

SHROUD TESTING - LATEST

ASSIST (the Association of and Scholars International for the Shroud of Turin), has now prepared an outline set of proposals for a new Shroud testing, involving a most impressive array of international specialists, and this thirty-two page document is currently being studied in Turin. A key figure in any decision-making will be Dr. Luigi Gonella, Professor of Physics at Turin University, and one of Cardinal Ballestrero's leading scientific advisers. Dr. Gonella, it will be recalled, gave a memorable lecture to the B.S.T.S. in November 1982.

Although ASSIST's document remains confidential for the time being, a copy of it has very kindly been made available to the Society as a reciprocal gesture for the copy of the British proposals sent earlier this year.

At the time of writing no formal information has been forthcoming concerning the proposals of the original 1978 testing team, STURP, but a highly detailed document is said to be being taken to Turin later this month.

However, despite the recent intensive efforts to set down on paper each specialist's views on what should be done in any future testing, it now seems likely that actual permission to conduct such work may be a few years ahead, preceded by an international conference at which differences of scholarly opinion can be transformed into a universally agreed working programme.