



Baptist Scholars International Roundtable

Call for Proposals

The Baptist Scholars International Roundtable (BSIR) invites proposals for its 16th annual meeting, to be convened at Christ Church, University of Oxford, on August 9-13, 2020.

This year's conference theme is the kingdom of God.

At the most recent meeting, the 2019 BSIR Distinguished Fellow and historian David Bebbington identified four interpretive lenses through which Baptists have historically viewed the kingdom of God. They are: ecclesiological, eschatological, social, and providential.

Ecclesiastical interpretations locate the kingdom of God in the Church and its extension throughout the world. **Eschatological** views of the kingdom have, at varying points throughout history, encompassed millenarian doctrines, expectations of a future kingdom, and the gradual growth of God's kingdom over time. **Social** interpretations might consider the implications of the kingdom for broader culture or for issues such as injustice and oppression. Finally, **providential** interpretations of God's kingdom often feature the discernment of the divine purpose in history.

We invite papers to engage with one of these four categories. We encourage participation by scholars from all career stages, especially junior scholars and doctoral candidates. While papers should pertain to the Baptist expression of Christianity, scholars are invited from all branches of the Christian church.

Format: Seven BSIR Scholars are selected to present their original papers in English. Papers should be 5000-7000 words. BSIR Fellows offer responses, followed by group discussion. To promote a vibrant conversation, all participants agree to prepare in advance for engagement with each paper. Occasionally, BSIR offers publication opportunities in journals or edited volumes.

Proposals should be submitted at: https://baylor.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_87Ve7Ytqn9glni5. The submission deadline is **January 10, 2020**. Because submissions must be completed in one sitting, applicants are advised to have the following information ready:

- Name, Affiliation, and Contact Information
- Paper Title and Abstract (500–750 words)
- Bio (150 words, including degrees and selected publications)

Proposals will be selected based on quality and clarity of proposal content, relationship of paper to conference theme, and contribution to the Baptist academy. *Application for limited financial assistance can be made for those with accepted proposals.*

About BSIR

The Baptist Scholars International Roundtable (BSIR) promotes scholarship from Baptist perspectives across the ages and around the globe by facilitating a scholarly forum for exchange of ideas. This community is international, intergenerational, interdisciplinary, and invites a diversity of Baptist affiliations. At the heart of the Roundtable is formation for academic stewardship in which a newer generation is welcomed into an international Baptist Academy and formed to preserve and sustain both academic and faith communities. At annual meetings, hosted at Regent's Park College, Oxford, England, Senior Scholars (BSIR Fellows) and a Visiting Fellow from outside the USA engage with the developing ideas of doctoral students, early-career, and mid-career faculty (BSIR Scholars) presenting papers selected through a competitive process.

