

SPb Bibliotheca Biblica and the Department of Biblical Studies in 2015

Transportation and Correspondence

The custom regulations permit sending book packages to 15 kg by weight. The only limitation: **no financial documents are to be enveloped**. In this case the package becomes an object of custom's interest that produces a long official process and rather high taxes.

The mail address:

**Prof. A. Alexeev. Bibliotheca Biblica
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St. Petersburg University
Universitetskaya nab. 11 (= University Embankment, 11)
199034 St. Petersburg.**

Some part of periodicals till now comes to the previous address. We expect EELC distribute this information among the publishers.

For e-mail correspondence the following addresses are to be used:

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Sophia Fomichova <amerboozille@mail.ru>**, department assistant.

Stuff

No changes

Books and Library work

During the year a modest number of books (about 65) and periodicals has been received by mail. The University made investment by purchasing a dozen books in Russian necessary for the teaching. The number of regular readers is about 50.

In June the University assigned about 8000 euro to replace the wooden bookshelves for metallic ones to save the Library from fire cases.

Teaching

During the year no substantial changes have been done at the curricula.

The Russian edition of Commentary on the Sermon on the Mount by Ulrich Luz (published through Alexey Bodrov's in 2014) was used with great benefit for special seminary on Mt (explanatory reading). As a result a review of the book appeared to be published by the University Bulletin.

Four graduating students have defended master's theses and received master's degree. The topics were:

Soteriology of Pharisees and Sadducees by Lolita Bogdanova;

The Book of Tobit: its structure and genesis by Lisa Belova;

The Bible code of Russian poet Majakovsky;

4QMMT as a Halakhic Document

The first two are going to search for scholarship in Germany for postgraduate studies.

Scholarly Activities

In March, 2015, the Annual conference of the Faculty had in its schedule the section 'Bible and Christian Literature' with two sessions and 16 speakers. To the

plenary session our colleague Petr Pokorný came and presented his paper in Russian on the connection between language and theology. After 2014 this was his second coming for our annual conference, and the University Council elected him *doctor honoris causa*.

In April, 10 students (bachelors and masters) took part in the Annual Faculty Student Conference.

Publication activity

Two collections of papers are ready for publication and will be out of print during the next winter:

A special issue of the University Bulletin, 2015/4, devoted to Bible, Ancient Judaism and Christianity.

Studia petropolitana biblica I-II (SPB I-II) – a voluminous miscellany devoted to two decades of the Library (the initial agreement was signed on 1996, October 10) and one decade of the Department (officially established by the University Council on 2006, January 23).

Agreement

The new agreement has been finally prepared by the university. It is a very short framework agreement. Leaving aside its long and complicated office forms it speaks:

The subject of the agreement is to develop mutual collaboration for scholarly study VT, NT and Ancient Judaism. That means to make favorable conditions for information change, mutual scholarly meetings, publications and non-repayable donations to the library.

It will take time it be ready for mutual confirmation.

Anatoly Alexeev
SPb, July, 1, 2015