

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS  
(Adopted November 23, 1986)

NORTH AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF RELIGION

ARTICLE I

Name

The name of the association shall be "The North American Association for the Study of Religion" (NAASR).

ARTICLE II

Purposes

Section 1:

The purpose of this association shall be to encourage the historical, comparative and structural study of religion in the North American community of scholars, and to promote publication of such scholarly research.

Section 2:

This association will represent North American scholars in that study of religion(s) by seeking affiliation with the American Academy of Religion, and through that affiliation, with the International Association for the History of Religions.

ARTICLE III

Registered Office

The registered office of this Association shall be located wherever the Association may determine.

ARTICLE IV

Membership

Section 1:

Scholars engaged in academic research in the study of religion(s) will be admitted to membership in the Association upon application to the Executive Council without regard to race, color, creed, or gender.

Section 2:

Members of the Association normally will also be members in good standing in the American Academy of Religion or in the Society of Biblical Literature.

Section 3:

The Executive Council may admit other members and determine the qualifications and methods of their admission.

## Section 4:

Membership in the Association may be terminated by resignation or non-payment of dues.

## ARTICLE V

Meetings of the Association

## Section 1:

An annual meeting of the Association shall be held in each calendar year in conjunction with the annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion.

## Section 2:

All annual meetings shall be general meetings and any business conducted at such meetings shall be on the agenda of the business meeting. The President and Executive Council shall propose the agenda. Notice of the substance of any motions to be added to the agenda shall be submitted to the President at least twenty-four hours in advance of the scheduled business meeting and shall be posted so as to be available to the general membership. Such motions shall be phrased as recommendations to the Executive Council of the Association. If the Executive Council declines implementation of any motion adopted at the annual meeting, the motion shall be placed on a mail ballot to the general membership of the Association together with the Council's reasons for their course of action. The Council shall also provide the opportunity for the maker of the motion to submit a statement for concurrent distribution.

## Section 3:

Special or regional meetings of the Association may be called by the Executive Council. Thirty days written notice of time, place and purpose of all special or regional meetings shall be given and no business shall be transacted at such meetings except such as are included in the call and notice thereof.

## Section 4:

At all meetings of the Association a quorum shall be constituted by the members present.

## ARTICLE VI

Officers

## Section 1:

The officers shall consist of a President, Secretary, Treasurer; and members of the Executive Council.

## Section 2:

The President shall be elected at the annual meeting for the term of one (1) year and shall preside over all meetings of the Association and of the Executive Council and shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by these by-laws or delegated by the Executive Council.

## Section 3:

The Secretary shall be chosen by the Executive Council from amongst its members and shall serve for not more than three (3) consecutive one year terms. The Secretary shall keep a complete record of all the proceedings of the Association. The Secretary shall also keep a roll of the members, conduct the correspondence of the Association and see that notices of meetings are sent to its members. The Secretary shall perform other such duties that may be assigned him/her from time to time by the Executive Council.

## Section 4:

The Treasurer shall be chosen by the Executive Council from amongst its members and shall serve for not more than two three (3) year terms. The Treasurer shall collect and disburse the funds of the Association in accordance with the policy and budget determined by the Executive Council. The Treasurer shall keep the financial records of the Association which shall be open to the inspection of the Executive Council at all times and shall make a report on the financial state of the Association when requested by the Executive Council as well as at the Annual meeting of the Association.

## Section 5:

The Executive Council shall consist of six (6) members divided into three (3) groups of two (2) who shall hold office for three (3) years. At each annual meeting of the Association one (1) group of two (2) members shall be elected to serve a period of three (3) years. No member may hold more than two consecutive terms of office on the Executive Council.

## Section 6:

Only members of the Association shall be eligible to vote and hold office. In the selection of officers of the Association there shall be no discrimination on account of sex, race, religion, or national origin.

## Section 7:

The tenure of all officers of the Association shall commence immediately at the conclusion of the annual business meeting held in the year of their election and shall terminate at the conclusion of the annual business meeting of the year in which their term expires.

## ARTICLE VII

Committees

## Section 1:

The Executive Council shall serve as, or shall establish, such other standing or temporary committees as are deemed necessary and determine the membership of said committees, delegating the committees such authority as the Council sees appropriate. Membership on standing committees shall be for a term of three (3) years.

Section 2:

Tenure of all committee members shall commence immediately after the annual business meeting of the Academy and continue until the conclusion of the annual business meeting of the year in which their terms expire, unless otherwise provided in these by-laws.

ARTICLE VIII

Dues

Section 1:

Each member of the Association shall pay annual dues, the amount of which shall be fixed at the annual meeting of the Association.

ARTICLE IX

Amendments

Section 1:

These by-laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at a regularly constituted annual meeting or at a special meeting called for the purpose of making by-law revisions.

Section 2:

Notice of the substance of by-law revisions to be proposed shall be distributed to all members of the Academy at least thirty (30) days before the meeting at which they are to be considered.