The Forty-Seventh Annual Byzantine Studies Conference
Call for Papers

DEADLINE: May 1, 2021

The Forty-Seventh Annual Byzantine Studies Conference (BSC) will be held in Cleveland, Ohio, from Thursday, December 9, through Sunday, December 12, 2021. The conference will be hosted by Case Western Reserve University and the Cleveland Museum of Art. The Local Arrangements Chair is Elizabeth S. Bolman, Chair, Department of Art History and Art.

Please note that we will be closely following the Covid-19 situation and that there is a possibility that the conference will have to be moved completely online. In the meantime, we are planning an in-person conference with several blended sessions that will allow for some remote participation.

The BSC is the annual forum for the presentation and discussion of papers on every aspect of Byzantine Studies and on related topics relevant to the field. Conference attendance is open to all, regardless of nationality or academic status. However, to deliver your paper at the BSC, you must be a member of BSANA in good standing. To join or renew your membership in BSANA, you can pay your dues according to your current status at: https://bsana.net/members/.

The Program Committee invites proposals for papers on all topics and in all disciplines related to Byzantine Studies, broadly construed. While there are no set themes for the BSC, the Program Committee is especially interested in papers that offer larger commentaries on the field, or situate Byzantium/Byzantine developments in a larger historical, regional, and/or global contexts. With the goal of engaging a wider audience, we encourage panels that forge a dialogue between Byzantine studies and cognate fields.

Paper proposals for the 2021 BSC may be submitted in the form of individual papers or as part of complete panels. Instructions for both, using the *EasyChair* system, are included below. Abstracts should be written to be accessible to a broad audience of readers on the Program Committee. All proposed papers must be substantially original and never have been published previously. Each contributor may deliver only one paper.

BSC Blind Review Process

All members of the 2021 Program Committee will review each abstract:

Galina Tirnanic, Chair, Associate Professor, Oakland University (Art History)
Christina Christoforatou, Associate Professor, Baruch College, CUNY (Literature)

Thomas Lecaque, Assistant Professor, Grand View University (History)
Brenda Llewellyn Ihssen, Associate Professor, Pacific Lutheran University (Historical Theology)
Nicole Paxton Sullo, Lecturer & Graduate Alumni Postdoctoral Fellow, Yale University (Art History)

The review process is anonymous; all personal information is removed by the BSANA Vice President before the abstracts are read and reviewed. The committee has no knowledge of a speaker's overall record to date, or past work on the specific topic treated in the abstract. Thus, critical for success in the review process is a strong abstract, covering all of the four criteria:
(1) a clear and informative introduction to the topic
(2) major points of the argument, and an overview of the evidence supporting the argument
(3) a convincing statement on the significance and originality of the contribution
(4) proposed conclusions

To ensure anonymity it is important to not contact any member of the Program Committee during the submission and evaluation process. Please direct all your questions to BSANA Vice President, Byron MacDougall (bsana.vp@gmail.com).

The deadline for submissions is May 1, 2021.

Notice of the Program Committee's final decision on each abstract will be made **by May 31, 2021** via email by the Program Committee Chair, Galina Tirnanic (tirnanic@oakland.edu)**.** Subsequent submission of the accepted abstract for publication in BSC Abstracts constitutes agreement to present the paper at the conference.

All conference attendees are warmly encouraged to attend and make their voices heard at the annual Byzantine Studies Association of North America (BSANA) Membership Meeting, which will be conducted and livestreamed on Saturday, December 11.

ABSTRACT FORMAT
Please submit your abstract of no more than **500 words** in a PDF format. Use Times New Roman font, size 12, single-spaced. Center the title on top of the page and bold the title. Do not include your name. Skip 2 lines and enter your abstract. Separate paragraphs by one line. Do not indent beginning of paragraphs. There should be only one space after a period.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR DIFFERENT TYPES OF PARTICIPATION
Individual Paper Proposals can take several forms. When uploading your abstract, please indicate which of the following options you prefer:

> ***Single paper in a regular session***
> These are typical BSC in-person sessions arranged after the acceptance of abstracts by the

Program Committee.

Single Paper in a remote session
We will have one session (at most 2 if there is strong interest) reserved for synchronous remote participation (livestreaming). If you wish to be considered **only** for remote participation, please indicate so in EasyChair.

Celebrating Helen Evans sessions
This year we are delighted to be offering two open-call sessions that will celebrate the immense contributions of Dr. Helen Evans to the field of Byzantine Studies, broadly speaking. If you wish your paper to be considered for one of these sessions, please indicate so in the drop-down menu. These sessions will be livestreamed.

Graduate Student Session
The newly formed Graduate Committee is hosting a livestreamed session dedicated solely to graduate students. Please indicate your preference for this session in the drop-down menu.

Organized Panel Proposals
The BSC welcomes proposals for whole panels. Each paper author in the proposed organized panel prepares and submits an individual abstract. **Each PDF abstract submission in an organized session is to exclude all participant names, e.g. all speakers and organizers.** Each abstract is reviewed on its own merit.

To indicate membership in a proposed panel, each author selects "Paper in an organized panel" from the *Easy Chair* drop-down menu, and then provides the panel title, and the name and email of the panel organizer/s. This is followed by the panel's summary (no longer than 300 words), to include an overview of the topic, the panel's format, and the reasons for covering this topic as a prearranged session.

All participants in the panel (the organizer as well as the speakers) will be notified of the proposal's receipt by BSANA Vice President, Byron MacDougall. You may direct your questions to him at vp.bsana@gmail.com.

Notice of the Program Committee's final decision on each abstract will be made via email from the Program Committee Chair, Galina Tirnanic. If the organized panel is accepted in part or whole, then the organizer(s) may also propose a session chair. Please note that the session chair cannot also be a speaker in the panel. This information will be gathered **after** the initial review process.

In the event that most, but not all, of the papers in a panel are accepted, the Program Chair will alert the organizer(s) and will make every effort to keep the remaining accepted papers together. If the majority

of the proposed papers in a panel are rejected, then an accepted abstract will be placed elsewhere in the conference program (unless otherwise indicated by the author).

ONLINE SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

BSANA uses an online submission method: *Easy Chair*, a conference management software system. The abstract must be submitted with title only (a blind abstract) and must be uploaded as a PDF file. If you encounter difficulties, please contact Byron MacDougall at bsana.vp@gmail.com.

How to submit:

1. If you do not already have an Easy Chair account, create your free user account here:
   https://easychair.org/account/signup

   (Step by step instructions: https://easychair.org/help/account_creation)

2. Follow this link to the BSC2021 submission page:
   https://easychair.org/my/conference?conf=bsc2021#

   If you are not already logged into your account, log in when prompted and reenter the link

3. Click on "New Submission" as **Author**

4. Follow the Instructions, which you can see in the screen shots below

Submissions | Reviews | Status | View bids | Assignment | PC | Events | Email | Administration | BSC 2021 | Premium | Conference | News | EasyChair

New Submission for BSC 2021

Follow the instructions, step by step, and then use the "Submit" button at the bottom of the form. The required fields are marked by *.

Author Information

Please fill out the form below. Some items on the form are explained here:

- **Email address** will only be used for communication with the author. It will not appear in public Web pages of this conference.
- **Web page** can be used on the conference Web pages, for example, for making the program. It should be a Web page of the author, not the Web page of her or his organization.

Author

First name[†]: *

Last name: *

Email: *

Country/region: *

Organization: *

Web page:

[†] Note: leave first name blank if there is no first name. If you are not sure how to divide a name into the first and last name, read the Help article about names.

Title

The title should be entered as plain text, it should not contain HTML elements.

Title: *

Keywords

Type a list of keywords (also known as key phrases or key terms), **one per line** to characterize your submission. You should specify at least three keywords.

Keywords: *

Status. * Please select your status from the drop-down menu. The reviewers will not be able to see your status during the review process.

Graduate Student ▾

Paper type. * Please select the appropriate option from the drop-down menu below.

| ✓ Single paper in a regular session |
| Paper in a remote session only |
| Paper in a Helen Evans session |
| Paper in an organized session |
| Paper in the graduate student session |

...er is part of an organized session, please enter the session title.

Name(s) and email(s) of session organizers. If your paper is part of an organized session, please indicate the name(s) and email(s) of the session organizer(s). Reviewers will not be able to see this during the review process.

Organized session abstract. If your paper if part of an organized session, please paste here the session abstract written by the session organizer(s). The abstract should be no longer than 300 words.

Abstract accepted last year. Please indicate if this abstract was accepted for BSC 2020 but you opted not to/were not able to participate. This information will not be visible to the reviewers

☐ This abstract was accepted last year

Paper. Upload your paper. The paper must be in PDF format (file extension .pdf)

Choose File | No file chosen

Ready?

If you filled out the form, press the 'Submit' button below. **Do not press the button twice: uploading may take time!**

Submit