

OTSANews: Winter 2007

Welcome to the Winter 2007 edition of OTSANews. With OTSANews, we hope to encourage greater contact and collaboration between Orthodox scholars. Each newsletter will have information on academic conferences, member news and publications, and other news of interest. OTSANews will be sent out via email to members in a pdf version. An online version is also available at <http://otsamerica.org/otsanews/current.php>. Archived versions will remain available online.

If you have ideas for other topics or features, suggestions are welcome. The frequency of newsletters depends entirely on the amount of content and news available so please contribute! If you would like to contribute material for the next edition, please contact Maria McDowell at otsanews@gmail.com.

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Announcements

Dues

Recent Annual Dues Statements are in error with respect to dues payments for 2007. Please ignore it. A revised statement will be sent shortly.

Orthodox Journals

The Greek Orthodox Theological Review and St. Vladimir's Theological Quarterly are offering discounted subscriptions to OTSA members. Members are eligible for one year subscription to one journal at \$20 (regular price \$40) if membership is paid for current year by January 15.

Member News

Archbishop Demetrios received the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters, honoris causa, from Fordham University on the occasion of his 40th anniversary of Episcopal Service, on June 14, 2007 at the University Church, Rose Hill Campus, Fordham University, as part of Fordham's Orthodoxy in America Lecture Series inaugural conference.

Call for Papers

Members wishing to present papers should submit an abstract of no more than 250 words to the Secretary of the Society, Valerie Karras, at vkarras@.edu (see www.otsamerica.org/officers.php for additional contact information). In order to allow for more papers to be presented, we ask authors to include information about the time needed for presentation, either 15-20 minutes or 40 minutes. Members are also encouraged to organize a panel of three or four papers dealing with a single theme or a panel devoted to a recent book, especially if the book's author could attend the session.

Proposals for papers on any topic are encouraged, even those presented before in other academic forums, but the Society is interested in receiving proposals on the following topics: "Care of the person in the Orthodox tradition;" "The history and implications of the reestablishment of communion between the Patriarchate of Moscow and the Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia;" "The Orthodox communities of Chicago and the Midwest."

In addition, the Annual Meeting will devote time in the program to the following: "Being Orthodox in the Academy: Does it Matter? Should it Matter?" Thus, papers on issues related to being an Orthodox Christian scholar in American higher education, the mentoring of students, and the efforts to develop Orthodox Christian institutions of higher education are encouraged. This consultation is being supported by the Office of Vocation and Ministry of Hellenic College-Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology as part of the Lilly Endowment-funded Program on the Theological Exploration of Vocation. A full proposal about this consultation can be found on the website of the Office of Vocation and Ministry of Hellenic College (www.hellenic.hchc.edu/pages/vocations/index.php), but key sections are found here: "Being Orthodox in the Academy". Authors whose papers are then prepared for publication will receive an honorarium of \$500 from the OVM.

Abstracts should be received by February 2, 2008.


Authors whose papers are accepted for presentation are the guests of the Society to the Annual Meeting, i.e., they pay no registration or room and board for their attendance.

Annual Meeting

June 12-14, 2008
Cenacle Retreat and Conference Center
513 W. Fullerton Parkway
Chicago, Illinois.

The selection of Chicago for our Annual Meeting is an experiment, but one that the officers believe will expand the work and reach of the Society. The officers are especially grateful for the collaboration of the members of the St. Catherine's Institute – a Chicago-based group of Orthodox scholars – in organizing a meeting in Chicago.

AAR 2008 - Topics of Interest

AAR/SBL 2008 recently concluded. Listed below are presentations of possible interest to Orthodox scholars, some given by members of the society, some by other scholars. The abstract of each paper can be viewed online at <http://otsamerica.org/otsanews/current.php#feature> 

History of Christianity Section

Theme: Saints and Social Worlds: Historical Perspectives on Christian Holy Folk

- All-American Saints: Depictions and Meanings of Eastern Orthodox Sainthood in Contemporary North America
Amy Slagle, University of Pittsburgh

Ecclesiological Investigations Group

Theme: Communion and Otherness: Contemporary Challenges of "Impaired Communion"

- Other and Not-Other: On the Logic of Western Pneumatology and the Communion Ecclesiology of John Zizioulas
Travis Ables, Vanderbilt University
- Communion Ecclesiology as a Response to Eucharistic Ecclesiology: Zizioulas and Staniloae
Radu Bordeianu, Duquesne University

Religion, Media, and Culture Group

Theme: Using (and Not Using) Media Technologies Shape Religious Purposes and Practices

- Tele-visibility, Dreams, and Intercession among Coptic Orthodox of Contemporary Cairo
Angie Heo, University of California, Berkeley

Christian Spirituality Group and Religion and Ecology Group

Theme: Christian Spiritual Practices for a Sustainable Ecology

- Orthodox Spirituality and Contemporary Ecology: John Cassian, Maximus the Confessor, and Jürgen Moltmann in Conversation
Brock Bingaman, Loyola University, Chicago

Law, Religion, and Culture Group

Theme: Contemporary Intersections of Law and Religion around the World

- Russian Orthodox Church and the Issues of Identity, Law, and Human Rights in Contemporary Russia
Olga Kazmina, Moscow State University

Eastern Orthodox Studies Group

Theme: Eastern Orthodox Christianity and Islam: Contemporary and Historical Theological Encounters

Aristotle Papanikolaou, Fordham University, Presiding

- Melkites, Muslims, and Mutakallimun: Depicting Religious Interlocutors in Medieval Christian Arabic
David Bertaina, University of Illinois, Springfield
- A Theological Context for the Shared Veneration of the Seven Sleepers of Ephesus in Christianity and Islam
Christian Krokus, Boston College

Eastern Orthodox Studies Group

Theme: Icons and Images in Eastern Orthodox Theology

Thomas Cattoi, Jesuit School of Theology, Berkeley, Presiding

- Seeing Is Becoming: "Icon" and Ethics in Orthodox Theology
Maria McDowell, Boston College
- The Missing Icon of the Will: The Damascene's Icon Theology as a Subtext in His On the Heresies, Chapter 100.
Elijah Mueller, Marquette University
- The Prothesis Rite and the Icon of the Deesis: The Eschatological Vision of Liturgy with Contemporary Implications
Stelyios Muksuris, University of Durham
- The Importance of Russian Traditions of Sophianic Icon Painting for the Thought of Pavel Florensky
Andrey Shirin, Moscow Theological Seminary

Christian Systematic Theology Section

Theme: Nature and Grace

- Between Bucharest and Basel: Incarnation, Analogy, and Pneumatics in Karl Barth and Dumitru Staniloae
Michael Gibson, Vanderbilt University

Christian Systematic Theology Section

Theme: Desire and Redemption

- Honest to God: Confession and Desire
Aristotle Papanikolaou, Fordham University

Conferences (Past and Future)


Society of Christian Ethics

January 3-8, 2008
Atlanta Hilton


American Society of Church History

January 3-6, 2008
Hilton Washington
1919 Connecticut Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20009
Theme: Uneven Developments

Byzantine Music Education: Building a Byzantine Choir

January 14-16, 2008
Graduate Center of the City University
New York, NY.
For more information and a complete program, please visit: www.axionestn.org 

Dorushe Annual Graduate Student Conference on Syriac Studies

University of Notre Dame
Notre Dame, IN
April 4-5, 2008
Deadline: January 31, 2008
[Link to Conference Flyer](#) 


North American Patristics Society

2008 Annual Meeting
The Holiday Inn Chicago Mart Plaza
May 22-24, 2008
Proposals: Dr. Paul M. Blowers
c/o Emmanuel School of Religion
One Walker Drive
Johnson City, TN 37601
blowersp@esr.edu
Deadline: 15 January 2008

Early Christianity and the Ancient Economy

A new research project, "Early Christianity and the Ancient Economy" under the overall leadership of Professor John Fitzgerald of the University of Miami and Fika J. van Rensburg of North-West University. This project will be pursued in sessions held at NAPS.

Orthodoxy and the Natural Environment

St. Nicholas Ranch hosted a conference on Orthodoxy and the Environment, October 25-28, 2007, at their facilities in Dunlap, CA. Among the presenters were members Perry Hamalis, Aristotle Papanikolaou and Gayle Woloschak. [Link to conference program](#) 

Other News

Vatican Library Closing

The Vatican Library will be closed for renovations from September 2007 to January 2010. The Secret Archives are not affected.

The Istanbul Byzantine Circular

The Istanbul Byzantine Circular aims at sharing information about activities, institutions and people related to Istanbul and Byzantium. The Circular consists of an e-mail attachment and will be updated and distributed four times per year in January, April, July and October. You are invited to share your information by e-mailing it to the editor, who will include it in the next circular. Philipp Niewöhner (niewoehner@Istanbul.dainst.org) will serve as editor of circular no. 1 to 8, April 2007 to January 2009. After that Nevra Necipoglu (necipogl@boun.edu.tr) will organize the election of an editor from the scholars of Byzantium resident in Istanbul.

Positions

School of Humanities
Department of History
University of California, Irvine

The University of California, Irvine, is seeking applicants for a tenure track assistant professor with a specialty in the history of Late Antiquity, broadly conceived (ca. 100 CE-800 CE). Areas of study of special interest to the Department include, but are not limited to: religion, state formation, trade, history of science and/or medicine, gender history, environmental history. Interest in participating in the department's world history program is expected.

Deadline: January 2, 2008.

Please send a letter of application, c.v., and three or more letters of reference to:

James Given
Search Committee Chair
Late Antiquity Search
University of California, Irvine
Department of History
200 Murray Krieger Hall
Irvine, CA 92697-3275

OTSA Website

The OTSA website (otsamerica.org) is in the process of being redesigned. In addition to a new look, we will be gradually adding additional content. We will be using the website to notify members of announcements and news, as well providing link to Orthodox scholarly resources. This will include information regarding Orthodox presses and journals, relevant meetings, etc. We will also be adding a bibliography project which will allow visitors to search through member publications and presentations. We will be setting up a way for members to submit their publications, so be sure to check announcements on the homepage if you would like your publications and presentations included.

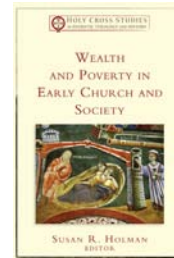
Any content suggestions and corrections can be directed towards Maria McDowell at otsaweb@gmail.com.

Newsletter Credits

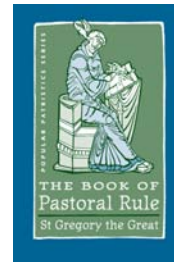
All content submissions, corrections, suggestions and concerns should be directed to Maria McDowell, OTSANews Editor, otsanews@gmail.com.

If you are interested in contributing to either OTSANews or the website, please let Maria know!

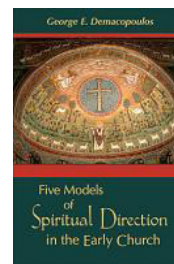
Member Publications



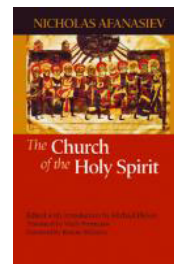
Wealth and Poverty in Early Church and Society
Susan R. Holman, ed.
Holy Cross Studies in Patristic Theology and History



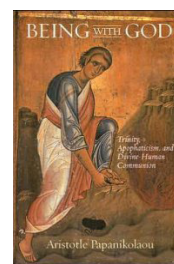
Forthcoming: Apr. 08
The Book of Pastoral Rule
St Gregory the Great
Popular Patristics 34
Introduction & translation by George E.



Demacopoulos
Five Models of Spiritual Direction in the Early Church
George E. Demaco-



poulos
The Church of the Holy Spirit
Nicholas Afanasiev
Translated by Vitaly Permiakov
Edited with an introduction by Michael Plekon



Foreword by Rowan Williams
Being With God: Trinity, Apophaticism, and Divine-Human Communion
Aristotle Papanikolaou

Submit your upcoming publications to us at otsanews@gmail.com!