

CALL FOR SUGGESTIONS AND COMMENTS FOR THE 2011 CONGRESS OF
BYZANTINE STUDIES IN SOFIA, BULGARIA 22-27 AUGUST 2011

This is an informational bulletin for Members of the U.S. National Committee for Byzantine Studies (USNCBS) [BSANA members in good standing who are U.S. citizens or who have a U.S. institutional affiliation]. President Walter E. Kaegi and Secretary-Treasurer George Majeska participated in the session (Réunion Inter-congrès) in Athens at the President Hotel on 27-28 September 2008 for planning the 2011 Sofia Congress of the International Congress of Byzantine Studies (AIEB=Association Internationale des Etudes Byzantines).

George Majeska is bringing some draft hard copies of the proposed organization and plenary sessions (17 pages length) for that Congress to the Rutgers BSANA/BSC meeting. Regrettably we have no electronic copies to circulate. We hope to post some hard copies at the Rutgers meeting for Members to read and discuss. The International Congress Directorate solicits final comments from each National Committee by 30 October 2008. Read pp. 6-8 of the draft especially closely. If you wish changes, please communicate them to George Majeska at the Rutgers Meeting or email them forthwith to Walter Kaegi (who unfortunately cannot attend this BSANA Rutgers meeting). We shall try to forward your comments to the Directorate of the Congress. If you have suggestions of US scholars to read papers in plenary sessions, please communicate those as well as any suggested changes or adjustments in relative weighting and prioritization of subject matter and methodologies and disciplines. The hard copies include mention of plans for special exhibitions.

It is extremely desirable that US Members express their views. It may be possible to speak up at Rutgers, but if not, please communicate your opinions to Majeska [gmajeska@umd.edu], Kaegi [kwal@uchicago.edu] and Vice-President Anthony Cutler [axc6@psu.edu] immediately after you read and reflect on the proposed draft program, so that we have an opportunity to affect the final wording and structure of the program of main sessions before it is firmly fixed after the deadline of 30 October 2008. We're sorry that only hard copies are available of the lengthy draft. You will need to read it quickly.

Members may also have comments on the proposed but tentative Registration fee structure: 1. Students 100 Euros [possibly for early registrants only, with proportional incremental step-up for later registrations] 2. Early Registrations in 2009 [non-student] 200 Euros, 3. in 2010 250 Euros, 4. 2011 300 Euros. At the moment this is a hypothetical fee structure.