REPORTS RELATING TO THE SIXTIETH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY

The 60th Annual Meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society was held at the Rhode Island Convention Center in Providence, RI. There were 1,965 registered guests. Participating publishers offered generous discounts on their books and other products from one hundred booths in a large carpeted hall. The program theme, “Text and Canon,” was explored in four excellent plenary sessions, and by many of the more than five hundred individual papers. Participants gathered from six continents and the islands of the seas to fellowship, exchange ideas, critique one another and to keep abreast of the most recent scholarship in their disciplines. More than twenty study groups also met as part of the overall program.

President-Elect Dr. Bruce Ware served as program chairman and put together a superb array of plenary speakers. On Wednesday afternoon, Dr. Peter J. Gentry of The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary addressed the society on “The Old Testament Text.” Later that evening, Dr. Stephen Dempster of Atlantic Baptist University addressed the Society on “The Old Testament Canon.”

On Thursday afternoon, attendees heard Dr. Daniel B. Wallace of Dallas Theological Seminary speak on “The New Testament Text.” The fourth and final plenary was delivered the next hour by Dr. Charles E. Hill of Reformed Theological Seminary on “The New Testament Canon.”

As many as thirty-five parallel sessions ran concurrently on such disciplines as Old Testament, New Testament, biblical, historical, and systematic theology, church history, archaeology, philosophy, hermeneutics, evangelism and missions, pastoral ministry, and psychology and theology. Parallel programs were also conducted by the Evangelical Philosophical Society, the Near East Archaeological Society, and the Adventist Theological Society. Members displayed resumes and institutions advertised available positions.

The first business session was called to order by ETS President Dr. Hassell Bullock of Wheaton College at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 19th. He introduced ETS Vice-President Dr. Eugene Merrill of Dallas Theological Seminary, who gave a brief devotional from Psalm 93. He noted that we may vote for leaders, but it is God who reigns. It was moved, seconded, and carried (MSC) to adopt the agenda, that is, the meeting program which had been printed and distributed to all members previously.

The Secretary-Treasurer James Borland then presented both the membership and financial reports.
MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Active Membership | Total | Full | Assoc. | Student
--- | --- | --- | --- | ---
11-16-07 | 4560 | 2318 | 845 | 1397
New Members (2008) | 766 | 168 | 144 | 454
Members Reactivated | 201 | 104 | 36 | 61
Members Dropped | (861) | (321) | (173) | (367)
  Not paid in 2008 | 842 | 307 | 170 | 365
  Dropped per request | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0
  Bad addresses | 8 | 5 | 1 | 2
  Deceased | 9 | 8 | 1 | 0
Total Membership 11-21-08 | 4666 | 2269 | 852 | 1545

FINANCIAL REPORT

EVANGELICAL THEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
YEARS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2008 AND SEPTEMBER 30, 2007

| REVENUES | 2008 | 2007 |
--- | --- | --- |
Annual Meeting | $200,350 | $200,738 |
Dues and Subscriptions | 139,586 | 139,303 |
Interest on Savings | 29,028 | 27,123 |
Miscellaneous Income | 31,124 | 30,004 |
Total Revenues | $400,088 | $397,168 |

| EXPENSES | 2008 | 2007 |
--- | --- | --- |
Journal (JETS) | $76,100 | $74,192 |
Accounting | 2,900 | 2,650 |
Annual Meeting | 98,761 | 88,316 |
Newsletter | 2,100 | 1,990 |
Monograph | — | 812 |
Office and General | 17,598 | 12,207 |
Postage | 16,727 | 24,283 |
Regional | 12,000 | 12,000 |
Secretarial Help | 23,222 | 15,303 |
Stipends | 103,475 | 96,890 |
Website Development | 24,254 | 37,745 |
Total Expenses | $377,137 | $366,388 |

INCREASE IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS | $22,951 | $30,780 |

NET ASSETS, beginning of year | $685,810 | $655,030 |
NET ASSETS, end of year | $708,761 | $685,810 |
The financial report was audited by Geoffrey R. Mather, CPA, 1922B
Graves Mill Road, Lynchburg, VA 24502. Phone 434-316-5214.

Three members were then nominated for three slots to serve on the nomi-
nating committee along with the two most recent ETS past presidents, Edwin
Yamauchi and Craig Blaising. It was MSC to close the nominations and to
elect by acclamation. The three selected to serve were H. Wayne House,
George Guthrie, and Robert Saucy. Elected to serve by acclamation to the
resolutions committee were Dennis Jowers and George Joseph Gatis.

Dr. Bullock announced a 5:20 p.m. parallel session for discussion of
the doctrinal basis proposal, as well as a general meeting at 8:30 p.m. for
members to express their views on this proposal. At the evening discussion
meeting members alternately expressed either support for or opposition to
changing the Society’s doctrinal basis as proposed by Drs. Denny Burk and
Ray Van Neste at the 59th annual meeting.

On Thursday evening, ETS President Hassell Bullock of Wheaton College
spoke on “Wisdom, the ‘Amen’ of Torah.” Nearly eight hundred members were
in attendance to enjoy the tasty meal and the fine presentation.

The Friday morning business session was opened with prayer by ETS
President Hassell Bullock. Brief memorials for members who had passed
away during 2008 were presented by Secretary-Treasurer James Borland. The
full text of these memorials appears in this issue of JETS (52/1). Dr. Andreas
Köstenberger, editor of JETS, reported on the journal—four issues of 224
pages of superb referred articles and excellent book reviews.

The resolutions committee chairman, Dr. Dennis W. Jowers, and com-
mittee secretary Dr. George J. Gatis, Esq. moved the adoption of the follow-
ing resolutions:

FIRST: WHEREAS the management, staff, and personnel of the Rhode
Island Convention Center, the Hilton Providence Hotel, and the Westin
Providence Hotel have provided splendid facilities, warm hospitality, and
gracious assistance in staging the Evangelical Theological Society’s 60th
Annual Meeting;

SECOND: WHEREAS the President-elect of the Evangelical Theological
Society, Dr. Bruce Ware has selflessly and tirelessly labored to orchestrate
this year’s exceptional program;

THIRD: WHEREAS the Chairman of the Program Units Committee,
Dr. David Howard, the other members of the Program Units Committee,
and the steering committees of the various program units have adroitly
managed the Society’s transition to a program units model for our Annual
Meeting;

FOURTH: WHEREAS the President Dr. Hassell Bullock and all the
members of the Executive Committee, as well as numerous volunteers have
assisted with all clerical responsibilities, registration, and management of
all matters necessary for this honorable assembly;

FIFTH: WHEREAS the Secretary-Treasurer Dr. James Borland, for the
last sixteen (16) years served with indefatigable energy and constancy;
SIXTH: WHEREAS the Editor of the *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society*, Dr. Andreas Köstenberger has provided the Society’s readership a consistently outstanding publication;

SEVENTH: WHEREAS the Society’s regional officers have fostered evangelical scholarship in regional settings other than the Annual Meeting;

EIGHTH: WHEREAS presenters of papers, Book Review Editors, Editorial Committee, and referees of the *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society* have, one and all, contributed to this Society’s flourishing, and;

NINTH: WHEREAS the Lord Jesus Christ has provided for us lavishly, His unsearchable riches;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that sincere and heart-felt thanks be formally communicated to all responsible for effecting this assembly, and ultimately, praise to God’s Son and our Savior, Jesus Christ.

The motion carried by voice vote.

The nominations committee chairman Dr. Wayne House moved the report of the nominations committee, that the following persons be elected:

- President, Bruce A. Ware
- President-Elect, Eugene H. Merrill
- Vice-President, Clinton E. Arnold
- Secretary-Treasurer, James A. Borland
- Vacancy on the Executive Committee, Hassell Bullock

The motion carried to elect the above slate of officers.

The next order of business was the constitutional and by-law changes proposed by the Executive Committee at the 59th Annual Meeting, the full text of which was published in *JETS* 51/1, pp. 209–10. The purpose of the proposed changes was to mandate the hiring of a fulltime Executive Director to handle the daily operations, financial duties, and Annual Meeting details of the Society. The motion passed by a vote of 188-0.

The final order of business was the constitutional amendment proposed by Drs. Denny Burk and Ray Van Neste to enlarge the doctrinal basis of the Society. This amendment was proposed at the 59th Annual Meeting of the Society, and the full text of the amendment is recorded in *JETS* 51/1, pp. 210–11. Passage required an 80% majority vote. The vote was 47 Yes; and 130 No. The percentage of favorable votes was 26.6%, so the motion failed.

The meeting was then adjourned at 8:29 a.m.

**Scheduled Future Annual Meetings are:**

2009  “PERSONAL AND SOCIAL ETHICS” Nov. 18–20, New Orleans, LA

2010  “JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH” Nov. 17–19, Downtown Hilton Hotel, Atlanta, GA
2011  “NO OTHER NAME” Nov. 17–19, Downtown Marriott Hotel, San Francisco, CA

2012  “CARING FOR CREATION” Nov. 14–16, Midwest Airlines Center, Milwaukee, WI

I encourage each member to join us November 18–20, 2009 (Wed.–Fri.) at the Sheraton Hotel (500 Canal St) and J. W. Marriott Hotel (614 Canal St.), New Orleans, LA, for our 61st Annual Meeting. The theme is “Personal and Social Ethics.”

JAMES A. BORLAND
SECRETARY-TREASURER, ETS