

**INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE HISTORY OF RELIGIONS**  
**ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONALE POUR L'HISTOIRE DES RELIGIONS**

**IAHR**

**IAHR BULLETIN 13**  
**JANUARY 1990**

Letter from the Secretary-General

Dear fellow-members of the IAHR,

Since this is the January edition of the Bulletin it contains once again the current list of officers of the various national affiliated associations. This is currently still restricted to three officers per national association, each of whom will also be receiving this Bulletin. If you are named as an officer below, but in the meantime have relinquished your office to another, please inform me as soon as possible so that a correction can be made. It would be helpful if you would also pass this Bulletin on to the newly appointed officer. Due to some administrative difficulties during the last three months, it is possible that the list is not quite accurate, and I do apologise for any failure to take account of changes which have already been reported.

Every effort is being made to dispatch this Bulletin to you so that it will arrive in the early days of the New Year, thus bearing the recommendations of the Nominating Committee to you at the appointed time. These are listed on another page. Public holidays in various countries, inclement weather, and the intensive use of the postal services at this time of year may lead to variations in actual delivery times, which I trust will be insignificant.

It is a particular pleasure to report that our President, Professor Annemarie Schimmel, has been awarded "das Große Verdienstkreuz des Verdienstordens der Bundesrepublik Deutschland" by the President of the Federal Republic of Germany, Richard von Weizsäcker, in recognition of her work for intercultural understanding and in particular of her role in the study of Islam. I think I express the reaction of many colleagues in saying that this notable distinction is well deserved by our President herself and at the same time a great honour for the IAHR.

It remains to wish you a happy and fruitful year in 1990, a year in which many of us will be meeting again either at the regional conference in Helsinki or at the XVI Congress in Rome. A rивiderci!

With all best wishes  
Michael Pye

IAHR BULLETIN 13  
JANUARY 1990

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## Nominations for the Executive Committee 1990-1995

On behalf of the Nominating Committee (See Bulletin 12, page 2) Professor Schimmel has communicated the following nominations for the Executive Committee for the five-year period running from the Rome Congress (September 1990). A note on the election procedure follows below.

For President:	Prof. Ugo BIANCHI (Italy)
For Vice-President (2 to be elected)	Prof. Jean LECLANT (France) Prof. Zwi WERBLOWSKY (Israel)
For Secretary-General	Prof. Michael PYE (Germany)
For Hon. Treasurer	Dr. Henk van LIER (Holland)
For Deputy Sec.-Gen.	Prof. Laurence SULLIVAN (U.S.A.)
As further members (4 to be elected)	Prof. Peter ANTES (Germany) Prof. ARAKI Michio (Japan) Prof. Louise BÄCKMANN (Sweden) Prof. (Sister) KIM Sung Hae (Korea) Prof. Wytold TYLOCH (Poland) Prof. Donald WIEBE (Canada)

The members of the International Committee may propose alternative nominations (see Constitution C4). Such nominations, if any, should be sent to the Secretary-General in writing to arrive not later than August 3rd, on which date nominations will be closed in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution. The constitution does not provide for further nominations to be made on the spot at the time of the Congress.

Members of the International Committee may like to be reminded of a few significant characteristics of the Executive Committee:

Firstly, It consists of ten members. It is therefore not possible for all affiliated associations to be represented on it every time. The representative body is the International Committee itself. Nevertheless attention should be paid not only to personal or academic qualities but also to questions of regional balance, of continuity and renewal, etc..

Secondly, five members of the Executive Committee are officers required by the Constitution. Any further nominations should state therefore whether they are related to a specific office. (The office of Deputy Secretary-General is not required by the Constitution, but has been maintained in practice since 1975 because of the practical difficulties which arose after the unfortunate death of Professor Brandon while he was Secretary-General.)

Thirdly, it is of particular importance that members of the Executive Committee should be able to coordinate closely with the editors of Numen, the official journal of the IAHR. Proposals are

in preparation to integrate the work of the journal more closely with the Executive Committee, and therefore the elected members should be such that they could function, at least in a general way, as an Editorial Board. (Other developments regarding Numen are indicated separately below.)

#### Election procedure

The Executive Committee will be elected by the International Committee at its meeting to be held in the course of the XVI Congress. The results are then reported to the General Assembly, as the Constitution currently requires, "for endorsement". The General Assembly however, which is neither an elected nor a representative body, cannot conduct an alternative election. Thus every care must be taken to conduct the election correctly and to achieve a result which is likely to find wide approval. It is the responsibility of the members of the International Committee to ensure that the members of their various national associations, especially those who will be in attendance at Rome, understand the procedures and are satisfied with the policies of their representatives.

The following practical procedure is proposed. Firstly the officers will be elected, step by step, in the order shown above. Thereafter the additional four members will be elected in a single round, the four nominations with the largest number of votes being elected. In the event of a tie for the fourth place, a separate vote will take place to decide between the two nominees. In the event of a tie being repeated for a second time, the president will be given an additional (casting) vote. In principle the voting should be secret. However in cases where a position is uncontested, a show of hands may be requested at the discretion of the president.

Needless to say, it is for the International Committee itself to decide its procedure, and a vote should be taken to confirm it prior to the elections taking place. However it would be very helpful if any divergent views about the procedure could be made known before the Congress, because the time at the meeting will be limited. Please communicate with the Secretary-General, or if preferred, with the President.



## Numen

At its meeting in Warsaw in September 1989 the Executive Committee decided to invite Professor Thomas E. Lawson (Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Michigan, U.S.A.) to become one of the Executive Editors as from September 1990. This was not announced in the September Bulletin (12) to allow time to consult those committee members who were not present at Warsaw. In the meantime the decision has found acceptance among the remaining members, and may therefore now be regarded as firm. It is an important consideration that for the first time the editorship should be partly based in North America. Professor Lawson is chairman of the Department of Religion at Western Michigan University. He has wide interests in the study of religion, especially African and North American religions, but also with regard to theoretical questions. He has also been an active participant in IAHR conferences over many years and is familiar both with the traditions and current perspectives of the organisation. In April 1990 he will be visiting Germany for consultations about future directions for Numen with Prof. Hans Kippenberg, the Secretary-General, and a representative from E.J.Brill, the publisher. The full Numen team will, it appears, be present at the Rome Congress. However if affiliated associations have any views about the journal it would be helpful if they could be communicated to any one of the above-mentioned before mid-April 1990.

For some time the question of the mode in which Numen, the official journal of the IAHR, should be related to the IAHR committees and officers has been considered informally. During the period when the Secretary-General was also simply the editor, or one of two editors, this integration was achieved through personal union. However, with expanding activities, this solution is no longer regarded as being desirable. The current consensus among those most directly involved is that the Executive Committee itself should form the editorial board of Numen, in a general guiding capacity, and that the Secretary-General, purely for linking purposes, should join the Executive Editors, who would normally be two in number. The Executive Editors for their part may be co-opted on to the International Committee (as Prof. Heerma van Voss was co-opted at the meeting of 18.6.1988). This solution has the supreme advantage that whenever the Executive Committee meets (and an annual meeting is considered desirable) a Numen meeting can take place on the same occasion. Some may question whether the Executive Committee is suitable to act as an editorial board! The answer to this is that it should be so composed, taking academic range and experience into consideration, that it is suitable. The five-yearly elections to the Executive Committee should provide the necessary continuity and renewal. This plan will be placed before the International Committee for approval at the next meeting. Questions or comments will be most welcome in advance however, as the attempt is being made to achieve a consensus. Opinions would also be welcomed on the language policy of Numen.

M.P.

## Short notices

Helsinki The preparations for the regional conference in Helsinki (13-19.5.1990) are well advanced. A substantial number of papers have been offered on the theme of the conference which is: Circumpolar and Northern Religion, Interpreting Shamanism and Popular Religion in Arctic and Sub-arctic Regions. A future bulletin will carry the list of participants, who are drawn in particular from Scandinavia, North America (especially Canada), the Soviet Union, and East Asia. The IAHR will be represented by the Secretary-General, and, of course, by the Finnish Society for the Comparative Study of Religion, which is organizing the conference in conjunction with the Department of Comparative Religion at the University of Helsinki.

Mexico Preparations for the formation of a Latin American Association for the Study of Religion are continuing and it is anticipated that the formal founding will take place in June 1990 ready for affiliation to the IAHR at the Rome Congress. The Secretary-General and Prof. Peter Antes will be travelling to Mexico in early June to meet Latin American colleagues in the context of a conference and to answer questions about the IAHR.

Beijing Prof. Hubert Seiwert is currently in Beijing and in contact with the leaders of the Chinese Association for the Study of Religion. Recent correspondence, especially with Prof. KONG Fan, has indicated that the proposal for affiliation is likely to be maintained. In view of the long term importance of these negotiations, which took on precise form after the conference in Marburg, the continued assistance of all those interested in this development is requested.

Burlington (Vermont, USA) Preparations are under weigh for a special conference to be held in Burlington, Vermont (USA) which would be a follow-up to the recent Warsaw conference (with invitations being extended to specialists from Eastern Europe) and at the same time provide a context for an annual meeting of the Executive Committee of the IAHR. The conference is planned for August 1991.

### CIPSH (UNESCO)            URGENT!

The next meeting of CIPSH, from which the IAHR derives some of its funds, has unexpectedly been brought forward from next autumn to March 1990. Any new proposals for requests for funds should therefore be addressed as soon as possible to the Secretary-General. The funds are mainly used for subsidising conferences, i.e. for fares of persons who have currency problems.



## 中国宗教学会章程

### 一、宗旨：

本会是全国宗教研究者的群众性学术团体。学会遵循“百花齐放、百家争鸣”方针，发扬实事求是和理论联系实际学风，开展国内外学术交流和友好活动，为发展与提高我国宗教研究的学术水平，繁荣我国的科学文化事业而努力。

### 二、活动内容：

1. 举办各种专业性的学术讨论会、报告会，交流研究成果和经验；

2. 在条件具备时出版刊物或通讯，介绍国内外宗教学研究动态，普及宗教学知识，沟通会员学术活动信息；

3. 与国外有关学术机构、团体、基金会等进行学术交流及开展友好活动。

### 三、会员：

1. 凡从事宗教研究，赞成本会章程，本人申请，经本会批准，均可成为本会会员。

#### 2. 会员的权利和义务：

会员享有选举权和被选举权，有权根据条件参加本会举办的学术活动，有优先获得本会编印的资料或出版物和对会务提出批评与建议的权利。会员有遵守本会章程、支持与承担本会委托的工作、为本会刊物或通讯投稿的义务。

会员有退会的自由。

### 四、组织机构：

1. 会员代表大会是本会最高权力机构；由会员代表大会协商、选举产生理事会，成员任期五年；

2. 理事会推选名誉会长一人，会长一人，副会长若干人，主持学会工作；理事会聘请若干著名人士担任学会顾问；

3. 理事会设秘书长一人，副秘书长二人，下设秘书组，协助进行日常工作。

### 五、经费：

目前主要向各有关方面申请资助，同时接受国内外有关人士、团体、基金会的自愿资助。

### 六、会址：

本会会址设在北京建内大街五号中国社会科学院世界宗教研究所。

七、本章程的制订和修订，均经由理事会审议、通过。

1988年12月

## 1. Aim

The association is a nationwide nonofficial academic organization of researchers on religions. Guided by the Principles of Integrating Theory with Practice and Letting a Hundred Schools of Thought Contend, the association will play an active role in arranging academic exchanges and activities both at home and abroad, so as to develop and promote religious studies, thus contributing to the cultural undertakings in China.

## 2. Program Activities

- a. To sponsor various seminars, lectures on religious studies.
- b. To publish magazines or newsletters, when conditions permit, giving informations about religious studies at home and abroad.
- c. To arrange academic exchange activities with relevant foreign academic organizations, societies, foundations, etc.

## 3. Membership

- a. Anyone who agrees to the constitution of the association and is engaged in research on religions may be admitted to the membership of the organization under personal application with the approval of the association. However, after being a member, he is free to leave the association on his own will.
- b. Rights and Duties of the Member:  
Enjoying the rights to elect and to be elected; Enjoying the rights to take part in the activities sponsored by the association; Enjoying priority in getting the materials or publications issued by the association; Making criticisms and suggestions on the association proceedings.  
Observing the constitution, supporting and undertaking any work entrusted by the association; contributing to the magazines or newsletters of the association.

## 4. Organisation

- a. The authority of the organization rests on the representation assembly, which entrusts its routine to council made up of members for a term of 5 years elected through consultations by the assembly.
- b. An honorary chairman, a chairman and several vice-chairmen are to be elected by the council to conduct the work of the association.  
The council may invite outstanding figures to be advisers of the association.
- c. A general-secretary and two deputies and a secretariat under the council will handle the office routine.

## 5. Finance

The association is at present funded mainly by interested institutions and sponsors. Donations from individuals, institutions and foundations both at home and abroad are welcome.

## 6. Adress

The Chinese Association of Religious Studies  
c/o The Institute for the Study of World Religions  
The Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, No. 5 Jian Nei Street  
Beijing, China

7. The formulation and modification of this constitution must be examined and approved by the council of the association.



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Member associations of the IAHR

The following is a list of the national or regional associations affiliated to the IAHR, with their leading officers as of 1.1.1990. The officers listed are restricted to President, Secretary and Treasurer, or their equivalents. Unless otherwise determined the President and the Secretary are regarded as the representatives of any one association on the International Committee.

AUSTRALIA

The Australian Association for the Study of Religion

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Dept. of Religious Studies  
La Trobe University  
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Australia

Secretary

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Dept. of Studies in Religion  
University of Queensland  
St. Lucia, Queensland 4067  
Australia

Treasurer

Dr. Rod Bucknell  
Dept. of Studies in Religion  
University of Queensland  
St. Lucia, Queensland 4067  
Australia

BELGIUM

(currently not organised)

CANADA

Canadian Society for the Study of Religion  
Société Canadienne pour l'Étude de la Religion

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300 Ave. des Ursulines  
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Treasurer

Prof. Ronald Neufeldt  
Religious Studies Department  
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CHINA

Chinese Association for the Study of Religions  
(an application for affiliation is currently pending)

DENMARK

Dansk Selskab for Religionshistorie  
(Danish Association for the History of Religion)

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FINLAND

Suomen Uskontotieteellinen Suera  
Religionsvetenskapliga Sällskapet i Finland  
(Finnish Society for the Study of Religion)

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Nordic Institute of Folklore  
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FRANCE  
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HUNGARY  
(Currently not organised)



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(Société Polonaise de Science des Religions)

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