

**The Old Testament Society
of South Africa
Annual meeting of the OTSSA
University of Stellenbosch
Faculty of Theology
22-26 June 2009**

1 December 2008

Dear Colleague

The Faculty of Theology, University of Stellenbosch, invites you to the annual meeting of the OTSSA that will be held from 22 – 26 June 2009.

In this letter you will find the Call for Papers, and information on the conference theme. **The closing date for paper proposals is 28 February 2009.** Please take note of the following:

- The conference will take place earlier than usual to form part of the **JOINT CONFERENCE** of more than 14 theological, biblical and related academic societies in South Africa in celebration of 150 years Theology at Stellenbosch.
- Since the OTSSA programme will form part of the bigger programme, the date for paper proposals is also earlier. We have to submit our finalized programme and abstracts in March to the central conference organizers. **WE WILL THEREFORE NOT BE ABLE TO ACCOMMODATE LATE SUBMISSIONS. PLEASE ALSO NOTE THAT A LIMITED AMOUNT OF SLOTS WERE ALLOCATED TO OUR SOCIETY.**
- The attached brochure and registration form provide information on transport, housing, registration and the overall programme. Please study this in detail, since all registrations will be done centrally. **PLEASE DO NOT SUBMIT ANY REGISTRATION OR HOUSING REQUESTS TO ME. THESE HAVE TO BE DONE THROUGH THE CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION OF THE CONFERENCE (AS INDICATED IN THE BROCHURE).**
- On the registration form you will find an option for attending the **CONFERENCE DINNER**. All societies will organize their respective conference dinners individually. However, the registration for the dinner will take place through the central registration process. If you would prefer to attend the OTSSA dinner, please tick that option on the registration form. You will then pay R150 additional to the registration fee. The respective societies will get those dinner funds

transferred to them in order to organize a dinner. More information on the format of the OTSSA dinner will follow later.

- The OTSSA **EXCURSION** will take place (as always!). More information will follow later. Payment for the excursion will be made directly to the OTSSA, and not through the central registration.
- The sessions of OTSSA and SASNES will be coordinated like in the past. SASNES will have their conference from 22-23 June, while OTSSA will have its sessions on 24-26 June 2009.

We are looking forward to seeing you in Stellenbosch to make this a memorable conference. You are welcome to forward this invitation to non-members of whom you know that they will be interested to attend and deliver a paper. Since this invitation is sent out only via e-mail, we would also appreciate it if you could supply a hard copy to those members and interested non-members in your area who do not have an e-mail address.

Kind regards

LOUIS JONKER (Secretary of the OTSSA) – E-Mail: LCJ@SUN.AC.ZA

CALL FOR PAPERS & CONFERENCE THEME

Overall theme: 150 years Old Testament Studies in South Africa: History, Trajectories and Change

Background:

Since our conference will form part of the 150th celebration of Theology training and research in South Africa, our conference theme will open up die possibility to explore the past, present and future of South African Old Testament science. Papers on the following aspects will be welcomed:

- Mapping the way we have come (traditions, challenges, problems, approaches of the past 150 years, continuities, discontinuities)
- Taking stock of the present (trends, approaches, challenges, opportunities of our own day - how does your own area of research fit into the SA scholarly landscape?)
- Envisioning the road ahead (role of OT studies, OT studies as science, contribution of OT studies in debate on science and religion, OT in religion studies curricula, the contribution of OT studies to nation building, service delivery, resisting gender violence, making a difference with HIV and AIDS, etc.)

Papers which will explore any of the above-mentioned aspects are invited.

As usual, papers will be presented in plenary (60 min) and parallel (30 min) sessions. The Conference Secretary in consultation with the OTSSA Executive will invite speakers for the plenary sessions. However, the organizers may also – on account of the submitted abstracts – extend invitations for plenary sessions to other participants. Speakers at plenary sessions will be informed well in advance that they will have more time at their disposal for their presentations.

Paper proposals should be submitted on the attached form (Appendix A). The title should be short and clear, and the abstract should be 100-300 words. Submissions can be done in two ways:

- Complete and save Appendix A in a Word-file with the following naming convention: OTSSA09 Paper *your initials and surname*.doc (e.g. "OTSSA09 Paper LC Jonker.doc"). Then send the Word-file as attachment to an e-mail to: LCJ@SUN.AC.ZA
- Make a print-out of Appendix A, complete it and fax it to: 021-8083251 (for SA submissions) / +27-21-8083251 (for foreign submissions) – PLEASE MARK THE FAX COVER SHEET "FOR ATTENTION: LOUIS JONKER"

Closing date for submission of paper proposals: 28 February 2009

IMPORTANT NOTE ON AV EQUIPMENT: A data projector (beamer) will be available in all lecture rooms. However, you should bring your own laptop computer should you want to make use of this facility. Should you need an overhead projector or slide projector, you should indicate so in the proposal submission form (Appendix A).

APPENDIX A
SUBMISSION OF PAPER PROPOSAL
2009 OTSSA CONFERENCE
(FOR ATTENTION: LOUIS JONKER)

Name and Surname of presenter	
Title of paper	
Abstract (100-300 words)	

AV EQUIPMENT: (Please circle or highlight your response.)

Do you need an overhead projector for your presentation?	YES	NO
Do you need a slide projector for your presentation?	YES	NO

Take note: A data projector (beamer) will be available in all conference rooms. Please bring your own laptop computer if you want to make use of it.

Submit:

- Electronically (as attachment to e-mail) to LCJ@SUN.AC.ZA

OR

- Per fax to +27-(0)21-8083251 (FOR ATTENTION: LOUIS JONKER)