

The Society of Christian Ethics

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Call for Papers

2010 Annual Meeting –DoubleTree Hotel, San Jose, CA

January 20, 2009

Dear colleagues,

With Chicago a fresh if snowy memory, it is nonetheless time to look ahead to the 2010 Annual Meeting. We will convene January 7-10 in the DoubleTree Hotel close by the San Jose Airport in San Jose, California. Paper proposals are invited on all topics, but particularly encouraged on themes reflecting our location in the heart of Silicon Valley. See the President's letter for details.

About the other enclosures...

You will find a full array of information explaining your opportunities for participation in the San Jose meeting. To save on materials and postage, several of these items are printed back-to-back. Note that you also can download any of these files from the website (<http://www.scethics.org/>).

- SCE Themes for San Jose 2010
- Call for Papers, Panels and other Presentations
- The SCE Global Scholars Program
- How are papers, panels and Interest Groups selected...?
- Paper presentation proposal form
- Panel presentation proposal form
- Interest Group policy, with Interest/Working Group proposal form
- Breakfast-with-an-Author proposal form, with volunteer opportunities
- Two examples of successful paper proposals
- Note that the SJE call for papers will be sent separately.

The deadline for submission of any and all proposals is **Monday, March 2, 2009 by midnight**.

All proposals should be sent in a file attached to an email by that date in order to be considered for the 2010 program. Submissions by snailmail or fax are still acceptable, but quite frankly, attachments are much easier to process. Receipt of proposals will be confirmed by email only, so be sure to include your email address. Those without email access are responsible for sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to Linda Schreiber if they wish to confirm receipt of the proposal.

Please read the Program Eligibility Policy carefully and note the requirement that those making proposals be members in good standing with 2009 dues paid by **February 15**. Selection of papers and panels for the program will be through a blind review process. Following recent practice, two plenaries will be scheduled, one on Friday and one on Saturday, as at Chicago. The program likely will include fewer concurrent presentations than Chicago in 2009 since we will have a smaller meeting space at the DoubleTree than at the Hyatt Regency.

Recall that any and all plenaries, papers and panel proposals approved by the Program Committee in March are eligible to be considered for publication in the *Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics (JSCE)*. Any proposals accepted by the program committee which utilize research involving human subjects must be approved by an **Institutional Review Board** before the resulting paper can be considered for publication. The SCE board has voted to make this policy a requirement, which will begin with the 2011 annual meeting. For the 2010 meeting, IRB approval is recommended for appropriate projects. The *JSCE* editors will conduct an informational workshop on this policy at the 2010 meeting. For further information, please see the "Publication Criteria" section of the *JSCE* tab at the SCE website (<http://www.scethics.org/journal.html>).

If you submit a proposal by the March 2 deadline, I encourage you to complete the questionnaire which you will receive soon after. Last year the response rate was over 70%. The data received, which concern progress towards 21st Century goals, will not be shared with any members of this year's Program Committee. In fact, no one will have access to the data until after the co-editors of the *JSCE* have made their publication decisions. Aggregate data will be published in the Fall/Winter 2010 issue. For the most recent data set, see the Fall/Winter 2009 issue that you recently received.

Those of you who have had **books published** between January 2008 and April 2009 should be aware that places on the Breakfast-with-an-Author program are assigned on a first come, first served basis. Please indicate to the office (sce@cord.edu) as soon as possible when your book is actually published. This year in Chicago, two sessions were scheduled to encompass the enlarged flow of books. In San Jose we will again attempt to accommodate all books which are submitted.

Volunteer opportunities are available: to convene a concurrent session, to facilitate a Breakfast-with-an-Author session, to referee a paper for the *JSCE*—and in a new wrinkle, to contribute your knowledge to the reconstruction and development of our website. Please let Linda or Stewart know of your interest in any of these opportunities. We are both reachable at sce@cord.edu.

A few words about the **Chicago meeting**. The following deceased members were commemorated: James Smurl, Lowell W. Livezey, William Lazareth, James A. Nash and Michael Mendiola. If you learn of any other deceased members, please let me know. One important function of the Society is to honor its members who have passed on, both for their accomplishments and for their collegiality.

The Chicago meeting set yet another record for attendance—580. The number of registered students climbed to 81. 87 new members were accepted into the Society, including 55 new student members. In addition, 13 student members completed doctoral studies this past year, and therefore received a change of status to full membership. The total membership of the Society now stands at 1011. Alas, the Chicago venue set a less welcome record as well—for costs. Coffee alone rose from \$65 to \$92 per gallon! We will try to stabilize **registration costs** for San Jose. **Dues**, which typically are raised every five years, have not been raised since 2005, and will be raised next year only if warranted by financial pressures not evident at this point.

At the Saturday business meeting, approximately 250 attending members voted and passed the “Standards of Professional Conduct” drafted by the Professional Conduct Committee, and a statement encouraging “family-friendly practices”. Outgoing president Darryl Trimiew deserves our collective gratitude for his inclusive vision, thoughtful suggestions, and robust moral sensitivities as President during this past year. We continue to be grateful as well for Linda Schreiber, whose months of patient and detailed labor have paid off in such a complex yet smoothly running annual meeting.

The **SCE board** met for more than seven hours in Chicago, and in addition to what President Dan Finn reports in his letter, the board a) approved a contract to reconstruct the SCE website (hopefully by June); b) froze student registration rates at \$95 for the next three annual meetings; c) resolved to let Working Groups start Interest Groups for evening sessions; d) resolved that all ‘human subject’ research proposed for the annual meetings be cleared by Institutional Review Boards; e) accepted an invitation by the SBL to set up an SCE session at SBL meetings, on a provisional (two-year) basis; f) approved a \$183,000 budget with a modest anticipated surplus; g) called for an event for international students at future annual meetings.

In **other news**, the SCE 1) has a new accounting firm (KDV of St. Cloud, MN); 2) published the *JSCE* almost in the black this past year despite sharply rising costs, thanks to increased sales and ATLA ‘hits’; 3) suffered a 35-40% decline in its reserve/endowment fund during 2008, but remains fully solvent, with additional reserves ample enough to cover the last-minute cancellation of an annual meeting.

It is my distinct joy and pleasure to enter into the third year in this office. Please feel free to contact me if you have questions or there is any way in which the Executive Director's office can be of assistance.

Sincerely,



Stewart W. Herman
Executive Director