



CBA EMERGING SCHOLARS FELLOWSHIP

Re: Process for Evaluating Papers and Selection of Fellowships

All completed entries must be submitted to cbafellowship@cua.edu by January 15th of the year the Annual Meeting meets.

The Fellowships are to be awarded to the applicants who show strong probability of having a viable career in Biblical Studies and able to make a serious contribution in the field as demonstrated through a.) the paper submitted, b.) the level of academic skill (via the transcript) and c.) the recommendations from current professors.

The Evaluation Committee

The Executive Board will establish an Evaluators Group consisting of 7 NT and 7 OT scholars who would be willing and available to serve on the Fellowship Selection Committee. These are to be Full Members of the Society. Each year 3 NT scholars and 3 OT scholars will compose the Committee to evaluate the entries in addition to the Chair who does not have a vote. Each year, one member will rotate off and be replaced with another member from the Evaluators Group. If there are a large number of entries more members can be added from the list of eligible members on a *pro tem* basis.

The Evaluation Process

The full application material will be distributed electronically to the members of the Evaluation Committee according to Testament. Papers that do not clearly fall into either category will be allocated by the Chair.

The candidates will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

1. Is the paper of sufficient quality to be presented at the CBA Annual Meeting?
2. Is their academic performance as shown by the transcripts and CV indicative of strong academic ability within the Biblical area?
3. Are the recommendations strong enough to indicate the candidate is likely to make a contribution in the Biblical field?

In their deliberations, the Committee for each Testament will evaluate the applicants' potential *as a whole*, taking into account the full application including the transcript, CV, and references, along with the paper itself.

At the conclusion of the process, the Committee for each Testament will determine the top candidates in order beginning with the most suitable and communicate their decision to the Chair who will forward this to the CBA Office.

Notes:

1. All things being equal, it would be preferable to have an equal number of fellowships from each Testament.
2. In any year, there may possibly be only an award in one Testament area (or none at all) if papers/applications do not reach a desired level.
3. In case the top candidate in a specific Testament area is not able to accept, the second on the list may be asked to accept the Fellowship if all members of the Committee (for that Testament) agree.
4. The Chair will serve to co-ordinate things.
5. Once this program has been going 3 years, the Executive Board should evaluate the whole process.