

STUDIORUM NOVI TESTAMENTI SOCIETAS

MINUTES of the 61st GENERAL MEETING held at King's College, University of Aberdeen in Aberdeen, Scotland, during 25th – 29th July 2006.

TUESDAY 25th JULY

18.00 The University of Aberdeen provided an opening reception for participants at the 61st General Meeting of the Society in Elphinstone Hall.

19.30 BUSINESS MEETING I

The President, Professor Dr Barbara Aland, was in the chair, and about 220 participants were in attendance. The President warmly welcomed those present, and especially new members and guests, to the 61st General Meeting of the Society.

06/01 Apologies for Absence and Deaths of Former Members.

Apologies were received from a number of members, including the following former Presidents of the Society: Profs. M. de Jonge, B. Gerhardsson, M. Hengel, H.-J. Klauck and G. N. Stanton.

The Society received with regret news of the deaths of the following: Prof. J. Delorme, Prof. R. Funk, Revd Dr J. McHugh, Prof. D.D. Schmidt and Prof. E. Schweizer. Members observed a minute's silence in memory of these scholars.

06/02 The Minutes of the Business Meetings held in Halle, Germany in 2005 were approved and signed.

06/03 Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising except for those items covered later on the Agenda.

06/04 Programme Arrangements for the 2006 Meeting

The Secretary announced some alterations to the programme as a result of members who were presenting papers being unable to come. He asked participants to note that on Friday the second Business meeting would take place before the closing dinner instead of afterwards. He also noted the timing of the second Committee meeting and Editorial Board meeting. The Secretary asked to be notified in writing of any changes to membership details or e-mail addresses for inclusion on the membership list. He also asked for notification in writing of the deaths of any SNTS members during the past twelve months not already reported. Members were encouraged before the second Business meeting to check the sheet of nominations for new members that was to be posted and to pass any comments to the Assistant Secretary before the second Committee meeting. Seminar leaders were also asked to use the new pro-forma (circulated by e-mail) to notify the Secretary of the future plans for their seminars, including any changes of leadership or discontinuation.

06/05 Nomination of Officers

It was announced that Professor Dr Daniel Marguerat had agreed to accept the Society's invitation to be President-Elect (to become President at the 2007 meeting in Sibiu).

The Committee proposed and the Society agreed to invite Professor Dr A. B. du Toit to become Deputy President-Elect, to take office at the 2008 meeting in Lund.

06/06 Nomination of Committee Members

The Committee proposed and the Society agreed to elect Prof. W. R. G. Loader and Prof. Dr A. Standhartinger as new members of the Committee, serving from 2006-2009 in the places of Profs. M. Lattke and C. Osiek, who retire after this meeting.

06/07 Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, Dr B. W. Longenecker, circulated the draft financial statements for the year ended 31 May 2006. Dr Longenecker drew the Society's attention to several specific entries in the accounts, following which the accounts were formally accepted and approved by the Society. The points highlighted by the Treasurer included the following:

- The balance in the General Fund increased over the year to £11,270. The increase was largely the result of an exceptionally large donation from the Halle conference organisers (£6,759). This in turn highlighted the degree of reliance on conference surplus income to keep the General Fund buoyant. The apparent decline in journal income was in part attributable to a late receipt after 31 May. Journal costs were lower than the previous year because only four rather than five issues were recorded and because of some weeding out of expired subscriptions. Honoraria payments to officers appear lower than the previous year because (1) 2005 accounts recorded 18 months of payments and (2) the Treasurer's honorarium and the accountant's fee are now shared between the General Fund and the International Fund.
- Whilst income for the International Fund seemed much lower than in 2005, there was in fact a late payment that would have brought the figure near to £2,250 rather than £521. Payments from the International Fund to support scholars coming to the annual meeting were approximately £5,000. The balance of the International Fund declined slightly to £51,792.

The Treasurer then reported that he had been charged by the SNTS Committee last year to consider the health of the General Fund. Our independent auditor had advised that the balance in the General Fund was too low and should be held at a level reflecting about one year's operating costs (£25,000). This could not be achieved by transferring money from the International Fund, even if this were desired, for legal reasons. Therefore in order to meet the target for the General Fund it would be necessary to increase membership fees by £4 per annum. Furthermore, this calculation assumed a continuing reliance upon conference surplus income. In order to be free of such a reliance, a further £3 per annum rise in membership fees would be required. The Committee had considered this information and recommended to the Society that the full membership fee be accordingly raised from £12.50 per annum to £19.50 per annum, with the stipulation that once the balance of the General Fund stabilised at approximately £25,000, then any surplus would be diverted to the International Fund. A further consequence of this recommendation was that local organisers of the annual meetings would be permitted either to keep any conference surplus or to donate it, as they wished.

The proposed increases in the membership fees were accepted by the Business meeting. (See further on membership fees below at item 06/08.)

06/08 SNTS and Its International Strategy: Part A

The President reported that the Committee met today to consider the recommendations presented by the working group chaired by President Wayne Meeks (whose report was circulated to all members in the spring mailing). The Committee discussed and slightly amended the recommendations of the Strategy Group. These were to be posted, so that the members of the Society in Aberdeen might note them and pass any views on the report and the Committee's recommendations to any member of the Committee before it meets on Friday afternoon to prepare its submission for the second Business meeting later on Friday.

Professor Wayne Meeks introduced and commented upon the recommendations, beginning with the background. In Halle the Society had approved two motions. One expressed the Society's commitment to move towards the goals expressed in the report of Professor Dunn's Strategy Group, but further to sharpen our understanding of the precise means by which these goals might be implemented. The other established a working group to undertake the latter task and report prior to the Aberdeen meeting. This working group consisted of Profs. Meeks, Dunn, Lieu and de Boer. Their report, slightly amended by the Committee, is now before the Society for consideration at the second Business meeting. The recommendations are:

1. That the Society elect a second Assistant Secretary who shall be responsible, in consultation with the other officers and under the oversight of the Committee, for exploring with appropriate representatives of regional groups within the Society and on occasion with related groups or organizations outside the Society possible new initiatives in accord with the stated purpose and goals of the SNTS, for developing those initiatives that seem promising into forms appropriate for action by the Committee, and for implementing such international initiatives as the Society may from time to time undertake. The

honorarium and relevant expenses of the second Assistant Secretary would be met from the International Fund.

2. That the annual subscription to SNTS be increased by a set percentage, beyond that required by normal inflation, to be determined by the Committee, to sustain the International Fund as it is drawn upon to support present and future international initiatives.
3. That the Committee, recognizing that increasing membership subscription costs will add to the difficulty already felt by members from some areas in affording regular participation in the Society, institute a scale of subscription dues graduated in three tiers according to income. The lowest tier should be set at a level that will keep the increases proposed in Recommendation 2 from becoming an obstacle to membership in the Society on the part of those current and potential members with salaries or pensions that are relatively low on an international scale.
4. That the Assistant Secretary for International Initiatives be charged with maintaining reciprocal communication between the Society, through the Committee, and the African Liaison Committee, the Eastern Europe Liaison Committee, and any similar liaison committees with regional groups that may be formed in future.
5. That the Committee, advised by the Assistant Secretary for International Initiatives and informed by the suggestions from the Strategy Group, urgently explore ways, both financial and administrative, in which the Society can facilitate participation in its activities by members from areas underrepresented in the Society.
6. That the above recommendations will be reviewed by the Committee after four years (in 2010).

The Treasurer then outlined proposals for an increase in membership fees to support the International Fund, as identified in items 1, 2 and 3 above. These proposals were—

1. An increase of £1.25 to cover the Honorarium for the additional Assistant Secretary, an increase of £5.00 to provide funds for additional international initiatives and an increase of £4.25 to offset the expected loss in charitable giving to the International Fund. The total increases to a normal full membership subscription would be £10.50 (in addition to the increases approved earlier to support the General Fund).
2. The introduction of a three-tiered financial structure for membership fees, such that the overall income from fees achieved all the increases specified above. This would involve some fees above and below the “nominal” fee. The tiering would be based upon level of salaries or pensions—namely, £35 for members with salaries/pensions over £30,000; £10 for member with salaries/pensions between £20,000 and £29,999; £5 for members with salaries/pensions less than £20,000.

Copies of the Treasurer’s recommendations would be available from the conference office so that they could be fully discussed before the second Business meeting.

06/09 Notices from Local Organisers

Prof. F. Watson advised participants of local arrangements for meals, meetings and transport.

The first Business Meeting was then closed.

WEDNESDAY 26th JULY

08.30 Prayers (in English) were held in King’s College Chapel by Dr Paul Ellingworth.

09.00 Professor Sean Freyne was inducted as President of the Society and delivered his Presidential Address entitled “Galilee as Laboratory: Experiments for New Testament Historians and Theologians” at a plenary session of the Society.

10.15 A photograph of Conference participants was taken.

- 11.15 The first session of the Seminar Groups was held, with the following subjects and leadership:
1. Catholic Epistles and Apostolic Traditions (Katholische Briefe und Aposteltraditionen) (Prof. R. Feldmeier)
 2. Colossians (Profs. P. Müller and W. Popkes)
 3. The Greco-Roman World of the New Testament: Language, Culture, Ideas (Dozent Dr L. Rydbeck and Prof. S. E. Porter)
 4. The Greek of the New Testament (Profs. C.C. Caragounis and J.W. Voelz)
 5. Inhalte und Probleme einer neutestamentlichen Theologie (Profs. U. Schnelle and M. Seifrid)
 6. The Johannine Writings (Prof. Dr R. Bieringer and Prof. C. R. Koester)
 7. The Septuagint and the New Testament (Profs. W. Kraus and W.R.G. Loader)
 8. The Mission of the Church: Exegesis and Hermeneutics (Profs. H. Kvalbein and T. Okure)
 9. New Challenges for New Testament Hermeneutics in the 21st Century (Profs. B. McLean and O. Wischmeyer)
 10. The New Testament in History and Culture (Profs. W. Kelber and B. Olsson)
 11. The New Testament, Oral Culture and Biblical Translation (Drs P. H. Towner and G. L. Yorke; advisory co-chair, Prof. J. D. G. Dunn)
 12. Paul and Rhetoric (Profs. P. Lampe and J. P. Sampley)
 13. The Pseudepigrapha and Christian Origins (Profs. J. H. Charlesworth and G. S. Oegema)
 14. The Reception of Paul (Profs. D. Moessner and D. Marguerat)
 15. Shaping Traditions about Jesus (Profs. I. Gruenwald and P. Pokorny)
 16. Textual Criticism (Profs. H.-G. Bethge and J. K. Elliott)
- 14.15 A Main Paper was given by Prof. F. W. Horn: “Paulus und der Herodianische Tempel. Weniger polemische Abgrenzung als positive Charakterisierung”.
- 16.15 A Short Main Paper was given by Prof. Dr M. C. de Boer: “The Meaning of the Phrase *ta stoicheia tou kosmou* in Galatians”.
- 17.30 A reception, followed by a dinner, was offered to conference participants at the Aberdeen Beach Ballroom by the Lord Provost and Council of the City of Aberdeen.
- 20.30 A piano recital by Joseph Long was given at St Machar’s Cathedral, Aberdeen.

THURSDAY 27th JULY

- 08.30 Prayers (in German) were held in King’s College Chapel, led by Prof. Dr Andreas Lindemann.
- 09.00 A Main Paper was given by Prof. John S. Kloppenborg: “James, Diaspora and Exemplarity”.
- 11.15 The second session of Seminar groups was held.
- 14.15 A Main Paper prepared by Prof. Michèle Morgen on “Le fils unique *Monogène* selon les écrits johanniques” was read by Prof. Dr C. Coulot in her absence.
- 16.15 A Short Main Paper was given by Prof. Dr R. Bieringer: “The Meaning of Reconciliation in 2 Cor 5:14-21”.
- 18.30 Participants were received at Drum Castle for a tour and buffet supper.

FRIDAY 28th JULY

- 08.30 Prayers (in French) were held in King’s College Chapel, led by Prof. Dr Henk Jan de Jonge.
- 09.00 A Main Paper was given by Prof. John M. Barclay: “There is neither old nor young? Early Christianity and Ancient Ideologies of Age”.
- 11.15 The third session of Seminar groups was held.

- 14.00 Five offered short papers were held in simultaneous sessions:
 Dr Thomas Brodie: “Mimetic Adaptation of the Elijah-Elisha Narrative: A Key to the Synoptic Problem”
 Revd Dr William Campbell: “‘As having and as not having’. Paul and Indifferent Things in 1 Corinthians 7:17-32a”
 Prof. Craig Evans: “Jesus’ Subversive Interpretation of Scripture”
 Prof. Takaaki Haraguchi: “Hebrews 1–2 in the Light of the *Songs of the Sabbath Sacrifice*”
 Dr Jenny Read-Heimerdinger: “Who is ‘Simeon’ in James’ Speech to the Jerusalem Meeting?”
- 14.40 Four offered short papers were held in simultaneous sessions:
 Prof. John G. Cook: “1 Cor 9.5: Peter, his Wife, and their Relationship in Interpretive History”
 Prof. Dr Klaus Haacker: “Was heißt hier ‘ist’? Zum Sinn der Deuteworte beim Abschiedsmahl Jesu”
 Prof. Dennis MacDonald: “Why Q Disappeared”
 Prof. Lee Martin McDonald: “Ancient Manuscripts and the Formation of the New Testament”
- 15.20 Three offered short papers were held in simultaneous sessions:
 Dr Edwin Broadhead: “A Servant like the Master. A Jewish-Christian Hermeneutic for the Practice of Torah”
 Dr David Wenham: “Did Paul Teach the Sermon on the Mount and its Righteousness?”
 Prof. Dr Dieter Zeller: “Gibt es religionsgeschichtliche Parallelen zur Taufe für Tote (1 Kor 15:20)?”

17.00 BUSINESS MEETING II

The President, Professor Sean Freyne, was in the chair, and about 200 participants were present.

06/10 SNTS and its International Strategy: Part B

The Secretary referred members to the recommendations that had been posted during the week and that had been intimated at the first Business meeting. The financial implications of the recommendations and the proposals for the tiering of membership fees were explained in more detail by the Treasurer. The Treasurer clarified in particular that the proposed top level tier of £35 incorporates increases in fees agreed earlier with respect to the state of the General Fund. £15.50 of every £35.00 would go directly into the International Fund.

The President invited a discussion of all the recommendations. The following points were raised or clarified:

- The second Assistant Secretary would be of the same status as other officers with regard to participation in the SNTS Committee.
- Unfortunately Gift Aid (only available in the UK) cannot be efficiently used for the International Fund.
- The uses to which the increased funding to support initiatives in countries underrepresented in the Society might be put was discussed (particularly in relation to Eastern Europe).

A motion to approve all the recommendations was put to a vote and was passed by an overwhelming majority of those present.

The President expressed thanks to those who framed the proposals, and particularly to Professor Meeks and Professor Dunn.

06/11 Editors’ Reports.

Copies of the Editors’ reports had previously been distributed to participants.

a. *New Testament Studies.*

(i) *Circulation.* Prof. J. Lieu observed that the figures for circulation showed a similar trend as in the recent past. There was an increase in consortia subscriptions and some decrease in other kinds of subscription. The Press are identifying institutions that have cancelled subscriptions in order to clarify the extent to which this has been as a consequence of joining consortia. It is recognised that consortia arrangements do open access to the journal to a wider readership. Furthermore, many members now have electronic access through on-line institutions.

(ii) *Subscription Rates.* The rates for Volume 53 (2007) are provisionally as follows (this year's figures in brackets):

Institutions:	£116 (114) / \$198 (189)
Print Only:	£110 (107) / \$188 (178)
On-line only price	£104 (100) / \$178 (166)
Individuals:	£46 (46) / \$76 (76)
SNTS Members:	£40 (40) / \$64 (64)*
Students and Retired Members:	£20 (27) / \$36 (46)*
Journal Donation Project (institutions)	£27

*Plus membership subscriptions for those who are members.

Individual subscription rates for the Journal were again held at the level of the previous year, and this year the institutional rates were increased by very small amounts. Last year the Editorial Board had expressed concerns at the effects of previous above-inflation rises in institutional rates. It was encouraging to see CUP respond to these concerns. It was also encouraging to see a significant decrease in the rate for students and retired members and to find the extension of the discounted rate for Eastern Europe libraries to regions of Asia and Africa as well (under the Journal Donation Project).

(iii) *Usage.* It would appear that on-line access continues to increase. The figures for on-line usage showed a continuing sharp increase in the number of articles downloaded in the first half of 2005. The reason for some falling back in the reported numbers later in 2005 is because Google indexing has recently been excluded from the figures. The blip in August 2005 was due to a technical error at that time.

(iv) *Supply of articles.* Prof. Lieu reported that the queue for publication in the Journal continued to be short, and she encouraged members to use the journal. She again noted that in view of the strong circulation of the Journal and the possibilities for on-line access and downloading, publication in *New Testament Studies* was likely to find a much wider readership than would be available for most *Festschriften*.

With regard to whether Spanish might become one of the languages of the Journal, alongside English, French and German, Prof. Lieu reported that the matter had been considered by both the Editorial Board and the Committee. The desire is to continue the present policy for the immediate future.

(v) *Direct Billing of Subscriptions.* Prof. Lieu reported that (outside of North America) it was planned from January 2007 to introduce the direct payment of journal subscriptions to Cambridge University Press. CUP would directly invite members to renew their subscriptions for the journal with them. The process for initiating a new subscription would be explained in the autumn mailing to members. Regional Treasurers would therefore in the future only collect membership fees for the Society. It was recognised that in some parts of the world special arrangements for payment might have to be made. Those with concerns were asked to contact Prof. Lieu.

(vi) *Thanks.* The Editor expressed her gratitude to those members of the Editorial Board and other colleagues who read and reported on typescripts during the past year. Thanks were also offered to Cambridge University Press for their helpful responses to our concerns, and most particularly with respect to the cost of the journal. A special thanks was expressed to Joe Mottershead, who will be leaving CUP in August. His work has been greatly appreciated.

The President expressed thanks to Prof. Lieu for her work for the Journal, and the Society approved the report on the Journal.

b. *Monograph Series.*

(i) *New Publications.* Dr John Court drew attention to the circulated report on the Monograph Series, showing that three monographs have been published since the report presented at the Halle meeting in 2005:

134	Mark Chancey: <i>Greco-Roman Culture and the Galilee of Jesus</i>
135	Suzanne Henderson: <i>Christology and Discipleship in the Gospel of Mark</i>
137	Michelle Lee: <i>Paul, the Stoics, and the Body of Christ</i>

The following works are currently in production:

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| 136 | Timothy Ling: <i>The NT world and the Witness of the Poor</i> |
| 138 | Jocelyn McWhirter: <i>The Bridegroom Messiah and the People of God</i> |
| 139 | Daniel Gurtner: <i>The Torn Veil</i> |

In addition, two works have been accepted by Cambridge University Press (CUP) since the last Annual Meeting. These are at various stages of production and delivery. There are no projects currently awaiting Syndication, but four further titles are presently under review.

(ii) *Reprints and Digital Sales*. Dr Court noted that some 50 titles are currently on the short-run digital reprint list, and other titles will be added to this list as their stock levels from the first printing are exhausted. In addition, some 90 titles have now been issued as digitally-printed paperbacks. Thus the vast majority of titles more than three years old is now available in this form.

(iii) *Progress in relation to the number restrictions imposed by CUP for new monographs*. Dr Court reported that some concerns remain and that we are still monitored closely by CUP with respect to the quota. Whilst most of the new monographs continued to be doctoral theses, these were carefully selected to represent work of the highest quality and importance. It was still difficult to persuade established colleagues to publish through the series, and it is hoped that CUP will continue to be relatively flexible in this regard.

(iv) *Thanks*. Dr Court thanked Dr Katharina Brett (and her assistants) of CUP for facilitating a good working relationship this year and for her close attention to the Society's concerns, particularly in discussions of future projects. He also expressed his thanks to all (within and outwith the Society) who read and reported on manuscripts. He hoped that members would continue to offer such support in the future.

Dr Court was thanked for his report, which was approved by the Society.

c. *New Members of the Editorial Board*.

Thanks were expressed to Professors M. Bockmuehl, B. Gaventa, M. Menken, M. Morgen, D. Sänger, J. Ukpong, and Dr. R. Uro who are due to retire from the Board at the end of 2006. The Editorial Board nominated the following members to serve in their place, during the period 1st January 2007 to 31st December 2009: Professors S. Byrskog, E. Cuvillier, J. Green, J. Herzer, J. J. Kanagaraj and P. Trebilco. Members of the Society gave their approval to these nominations.

06/12 Election of New Members.

The election of 25 scholars as new members of the Society was confirmed: Dr Ellen B. Aitken (McGill University), Dr Armin Baum (Freie theologische Akademie Gießen), Dr Eve-Marie Becker (Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg), Prof. Mark A. Chancey (Southern Methodist University, Dallas), Prof. Dr Luc Devillers (l'École Biblique et Archéologique Française de Jérusalem), Prof. Paul Brooks Duff (George Washington University, Washington DC), Prof. Dr Ute E. Eisen (Universität Gießen), Dr Neil Elliott (Fortress Press, Metropolitan State University in St Paul, United Theological Seminary in New Brighton), Dr Christine Gerber (Humboldt-Universität Berlin and Universität Hamburg), Prof. Glenn S. Holland (Allegheny College, Pennsylvania), Dr Craig S. Keener (Palmer Theological Seminary of Eastern University, Pennsylvania), Dr Jean-Claude Loba-Mkole (Faculté de Théologie, Abidjan; UBS in Nairobi), Dr Harry O. Maier (Vancouver School of Theology), Dr Moisés Mayordomo Marin (University of Bern), Prof. Dr Tobias Nicklas (Radboud University, Nijmegen), Prof. Todd Penner (Austin College, Texas), Prof. Dr Hanna Roose (Universität Lüneburg), Dr Mariusz Rosik (Pontifical Faculty of Theology, Wrocław, Poland), Dr Clare Komoroske Rothschild (Lewis University, Illinois), Prof. Dr Anders Runesson (McMaster University), Prof. Tom Thatcher (Cincinnati Christian University), Dr Johannes Tromp (University of Leiden), Prof. Dr Geert C. M. Van Oyen (Universiteit Utrecht), Prof. Dr Kun Chun Eric Wong (Chinese University of Hong Kong), and Dr Arie W. Zwiep (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam).

06/13 Future General Meetings.

Sibiu, Romania 2007 (31st July – 4th August). Prof. Dr Hans Klein and Fr Prof. Vasile Mihoc gave a presentation of the arrangements for the meeting in Sibiu and warmly invited members of the Society to attend. A pre-conference four-day excursion is planned, as well as three post-conference excursions on the Saturday.

After the conference will also be the Fourth East-West Conference on the theme of “Prayer in the New Testament”, held at the Orthodox monastery of Sambata.

Lund, Sweden 2008 (29th July – 2nd August). Three years ago the Society accepted an invitation to go to Lund in 2008.

Vienna 2009 (4th – 8th August) Two years ago the Society accepted an invitation to hold its 2009 meeting in Vienna. The dates are confirmed.

Berlin 2010 (27th -31st July) Two years ago the Society also accepted an invitation to hold its 2010 meeting at the Humboldt University of Berlin.

Bard College, Annandale on Hudson, New York 2011 Last year the Society accepted an invitation to hold its 2011 meeting at Bard College, but details are still to be confirmed.

06/14 The Programme of Future Meetings.

Sibiu 2007

a. *Main Papers and Short Main Papers.* The Secretary reported that the Presidential Address will be given by Prof. Dr Daniel Marguerat. Main Papers will be given by Professors J. Frey, W.R.G. Loader, A. Puig i Tàrrach, and I. Gruenwald. There will be a Short Main Paper given by Prof. Dr A. Standhartinger. As an experiment the Committee has decided to open the allocated time for a second Short Main Paper to offered Short Papers. This will increase the opportunity for members to present their work and hopefully enable more members to obtain funding for the conference.

b. *Seminars.* The Secretary thanked seminar group leaders for their reports.

- Of the sixteen seminars in Aberdeen, ten would be continuing as usual next year.
- An additional three of the seminars that met in Aberdeen have asked the Committee’s approval to continue for another five years, and this has been given. These include the seminars on the Greek of the New Testament (chaired by Profs. C. C. Caragounis and J. W. Voelz), *Inhalte und Probleme einer neutestamentliche Theologie* (chaired by Profs. U. Schnelle and M. Seifrid), and the Reception of Paul (chaired by Profs. Moessner and Marguerat).
- Three seminars that met in Aberdeen will not be continuing next year: Catholic Epistles and Apostolic Traditions / *Katholische Briefe und Aposteltraditionen*, The Mission of the Church: Exegesis and Hermeneutics, and the Pseudepigrapha and Christian Origins.
- Two new seminars have been approved by the Committee and will begin meeting next year in Sibiu: Pauline Theology in Galatians and Romans (chaired by Profs. B. Gaventa, J. Barclay and M. C. de Boer), and Christian Literature of the late first Century and the second Century (chaired by Dr C. C. Newman, Prof. F. Prostmeier and Dr H. van de Sandt).

c. *Offered Short Papers.* There will again be an opportunity for members to offer short papers to be read in simultaneous sessions, and more such papers are being encouraged. Members wishing to offer a short paper are asked to send a proposal consisting of a title and a one-page summary or outline to the Secretary (Prof. Martin de Boer) by 1 March 2007. It should be noted that the Committee has decided that a member may give only one paper at a meeting of SNTS, whether that be a main paper, seminar paper or offered short paper.

06/15 Any Other Business

a. Professor U. Luz briefly addressed the meeting regarding the work of the liaison committee for Eastern Europe and the Biblical Libraries in St Petersburg and Sofia. Members were thanked for their continuing support, and a fuller report of activities would be forthcoming in the mailings of the Society. Two points were particularly highlighted:

- Notice was given of the Fourth East-West Conference to be held at the monastery in Sambata, following the SNTS meeting in Sibiu in 2007. The topic of the conference would be “Prayer in the New Testament”. There will be special excursions, and accompanying persons may be brought.
- All members who intend to attend the SNTS conference next year in Sibiu are asked to bring three good monographs or books to donate to the library in Sibiu.

b. Prof. F. Bovon drew the Society’s attention to the regrettable tendency of language groups not to interact with one another in sessions. For some years, the main paper in French has been thinly attended. The

Committee was encouraged to consider ways in which to address such concerns, including the use of simultaneous translation or the advance translation of the text of papers. Facilities for simultaneous translation might also prepare for other languages to be recognised and used in meetings of the Society.

- c. The President noted that the local committee would be thanked at the final dinner. Thanks were expressed to Profs. M. Lattke and C. Osiek for their service to the Committee over the past years.

The President then declared the 61st General Meeting of the Society closed.

18.45 Participants departed for the Conference Dinner at the Ardoe House Hotel. Entertainment was provided on the Scottish fiddle by Naomi Watson. The President expressed thanks on behalf of the Society to the local conference organisers, and especially to Prof. Francis Watson, Dr Peter Williams, Dr Joyce Walker, Ms Steffi Metze and Mrs Pam Wells. The very efficient team of stewards and other helpers was also recognised and thanked.

SATURDAY 29th JULY

Optional excursions included visits to Culloden & Loch Ness, Balmoral Castle & Royal Lochnagar Distillery, Arbroath Abbey and House of Dun, and Aberdeen City Parks.