

**Report of the Fiftieth General Meeting
of the Catholic Biblical Association of America**

The fiftieth meeting of the Catholic Biblical Association of America was held August 17-20, 1987, at DePaul University, Chicago, Illinois. The first general session was opened by Bruce Malina, vice president of the association, at 8:00 on Monday evening. Dr. Richard J. Meister, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, extended a cordial welcome to the members of the association and recalled the eagerness with which the late Bruce Vawter, C.M., of DePaul, had looked forward to hosting a meeting on his home campus. Pheme Perkins then delivered the presidential address, "The Theological Significance of New Testament Pluralism."

Sessions on Tuesday, August 18

Five task forces and six continuing seminars met simultaneously each day from 9:00 to 10:45 A.M. The task forces included: "Deuteronomy and the Former Prophets" (convener: Jerome T. Walsh; core group members in attendance: Margaret H. Brown; Harry Hagan, O.S.B.; Leslie Hoppe, O.F.M.; John L. Sullivan; Thomas L. Thompson; Pauline A. Viviano; Peter Wang; Robert Werenski); "Old Testament Textual Criticism" (convener: Eugene Ulrich; core group members in attendance: Sharon Pace Jeansonne; Léo Laberge, O.M.I.; Kevin G. O'Connell, S.J.; Judith E. Sanderson; Timothy P. Schehr; Dean O. Wenthe); "The Literary Study of Matthew" (co-conveners: Karen A. Barta and Richard A. Edwards; core group members in attendance: Benjamin Fiore, S.J.; Frank J. Matera; Benedict Viviano, O.P.; Ronald D. Witherup, S.S.); "Aspects of Christology in the Letter to the Hebrews" (convener: R. Francis Martin; core group members in attendance: Thomas W. Buckley; Dennis M. Hamm, S.J.; William S. Kurz, S.J.; Enrique Nardoni; Wayne A. Turner); "The Social Sciences and New Testament Exegesis" (convener: Bruce J. Malina; core group members in attendance: Scott Bartchy; David M. Bossman, O.F.M.; John H. Elliott; William R. Herzog II; Paul W. Hollenbach; Halvor Moxnes; Frederick J. Murphy; John J. Pilch; Joseph Plevnik, S.J.; James M. Reese, O.S.F.S.; Bernard B. Scott).

The continuing seminars and their respective leaders studied: "A Discussion of Robert Alter's *The Art of Biblical Poetry*, with Attention to Specific Poetic Texts" (Lawrence E. Boadt, C.S.P.); "Feminist Hermeneutics" (Barbara Cullom and E. Springs Steele); "Studying Maccabean Sources" (Daniel Harrington, S.J.); "Old Testament Perspectives on Ecology" (Alan Jenks); "Development of the Wisdom Tradition in the Old Testament and the New Testament" (Betty Jane Lillie, S.C.); "Literary Theory—Hermeneutics" (Robert B. Robinson and Harry P. Nasuti).

The morning concluded with papers presented in simultaneous sessions by Jerome T. Walsh, "The Contexts of 1 Kings 13," and Bernard B. Scott, "Jesus the Sage: Innovation in the Wisdom Tradition."

His Eminence Joseph Cardinal Bernardin, Archbishop of Chicago, was principal celebrant for the eucharistic liturgy at midday. The homily was delivered by Roland Murphy, O.Carm. The Cardinal concluded the Mass with congratulations to the CBA on its fiftieth anniversary.

Four sessions of research reports during the afternoon heard the following papers delivered: Joseph A. Grassi, "Nathaniel and Jacob's Ladder: Key to the Book of Signs (John 1:45-51)"; Augustine R. Stock, O.S.B., "Is Matthew's Presentation of Peter Ironic?"; Joseph Plevnik, S.J., "The Center of Pauline Theology"; Daniel J. Harrington, S.J., "Birth Narratives in Pseudo-Philo's Biblical Antiquities and the Gospels"; Thomas L. Thompson, "Is the Priestly Tradition an Acceptable Hypothesis?"; Anthony R. Ceresko, O.S.F.S., "The Sage in the Psalms"; Mark Kiley, "A Sign for the Woman: Joshua 2, John 2?"; Dennis M. Hamm, S.J., "Luke 19:8 Once Again: Does Zacchaeus Defend or Resolve?"; Earl J. Richard, "A Lexical, Stylistic, and Rhetorical Study of 2 Thessalonians"; David P. Wright, "Leviticus 11: Textual Development and Inner Biblical Exegesis"; Richard S. Hess, "Canaanite Scribal Tradition in Jerusalem: Continuity in Rhetorical Forms"; William S. Kurz, S.J., "The Johannine Farewell (John 13-17): Narrative Functions"; John T. Carroll, "'We Ate and Drank in Your Presence': The Literary Function of Meals in the Gospel of Luke"; William G. Most, "Reflections on Romans 2:6"; J. T. Forestell, C.S.B., "The Christological Dimension of Ministry in the New Testament"; Luigi Pautasso, "Neofiti's Chiastic Structure of Gen 44:18 and Its Bearing for the Setting of the Final Editing of Targum Neofiti in the Gaonic Era"; William M. Soll, "Exile and Lack in Tobit"; Frank J. Matera, "The Significance of Jesus' Death in the Fourth Gospel"; Paul G. Mosca, "The Word Spoken Through Angels (Heb 2:2)"; Frederick W. Danker, "The Greco-Roman Stamp on St. Paul's Second Letter to Corinth"; Robert Hodgson, Jr., "Valerius Maximus and the New Testament"; Bernard F. Batto, "The Sleeping Deity: An Ancient Near Eastern and Biblical Motif of Divine Sovereignty"; Conrad E. L'Heureux, "The Book of Tobit, Jungian Archetypes, and Contemporary Spirituality."

The evening general session featured a paper by James W. Flanagan, "Abraham and Moses: The Two Faces of David."

Sessions on Wednesday, August 19

The task forces and continuing seminars resumed their work during the first part of the morning. Two simultaneous sessions then heard presentations by Mark S. Smith, "Yahweh and the Other Deities of Israel" (read by William Holladay), and by Adela Y. Collins, "Jesus and the Son of Man."

Carolyn Osiek, R.S.C.J., was presider and homilist at our midday Service of the Word.

The general session in the afternoon listened to a panel discussion on "The Next Fifty Years: The Future of Catholic Biblical Scholarship." The moderator was Don C. Benjamin, O.Carm., and the panelists were Dianne Bergant, C.S.A., Gerald P. Fogarty, S.J., and Robert B. Robinson.

CBA President PHEME PERKINS called the annual business meeting to order at 4:10 P.M. She shared with the members greetings received from the Society of Biblical Literature and from the Australian Catholic Biblical Association on the occasion of our fiftieth anniversary.

Msgr. Myles Bourke gave the report of the chair of the Board of Trustees. Aloysius Fitzgerald, F.S.C., then presented the treasurer's report, the substance of which had been previously distributed to the members present.

Joseph Jensen, O.S.B., gave the report of the executive secretary. He began with thanks to the Local Arrangements Committee for their efficient organization of this year's meeting. He noted a number of undertakings that had made this a particularly busy year for his office: the unexpected need to make new arrangements for *OTA* because of Bruce Vawter's death, production of the brochure about the association's various grant programs, survey of the membership and production of the new *CBQ Supplement*, and entry of the data submitted by the members into files in the office computer. This survey now enables the executive secretary's office to offer a placement service for the members; it has already sent out 1,300 letters to academic institutions with departments of religion to inform them of this service. Jensen asked the members to keep him informed of changes in their job availability. He then reported the decisions of the Executive Board. Grants approved or reaffirmed include: (a) \$12,000 for the visiting professorships sponsored by the CBA at the Pontifical Biblical Institute and the Ecole Biblique; (b) \$16,000 for the Young Scholars' Fellowships; (c) \$10,000 for the Memorial Stipends program; (d) \$5,000 for the *Elenchus Bibliographicus Biblicus*; (e) \$1,000 for the translation project of the Studium Biblicum Franciscanum; (f) a grant of \$5,000 for the library of the Ecole Biblique; (g) \$5,000 for the Syrian Consortium for the dig at Tell Qarqur, contingent on a positive evaluation by our archaeology committee of plans for the next season; (h) a tithe of membership dues (\$2,366) for famine relief. Richard J. Clifford, S.J., and Jensen represented the CBA at the initial meeting of the Intersocietal Committee on Ecclesial Responsibility and Academic Freedom. PHEME PERKINS and Clifford represented us at subsequent meetings. Clifford has been named chair of that committee. The committee is attempting to formulate positions on academic freedom and ecclesial responsibility as well as on the roles of scholars and the magisterium vis-à-vis each other. The Council of Societies for the Study of Religion hopes its *Bulletin* will serve as a vehicle for this type of public exchange. The Executive Board has proposed this area of concern to the Program Committee as a possible topic for a panel at the general meeting next year. The ATLA (American Theological Library Association) is taking legal action against a group called FABS (Foundation for Advanced Biblical Studies) for copyright violation. They have asked the CBA to join the suit, since material from *OTA* is involved. The Executive Board has agreed. Later in the meeting, the Board would nominate for life

membership the ten surviving charter members of the association, in commemoration of this anniversary year. Finally, the Board named Claude Peifer, O.S.B., to the Board of Trustees. Jensen announced that Robert O'Toole has been named to the Committee on Visiting Professors. He reminded the members that the 1988 meeting will be held at Santa Clara University, Santa Clara, California, August 15-18, 1988; and he announced that the 1989 meeting will be at Le Moyne College, Syracuse, New York, August 14-17, 1989. He urged the members to try to obtain invitations from their institutions for future meetings.

John Meier gave the report of the editor of the *CBQ*. The journal is apparently circulating more widely in Europe. Inquiries have been received about publishing in languages other than English. The present consensus of the editors is to remain entirely in English. This year, 73 articles were received (this is about average, unlike last year's unusually high number). Of these, 8 have been accepted, 22 are in process, 41 were rejected, and 2 were withdrawn. Volume 49 will contain 25 articles (fewer than usual, but some of them longer than usual), filling an estimated 396 pages, and approximately 201 book reviews. There had been about a two-year backlog of articles, but the *CBQ* has now caught up to a more healthy level of one year. Meier reminded the members to observe the *CBQ* style sheet (*CBQ* 46 [1984] 393-408). Computer-generated mss should, as far as possible, imitate typed mss: e.g., authors should not use italics and should not justify right margins. He also pointed out that first bibliographical references should include *all* relevant information about the source: series name and number, *Festschrift* honoree, etc. Subsequent references, of course, use a shortened form.

Thomas P. McCreesh, O.P., gave the editor's report on *OTA*. The transition to new editorship following Bruce Vawter's death has been accomplished, but it has caused some delays. This year's issues of *OTA* have been a bit late, although they are approximately the same size as last year's. The decennial index is still planned, but it will be delayed. A current priority is to enlarge the number of abstractors.

Robert Karris, O.F.M., gave the report of the editor of *CBQMS*. In the last year one monograph has been published (*CBQMS* 18), two are in press, one is in process of evaluation, three were returned because they were unrevised dissertations, and one was rejected because it was already published elsewhere.

Claude Peifer, O.S.B., reported on the NT revision of the *NAB*. Only one publisher has issued it so far, though others either have editions in press or have expressed interest. The revision of the lectionary pericopes is in progress. It is estimated that the new lectionary could be ready in two years.

The list of candidates for membership in the association was not read, since it had been available to the members throughout the meeting. In the name of the Committee on Credentials, Alexander A. Di Lella, O.F.M., recommended the following candidates:

For Active Membership:

Janice Capel Anderson; Randall C. Bailey; Lloyd M. Barré; Carl C. Black II; Charles A. Bobertz; Thomas E. Boomershine; Barbara E. Bowe, R.S.C.J.; Patrick Boylan; Stephenson H. Brooks; Robert A. Di Vito; Douglas R. Edwards; Fearghus Ó

Fearghail; Ralph D. Gehrke; Hemchand Gossai; Russell I. Gregory; Kenneth G. Hoglund; Craig R. Koester; Paul A. Kreimes; David E. Lewycky; James Limburg; Daniel A. Looney; David P. McCarthy; Brendan McConvery, C.S.S.R.; Patricia M. McDonald, S.H.C.J.; Christopher D. Marshall; Susan Fournier Mathews; Daniel L. Mattson; Thomas M. Mullin; Elizabeth Marie Nagel; Michael J. Neary; Teresa Okure, S.H.C.J.; Thomas P. Osborne; Jeremy A. Paretsky, O.P.; Maria Pascuzzi, C.S.J.; Vernon K. Robbins; Marie-Eloise Rosenblatt, R.S.M.; Stephen K. Sherwood, C.M.F.; Choon-Loeng Seow; Naomi Steinberg; Jude Surowiec, O.F.M.Conv.

For Associate Membership:

David L. Barr; Laurence G. Bloomquist; Alan E. Bower; Michael J. Buckley, S.J.; Joan E. Cook, S.C.; Karl T. Cooper; Carol H. Corgan; David W. Cotter, O.S.B.; Joanne M. Dupont; Margaret M. Gelinas; Mark J. Goodwin; Mary Aquinas Hagan, S.S.J.; Paul D. Hahn; Mary Elisabeth Herdliska, S.F.O.; Lawrence P. Herrera, S.J.; Joseph E. Jensen; Ray C. Jones, Jr.; John R. Lanci, C.S.C.; John McLaughlin; Theresa Miron; Regina St. G. Plunkett; David B. Rust; Kevin Schindler-McGraw, O.F.M.Conv.; Edward F. Shea, O.F.M.

The candidates were accepted by unanimous voice vote.

Philip J. King reported for the Committee on Nominations. The following slate of candidates was proposed: *President:* Bruce J. Malina; *Vice President:* Joseph Blenkinsopp; *Executive Secretary:* Joseph Jensen, O.S.B.; *Treasurer:* Aloysius Fitzgerald, F.S.C.; *Chair of the Board of Trustees:* Myles Bourke; *Consultors, 1987-89:* Adela Y. Collins and John A. Grindel, C.M.; *Committee on Nominations, 1987-91:* Neil J. McEleney, C.S.P.; *Projects and Priorities Committee:* Rita J. Burns; *Associate Editors of the CBQ:* John Gammie, Charles H. Giblin, S.J., Patrick Miller, and Urban C. Von Wahlde for a first term; and Madeleine I. Boucher, Anthony R. Ceresko, O.S.F.S., Richard J. Clifford, S.J., and Jerome H. Neyrey, S.J., for a second term.

For the Committee on Resolutions, James Fischer, C.M., proposed resolutions to acknowledge our debt to Archbishop O'Hara and the founding fathers of the CBA on this occasion of the association's fiftieth anniversary, to thank Cardinal Bernardin for joining us and presiding at our liturgy on Tuesday, and to express the association's gratitude to DePaul University for the warm hospitality we had enjoyed.

Under new business, the names of ten living charter members of the CBA were proposed for life membership and accepted by the unanimous vote of the members present. They are Silvan J. Brennan, C.P., John J. Collins, S.J., C. Fred Devine, Philip J. Ehrhardt, O.M.I., Leo J. Flynn, John G. Hanley, Charles Heupler, O.F.M.Cap., Damian B. Lyons, O.F.M., Edward H. Peters, C.S.P., and Matthew P. Stapleton.

Also under new business, a series of changes to the constitution and by-laws of the association was proposed. These changes, previously circulated to the members, were approved as follows:

Article II, Section 2: change "Episcopal Committee" to "Board of Trustees"; Article IV, Section 1: change "Episcopal Committee" to "Board of Trustees of the Confraternity"; By-law 1, in section a, change "National Center" (accidentally omitted in the forthcoming *Supplement*) to "Board of Trustees," and omit section b; By-law 2: omit the second sentence; By-law 3, section b: omit "and sustaining members"; By-law 3, section c: change

“free of charge” to “without additional cost” and omit second sentence; By-law 5: change “\$200” to “\$500”; By-law 6: change “\$500” to “\$1,000”; By-law 9, section d: change “one Consultor” to “two Consultors” and omit “and one . . . years”; By-law 13: change “\$5,000” to “\$20,000”; By-law 18: change “elected” to “nominated by the Executive Board for election by the members”; and edit for more inclusive language as needed. According to a clarification issued by the Executive Secretary in his report, this last item would include changing the title “Chairman of the Catholic Biblical Quarterly Monograph Series” to “General Editor of the Catholic Biblical Quarterly Monograph Series.” The changes were approved by voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 P.M.

The general session in the evening heard Robert F. O’Toole, S.J., deliver the paper, “The Literary Genre of Luke-Acts: A Biography?”

Sessions on Thursday, August 20

The task forces and continuing seminars met in the first part of the morning. Two simultaneous sessions followed: Lawrence E. Boadt, C.S.P., “The Function of the Salvation Oracles for Ezekiel’s Overall Strategy,” and Halvor Moxnes, “The Economy in the Gospel of Luke in Light of Social Anthropology.”

Benedict T. Viviano, O.P., was principal celebrant and homilist for the eucharistic liturgy at midday.

The following CBA members and invited guests were in attendance at the meeting:

Achtemeier, Paul J.	Bushinski, Leonard A., C.S.Sp.
Alden, Robert L.	Byrne, Gerald S.
Alexander, Patrick H.	Capyak, Michael J.
Anderson, Gary A.	Carroll, John T.
Attridge, Jr., Harold W.	Cassidy, Richard J.
Barré, Michael L., S.S.	Ceresko, Anthony R., O.S.F.S.
Barta, Karen A.	Cody, Aelred, O.S.B.
Bartchy, S. Scott	Collins, Adela Y.
Bartelt, Andrew H.	Collins, John J.
Batto, Bernard F.	Cook, Joan E., S.C.
Benjamin, Don C., O.Carm.	Cooper, Karl T.
Bergant, Dianne, C.S.A.	Cordano, Virgil, O.F.M.
Blenkinsopp, Joseph J.	Cory, Catherine A., O.S.F.
Boadt, Lawrence, C.S.P.	Craghan, John F.
Bonneau, Normand R., O.M.I.	Crim, Keith R.
Bossmann, David M., O.F.M.	Cullom, Barbara A.
Bourke, Myles M.	Danker, Frederick W.
Brodie, Thomas L., O.P.	Danter, Albert F.
Brooks, Stephenson H.	Davis, James A.
Brown, Margaret H.	Davis, Michael T.
Bucher, Otto, O.F.M.Cap.	Dicharry, Warren F., C.M.
Buckley, Thomas W.	Dietlein, Damian L., O.S.B.
Burns, Camilla, S.N.D. de N.	Di Lella, Alexander A., O.F.M.
Burns, Rita J.	Di Vito, Robert A.

Dupont, Joanne M., F.S.P.A.	Kessler, Martin
Eblen, James E.	Kiley, Mark C.
Edwards, Douglas R.	King, Philip J.
Edwards, Richard A.	Kodell, Jerome W., O.S.B.
Efroymsen, David P.	Kolasny Judette M.
Elliott, John H.	Kosanke, Charles G.
Feldkaemper, Ludger, S.V.D.	Kowalski, Judith A.
Fiore, Benjamin, S.J.	Kreimes, Paul A.
Fitzgerald, Aloysius, F.S.C.	Kselman, John S., S.S.
Flanagan, James W.	Kurz, William S., S.J.
Fogerty, Gerald P., S.J.	L'Heureux, Conrad E.
Forestell, Terence J., C.S.B.	Laberge, Léo, O.M.I.
Franke, Chris	LaVerdiere, Eugene A., S.S.S
Frein, Brigid C.	Lazor, Bernard A., O.S.A.
Frizzell, Lawrence E.	Lillie, Betty Jane, S.C.
Gammie, John G.	Lodge, John G.
Gelinas, Margaret M.	Looney, Daniel A.
Getty, Mary Ann, R.S.M.	McCarthy, David P.
Gilchrist, John J.	McCreesh, Thomas P., O.P.
Glazier, Michael	McEleney, Neil J., C.S.P.
Gleason, Robert L.	McHatten, Mary Timothy, O.P.
Grassi, Joseph A.	McIlhone, James P.
Grindel, John A., C.M.	McKenzie, John L.
Haak, Robert D.	Mainelli, Helen Kenik
Hagan, Harry, O.S.B.	Malina, Bruce J.
Hamm, M. Dennis, S.J.	Maloney, Elliott C., O.S.B.
Hanson, K. C.	Martin, Francis J.
Harrington, Daniel J., S.J.	Matera, Frank J.
Heil, John P.	Meegan, Mary T., O.P.
Herzog II, William R.	Meier, John P.
Hess, Richard S.	Miles, Andrew J., O.S.B.
Hodgson, Jr., Robert	Miller, Robert J.
Hofer, Carol S.	Miller, William T., S.J.
Hoffman, Thomas A., S.J.	Moriarty, Robert K., S.M.
Holladay, William L.	Morman, Kenneth G.
Hollar, John A.	Mosca, Paul G.
Hollenbach, Paul W.	Most, William G.
Hoppe, Leslie J., O.F.M.	Mowery, Robert L.
Janecko, Benedict F., O.S.B.	Moxnes, Halvor
Jeansonne, Sharon Pace	Mullin, Thomas M.
Jenks, Alan W.	Murphy, Frederick J.
Jensen, Joseph, O.S.B.	Murphy, Roland E., O.Carm.
Johnson, Thomas F.	Nardoni, Enrique
Karris, Robert J., O.F.M.	Nasuti, Harry P.
Kealy, Seán P., C.S.Sp.	O'Connell, Kevin G., S.J.

O'Grady, John F.
 Osiek, Carolyn A., R.S.C.J.
 O'Toole, Robert F., S.J.
 Paretsky, J. Albert, O.P.
 Pautasso, Luigi
 Pazadan, Mary Margaret, O.P.
 Peifer, Claude, J., O.S.B.
 Perkins, PHEME
 Pettey, Richard J.
 Pierce, Justin A., S.D.S.
 Pilch, John J.
 Plevnik, Joseph, S.J.
 Price, Stephen G.
 Reese, James M., O.S.F.S.
 Reid, Barbara E., O.P.
 Reimherr, Otto
 Richard, Earl J.
 Robbins, Vernon K.
 Robinson, Robert B.
 Rosenblatt, Marie-Eloise, R.S.M.
 Rust, David B.
 Sanderson, Judith E.
 Schaub, Marilyn M.
 Schaub, R. Thomas
 Schmitt, John J.
 Schoenstene, Robert L.
 Schuller, Eileen M., O.S.U.
 Sharp, Donald B., S.J.
 Sklba, Richard J.
 Smiga, George M.
 Smith, David W.
 Soll, William M.
 Spontak, James A.
 Steele, E. Springs
 Steiner, Luke J., O.S.B.
 Steinberg, Naomi
 Stock, Augustine R., O.S.B.
 Stockhausen, Carol Kern
 Sullivan, Anne, O.P.
 Sullivan, John L.
 Sutton, Walter C.
 Sweet, Anne Marie, O.S.B.
 Sweetland, Dennis M.
 Tambasco, Anthony J.
 Thomas, Carolyn, S.C.N.
 Thompson, Richard W.
 Thompson, Thomas L.
 Timbs, David G., C.S.S.R.
 Tishler, Kevin R.
 Tobin, Thomas H., S.J.
 Trainor, Michael F.
 Turner, Wayne A.
 Ulrich, Eugene C.
 Viviano, Benedict T., O.P.
 Viviano, Pauline A.
 Wahl, Thomas P., O.S.B.
 Waldstein, Michael M.
 Walsh, Jerome T.
 Wang, Peter E.
 Weber, Kathleen
 Weis, Earl A., S.J.
 Wenthe, Dean O.
 Werenski, Robert J.
 White, John L.
 Whitley, Charles F.
 Wierenga, Bert, S.J.
 Wild, Robert A., S.J.
 Wilde, James A.
 Wimmer, Joseph F., O.S.A.
 Witherup, Ronald D., S.S.
 Wright, David P.
 Yee, Gale A.

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