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

IAHR

IAHR BULLETIN 4 JANUARY 1987

Letter from the Secretary-General

Dear Fellow-members of the IAHR,

As promised, this issue of the Bulletin contains a consolidated list of member associations and officers up-dated to the end of December 1986. It will be helpful if changes could be recorded as they take place. The next consolidated list will be sent out in one year's time.

The formation of a new association in North America is to be welcomed. Details will be found below.

In November the Hon. Treasurer and myself attended the biennial gathering of the International Council for Philosophy and Humanistic Studies in Cairo. Due to cuts in UNESCO funding the total sum available for grants to member organisations of CIPHS, such as IAHR, was significantly reduced. The regular grant for the abstracts journal "Science of Religion", published in Amsterdam was renewed, but no grant for the Encyclopedia of Buddhism was awarded on this occasion (see separate item below). Due to unexpected technical considerations on the part of the budget committee a pump-priming grant was agreed for the IAHR working conference planned for 1988 but not for the Groningen conference in 1989. Since this reverses the priority envisaged by IAHR officers it has been proposed that a contribution of comparable impact should be made from IAHR funds to the Groningen conference.

(January 1987)

With all best wishes

Michael Pye

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JANUARY 1987

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Reference works on Buddhism

Members familiar with reference works on Buddhism will have noticed that their production is often beset by interruptions caused by the decease of their editors and other difficulties. The Hobogirin is proceeding extremely smoothly at the present time, and it is known that work is in hand to publish the second half of Hackmann's encyclopedic dictionary of Chinese Buddhism. In the meantime the IAHR-supported Encyclopedia of Buddhism has met production difficulties due to changes in printing arrangements in Sri Lanka, and as a result the subsidy from CIPSH via IAHR has been stopped. It is hoped that a future application will be successful after these problems have been resolved. This application will require considerable preparation and thus comments or information on general developments in the compilation of reference works on Buddhism may be of assistance in this regard. Please convey these to the Secretary-general of the IAHR.

(M.P.)

Forthcoming conferences

The following information has been received:

The 33rd International Congress of Asian and North African Studies will be held in Toronto, 19. August - 25. August 1990. Preliminary enquiries may be addressed to Prof. Julia Ching and/or Prof. William Oxtoby, University of Toronto, Toronto M5S 1A1, Canada.

An international congress on "human rights teaching, information and documentation" will be held in 1987 (September?) under the auspices of UNESCO. Any IAHR member with a clear professional interest in this subject is invited to write to the Secretary-General.

The dates of the projected conference in Helsinki 1990 on Shamanism and Circumpolar Religion have been fixed as May 13-19. Further information will be made available in due course.

IAHR Congress 1990

The following dates have been agreed for the XVI IAHR Congress to be held in Rome: September 3rd-8th 1990. It will be beneficial if member associations make these dates widely known.

The name of the asssociation

Professor Bianchi (Rome) responds to the letter by Prof. Wiebe (Toronto) published in the last issue as follows:

"The change from IASHR to IAHR was not substantial because the S was pleonastic. It seems to me however that if we make a change to IASR (International Association for the Study of Religion) then any intellectual approach to the problematics of religion(s), in all directions and without limitations, would become legitimate in the Association. While other approaches may be perfectly respectable in themselves, this would involve the loss of a central reference point. In particular, we would lose the common language of our discipline, namely the historical approach to and the assessment of texts, which up till now has been the universally accepted medium of discussion. Moreover the history of religions, while maintaining its specificity, has hitherto proved itself capable of recognising and promoting research which arises in other fields (such as anthropology)".

Conference proceedings

Attention is drawn to the publication in 1986 of the Proceedings of the Finnish-Swedish-Italian Seminar held at the University of Rome "La Sapienza", 24th-28th March 1984, under the English title "Transition Rites, Cosmic, Social and Individual Order" and the Italian title "I Riti di Passagio, Ordine, Cosmico, Sociale, Individuale" ("L'ERMA" di BRET-SCHNEIDER, Rome, Via Cassiodoro 19). The price is 150.000 Italian Lire and the work may be ordered via booksellers or directly from the publisher. Of the eighteen contributions, with discussion appended, seven are in Italian and the remainder are in English. The proceedings are edited by Professor Bianchi.

Formation of a new association

In November 1986 a new association was formed bearing the name THE NORTH AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF RELIGION. This association has been designed to complement the existing ASSR (which is a select body of well-known religious studies specialists in the United States). The NAASR has applied in writing for affiliation to the IAHR as from the next quinquennial congress in Rome 1990. The first elected committee of the NAASR has the following members:

Donald Wiebe, University of Toronto,	President
E. Thomas Lawson, University of Western	Vice-President
Michigan,	Program chair
Luther H. Martin, University of Vermont,	SecTreasurer
Jacob Neusner, Brown University	Exec. Council
Ivan Strenski, Am. Ed., Religion,	Exec. Council
Charles Vernoff, Cornell College,	Exec. Council
Marilyn Nefsky, University of Lethbridge,	Exec. Council

The association is to be incorporated in the state of Vermont, U.S.A. as a non-profit educational organisation with an office in the Department of Religion at the University of Vermont in Burlington. The constitution and by-laws have been made available to the IAHR. They are reproduced below in abbreviated form and with the omission of the articles VII, VIII and IX on committees, dues and amendments.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Member associations of the IAHR

(Information only given when complete)

ARGENTINA

AUSTRALIA

The Australian Association for the Study of Religion

Secretary:

Ms. Penelope M. McKibbin SACAE - Holbrooks Rd.

Underdale

South Australia 5042

BELGIUM

CANADA

Canadian Society for the Study of Religion

La Société Canadienne pour l'Étude de la Religion

President:

Dr. Bruce Alton

Dept. of Religious Studies University of Toronto 110 Charles St. West Toronto, Ontario M5S 1A1

Secretary:

Dr. John Sandys-Wunsch

Provost

Thorneloe College Ramsey Lake Road

Sudbury, Ontario P3E 2C6

Treasurer:

Professor Ronald Neufeldt Religious Studies Department

University of Calgary Calgary, Alberta T2N 1N4

DENMARK

Dansk Selskab for Religionshistorie

(Danish Association for the History of Religions)

President:

Jes P. Asmussen

Bedgade 77

DK-1260 Copenhagen K

Denmark

Secretary:

Associate professor, cand. mag.

Jeppe Sinding Jensen Afdeling for Religion Filosofisk Institut Odense Universitet Campusvej 55 DK-5230 Odense

Denmark

Treasurer:

Assistant professor mag. art.

Jens Peter Schjødt

Institut for Religionshistorie

Aarhus Universitet Paludan-Müllers vej 17 DK-8000 Aarhus C

Denmark

FINLAND

Suomen Uskontotieteellinen Seura

Religionsvetenskapliga Sällskapet i Finland

Finnish Society for the Study of Comparative Religion

President:

Prof. Lauri Honko

Nordic Institute of Folklore

Henrikinkatu 3 SF-20500 Turku

Secretary:

Dr. Tore Ahlbäck

The Donner Institute for Research in

Religious and Cultural History

Gezeliusgatan 2 SF-20500 Abo

Treasurer:

Merkonom Maj-Lis Fagerholm Nordic Institute of Folklore

Henrikinkatu 3 SF-20500 Turku

FRANCE

GERMANY (FRG)

Deutsche Vereinigung für Religionsgeschichte

Chairman:

Prof. Dr. H. von Stietencron

Schwabstr. 80 D-7400 Tübingen Fed. Rep. of Germany

Vice-Chairman:

Prof. Dr. J.Fr. Sprockhoff

Parkweg 63

D-5810 Witten/Ruhr 1 Fed. Rep. of Germany

Treasurer:

Prof. Dr. B. Gladigow Heiligenwaldstr. 23 D-7407 Rottenburg a.N. Fed. Rep. of Germany

HUNGARY

ISRAEL

President:

Prof. R.J.Z. Werblowsky

Dept. of Comparative Religion

The Hebrew University

Jerusalem Israel

ITALY

Società Italiana di Storia delle Religioni

President:

Prof. Dr. Alessandro Bausani

Via de Grenet 91 I-00128 Roma

Italy

Secretary:

Prof. U. Bianchi

Via Principe Amedeo 75

I-001 85 Roma

Italy

Treasurer:

Prof. Dr. Giula Gasparro Via Protonotaro isol. 204

I-98100 Messina

Italy

JAPAN

Nikon Shukyo Gakkai

The Japanese Association for Religious Studies

President:

Prof. Noriyoshi Tamaru

c/o Dept. of Religious Studies

Faculty of Letters The Univ. of Tokyo 7-3-1 Hongo, Bunkyo-ku

113 Tokyo Japan

KENYA

KOREA

Korean Association for the History of Religions

President:

Yee-Heum Yoon Dept. of Religions College of Humanities Seoul National University

Seoul 151 Korea

Secretary:

Prof. Kum, Chang-Tae Seoul National University

Seoul 151 Korea

MEXICO

NETHERLANDS

Nederlands Genootenschap van Godsdiensthistorici

President:

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NIGERIA

Nigerian Association for the Study of Religions

President:

Prof. S.U. Erivwo

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Rev. Dr. S.A. Adewale Dept. of Religious Studies

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Ibadan Nigeria

NORWAY

POLAND

Polskie Towarzystwo Religioznawcze

(Société Polonaise de Science des Religions)

Secretary:

Prof. Witold Tyloch Fabryczna 2, M.4 P-446 Warsaw

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SOUTH AFRICA

Association for the Study of Religion (Southern Africa)

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Prof. G.C. Oosthuizen

2, Jamieson Drive

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3630 South Africa

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Svenska Samfundet för Religionshistorisk Forskning (Swedish Society for Research in Comparative Religion)

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S-411 17 Göteborg

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SWITZERLAND

Société Suisse pour la Science des Religions

(Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Religionswissenschaft)

President:

M. le Prof. Fritz Stolz

Iserlenweg 7

CH-8708 Männedorf

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UNITED KINGDOM

British Association for the History of Religions

President:

Prof. Cyril Williams

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American Society for the Study of Religion

President:

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