

REPORTS RELATING TO THE SIXTY-FIRST ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY

The 61st Annual Meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society was held at the Sheraton and the J. W. Marriott Hotels on Canal Street in downtown, New Orleans, LA. There were 1,879 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, “Personal and Social Ethics,” was explored in four excellent plenary sessions. In addition, there were more than five hundred individual papers. Participants gathered from around the world to fellowship, exchange ideas, critique one another, and to keep abreast of the most recent scholarship in their disciplines. Various sections, study groups, and consultations also met as part of the program.

President-Elect Dr. Eugene Merrill served as program chairman and put together a superb array of plenary speakers. On Wednesday afternoon, Dr. E. David Cook, Holmes Professor of Faith and Learning at Wheaton College in Wheaton, IL, addressed the society on “Individual and Community: Lessons from Bioethics.” Later that evening, Dr. Samuel Kunhiyop, head of the Post-Graduate School of South African Theological Seminary, an online educational program, addressed the Society on “Towards Communal Christian Ethics: An African Perspective.” Dr. Kunhiyop is the author of *African Christian Ethics* (Zondervan, 2008).

On Thursday afternoon, attendees heard Dr. John F. Kilner, Professor of Bioethics and Contemporary Culture at Trinity International University in Deerfield, IL speak on “Biblically Based Ethics: What’s Missing.” The fourth and final plenary was delivered the next hour by Dr. Scott B. Rae, Department Chair and Professor of Philosophy of Religion and Ethics at Talbot School of Theology in La Mirada, CA. His address was titled “On the Intersection of Faith, Economics, and Social Ethics.”

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. Bruce Ware of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary at 12:50 p.m. on Wednesday, November 18. He introduced ETS Vice-President Dr. Clinton E. Arnold of Talbot School of Theology, who gave a brief devotional about earthquakes, sudden changes, and seeing Christ face to face. He then led in prayer. 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.

James Borland, Secretary-Treasurer, then presented the membership and financial reports.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Active Membership	Total	Full	Assoc.	Student
Total Membership 11-21-08	4666	2269	852	1545
New Members (2009)	608	124	113	371
Members Dropped	(703)	(23)	(144)	(536)
Deceased	4	3	1	0
Total Membership 11-20-09	4571	2370	821	1380

FINANCIAL REPORT
EVANGELICAL THEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENSES,
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
YEARS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2009 AND SEPTEMBER 30, 2008

REVENUES	2009	2008
Annual Meeting	\$ 222,285	\$ 200,350
Dues and Subscriptions	139,931	139,586
Interest on Savings	22,772	29,028
Miscellaneous Income	<u>37,674</u>	<u>31,124</u>
Total Revenues	<u>\$ 422,662</u>	<u>\$ 400,088</u>
EXPENSES		
Journal (<i>JETS</i>)	\$ 80,814	\$ 76,100
Accounting	3,300	2,900
Annual Meeting	77,840	98,761
Executive Director	9,375	—
Newsletter	2,100	2,100
Office and General	20,653	17,598
Postage	19,673	16,727
Regional	8,000	12,000
Secretarial Help	25,000	23,222
Stipends	121,439	103,475
Website Development	<u>2,370</u>	<u>24,254</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 370,564</u>	<u>\$ 377,137</u>
INCREASE IN UNRESTRICTED		
NET ASSETS	\$ 52,098	\$ 22,951
NET ASSETS , beginning of year	<u>\$ 708,761</u>	<u>\$ 685,810</u>
NET ASSETS , end of year	<u>\$ 760,859</u>	<u>\$ 708,761</u>

The financial report was audited by Geoffrey R. Mather, CPA, 1922B Graves Mill Road, Lynchburg, VA 24502. Phone 434-316-5214.

Three members, Wayne Grudem, H. Wayne House, and Erik Thoennes, were then nominated for three slots to serve on the nominating committee along with the two most recent ETS past presidents, Edwin Yamauchi and Hassell Bullock. It was MSC to close the nominations and to elect by acclamation. Elected to serve by acclamation on the resolutions committee were Dennis Jowers and George Joseph Gatis. Dr. Ware led in prayer, and the meeting was adjourned at 1:12 p.m.

On Thursday evening, ETS President Bruce Ware of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary spoke on “Wisdom, the ‘Amen’ of Torah.” Some 751 were in attendance to enjoy the tasty meal and the fine presentation. Prior to his speech, Dr. Ware presented a plaque to Dr. Craig Blaising for his seven years of service on the Executive Committee. In addition, a large glass-covered and framed award, “The Distinguished Service Award,” was presented to Dr. James A. Borland, ETS Secretary-Treasurer, for his twenty-three years of service on the Executive Committee, which included his time as Vice-President, President-Elect, President, and his service as Secretary-Treasurer from 1992–2009.

The Friday morning business session was called to order by ETS President Bruce Ware, who introduced Clint Arnold. Dr. Arnold then shared a brief devotional on being sensitive to the Holy Spirit to hear the needs of fellow believers and to pray for them. Brief memorials for members who had passed away during 2009 were presented by Secretary-Treasurer James Borland. The full text of these memorials appears in this issue of *JETS* (53/1). Dr. Andreas Köstenberger, editor of *JETS* reported on the journal. He thanked the referees, editors, editorial committee, the Executive Committee, and the contributors and reviewers for the 30 superb articles and 300 pages of book reviews.

The resolutions committee chairman Dr. Dennis W. Jowers and committee clerk Dr. George J. Gatis, Esq. then moved that: “On this day, Nov. 20, 2009, the members of the Evangelical Theological Society resolve:

FIRST, to thank the management and staff of the Sheraton New Orleans for the use of their splendid facilities, for their assistance in staging the Society’s 2009 convention, and for the gracious manner in which they have served the convention’s attendees;

SECOND, to thank President-elect Eugene Merrill for assembling this year’s sterling program;

THIRD, to thank President Bruce Ware, the other members of the Executive Committee, and especially the volunteers who have assisted with registration and recording, for their contributions to the convention;

FOURTH, to thank James Borland for his seventeen years of faithful service as the Society’s Secretary-Treasurer;

FIFTH, to thank Andreas Köstenberger for his exemplary performance as Editor of the *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society*;

SIXTH, to thank Michael Thigpen for the extraordinary proficiency with which he has begun to prosecute his duties as Executive Director of the Society;

SEVENTH, to thank the presenters of papers at this convention, the officers of the Society, regional as well as national, who have not been mentioned heretofore, the Book Review Editors, Editorial Committee, and referees of *JETS*, and all who contribute to the Society’s flourishing; and

EIGHTH, to thank God for enabling us to serve him by studying, practicing, and instilling in others biblical principles of personal and social ethics.”

The motion carried by voice vote.

The nominations committee moved that the following persons be elected:

President, Eugene H. Merrill
 President-Elect, Clinton E. Arnold
 Vice-President, Paul House
 Secretary, Gregg Allison
 Vacancy on the Executive Committee, Bruce Ware
 Vacancies on the Membership Committee,
 Dorian Coover Cox and Daniel Heimbach

The motion carried to elect the above slate of officers.

A special note of thanks was given to The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, KY, and to its President, Dr. R. Albert Mohler, for granting the Evangelical Theological Society free space on campus for ETS offices.

Scheduled Future Annual Meetings and Themes are:

- 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
- 2013 "BIBLICAL THEOLOGY"
- 2014 "THEOLOGICAL ANTHROPOLOGY"
- 2015 "THY WORD IS TRUTH"

JAMES A. BORLAND
 SECRETARY-TREASURER, ETS