Old Testament Studies: Epistemologies and Methods
A Nordic-German Network funded by NoFA

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Minutes from Coordinating Committee meeting
Marriot Marquis Hotel, Atlanta, GA, Sunday 23 November

Present: Professors Else K. Holt, Hermann Spieckermann, Terje Stordalen
Pre-reported absence: Professor Timo Veijola

Being a hastily convened preliminary meeting, this first encounter did not have a set agenda. Basically, we discussed our obligation to arrange the first doctoral seminar of the network during the year 2004. Also, we discussed a few matters related to the future organizing of the network and the coordinating committee. The following were agreed upon as suggestions to be rapidly reviewed and reported upon by the Old Testament departments of all participating institutions:

Doctoral Colloquium 2004
1) Time of doctoral conference 2004: Several alternatives were discusses. In the end, there is probably only one option; to convene for 3-4 days, starting at (or shortly after) Friday 10 December 2004. All participating institutions are requested to respond to this proposal *before 20 December 2003* – in email to: terje.stordalen@mf.no.
2) Place of annual conference 2004: It is suggested that we convene, if possible, at Granavolden in Norway. (Many of you do know the place.) If you would like to make proposal for a different place, please do so by email to: terje.stordalen@mf.no *before 20 December 2003*.

Plans for 2005-06
3) Time of conference 2005 and 2006: the more regular timing for our future meetings is suggested to be late May. Please report back if this is in some way inconvenient or difficult.

Organizing the Network
4) For the time being, we propose a "flat" and minimalist organization. All proposals for network operation are addressed to Prof. Terje Stordalen who will address the proposals and distribute them to members of the coordinating committee or the network as necessary.
5) Two different units will be in charge of various aspects of the annual Doctoral Colloquiums. First; the academic program is organized by the Steering Committee. Secondly, the technical arrangements are handled by a local committee. Such Local Committees will have to be formed for each occasion, and it should probably include one of the Steering Committee members.
6) The Coordinating committee is likely to convene for one additional meeting in between the Doctoral Colloquiums, preferably to meet also with the members of the local committee of the coming annual conference.
7) Professors Else K. Holt and Terje Stordalen will participate in a mandatory NorFA conference in Oslo 15 – 16 January 2004.

Economy

8) The participating institutions have agreed to make the annual colloquium part of their doctoral programs. Accordingly, it will be necessary that those institutions that do have some funds allocated for the purpose of doctoral seminars, doctoral students and supervisors travel, etc., use *some* of such funds to cover travel costs for participants of the annual colloquium. Each participating institution is asked to report roughly what kind of funds could be available for such purpose *before the end of January 2004.*

Kindly, do review the deadlines given above and respond accordingly!

Oslo 5 December 2003

Prof. Terje Stordalen
NorFA Network Coordinator