

STUDIORUM NOVI TESTAMENTI SOCIETAS

SNTS - an international Society for New Testament Studies

The 62nd GENERAL MEETING OF SNTS

(Unconfirmed) MINUTES of the 62nd GENERAL MEETING held at "Lucian Blaga" University, Sibiu/Hermannstadt, Romania during 31st July – 4th August 2007.

From 28 July to 31 July 2007, there was an optional pre-conference excursion to the famous monasteries and medieval cities in the northern part of Romania (Moldavia).

TUESDAY 31st JULY 2007

19.30 BUSINESS MEETING I

The President, Professor Sean Freyne, was in the chair, and about 220 participants were in attendance. The meeting was held in the Casa Sindicatelor. The President warmly welcomed those present, and especially new members and guests from Eastern Europe, to the 62nd General Meeting of the Society.

BM2007/01 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. R.McL. Wilson, M. de Jonge, M. Hooker, B. Gerhardtsson, M. Hengel, F. Bovon, T. Baarda, G.N. Stanton and W. Meeks.

The Society received with regret news of the deaths of the following: H. Binder, H. Boers, P. Bonnard, M.M. Bourke, J. Bowman, R.H. Fuller, K. Gabris, L. Gaston, T. Holtz, J.A. Loubser, R.W. Lyon, B.M. Metzger, P. Minear, L.L. Morris, L. Mowry, B. Orchard, E.F. Osborn, H.F. Peacock, W.L. Petersen, W. Popkes, H.N. Ridderbos, A.P. Salom, L.H. Silbermann, H. Stegemann, O.K. Storaasli, and A. Strobel. Members observed a minute's silence in memory of these scholars.

Resignations of membership had been received from R. Brändle, B. Dehandschutter, P. Dschulnigg, K. Erlemann, A.F.J. Klijn, G. Lohfink, K. Müller, P.T. Hayami, K.W. Troeger, A. von Dobbeler, and A.J.M. Wedderburn.

BM2007/02 The Minutes

The Minutes of the Business Meetings held in Aberdeen, Scotland in 2006 were approved and signed.

BM2007/03 Matters Arising from the Minutes

3.1 *Languages of the Society*

In response to issues raised in Aberdeen, the Committee proposed that the full texts of all Main Papers (whether in English, French or German), including the Presidential Address, should be submitted to the Secretary at least one month prior to the General Meeting. These texts will be forwarded to the local organisers for duplication and distribution to all participants at the start of the Meeting. The proposal was approved with effect from the General Meeting in Lund.

There were no other matters arising.

BM2007/04 Arrangements for the 2007 Meeting

The Secretary announced some last-minute alterations to the programme. He also noted the timings of the second Committee meeting, the Editorial Board meeting and the second Business

Meeting on Friday. 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 who had brought books for Romanian or other Eastern European libraries were asked to leave them at the registration desk. Fr Prof. Dr V. Mihoc then welcomed participants to Sibiu, one of two European Capitals of Culture in 2007. He then made some announcements pertaining to practical arrangements for the Sibiu conference.

BM2007/05 Nomination of Officers

It was announced that Professor Dr A. B. du Toit had agreed to accept the Society's invitation to be President-Elect (to become President at the 2008 meeting in Lund).

The Committee proposed, and the Society agreed, to invite Professor Dr Andreas Lindemann to become Deputy President-Elect, to take office at the 2009 meeting in Vienna.

The term of Dr John Court as Editor of the Society's Monograph Series was due to end in 2007. The Committee was pleased to announce that Dr Court was prepared to continue for a second term of five years, and it proposed his nomination. The Society approved the nomination.

The term of Prof. Judith Lieu as Editor of the Society's Journal was also due to end in 2007. Whilst Prof. Lieu did not wish to continue for a further five-year term, she was prepared to continue for one further year. The Committee was very pleased to accept this offer and propose this to the Society. The Society approved the one-year extension. The President did, however, draw the Society's attention to the need to find a successor to Prof. Lieu. Nominations from members should be submitted to the President, Prof. Marguerat, before 1 March 2008. Nominees need not be UK-based scholars.

The President also noted that Dr Bruce Longenecker will complete his term as Treasurer in 2008. A successor would need to be sought for this post, and again proposals from members should be submitted to the President before 1 March 2008. Because of regulations of the UK Charities Commission, nominees should be UK-based scholars.

BM2007/06 Nomination of Committee Members

Profs. Claude Coulot and Karl-Gustav Sandelin were due to retire from the Committee after this meeting. The Committee would be proposing two new members in their place at the second Business Meeting on Friday.

In addition, Profs. J.N.K. Mugambi and M. Sato were due to retire from the Committee as "co-opted members" after this meeting. The Committee will be proposing two new co-opted members in due course to serve for a period of three years.

BM2007/07 Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, Dr B. W. Longenecker, circulated the draft financial statements for the year ended 31 May 2007. Dr Longenecker also circulated a Commentary on the financial statements, in which he drew the Society's attention to several specific entries in the accounts. Following his presentation, the accounts were formally accepted and approved by the Society. The points highlighted by the Treasurer included the following:

- The new system introduced by CUP for direct billing of journal subscriptions meant that subscription income and journal payments would no longer feature in the Society's accounts.
- A generous legacy had been received from Mrs Aileen Ethel Mirsky in the past year.
- The future introduction of an email database by the Secretary had the potential sizeably to reduce the cost of the Secretary's mailings to members.
- Grants from the International Fund had been unusually high in the past year, and the Society had also made a donation to the Eastern European Libraries from this Fund. Income into the International Fund, now produced by the new IF component of the Society's subscription fee, was £4,834 plus a late carryforward of donations from the previous financial year of £1,750. Overall, the value of the International Fund dropped in the last financial year.

- The money currently held in the Library Fund (£1,411) was transferred in full to the managers of the Eastern European libraries.

BM2007/08 Other Business

1. The Secretary reported that terms of reference had been prepared for the new post of Assistant Secretary for International Initiatives. These would be circulated to all members in the autumn mailing and posted on the Society's website. Nominations from members would be sought by 1 March 2008.
2. 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 or other Committee members before the second Committee meeting.
3. The Secretary noted that only one Short Main Paper was scheduled for the Sibiu meeting. The Committee had decided to make more time available for *offered* Short Papers by having no Short Main Papers for the next two years. This was to encourage younger scholars to offer papers and to allow more members to get funding from their home institutions. It would also foster a diversity of views and potentially enhance the dynamics of meetings. The Committee intends to review the policy after two years.
4. The Secretary announced that a new website for the Society was in construction. The URL would be announced at the second Business Meeting.
5. In response a question, it was agreed that the Editorial Board would clarify with Cambridge University Press whether journal subscriptions could be paid by credit cards, in order to avoid excessive costs for bank transfers.

The first Business Meeting was then concluded.

21.00 A Reception was given by the "Lucian Blaga" University of Sibiu in the Casa Sindicatelor. Participants were warmly welcomed by the Vice-Rector of the University.

WEDNESDAY 1st AUGUST

- 08.30 Prayers (in English) were held in the Orthodox Cathedral by Fr Prof. Dr V. Mihoc.
- 09.15 Professor Daniel Marguerat was inducted as President of the Society and delivered his Presidential Address entitled "Paul après Paul: une histoire de réception / Paul after Paul: a (hi)story of reception" at a plenary session of the Society.
- 10.30 A photograph of Conference participants was taken.
- 11.15 The first session of the Seminar Groups was held, with the following subjects and formal leadership:
1. Christliche Literatur des späten ersten Jahrhunderts und des zweiten Jahrhunderts / Christian Literature of the late first century and the second century (Prof. F. Probstmeier and Dr H. van de Sandt)
 2. Colossians (Prof. P. Müller)
 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. New Challenges for New Testament Hermeneutics in the 21st Century (Profs. B. McLean and O. Wischmeyer)
 9. The New Testament in History and Culture (Profs. R. Fowler, W. Kelber and B. Olsson)
 10. The New Testament, Oral Culture and Biblical Translation (Drs P. H. Towner and G. L. Yorke; advisory co-chair, Prof. J. D. G. Dunn)
 11. Paul and Rhetoric (Profs. P. Lampe and J. P. Sampley)

12. The Reception of Paul (Profs. D. Moessner and D. Marguerat)
 13. Shaping Traditions about Jesus (Profs. I. Gruenwald and P. Pokorny)
 14. Textual Criticism (Profs. H.-G. Bethge and J. K. Elliott)
 15. History and Theology of Mission in the New Testament: Global Challenges and Opportunities (Profs. J. Ådna, J. Kanagaraj, S. Tofana).
- 14.15 A Main Paper was given by Prof. Ithamar Gruenwald: "O Freunde, nicht diese Töne': Paul and Nomos in Light of Ritual Theory".
- 16.15 A Short Main Paper was given by Prof. Dr Angela Standhartinger: "Werdet meine Nachahmer!' (Phil 3,17): Zur Auslegung von Phil 3".
- 18.00 An Organ Concert was given in the Evangelical Church.
- 19.30 A Reception was given on behalf of the Mayor of Sibiu/Hermannstadt in the City Hall.

THURSDAY 2nd AUGUST

- 08.30 Prayers (in German) were held in Johanniskirche, led by Prof. Dr R. Bieringer.
- 09.15 A Main Paper was given by Prof. William R. G. Loader: "Attitudes towards Sexuality in Qumran and Related Literature – and the New Testament".
- 11.15 The second session of Seminar groups was held.
- 14.15 A Main Paper was given by Prof. Dr Jörg Frey: "...damit sie meine Herrlichkeit schauen' (Joh 17,24). Zu Hintergrund, Sinn und Funktion der johanneischen Rede von der *doxa* Jesu".
- 16.15 Three offered short papers were presented in simultaneous sessions:
- Prof. Dr J. Rius-Camps: "Trois possible niveaux rédactionnelles dans l'Évangile de Marc".
 - Prof. Dr M. Girard: "'Between two Sunday evenings' (John 20:19-29). Towards a Methodological Reconciliation of Synchrony and Diachrony".
 - Prof. Dr M. Baumert: "Vom Kind zum Manne – 1 Kor 13 im Kontext".
- 18.00 Participants were invited to a Reception by the Orthodox Church and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Augsburg Confession in Romania at the Open Air Museum Astra outside Sibiu.

FRIDAY 3rd AUGUST

- 08.30 Prayers were held in Johanniskirche, led by Prof. Dr T. K. Seim.
- 09.15 A Main Paper was given by Prof. Dr A. Puig i Tàrrach: "Pourquoi Jésus a-t-il reçu le baptême de Jean?".
- 11.15 The third session of Seminar groups was held.
- 14.15 Three offered short papers were presented in simultaneous sessions:
- Prof. Dr M. Bachmann: "Zur jüngsten Diskussion um die *erga nomou*: Was für Praktiken?".
 - Prof. G. W. Buchanan: "Jerusalem Revisited".
 - Prof. E. Kun-Chun Wong: "Mark's Response to Paul's Gospel".
- 16.00 Two offered short papers were presented in simultaneous sessions:
- Prof. T. W. Martin: "Paul's Lack of Astonishment at the Galatians: The Semantic and Syntactical Significance of *ei mē* in Gal 1:17".
 - Dr A. W. Zwiep: "Judas and the Jews: Antisemitic Interpretations of Judas Iscariot".
- 17.00 **BUSINESS MEETING II**

The President, Professor Daniel Marguerat, was in the chair, and about 190 participants were present.

BM2007/09 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. Some of the apparent decline in the number of individual subscribers since 2005 has probably been due to stricter controls over payments, so only those who pay for the Journal actually receive it. The geographical distribution of subscribers is now very wide, enhanced by the consortia arrangements. The Press are seeking to identify institutions that have cancelled subscriptions in order to clarify the extent to which this has been as a consequence of joining consortia. Unfortunately this exercise has not yet been completed. It is clear that on-line usage of the Journal is continuing to increase strongly.

(ii) *Subscription Rates.* The rates for Volume 54 (2008) are provisionally as follows (this year's figures in brackets):

Institutions (print & electronic):	£124 (116) / \$219 (198)
Print Only:	£116 (110) / \$205 (188)
Electronic only	£111 (104) / \$194 (178)
Individuals:	£46 (46) / \$76 (76)
SNTS Members:	£40 (40) / \$64 (64)*
Students and Retired Members:	£20 (27) / \$36 (36)*
Journal Donation Project (institutions)	£26

* Plus membership subscriptions for those who are members.

Prof. Lieu was pleased to note that subscription rates for individuals, SNTS members, students and retired members showed no increase for the third year running. Institutional prices had risen but at a rate below that of comparable CUP journals.

A question had arisen in the Editorial Board about the possibility of individuals being able to subscribe for on-line access. This is currently only possible for institutions. CUP has promised to investigate this, but it may require some time to do so.

(iii) *Supply of articles.* Prof. Lieu reported that the queue for publication in the Journal continued to be short, and she encouraged members to submit work to the Journal. She emphasized that articles were welcomed in any of the three languages of the Society. More submissions in French would be particularly welcome.

(iv) *Digitization.* It was reported that all volumes of the Journal going back to Volume 1 were about to be digitized.

(v) *Searching by Key Words.* Prof. Lieu reported that contributors were soon to be asked to supply key words for searches, as well as abstracts, to increase the accessibility of articles.

(vi) *Thanks.* Prof. Lieu noted the good relations that currently existed with Cambridge University Press. Ms Martine Walsh, who succeeded Joe Mottershead, was thanked for her commitment to the work of the journal. Ms Melanie Howie succeeded Kathy Stanford in responsibility for the production of the Journal, and Dr Duncan Burns was thanked for his work in copy editing. Appreciation was also expressed to members of the Board for their work in reviewing articles.

b. *Monograph Series.*

In the absence of Dr Court, Prof. Lieu also addressed some issues raised in his report and in the subsequent discussion at the Editorial Board.

(i) *New Publications*. Prof. Lieu drew attention to the circulated report on the Monograph Series, showing that three monographs have been published since the report presented at the Aberdeen meeting in 2006:

- 136 Timothy Ling: *The Judean Poor and the Fourth Gospel*
- 138 Jocelyn McWhirter: *The Bridegroom Messiah and the People of God*
- 139 Daniel Gurtner: *The Torn Veil*

Four further works are currently in production:

- 140 André Munzinger: *Discerning the Spirits*
- 141 Edward Klink: *The Sheep of the Fold*
- 142 Stephen Ahearne-Kroll: *The Psalms of Lament in Mark's Gospel*
- 143 Kenneth Schenck: *Cosmology and Eschatology in Hebrews*

Most new volumes are still doctoral dissertations; established scholars were again encouraged to consider publication in the monograph series.

Prof. Lieu drew attention to the confirmation by the Press at the meeting of the Editorial Board that the monograph series will accept works in any of the three languages of the Society.

(ii) *Reprints and Digital Sales*. Prof. Lieu noted that availability of the monographs was now very extensive. Volumes no longer automatically went out of print. From 2005 onwards, monographs have been available electronically as well as in hard copy.

(iii) *Thanks*. The report prepared by 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.

The Editors' Reports were approved by the Society, and the President expressed gratitude to both of the Editors for their valuable work on behalf of the Society.

c. *New Members of the Editorial Board*.

Appreciation was expressed to Professors C. Böttrich, T.L. Donaldson, B. Ehrman, C.A. Evans, T. Schmeller and J.C. Thom who are due to retire from the Board at the end of 2007. The Editorial Board nominated the following members to serve in their place, during the period 1st January 2008 to 31st December 2010: Professors K. Backhaus, I. Dunderberg, J. Fitzgerald, M. MacDonald, F. Tolmie and H. van de Sandt. Members of the Society gave their approval to these nominations.

BM2007/10 Election of New Members.

The election of 19 scholars as new members of the Society was confirmed:

Dr Edward Adams (King's College London), Prof. Paul Anderson (George Fox University, Oregon), Dr Michael F. Bird (The Highland Theological College, Scotland), Prof. Jaime Clark-Soles (Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University), Dr Mary L. Coloe (Australian Catholic University & St Paul's Theological College, Brisbane), Dr James Crossley (University of Sheffield), Dr István Czachesz (University of Groningen), Prof. Dr Andreas Dettwiler (Université de Genève), Dr David S. du Toit (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin), Dr John David Kwamena Ekem (Trinity Theological Seminary, Legon, Ghana), Dr Paul G. Foster (University of Edinburgh), Dr Niclas Förster (Kandidat der Theologie, Hannover), Dr James A. Kelhoffer (Saint Louis University, Missouri), Prof. Dr Maria Neubrand MC (Theologische Fakultät Paderborn), PD Dr Karl-Heinrich Ostmeyer (Universities of Marburg and Leipzig), Dr Mark Reasoner (Bethel University, St Paul, Minnesota), Dr Gottfried Schimanowski (Saarbrücken-Heusweiler), Dr Ulrich Schmid (University of Birmingham; Kirchliche Hochschule Bethel, Bielefeld; Free University Amsterdam), and Prof. Dr Holger Strutwolf (Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster).

BM2007/11 Future General Meetings.

Lund, Sweden 2008 (29th July – 2nd August). Prof. Bengt Holmberg gave a presentation of the arrangements for the meeting in Lund and warmly invited members of the Society to attend. He noted that arrival by air was most easily achieved through Copenhagen, followed by a rail link

to Lund. The conference would take place in the centre of the city of Lund. Accommodation would be in hotels, but a variety of price levels would be available. Most of the hotels would be within walking distance of the venues for meetings. Excursions would be available on the Saturday after the meeting, but no pre- or post-conference tours would be arranged. The website would soon be open with the following URL: www.snts2008.org.

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

Berlin 2010 (27th -31st July) Three 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 Two years ago the Society accepted an invitation to hold its 2011 meeting at Bard College, but details and dates are still to be confirmed.

Leuven 2012 (31st July – 4th August) It was reported that the Committee had received a proposal to hold its 2012 meeting at the University of Leuven. Prof. Dr Joseph Verheyden gave further details of the invitation. The Society then approved the recommendation of the Committee to accept the invitation.

BM2007/12 Programme of Future Meetings.

Lund 2008

a. *Main Papers and Short Main Papers.* The Secretary reported that the Presidential Address will be given by Prof. Dr Andrie B. du Toit. Invited Main Papers will be given by Professors K. Backhaus, E. Cuvillier, T. Engberg-Pedersen, and A. Reinhartz. There will be no invited Short Main Papers in order to create more opportunities for members to offer short papers to be read in simultaneous sessions. Any member wishing to offer such a paper is asked to send a proposal to the Secretary before 1 March 2008. The proposal should contain a summary, outline, or abstract. Please note that a member may give only one paper per General Meeting.

b. *Seminars.* The Secretary drew attention to the following:

- Fifteen seminars were held in Sibiu this year.
- Three seminars that had been scheduled to terminate this year have sought a continuation:
 - Colossians* (P. Müller) – granted a one-year extension, as requested
 - The New Testament, Oral Culture and Bible Translation* (P. Towner, G.L. Yorke, with advisory co-chair J.D.G. Dunn) – granted a one-year extension, as requested
 - Paul and Rhetoric* (P. Lampe and J.P. Sampley) – granted a three-year extension, as requested.
- One new seminar was previously approved by the Committee and will begin meeting next year in Lund:
 - Pauline Theology in Galatians and Romans* (B. Gaventa, J. Barclay and M. C. de Boer)
- Two new seminars were approved this year by the Committee and will begin meeting next year in Lund:
 - Christian Apocryphal Literature* (T. Nicklas, C.M. Tuckett and J. Verheyden)
 - The Acts of the Apostles and Ancient Historiography* (J. Schröter and K. Backhaus)

Thus a total of 18 seminars is expected to be held in Lund.

The Secretary also expressed concern at the absence of several seminar leaders in Sibiu. The Committee wished him to reiterate the importance of attendance by those who have assumed the responsibility of serving as a seminar leader.

BM2007/13 Committee Members

As indicated at the first Business meeting, Profs. Claude Coulot and Karl-Gustav Sandelin were due to retire from the Committee after this meeting. The President expressed thanks for their important contributions to the work of the Society. The Committee was pleased to recommend Prof. Dr Turid Karlsen Seim and Prof. Dr Camille Focant to serve on the Committee for a period of three years (2007 to 2010). The Society approved these nominations.

In addition, the President thanked Profs. J.N.K. Mugambi and M. Sato who also retire from the Committee as "co-opted members" after this meeting. The Committee expects to bring nominations to the next General Meeting for these co-opted positions.

BM2007/14 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. Five points were particularly highlighted:
- The St Petersburg Biblical Library had benefited greatly by two substantial donations in the past year. It had also celebrated its tenth anniversary, an event that had been celebrated by the University. It was now about to begin to publish introductory books about the Bible in Russian. A major extension of the holdings into the Patristics field was also beginning, and donors were being sought to aid this initiative.
 - At the State University of Belarus is an Orthodox theological faculty. This faculty is seeking to establish contacts with other universities, especially English, American and Scandinavian ones. Members were urged to contact Prof. Luz or Dr S. Rogalsky (Minsk) with any offers.
 - Although no formal project exists in Romania, the Eastern Europe Committee had initiated help in founding a national network of biblical scholars of all denominations in Romania. Logistical and financial help had also been provided by the SNTS Committee. A new journal, *Sacra Scripta*, edited by S. Tofană, had been launched, and members were asked to encourage their libraries to subscribe. Thanks were expressed to all members who had brought books to donate in Sibiu, and to publishers who had paid their exhibition fees in books.
 - Prof. Luz wanted members to be aware that the new element in the Society's subscription fees for international initiatives did not go automatically to the Eastern Europe biblical libraries. Indeed the International Fund of the Society would be unable to provide regular support for the biblical libraries at the level required. This year approximately €12,000 was required, and this would have to be met from voluntary contributions.
 - Prof. Luz indicated that at the meeting of the Eastern Europe Liaison Committee on Friday evening and Saturday morning, he would be stepping down as Chair (although would remain as a member). He thanked all members for their support of the work of the Liaison Committee.

The Society expressed its gratitude to Prof. Luz for his outstanding leadership of this initiative and for the impressive amount that had been accomplished under his leadership.

- b. The Secretary announced that the new website for the Society was:

www.surfgroepen.nl/sites/snts

Information about the new site would be provided in the autumn mailing. It is still being re-designed and additional information will be placed on it through the coming year.

The President noted that the local committee would be thanked at the final dinner. The President then declared the 62nd General Meeting of the Society closed.

18.30 Participants departed to the Ramada Hotel for an aperitif offered by the German Consulate in Hermannstadt and for the Conference Dinner. The President expressed thanks on behalf of the Society to the local conference organisers, and especially to Prof. Hans Klein, Prof. Vasile Mihoc, Helga Dahinten (Secretary), Emese Papp (Assistant Secretary), Prof. Stefan Tobler, Dr Daniel Buda, and Dr Daniel Mihoc. The very efficient team of stewards and other helpers was also recognised and thanked.

SATURDAY 4th AUGUST

Optional excursions included visits to:

- (1) Sebeş Alba and Alba Iulia, followed by a visit to the Rametz Monastery.
- (2) Mediaş, Sighişoara, and Biertan, followed by a visit to the Sâmbăta Monastery.
- (3) Braşov, Bran, and the Sâmbăta Monastery.

In addition, between 4th and 8th August at the Sâmbăta Monastery, the Fourth East-West European New Testament Conference was held on the theme of Prayer in the New Testament.