1223 326070 (Rest of World)

Members benefit from free online access to the entire digital archive of *New Testament Studies*. If you wish to receive print copies of *NTS*, you will be able to order next year's print volume at the same time as paying your membership for an additional fee of just £25/\$30/€30.

Members who turn 85 during 2017 will join the group of Honorary Life Members (currently 29); and as such, become exempt from membership fees. Please contact the *Secretary* if you turn, or have turned, 85 years so the Society's records can be kept up to date.

Donations to the International Fund are especially welcome. These Donations support the Society's international initiatives, especially in providing sponsorships to facilitate wider attendance at our General Meetings and associated pre-conferences.

Membership Address Changes

A simple online form enables you to let the *Secretary* know of any change of contact details (title, name, institution, address, email) – snts.international/membership/

Nomination of New Members

The Committee would like to appeal to members to nominate more candidates for membership of the Society. New members who meet the criteria for membership are most welcome and are needed to keep the Society vital.

Those wishing to nominate candidates may first contact the *Assistant Secretary*, Prof. Todd Still (todd_still@baylor.edu), who is responsible for guiding the process.

The document 'Nominations for Membership (2017)' outlines the criteria for membership and the procedure that is used, and is available on the Society website. All nominations of new members must be received by 1st March.

Pretoria 2017 – Preliminary Info

The Society will meet next year in Pretoria, South Africa, from Tuesday, 8th August, to Friday, 11th August, with optional excursions on both Saturday and Sunday, 12-13th August. I have just returned from visiting the venue – Pretoria

2017 promises to be a rich, academic and cultural experience.

Provisional information is already available at snts2017.org, including some details about practical arrangements (hotels, transportation, excursions, and the like). Online registration will be possible from March 2017. Additional details will be included in the February-March newsletter.

- *Local Organising Committee:* The Local Organising Committee is headed by Prof. Gert Steyn. Queries about the academic programme (main papers, offered short papers, seminar programs, and the like) may be addressed to the *Secretary*.
- *Presidential Address and Main Papers:* the Presidential Address will be given by Prof. Michael Wolter (Germany). Invited Main Papers will be given by Profs Matthias Konradt (Germany), Jean-Claude Loba Mkole (Kenya), Clare Rothschild (USA), and Josef Verheyden (Belgium).
- *Quaestiones Disputatae:* The topic of the session and the panellists are the responsibility of the *President-Elect*, Prof. Michael Wolter, in consultation with the current and *Past Presidents*.
- *Seminars:* there will be 15 seminars at the General Meeting in Pretoria (see the complete list later in the newsletter). The seminar programme will be finalized in February 2017, in time for the February-March newsletter. Conveners of seminars are reminded that the programme for 2017 has to be submitted to the *Secretary* by the 15th February, 2017 at the very latest. While it is normally the case that the conveners take the initiative in approaching members to present papers, members who would like to present a paper in one of the seminars should feel free to contact (one of) the conveners.
- *Offered Short Papers:* there will be 18 slots for Offered Short Papers. Members wishing to offer a short paper of 25 minutes should send a proposal to the *Secretary*. Proposals received before the 1st February will receive preference. The proposal should be accompanied by a one-page summary or outline in the chosen language. Papers may be offered in English, German, or French. New members especially

are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to present their research, but all members may, of course, do so. *Please note that members may as a rule deliver only one paper (of any kind) at a General Meeting.*

- *Nomination of Guests for the General Meeting in Pretoria:* members wishing to nominate a scholar to be a guest at a General Meeting must submit the name to the *Assistant Secretary*, Prof. Todd Still. The invitation to attend the Society's General Meeting comes formally from the *President*, not from the member nominating the guest. No individual may be invited more than once in any four consecutive years; and, candidates for membership of the Society may not attend a General Meeting while they are being nominated for membership of the Society. Guests are of two kinds:

1. *Personal guests* (as distinct from 'accompanying persons' such as partners or children). Any member attending a General Meeting may nominate a non-member to be invited to attend as her or his personal guest. This guest may participate fully in the academic programme, although not as a presenter. Members must indicate briefly to the *Assistant Secretary* how their guest would contribute to the proceedings. It is recommended that requests be submitted to the *Assistant Secretary* by the 1st April, although later requests may be considered if there is additional capacity. These guests will be asked to pay an additional sum of ca. €15 in lieu of Membership subscriptions.

2. *Seminar guests.* Seminar conveners may nominate a non-member either to present a seminar paper or give a formal response to one. Only one guest is normally allowed to present a paper per seminar each year, which means that two of the three papers should as a rule be presented by members of the Society. Additional guests may, however, be nominated to give a formal response to one or more of the papers. Seminar leaders must indicate briefly the reasons for nominating the seminar guest to present or to respond to a paper. Requests to invite a seminar guest must be received by the *Assistant Secretary* no later than the 1st February, in order that the full Seminar

can be published in the February–March newsletter.

- *Financial Support for Members and Guests at the Pretoria General Meeting:* Members from the regions of the Society's international initiatives (Eastern Europe, Africa, Asia/Pacific, and Latin America/Caribbean) may be eligible for sponsorship (financial support) from the International Fund to attend the next General Meeting. Applications for sponsorship to attend the next General Meeting are based on need and are to be made to the chair of the appropriate Liaison Committee with accompanying rationale. The chair then submits the applications to the *Assistant Secretary for International Initiatives*, Prof. William Loader, for approval.

Guests from the regions named above may also under certain circumstances be eligible for sponsorship. Such guests must be nominated by members (or the Liaison Committees) and are subject to the same procedure for acquiring an invitation that applies to other guests (see above). If an invitation is extended, the guest may apply for sponsorship in the manner outlined in the previous paragraph. The Society normally sponsors up to twelve scholars per year. Application for funding should be made by the 1st December if possible. Requests received by this date will hopefully allow applicants to book cheaper flights and to deal with possible visa issues in a timely manner.

Current Seminars

1. 'Apostolic Fathers, Apologists, and the History of Early Christianity' (Prof. C. Breytenbach and Dr C. Rothschild) – terminates in 2017.
2. 'The Greek of the New Testament' (Profs J. W. Voelz, J. Pelaez, and P. Danove) – terminates in 2019.
3. 'Inhalte und Probleme einer neutestamentlichen Theologie' (Prof. C. Landmesser and Prof. M. Seifrid) – terminates in 2019.
4. 'The Johannine Writings' (Profs M. Gruber, J. Frey and Ch. Karakolis) – terminates in 2020.

5. 'The Development of Early Christian Ethics within its Jewish and Greco-Roman Contexts' (Profs William Loader and Matthias Konradt) – terminates in 2020.
6. 'The Mission and Expansion of Earliest Christianity' (Profs Eugene Eung-Chun Park, Paul Trebilco, and Gosnell Yorke) – terminates in 2018.
7. 'Hebrews' (Profs C.A. Eberhart and W. Kraus) – terminates in 2020.
8. 'Social History and the New Testament' (Profs H. Löhr, M. Öhler, and A. Runesson) – terminates in 2017.
9. 'Early Jewish Theologies and the New Testament' (Profs J. Herzer and G. Oegema) – terminates in 2019.
10. 'Reconsidering Literarkritik of the Pauline Letters and its Impact on their Interpretation' (Profs E-M. Becker and R. Bieringer) – terminates in 2018 [not running in 2017].
11. 'Papyrology, Epigraphy and the New Testament' (Profs P. Arzt-Grabner and J.S. Kloppenborg) – terminates in 2018.
12. 'Reading Paul's Letters in Context: Theological and Social-Scientific Approaches' (Drs W. Campbell and J. Gundry) – terminates in 2021.
13. 'New Testament Textual Criticism' (Profs C. Clivaz, U. Schmid, and T. Wasserman) – terminates in 2018.
14. 'Memory, Narrative, and Christology in the Synoptic Gospels' (Profs S. Byrskog and Jens Schröter, and Dr S. Hultgren) – terminates in 2018.
15. 'The Book of Revelation' (Profs D. Aune and D. Hellholm, and Dr Th. Witulski) – terminates in 2017.
16. 'Acta Politica: The Book of Acts and the Political Culture of the Roman Empire' (Profs K. Backhaus, C. Holladay, D. Marguerat) – terminates in 2021.

Society Consultation

During the Montreal 2016 General Meeting, Prof. Judith Lieu invited and introduced a wide-ranging discussion among members about the purpose and opportunities of our Society. Her enclosed letter explains this further, and welcomes feedback from members about the future shape and contributions of our Society.

Officers of the Society

Secretary: Prof. A.D. Clarke, Lethenty Byre, Inverurie, AB51 0HQ, United Kingdom – secretary@snts.international

Assistant Secretary: Prof. T.D. Still, George W. Truett Theological Seminary, Baylor University, One Bear Place #97126, Waco, TX 76798-7126, USA – todd_still@baylor.edu

Assistant Secretary for International Initiatives: Prof. William R.G. Loader, 52 The Circle, Warwick, WA 6024, Australia – w.loader@murdoch.edu.au

Treasurer: Dr K. Ehrensperger, School of Theology, Religious Studies and Islamic Studies, University of Wales, Trinity Saint David, Lampeter, SA48 7ED, Ceredigion, United Kingdom – k.ehrensperger@uwtsd.ac.uk

Editor of the Journal (New Testament Studies): Prof. F.B. Watson, Department of Theology and Religion, Durham University, Abbey House, Palace Green, Durham, DH1 3RS, United Kingdom – francis.watson@durham.ac.uk

Editor of the SNTS Monograph Series: Prof. P. Trebilco, Department of Theology & Religion, University of Otago, P.O. Box 56, Dunedin, New Zealand – paul.trebilco@otago.ac.nz

Members of SNTS



9th November 2016

Dear Colleagues,

At the end of the First Business Meeting at the General Meeting of the SNTS in Montreal in August I shared with those present some reflections arising from the year during which I had the honour of serving as President, and from subsequent conversations with the Officers and in the Committee. My hope was to provoke conversations regarding some aspects of where we are as a Society and how we see ourselves in the future. I was grateful that members did take up the invitation, and for the feedback I and other members of the Committee, including the current President, Professor Carl Holladay, received. We have begun to consider some of the feedback, and we hope that by sending my reflections to the whole membership, others may be ready to join in the conversation.

One of the important tasks done by members of the Society present at the General Meeting is to consider the names of those who, under our rules, are proposed for membership by current members. While we may view that as a decision whether they meet our expectations for membership, we should ask ourselves, 'Why should anyone wish to become a member of SNTS?' That is a pertinent question now because our overall membership is dropping: the numbers of 'losses', by death or resignation, have for the last four years exceeded the numbers of new members. We may decide that that is of no significance: we are not a commercial enterprise and are under no compulsion to grow; indeed, we may not wish to do so. It may be that the changing profile of our numbers reflects the pattern of the discipline, or is a response to the increasing number of possibilities — conferences, societies, organisations — between which most of us must make some choices. Even so, we may want to ask ourselves, 'what is it that makes SNTS different?' 'Are we living up to our aspiration to be the international professional society for our field?' In what follows I focus on four issues.

1. How the Society develops, and whether it remains attractive and useful, is up to those — you — who are members. It is the members who are advocates of the Society, and who have the opportunity to propose new members. Do you find yourself suggesting that junior colleagues, whether in your institution or those you have supervised, consider membership; do you encourage and mentor them to fulfil the expectations, and then nominate them? We are addressing the wording of the web-page to try to make it more inviting to potential new members. We may also need to find ways of helping those who would like to apply for membership but who do not have 'sponsors', to find them. The majority feeling seems to be that we want to continue with our high expectations of members, but not that we want to be seen as actively exclusive.

2. A particular concern that some (not all!) share with me, is the gender balance of the Society. Our discipline is one into which historically it has been difficult for women to enter and then progress: in many places that is changing. How far should SNTS take the lead and model good practice in the support and encouragement of women scholars, alongside other under-represented groups? The percentage of women members is lower than that of women in Departments of Theology and/ or Religion in a number of our

Faculty of Divinity
West Road
Cambridge CB3 9BS

Tel: 44 (0) 1223 763018
Fax: 44 (0) 1223 763003
E-mail: jml68@cam.ac.uk

Professor Judith M. Lieu, FBA

Lady Margaret's Professor of Divinity

well-represented countries, and the percentage of proposals for new members who are women continues to be low. Why is this? The question I asked earlier has in fact been put to me by a woman scholar, 'Why would I want to be a member of SNTS?' reflecting her sense of the reputation of the Society — and other Society members have told me of similar conversations with women scholars.

In fact the number, and percentage, of women participants at the Meeting in Montreal was the largest ever. With the support of the Local Organising Committee, I hosted a lunch for women participants; this offered an opportunity for networking, and support for those who had not previously attended, and it was much appreciated and enjoyed — and the hope was expressed that it could be repeated next year. Yet it remained the case, as it has been in recent years, that the number of women participating in Seminars as convenors, giving papers, or responding to them was relatively low; curiously, more of the women who were giving or responding to papers were guests than members. A number of Seminars had no women in the named 'line-up'. This can sometimes colour the perception we offer of ourselves, and the experience of those who do, or choose not to, join a Seminar.


3. The Seminars also play a significant role when members are deciding whether or not to attend the General Meeting, as well as representing to potential members the sort of things in which the Society is interested. I have heard, as perhaps many of you have done (or felt), various comments about the Society's offerings, such as, 'That is not what I do'; 'These do not reflect the areas I find most stimulating'. I am aware that this may be one aspect of the Society that is most debated: what sort of approaches do we, or do we not, want to sponsor? Do we need to be more pro-active in encouraging members to propose seminars, especially in areas not currently covered? Do we need to monitor under-supply and over-supply?

4. Subsequent conversations extended the debate about the nature of our Meetings, and why members choose to attend or not to attend. We shall in due course be trying to survey the membership to get more feedback on this — what would encourage you to attend, what discourages you, and have you stopped coming? Please do feel free to start giving feedback on this, whether regarding the academic programme, or social and organisational matters.

Membership of the Studiorum Novi Testamenti Societas is more than attendance at the General Meetings and more than free on-line access to New Testament Studies, although it is these and we hope you see these as benefits in return for your membership fees. (We are aware of the difficulties some members have had in renewing their membership on-line and we are working with Cambridge University Press to improve the system, but we realize more may need to be done). As a Society we have committed to supporting New Testament scholarship internationally through the work co-ordinated by the Secretary for International Initiatives. Membership is a privilege, and also a commitment.

This brings me back to my initial question, 'Why should anyone want to be a member of SNTS?' Please do feel free to e-mail any responses you have to this to the Secretary, Andrew Clarke (secretary@snts.international), the current President, Carl Holladay (carl.holladay@emory.edu), or to myself (jml68@cam.ac.uk).

With all good wishes,



Past President SNTS

Faculty of Divinity
West Road
Cambridge CB3 9BS

Tel: 44 (0) 1223 763018
Fax: 44 (0) 1223 763003
E-mail: jml68@cam.ac.uk