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The IAHR is an international body of national societies for the study of religion and a member of the Conseil international de la philosophie et des sciences humaines (CIPSH) under UNESCO. Further information is provided in the last section of this bulletin and inquiries may be sent to the editor.

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January issue--December 1
August issue--June 1

IAHR Bulletin 34, 1996

<i>Editorial.</i>	4
<i>Greetings from the General Secretary.</i>	5
<i>Executive Committee Profiles.</i>	13
<i>Honorary Life Member Profiles.</i>	19
<i>IAHR Announcements.</i>	23
<i>IAHR Events.</i>	30
<i>News from the Net.</i>	48
<i>News from the National Associations.</i>	49
<i>Addresses.</i>	55
<i>News from Other Associations and Institutions.</i>	56
<i>Calendar of Events.</i>	59
<i>Information on the IAHR.</i>	61

Editorial

Welcome to the first issue of the IAHR Bulletin since the new Executive Committee took office. The Committee felt that the Bulletin needed to be revamped and consequently a lot of time has been spent in trying to work out the style and format of the bulletin, subscription and financing, as well as editing and distribution. Various kinds of editorial organisation and cooperation with other publication activities have been discussed, but the final decision was that the General Secretary would set up shop and produce and distribute the Bulletin from his office until other solutions might be worked out.

All of the delay has unfortunately led many people to believe that they have been dropped from our mailing list. This is, however, not the case. Our apologies are hereby extended to you all for the delay.

We are very interested in receiving reactions, criticisms and comments concerning style, format and substance. We are also in great need of communication from the IAHR affiliates concerning past and future activities, names and addresses of members and the names and addresses of the national executive committees. Please send us your newsletters, bulletins, announcements, and information concerning journals and other publications. Short articles, reports, and editorials are also welcomed. You are also invited to send advertisements of your journals for a nominal charge. Please send a paper copy and wherever possible a disk copy (preferably in Word or WordPerfect format, but other formats are acceptable).

We mentioned the possibility of cooperation with other publication activities. These have not yet been fully worked out, but we would like to announce that with the winter issue, the Bulletin will be distributed together with the IAHR publication *Science of Religion Abstracts and Index of Recent Articles* (SOR) which also will be published biannually with a summer and a winter issue (see further information below).

We hope that you will enjoy this issue, and we look forward to hearing from you.

Armin W. Geertz



Greetings from the General Secretary

It has taken a long time to put together a Bulletin and, consequently, this first issue since I took office as General Secretary will be inordinately large. My report will also be quite long, but I hope that from now on, with 2 issues a year, the amount of information will be more evenly distributed.

The XVIIth Congress

The XVIIth Congress of the IAHR was held in Mexico City during August 1995. It was a significant congress in many ways. In the first place it gathered more than a thousand participants from all over the world, thus earning the well-deserved reputation of being one of the most successful IAHR congresses ever held. Secondly, it was held for the first time in a Latin American country, and it succeeded in bringing many participants from a variety of Latin American countries. The establishment of the Cuban Association was a direct result of this congress. Thirdly, the congress organisation consisting of a combination of plenum lectures and thematic symposia was shown to be more effective and more interesting than the structure of former congresses based on geography and/or religions. Fourthly, the theme of the congress was “Religion and Society”, a theme that reconfirmed the Warsaw declaration of 1989 whereby the delegates at a conference on the relation between the history of religions and the social sciences envisioned a broader definition of the term “history” and a closer cooperation with the social sciences. Finally, there were a number of debates concerning the structure and business routines of the organisation itself which helped the delegates to focus on important issues that an international conglomeration of societies such as ours necessarily entails. An important aspect in that connection is that the IAHR has maintained close ties between organisational and scientific issues so that each can strengthen the other.

On behalf of the IAHR I wish to extend the warmest praise and heartfelt thanks to our Mexican hosts, especially to the two organizers Dr. Yolotl González Torres and Dr. Elio Masferrer Kan.

Reports on the Congress have been issued in *Numen* (Sylvia Marcos, “A Report on the XVIIth International Congress for the History of Religions”, vol. 43, no. 1, January 1996, pp. 99-103) and a special issue of the *CSSR Bulletin* (The Council of Societies for the Study of Religion in the U.S.) on the IAHR and the congress, edited by Professor Rosalind Hackett. Other reports are in press in several related journals.

Several publications related to the Congress are currently under consideration. The official Congress volume will be similar to the Lancaster volume consisting of the four opening addresses, the key lectures, a summary of the papers presented as well as publication data. It is hoped that the complete addresses of all the participants can also be included. A number of spin-off volumes are in progress at the moment. Two or three books will be appearing in Spanish in Mexico, and there are three volumes in progress by Sylvia Marcos, Ursula King, Armin W. Geertz, and Russell McCutcheon.

The volume by Geertz and McCutcheon is a selection of papers on methodology. The planned publication was submitted to and approved by the Executive Committee and was awarded the designation “Adjunct proceedings of the XVIIth Congress of the IAHR”.

The latter requires some comment. The Executive Committee agreed that normally the hosts of the congress should publish the official *Congress Proceedings* containing among other things the formal record of the congress. The Executive Committee may then invite organizers of the symposia and other events to propose publication of *Adjunct Proceedings*. Subject to approval by the Executive Committee, editors of adjunct proceedings are permitted to use the name of the IAHR event in the title or other prominent section of the publication. It is assumed that all spin-off volumes, whether approved or not, acknowledge that the papers were presented at the IAHR congress. I encourage those who are currently developing spin-off publications to contact me for further information.

Important Decisions Made at the XVIIth Congress

The most important news from the Congress is of course that a new Executive Committee was elected by the International Committee. The results were as follows (the breakdown by ballots is included in the minutes of the meeting provided on page 35 below): President: Prof. Michael Pye (Marburg); Vice-Presidents: Prof. Peter Antes (Hannover) and Dr. Yolotl González Torres (Mexico City); General Secretary: Prof. Armin W. Geertz (Aarhus); Deputy General Secretary: Prof. Rosalind Hackett (Knoxville); Treasurer: Prof. Donald Wiebe (Toronto); Prof. Michio Araki (Tsubuka City); Prof. Giulia Gasparro (Messina); Dr. Gerrie ter Haar (Utrecht); Dr. Helena Helve (Helsinki); Prof. Jacob Olupona (Davis); and Dr. A. I. Tayob (Cape Town). In my opinion, the new Committee roughly represents major areas of the world and refreshingly comes close to a gender balance.

One of the most important organisational matters acted upon during the General Assembly was the vote concerning whether the IAHR should change its name. The result was an overwhelming majority to keep the name as it is. As originally agreed, the result of the vote on this matter in no way affects the mainstays of the discipline nor the impetus of recent developments in theory and methodology. It is my hope that the issue of the name can now be put behind us so that we can get on with our work in the admirable tradition of methodological pluralism that has always characterized our discipline.

The International Committee decided during its meeting in Mexico City to honor colleagues who have distinguished themselves through life-long service to the history of religions. These colleagues have been designated “Honorary Life Members of the IAHR” and they are presented on page 19 below. We will bring news and profiles on these scholars in coming issues.

The Executive Committee noted in its meeting in Mexico City the tremendous

support expressed by delegates and others of holding the next international congress in Durban, South Africa. It was agreed that the committee would work towards that end, with Copenhagen as a possible alternative if difficulties arise in South Africa. I have since then received confirmation from the President of the Southern African Association, Professor Thillay Naidoo, that they wish to host the XVIIIth Congress in Durban. The congress will be a special event since it will mark the 50th anniversary of the IAHR. I am currently awaiting the final proposal.

There was a lot of discussion concerning IAHR business procedures during the Congress. Since the IAHR has never developed a set of procedural rules, mainly because there is such a diversity of procedural traditions in affiliate countries, the standard rule has always been that prior to each meeting, the president makes his or her own decisions about procedure. This situation has generally worked, but has also at times led to confusion and frustration especially when the meetings have had important and controversial decisions on the agenda. The last three General Assemblies have clearly demonstrated the weaknesses of this approach, and especially during the past five years (the International Committee meetings in Paris and in Mexico City as well as the General Assemblies in Rome and Mexico), where the important decision concerning the name of our association was on all the agendas, the more negative aspects of these procedures were made evident. Due to the fact that a final decision was to be made in Mexico City, Prof. Michael Pye and I devoted a lot of effort trying to work out a way to ensure that only eligible members were allowed to vote during the General Assembly. The resultant effort was frustrating for everyone because the affiliate associations are not very helpful in providing the General Secretary with up-dated membership lists, and those who had a legitimate interest in obtaining voting cards had difficulty getting them. Another problem was that there were interest groups who wished to promote other candidacies but who had failed to produce the lists of candidates in time for the deadlines that had been announced in most of the IAHR Bulletins during the 18 months prior to the XVIIth Congress. These groups seized on the fact that there is no official decision concerning the terms of such deadlines except the tradition of past procedure. This problem, fortunately, was firmly resolved on the spot by the International Committee (see page 32 below).

Because of these various problems, I was asked to develop a set of rules and procedures during my term in office, and so I present in this Bulletin the first of such guidelines. On pages 23 & 24 below, you will find the guidelines for IAHR sponsored and/or co-sponsored events. Other guidelines will appear as time goes by. Some of the guidelines must first be approved by the International Committee, such as rules for conducting meetings, candidacy and voting procedures, and so on. Other guidelines are simply approved by the Executive Committee and presented to the International Committee such as the rules for IAHR events mentioned above. It is difficult to develop rules that are simultaneously fair, flexible, workable, and understandable in terms of the different traditions of our constituents. But it is also clear that individuals can and

do obstruct meetings by capitalizing on the absence of such rules.

Finally, one more result of decisions made in Mexico that I wish to announce here is the happy news that the Executive Committee is currently constructing the IAHR homepage on the World Wide Web under the excellent guidance of our Deputy General Secretary, Professor Rosalind Hackett. For further information, please see page 49 below.

IAHR Sponsored Events

It is still the policy of the Executive Committee to sponsor at least two IAHR events a year (a regional and a special conference) so that the Executive Committee will have the opportunity to meet every year. The Committee has decided on the following provisional list of locations and events:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Special Conference</i>	<i>Regional Conference</i>
1996	Aarhus, Denmark	Bogota, Columbia
1997	Seoul, S. Korea	Turku, Finland
1998	Ankara, Turkey	Hildesheim, Germany (IAHR Intl. Committee)
1999	Canada	Yogyakarta, Indonesia
2000	XVIIIth Congress of the IAHR: Durban, South Africa	

Some commentary on this list is in place. First of all, please note the rules and procedures for IAHR sponsored events mentioned earlier. Secondly, it should be noted that some of the locations are tentative since we have no contact persons as yet. This includes Ankara, Canada, and Yogyakarta. Thirdly, two of the events have already occurred (see below). Fourthly, negotiations are proceeding nicely for the other events on the list. It has been agreed that the Executive Committee will meet in Turku next year and that it and the International Committee will meet in Hildesheim in 1998. The venue for the Executive Committee meeting for 1999 is still open for negotiation.

The possible co-sponsorship of a conference on occultism in Haifa during April 1998 has been proposed which could function as a special conference if Ankara isn't realized. Furthermore, a co-sponsorship or some kind of cooperation with the International Federation of Philosophical Societies at their 20th World Congress in Boston during August 1998 has also been proposed. Finally, the Japanese Association is considering hosting an international conference at an as yet unspecified date. Please watch for these events on the "Calendar of Events" in each issue of this Bulletin.

This year the IAHR held a special conference in Aarhus, Denmark on "Rationality and the Study of Religion" and a regional conference in Bogota, Columbia which includes the "VI Congreso Latinoamericano de Religión y Etnicidad". Both conferences

were held in June. The Executive Committee of the IAHR met in Aarhus to decide on a number of important issues. Further information is provided later in this report and on pages 43 & 59 below. The IAHR has also co-sponsored an international colloquium together with the International Society for Sociology of Religions and the Association for the Study of Religious Phenomenon (Florence) on "The Religious Factor and the European and World Geostrategy" in Florence, Italy. More detailed reports on these events will be published in the next issue.

The Harare proceedings of the IAHR regional conference in Harare, Sept. 1992, will be edited by James Cox, Jan Platvoet, Jacob Olupona and published in the African Association for the Study of Religion's series "Religions of Africa" (edited by David Westerlund and Jacob Olupona). The AASR will pre-subscribe copies which will be given to libraries of departments of religious studies, university libraries and other important educational institutions in Africa. A 20% discount will also be offered to individual members of the AASR. Furthermore the IAHR will pre-subscribe copies for the Executive Committee and one copy each for the national associations. A special discount price for IAHR members will also be offered.

The Beijing proceedings are still available and can be purchased from Professor Michael Pye (his address is listed at the end of this Bulletin). The proceedings will be sent free of charge to anyone wishing to review them.

Financial Matters

The IAHR funds were turned over to Professor Donald Wiebe on January 1, 1996 and the majority of the funds were placed in termed deposits. The present holdings are USD 48,643.75. There are still a number of outstandings that have not as yet been received: Australia (1995), Indonesia (1993-1995), Israel (1995), Japan (1995), Norway (1995), Quebec (1995), South Korea (1992-1995), and Sweden (1991-1992, 1994-1995). It would be greatly appreciated if these outstandings were removed as soon as possible. The call for the 1996 dues will be sent out shortly.

It was agreed by the Executive Committee to drop the idea of individual membership and to pursue instead a subscription plan. The best solution would be to work out a combined subscription plan for the Bulletin, *Numen*, and *Science of Religion Abstracts*. Since the IAHR is in need of more funding, subscriptions to the Bulletin are already being pursued. The latter not only will help generate supplementary funds, but will also help improve the poorly utilized communication lines between the IAHR and the individual members of the national affiliates.

Various suggestions for generating supplementary sources of income were raised at the General Assembly, the International Committee meetings, and the Executive Committee meetings. One idea might be that stronger associations could "adopt" associations with less financial ability. Another is that the IAHR should approach the European Union. A third that loans could be offered by national associations to the IAHR at a fixed rate for a term of years. Another alternative would be to ask for a loan from

other academic associations. It should be noted for the record that contributions to the Endowment Fund have been very few, a point noted and emphasized by the British Association during the International Committee meeting (see page 33 below). The current contributions are as follows:

<i>Country</i>	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996
Anonymous 1				300.00	
Canada (CAN1,000)					716.84
Canada (Quebec)				352.00	
Denmark	1,000.00				
Germany (DEM555)			338.57		
South Korea				200.00	
Switzerland			1,000.00		
United Kingdom	1,000.00				
USA		500.00		500.00	

News from NUMEN

The Editorial Board of *Numen* met in Mexico on August 10, 1995 and in Aarhus on June 5, 1996. The Editorial Board consists of the Executive Committee of the IAHR and two Executive Editors, namely Professor Hans Kippenberg, University of Bremen, and Professor E. Thomas Lawson, Western Michigan University at Kalamazoo. The latter are ably assisted by Dr. Brigitte Luchesi in Bremen and Dr. David Ede in Kalamazoo. Special thanks are extended to them.

It was noted that the number of individual subscriptions was relatively low. This may be due to the fact that IAHR members are unaware of the possibility of subscribing to *Numen* at a reduced rate. We therefore ask all those who are interested to contact either of the editors (see their addresses at the end of this section).

Professor Kippenberg reported that *Numen* is willing to publish manuscripts without subvention in the *Supplements to Numen* if they are delivered camera ready. Otherwise, subsidies are required.

The Editorial Board wishes to encourage a more international authorship also of the reviews. The balance is generally in favor of European and North American authors, but the IAHR regional diversification policy has resulted in a slight improvement in attracting authors from a variety of countries during the past three years. *Numen* is

the only international journal which receives a large number of articles in various languages. Several articles a year are translated into English, thus providing the authors with a wider audience, but this also causes bottlenecks.

The editors also wish to introduce more theoretical and comparative articles in *Numen* and to encourage survey articles about publications and research in areas such as Africa, Latin America, Asia, the Latin countries of Europe, and the Arabic countries. Translations of significant articles that are already published in these countries are also of interest. And the editors would like to see thematic issues develop from panels and sessions of congresses and conferences.

For further information please contact the editors at the following addresses:

Numen c/o Prof. H. G. Kippenberg, Universität Bremen, Fachbereich 9, Postfach 330440, D-28334 Bremen, Germany. Fax: +421-218-7491;

E-mail: kippen@religion.uni-bremen.de

Prof. E. T. Lawson, Department of Comparative Religion, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI 490008, USA. Fax: +616-387-3999;

E-mail: e.thomas.lawson@wmich.edu

The IAHR of the Future

During recent years, quite a number of IAHR activities have focussed directly or indirectly on how to influence and meet the challenges of the future. With the tremendous growth in the number of affiliate associations and the subsequent pluralism that this implies, attempts have been made at conferences and in publications to address the subsequent challenges in theory and methodology. Efforts have also been made to address the relationship of the history of religions to the social sciences. Efforts are currently being made to address the relationship to philosophy and the history of ideas.

Many scholars of both gender have also worked on improving the gender balance in all areas of activity, organisationally as well as scientifically. These efforts have resulted in a variety of initiatives and results, but much work still needs to be done.

But perhaps the most important area for development in the IAHR is the nourishing and encouragement of coming generations, the young men and women dedicated to the non-sectarian, academic study of religion. It is important for us to invest time and opportunity wherever possible in this our most precious resource. I would like to encourage a general campaign among all of our constituents called “The IAHR of the Future” which can serve to promote youth and provide vision for them.

The recent special conference in Aarhus introduced an idea that might prove useful as a possible standard procedure for IAHR-related conferences. The Aarhus conference was jointly hosted by the Danish Association for the History of Religions, Institute of History of Religions at the University of Copenhagen, the Department for the Study of Religion at the University of Aarhus, and the Nordic Network for Ph.D. Programs in the Study of Religion (“Nordisk Netværk for Forskeruddannelse i Religionsvidenskab”). The Nordic Network for Ph.D. Programs in the Study of Religion is direc-

ted by scholars from Denmark, Finland, Norway, and Sweden. The directors established a 3-year round of Ph.D. courses and workshops during the period of 1996-1998 in order to meet the needs of Scandinavian Ph.D. students in the study of religion (history of religions, sociology of religion, psychology of religion, Christian studies, and similar programs). During the above-mentioned period, topics in three major areas of concern were identified as themes for international conferences to which the Ph.D. workshops are attached. In the area of the philosophy of science, the topic "Rationality and the Study of Religion" was discussed at the Aarhus conference in Denmark. In the area of methodology, the topic "Methodology and the Study of Religion" will be discussed at a conference in 1997 at the Åbo Academy in Turku, Finland. In the area of theory in the study of religion, the topic "Theories of Ritual and the Study of Religion" will be discussed at a conference in 1998 at the University of Lund in Sweden.

What turned out to be a stimulating result of the Aarhus conference was its structure. It consisted of a classic two-day conference with papers read by leading authorities ending with a general discussion. The third day was reserved for morning meetings and afternoon excursions. The meetings consisted of the IAHR business meeting on the one hand and a meeting with the Ph.D. students on the other. During that meeting, the Ph.D. students worked out the schedule, under the guidance of one of the hosts, for a series of workshops on the following day. It was in other words the students themselves who decided which speakers they would like to spend two-hour sessions with. They had already received articles or chapters from books written by the various speakers beforehand and were thus prepared to spend a few qualified hours with the speakers. The students spent the rest of the Wednesday morning meeting working out the topics and questions they wanted to ask the speakers to attend to. The result was a very fruitful interaction with the students as well as with senior colleagues. All of the workshops turned out to consist of two speakers who in some way or other were in contrast. The contrasts provided the dynamism, and the students struggled first with one and then with the other, sometimes trying to resolve differences, other times simply trying to formulate exactly what the differences were about especially on a more theoretical level.

I found the approach satisfying for a number of reasons. First, we were given a chance to work out arguments and counter-arguments with esteemed colleagues. Second, the students were given the chance to become better acquainted with leading authorities in a teaching and dialogue situation. Third, the atmosphere was that of a *mutual* struggle with complex and often unresolved questions, showing the students that even for leading authorities some of the greatest questions of our discipline involve a lifetime of reflection and effort. And even then, authorities and senior scholars seldom agree on their resolution. But this is what makes the study of religion so interesting!

If other associations try out this model or have developed interesting models of their own, please feel free to write to me so that your ideas and experiences can be shared through this Bulletin.

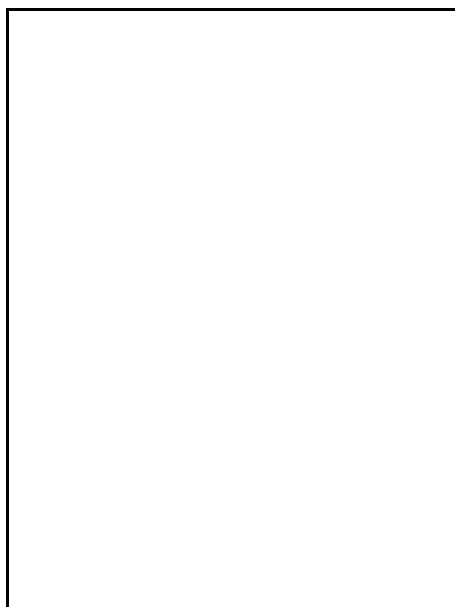
Executive Committee Profiles

This section will provide profiles of the Executive Committee members. This issue contains profiles of our President and two Vice-Presidents.

Prof. Michael Pye **President of the IAHR**

Michael Pye was born in 1939 in Shropshire, England. He grew up mainly in the cathedral city of Salisbury, in Wiltshire, being educated at nearby Dauntsey's School. From 1958 to 1961 he studied Modern Languages and Theology at Cambridge University, England, where he was an Open Scholar of Clare College. He achieved "first class honours" in both fields. He then spent five years in Japan as a teacher of English in various institutions, during which time he made a study of Japanese language and contemporary culture. One of the fruits of this period was a book entitled *The Study of Kanji*, which was the first analytic manual of the contemporary Japanese writing system for foreign students. Returning to England in 1966 he worked for a short while in teacher education at St. John's College, York. He was then appointed to a lectureship in the pioneering Department of Religious Studies at Lancaster University, under the chairmanship of Ninian Smart. Here he was able to develop his interests in Buddhist studies (especially relating to the concept of "skilful means", see publications below) and in various aspects of Japanese religion. At Lancaster he also followed a long-standing inclination to tackle methodological and theoretical questions in the study of religion. In 1973 he moved to a lectureship in Religious Studies at the University of Leeds, England, where he was awarded a Ph.D. in 1977 and a senior lectureship in 1981. At Leeds he enjoyed the advantage of a large Department of Chinese Studies in the same university and took a lead in starting up the Community Religions Project, devoted to studies of the many religions represented in Leeds and the surrounding region.

Since 1982 Michael Pye has been Professor of Religionswissenschaft at Marburg University, Germany, being a member of the Faculty of Non-European Languages and Cultures and responsible for the main courses of study in the subject leading to M.A. and Ph.D. degrees. From 1991 to 1994 he was granted leave to take up the post of Professor of Religious Studies at Lancaster University, England, as successor to Ninian Smart, during which time he was director of graduate studies in the department. In 1994 he returned definitively to his post in Marburg and expects to work there until re-



tirement and thereafter. At the same time he regards the connection with England as important for linguistic and family reasons and has arrangements to stay in Cambridge privately, when convenient.

Apart from his specialist interests in East Asian Buddhism, contemporary Japanese religions, and a number of theoretical questions in the study of religion, he is widely travelled and a keen observer of many aspects of religion and society in the modern world. His journeys have taken him to various Islamic countries, to Southern Africa, to the Americas and to various destinations in Asia. Over the years he has also had occasion to make various visits to countries of Eastern Europe and travelled to Japan by train via Siberia in 1973 and in 1979, visiting Siberia again in 1990. Having visited Japan on a number of occasions, the total time he has spent there amounts to about seven years. Current research writing is centred on the results of extensive field observations in that country.

In personal life, Michael Pye is married to Christine (*née* Roether) of Darmstadt, Germany, and they have four children who reside in various countries from time to time.

Selected publications include: *The Study of Kanji*, Hokuseido Press: Tokyo, 1971, 2nd ed. 1984; *Comparative Religion*, David and Charles: Newton Abbot, 1972; *The Cardinal Meaning. Essays in Comparative Hermeneutics: Buddhism and Christianity*, with Robert Morgan, Mouton: The Hague, 1973; *Ernst Troeltsch: Writings on Theology and Religion*, with Robert Morgan, Duckworth: London 1977; *Skilful Means, A Concept in Mahayana Buddhism*, Duckworth: London 1978; *Emerging from Meditation*, Duckworth: London, & University of Hawaii Press: Honolulu 1990; *Macmillan Dictionary of Religion*, Macmillan: London 1993. IAHR proceedings edited: *History of Religions. Proceedings of the Thirteenth Congress of the International Association for the History of Religions, Lancaster 1975*, with Peter McKenzie, Leicester 1978; *Marburg Revisited. Institutions and Strategies in the Study of Religion*, diagonal-Verlag: Marburg 1989; *Religion and Modernization in China. Proceedings of the Regional Conference of the International Association for the History of Religions held in Beijing, China, April 1992*, with Dai Kangsheng and Zhang Xinying, Roots and Branches: Cambridge 1995.

Further information (soon with a full list of publications) on internet at:
www.uni-marburg.de/~pye and www.uni-marburg.de/fb11/religionswissenschaft
Email: pye@mail.uni-marburg.de

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Tel. 0049 6421 283662, Fax 0049 6421 283944

Private: Zur Hege 11, 35041 Marburg, Germany

Tel. 0049 6421 35357 (or in Cambridge 0044 1223 355984)

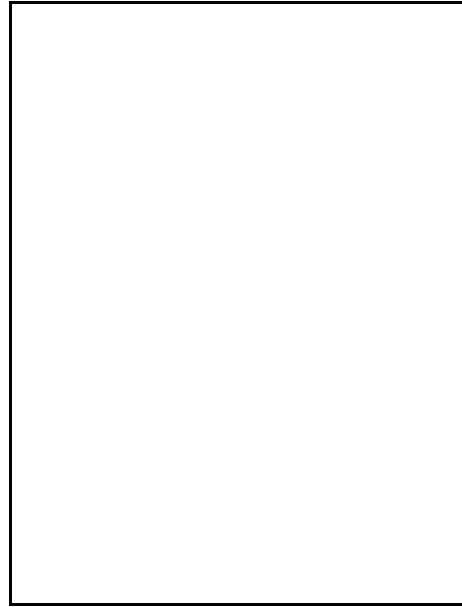
Dr. Yolotl Gonzáles Torres
Vice-President of the IAHR

Yolotl Gonzáles Torres was born in 1932 in Mexico City from parents who were medical doctors. Her father was a psychiatrist, who was a pioneer in psychoanalysis in Mexico and who helped bring Erich Fromm to Mexico. He himself was interested in the study of religion and wrote a book entitled *The Magic Thought*.

Y. González Torres entered the School of Anthropology after a short incursion at the Faculty of Medicine. After finishing the courses of Anthropology, specializing in Ethnology, she was awarded a scholarship and spent two and a half years in India. Back in Mexico she began working at the Ibero American University where she founded first a Center of Asian Studies and later the School of Social Anthropology. During these years she studied her Ph.D. in Anthropology at the National University. In 1970 she presented a paper at the XIIth International Congress of the IAHR held at Claremont, California. Upon her return to Mexico, she organized the Sociedad Mexicana de Estudios de la Religion (SMER), with some of the most famous personalities in the field of religion, especially anthropologists in Mexico. She became the Executive Secretary of the SMER, and in 1975 she attended together with Barbara Dahlgren, who was President of the Society, the XIIth International Congress in Lancaster during which SMER became officially affiliated with the IAHR.

In 1963 she entered the National Institute of Anthropology and worked for a number of years as curator of Asia at the National Museum of Cultures, moving later to the Department of Ethnology and Social Anthropology (DEAS) as a researcher. Later she became head of the Department for several years until she was appointed director of the Museo del Carmen. During this time she pursued research on the prehispanic religion of Mexico, participated in academic meetings and congresses, delivering lectures and writing articles and books on the subject. At different Americanist Congresses and of the CICAES, she has organized symposia on cosmology or religion and society. As of 1994 she returned to the DEAS as researcher.

She has written three books on Mexican religion: *El culto a los astros entre los mexicas*, (“The Worship of the Stars among the Mexicas”, SEP-Diana: México 1979), *El sacrificio humano entre los mexicas*, (“Human Sacrifice among the Mexicas”, F. C. E.: México 1985, 1994) and *Diccionario de Mitología y Religión de Mesoamérica*, (“Dictionary of Mythology and Religion in Mesomerica”, Ediciones Larousse: México 1991), and nearly 100 articles mostly on ancient Mexican culture. Among the latter



are: "La escalvitud entre los mexicas", *Estratificación social en la Mesoamérica pre-hispánica*, SEP-INAH: México, 1976, pp. 78-87; "Algunas consideraciones sobre la antropofagia en Mesoamérica", *Actes du XLII Congrès International des Américanistes*, Paris 1976, pp. 108-111; "Formas de propiedad de la tierra entre los mexicas", *Relaciones de producción y tenencia de la tierra en el México antiguo*, INAH: México, Colección Científica, Ethnología 99, 1981, pp. 71-82; "Altered States of Consciousness and Ancient Mexican Ritual Techniques", in *Shamanism: Past and Present*, edited by M. Hoppal and O. J. von Zadowsky (Fullerton: Budapest-Los Angeles 1989), pp. 349-353; and "The Revival of Mexican Religions: The Impact of Nativism", *Numen* 43 (1), 1996, pp. 1-31.

In 1990 she renewed the relationship of the SMER with the IAHR, which had been neglected because of the unstable economic situation in Mexico, and was elected a member of the Executive Committee of the IAHR at the International Congress in Rome in 1990. At that congress, Mexico was proposed as the seat of the next International Congress. She became the President of the Organizing Committee as well as President of the SMER.

During the past five years she has coordinated a study group on "Anthropology, Psychoanalysis and Religion".

In 1995 the XVIIth International Congress successfully took place in Mexico, and there she was elected Vice-President of the IAHR.

Current address:

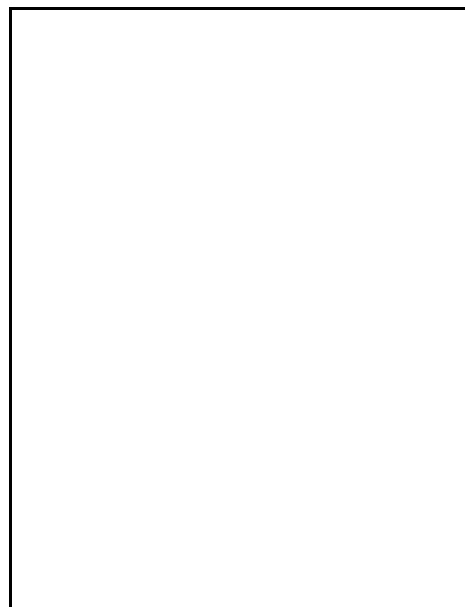
Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia, Ex-Convento el Carmen, Av. Revolución 5/IV, Deleg. Alvaro Obregon, 01000 Mexico, D.F.

Tel.: 52-56162058, fax 52-56162073 or 52-55507926

E-mail: inantrop@servidor.unam.mx

Prof. Dr. Dr. Peter Antes **Vice-President of the IAHR**

Peter Antes was born in 1942 in Mannheim, Germany. He studied Theology and the History of Religions at the University of Freiburg (1962-64), Theology, the History of Religions, and Oriental Languages at the Institut Catholique and Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes in Paris (1964-66), and Theology, the History of Religions, and Islamic Studies at the University of Freiburg (1966-68). He received the following degrees at the University of Freiburg: Dr. theol. (History of Religions) in 1970, Dr. phil.



(Islamic Studies) in 1971, and Dr. theol. habil. (History of Religions and Comparative Religion) in 1972. In 1970 he received the Preis der Wissenschaftlichen Gesellschaft Freiburg and in 1995 the Nomination as “Chevalier dans l’Ordre des Palmes académiques” (France).

Peter Antes was Assistant Professor at the University of Freiburg from 1969 to 1973 and since 1973 he has functioned as Professor and Head of the Department of the History of Religions at the University of Hannover. He has served as visiting professor at the following institutions: Ecumenical Institute of Bossey (WCC/University of Geneva), the University of Oldenburg, the Philosophisch-Theologische Hochschule St. Georgen in Frankfurt/M, the University of Hamburg, the Gesamthochschule Kassel, the Universität des Landes Hessen, and the International Christian University (I.C.U.) in Mitaka-shi, Tokyo, Japan.

Since 1974 he has been a member of the Editorial Board of *Zeitschrift für Missionswissenschaft und Religionswissenschaft (ZMR)*, and since 1987 a member of the Editorial Board of the series *Die Religionen der Menschheit* (Kohlhammer Verlag, Stuttgart), and is also on the Editorial Board of *Religioni e Società*. During 1979-1985 he served as Consultor to the Vatican Secretariat pro non-christianis.

Peter Antes served as President of the Deutsche Vereinigung für Religionsgeschichte (DVRG) from 1988 to 1993, and since then as its Vice-President. He was a member of the Executive Committee of the IAHR from 1985-1995, and since then has served as its Vice-President.

His main areas of research are the ethics of contemporary Islam, phenomenology and the psychology of religion (in particular methodological problems), and the study of world religions for schools and higher education. He has published extensively in several languages and they include: [in German] “Religion in den Theorien der Religionswissenschaft”, in *Handbuch der Fundamentaltheologie*, ed. by W. Kern, H. J. Pottmeyer and M. Seckler, vol. 1 Traktat Religion (Freiburg-Basel-Wien: Herder 1985), pp. 34-56, *Der Islam als politischer Faktor*, (Hannover: Niedersächsische Landeszentrale für Politische Bildung, 2nd enlarged ed. 1991), *Der Islam. Religion - Ethik - Politik*, together with others (Stuttgart-Berlin-Köln: W. Kohlhammer 1991), *Große Religionsstifter. Zarathustra, Moses, Jesus, Mani, Muhammad, Nānak, Buddha, Konfuzius, Lao Zi*, together with others (München: Beck 1992); [in English] “Medicine and the Living Tradition of Islam”, in *Healing and Restoring. Health and Medicine in the World’s Religious Traditions*, ed. by Lawrence E. Sullivan, (New York-London: Macmillan 1989) pp. 173-202, “Islam in Europe”, in *Religion in Europe. Contemporary Perspectives*, edited by Sean Gill, Gavin D’Costa and Ursula King (Kampen: Kok Pharos Publishing House 1994) pp. 46-67, and “Islam in Contemporary Europe”, in *The Muslim Almanac. A Reference Work on the History, Faith, Culture, and Peoples of Islam*, ed. by Azim A. Nanji, (New York-London etc.: Gale Research Inc. 1996) pp. 131-137; [in Spanish] “Los problemas actuales de la ética islámica”, in *Awrāq. Estudios sobre el mundo árabe e islámico contemporáneo XIV*, 1993, pp. 11-45 (Madrid:

Instituto de cooperación con el mundo árabe), “Las Ciencias de las Religiones como disciplina universitaria”, in *Boletín de la Sociedad Española de Ciencias de las Religiones (SECR)* [Madrid] 3, 1995, pp. 47-52, and “Los musulmanes en Alemania”, in *Comunidades islámicas en Europa*, edited by Montserrat Abumalham (Madrid: Trotta 1995), pp. 309-317; [in Italian] “Identità europea e diversità religiosa nel mutamento contemporaneo”, *Atti della Prima International Summer School on Religions in Europe, 28 agosto - 10 settembre 1994/European Identity and religious diversities in the contemporary changes. Proceedings of the 1st International Summer School on Religions in Europe, August 28th - September 10th 1994*, a cura di Peter Antes, Pietro di Marco, Arnaldo Nesti, (Firenze: Angelo Pontecorboli Editore 1995); [in French] “Approches et Traditions dans l’Histoire des Religions en Europe continentale”, in *The Notion of “Religion” in Comparative Research. Selected Proceedings of the XVI IAHR Congress of the International Association for the History of Religions, Rome, 3rd-8th September 1990*, ed. by Ugo Bianchi in collaboration with Fabio Mora and Lorenzo Bianchi (Roma: “L’ERMA” di Bretschneider 1994), pp. 641-644, and “Religion, dīn et dharma dans la perspective d’une recherche comparative”, in *The Notion of “Religion” in Comparative Research*, op. cit., pp. 763-768.

His current address is:

Seminar für Religionswissenschaft, Universität Hannover, Im Moore 21, D-30167 Hannover, Germany

Tel.: +49-511-7624027/4026, fax: +49-511-7624025



Honorary Life Member Profiles

The International Committee of the IAHR decided during its meeting in Mexico City on August 9, 1995 to honor colleagues who have distinguished themselves through life-long service to the history of religions. The status of “Honorary Life Member of the IAHR” is conferred in recognition of their scholarship and service to our discipline. Their contributions to the study of religion have brought enlightenment and inspiration, and the International Committee hoped that this small gesture of recognition will serve to encourage them in their future activities. Honorary Life Members have been listed on the editorial cover of NUMEN beginning with the first issue of 1996. We will bring news and profiles on these scholars in coming issues.

The Honorary Life Members of the IAHR are:

Professor J. Omosade Awolalu
49, Old Aye Road
P.O.Box 612
Okitipupa, Ondo State, Nigeria

Professor Lauri Honko
Department of Cultural Studies
Turku University, Henrikinkatu 3
FIN-20500 Turku, Finland

Professor Louise Bäckman
Gunnarbovägen 2B
170 65 Solna
Sweden

Professor Åke Hultkrantz
Seglarvägen 7
181 62 Lidingö
Sweden

Professor M. André Caquot
Collège de France
1, rue Monticelli
F-75014 Paris, France

Professor J. Leclant
Institut de France
23, Quai de Conti
75270 Paris Cedex 06, France

Professor Carsten Colpe
Religionsgeschichte, Freien Universität
Schützallee 112
D-14169 Berlin, Germany

Professor Manuel Marzal
Comunidad de Ntra. fra. de los De-
samparados, Recuay 160 - Breña 05
Apartado 0040, Lima, Peru

Professor, Director Kong Fan
International Confucian Association
No. A-24 Xiao Shi Qiao
Jiu Gu Lou Street, 100009 Beijing
China

Professor Tamaru Noriyoshi
Ota-ku Denenchofu 5-3-4
145 Tokyo, Japan

Professor G. C. Oosthuizen
2 Jamieson Drive
Westville
3630 South Africa

Professor Ninian Smart
Department of Religious Studies
University of California
Santa Barbara, CA, USA 93106-3130

Professor Julien Ries
Centre d'Histoire des Religions
(A.S.B.L.)
Université de Louvain-la-Neuve
B-5020 Namur-Suarlee, Belgium

Professor Jacques Waardenburg
Université de Lausanne
BFSH 2, CH-1015 Lausanne
Switzerland

Professor Kurt Rudolph
FG Religionswissenschaft
Philipps-Universität, Am Plan 3
D-35037 Marburg, Germany

Professor R. J. Zwi Werblowsky
Department of Comparative Religion
The Hebrew University
Mount Scopus, Jerusalem 91905, Israel

Professor Annemarie Schimmel
Lennéstrasse 42
53113 Bonn
Germany

†Professor Geo Widengren
Karlavägen 95
S-11522 Stockholm
Sweden

Professor Eric Sharpe
Department of Religious Studies
University of Sydney
NSW 2006 Australia

Tragically, only a few days after receiving the letter confirming Honorary Life Member status, Professor Geo Widengren passed away. We extend our deepest sympathies to his wife Aina Elisabeth. The following obituary was written by Professor Jan Hjärpe.

Obituary: Geo Widengren

(April 24, 1907 - January 28, 1996)

by Jan Hjärpe, University of Uppsala

Geo Widengren began his studies at Stockholm's Högskola in 1926. Already at that time he was influenced by Tor Andrae, who, more than anyone else, would be his tutor and source of inspiration. Geo Widengren acquired his degrees very quickly: Fil. Lic. at Stockholm's Högskola in 1934 and Teol. Lic. the same year at the University of Uppsala. Following his studies at the University of Copenhagen in 1936, he defended his doctoral thesis *The Accadian and Hebrew Psalms of Lamentation*. His theological (or as he preferred to call them "religionsvetenskapliga") studies combined two areas of research: the History of Religions (Religionswissenschaft) and Old Testament exegesis. For Widengren the science of religion was based on historical research in a search for origin and coherence of religious phenomena and worlds of thought in the history of ideas. His attention was towards the past. More recent texts and phenomena had to be understood in terms of earlier ones; the biblical texts reflected the religious ideas of the Near East, as they could be understood through the cuneiform texts. Geo Widengren's research was characterized by the focus on the history of ideas, an emphasis on textual studies, and analyses based on a thorough knowledge of the languages in question.

Widengren succeeded his teacher Tor Andrae as Professor in the History and Psychology of Religions in 1940, just 33 years old. He once related the story of a conversation between two older colleagues. "What is your opinion of the young Professor Widengren?" asked one of the colleagues to which the other replied, "I am sceptical. The man wears a blazer!" This is suggestive of the fact that Widengren never identified with the role model of the typical university professor. It is beyond doubt that research had his first priority as the foundation for all his other duties at the university. His second priority was to encourage talented students in their research. To tell the truth, he did not take much interest in the rest of the students.

Widengren's list of publications is very large, including both solid monographs and easy to read popular writings. His motto was *nulla dies sine linea*, and thereby he lived. A list of publications can be found in the festschrift *Historia religionum*, dedicated to him on his retirement in 1973. However it is not complete since he continued his work as emeritus.

One can sketch a few patterns in Widengren's research. His main interest was the religions of the Middle East from the oldest written testimonies to Islam's early development. A special interest--due to Tor Andrae--was the study of gnosticism. He studied and traced its origin, terminology and worldview, and encouraged students on all levels from freshmen to Ph.D. students to study it. He found the common denominator of both traditions in the Iranian religious milieu. There was a close but at the same time tense relationship to the neighboring fields of Semitic and Iranian studies, represented

by scholars such as H. S. Nyberg and Stig Wikander. Already in 1938 Widengren wrote *Hochgottglaube im alten Iran*, and a whole series of studies on the subject led to the book *Mani und der Manikäismus* (1961) and his pioneering work *Feudalismus im alten Iran* (1969). He devoted his last years to an encompassing work on Iranian history up to the time of the Islamic conquest. Part of this work is finished and ready for publication.

Scientific work is based on discussion, even polemics, between different perspectives and different theoretical and methodological positions. Central problems are given different priorities by different scholars. A substantial part of Widengren's work was devoted to such issues. Following Tor Andrae, Widengren rejected the evolutionist theories of the older History of Religion, and its conception of religion (in the singular) developing from primitive animatism, through animism and polytheism, toward an elevated and spiritualized monotheism. The short work *Religionens ursprung* ("The Origin of Religion", 1946, 1963) is a programmatic statement concerning this issue primarily directed at Martin P. Nilsson and his work *Geschichte der griechischen Religion*. In this work Widengren develops a rudimentary methodology - an alternative to the evolutionism of former research. This issue is also treated in his biography of Tor Andrae (1947) and is stringently demonstrated in his handbook of the phenomenology of religion, *Religionens värld* ("The World of Religion", 1945, 1953, 1971). The latter became the basis of his monumental work *Religionsphänomenologie*, published in 1969 and translated into both Spanish (1976) and Italian (1984).

Widengren found that an interpretative or heuristic pattern could be applied in the study of the Near Eastern divine kingship. The cosmological beliefs, rituals, myths and categorizations determine the metaphors in the religious language as it functions even today. He demonstrated its role in the biblical texts and its influence in literature today. Enlightening examples of how Widengren exploits this "patternism" can be found in *The Ascension of the Apostle and the Heavenly Book* (1950), *Sakrales Königtum im alten Testament und im Judentum* (1955) and in *Muhammad, the Apostle of God* (1955). Of special interest is his analysis of the so-called *isrâ'*- and *mi'râj*-legends concerning Muhammad's "nightly journey", ascension to heaven and descent to hell (an "original" to Dante's *Divina Commedia*). In these narrative structures and the elements on which they are built, he demonstrated the residuals of the Near Eastern ideology of the king, including its ritual and mythical expressions.

Geo Widengren's great scientific production and his reputation as a scientist was recognized through five honorary doctorates, membership of a large number of scientific societies, and countless invitations as guest professor and lecturer. Among his personal characteristics were integrity and courage, both physical (volunteer in Finland 1940) and civil courage. For his students he was both a demanding and generous counsellor. It happened now and then that students were given tasks that they were not yet competent for. But once he had accepted a Ph.D. student, no matter how green he might be, Geo Widengren treated him like a colleague.

IAHR Announcements

Rules and Procedures for IAHR Special and Regional Conferences

The IAHR holds a world congress every five years. In between the five year congresses, the IAHR sponsors at least one conference a year during which the officers of the Executive Committee can hold annual business meetings and the International Committee can meet (usually) triennially. Because the IAHR has increased its membership considerably, there is a growing wish among member societies to hold IAHR-sponsored events. Therefore, the IAHR Executive Committee decided during its meeting in Mexico City to try to sponsor as a rule two conferences every year.

A special conference usually focusses on a *special theme* with participation by local scholars and a number of invited scholars from other countries. A regional conference usually focusses on a broader theme with participation by scholars from a particular *region* (for instance Scandinavia, Latin America, Africa, etc.).

IAHR-sponsored events are hosted and run by one or more national societies of the IAHR. The right to use the IAHR-designation involves a number of conditions depending on the country and the event. But for all IAHR events, it is required that attempts are made by the hosting association to cover the travel and living expenses of at least two key people from countries with weak currencies. Such people are usually members of the IAHR Executive Committee or are executives of an IAHR national society. Any participating representative of the IAHR should be allowed time to speak about the IAHR and its activities.

It is further recommended that wherever possible attention be paid to gender balance in terms of speakers as well as of participants.

It is also required that the General Secretary be kept informed about developments and provided with conference programs and the address list of the participants. If possible, 12 free copies of any publications resulting from the event should also be provided as well.

If the Executive Committee decides to hold its annual meeting during the event, there will be the need to coordinate this part of the program with the General Secretary. Other conditions are subject to negotiation.

In return, the IAHR-sponsored conference organizers can expect an IAHR presence (at least one or two Executive Committee members), coverage of the event in the *IAHR Bulletin*, possible access to IAHR avenues of publication such as *Numen* and *Supplements to Numen*, and, in cases where the hosting country has currency problems, publication subsidy in one form or another. Furthermore, publication of the proceedings must be consistent with the IAHR congress publication policy.

Rules and Procedures for IAHR Co-sponsored Conferences

IAHR co-sponsorship involves sponsoring conferences arranged by a society outside the membership of the IAHR. In order to obtain IAHR co-sponsorship, it is required that one of the members of the Executive Committee proposes the sponsorship and will normally take active part in the event. Proposals from affiliated associations can also be accepted. It is required that at least one more international academic association is also a co-sponsor and that participants are from not less than 3 different countries. Furthermore, attempts should be made by the hosting association to cover the travel and living expenses of at least two key people from countries with weak currencies and that the expenses of the IAHR representative also be covered. The representative of the IAHR should be allowed time to speak about the IAHR and its activities. It is further recommended that wherever possible attention be paid to gender balance in terms of speakers as well as of participants.

It is also required that the General Secretary of the IAHR is kept informed about developments and is provided with conference programs and the address list of the participants. 12 free copies of any publications resulting from the event should also be provided the General Secretary.

In return, the IAHR co-sponsored conference organizers can expect coverage of the event in the IAHR Bulletin, possible access to IAHR avenues of publication such as NUMEN and Supplements to NUMEN, and, in cases where the hosting country has currency problems, publication subsidy in one form or another.



Announcement from the *Science of Religion* Editor

To the Presidents and Secretaries of the IAHR Affiliates

January 1996

Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to you as Editor of the bibliographical journal *Science of Religion* (SOR) which is published by Roots and Branches, Cambridge, England. This journal has had a long-standing relationship with the IAHR, and I hope that in the future this relationship can be strengthened. Beginning with 1996 there will be some practical changes to this journal which I would like to tell you about.

First, after many years of service, Drs. Remmelt Bakker (the Netherlands), having retired from the Free University of Amsterdam, is now withdrawing from the joint editorship of SOR. We wish him many years of stress-free retirement. In spite of this change he has expressed readiness to continue with contributions to SOR in his areas of interest, and this will be of great benefit to us.

For technical and economical reasons SOR will appear from 1996 onwards twice each year instead of four times. *The number of articles listed will not be less, and may be more.* This will have the following advantages:

- the rhythm of publication will be maintained more consistently (as during the Amsterdam years)
- each issue will contain its own complete index for double the number of articles
- each issue will contain the list of journals consulted
- it will be easier to look things up
- the image of the discipline in each issue will be more substantial and thereby more clear

The last point will be of particular interest, I believe, to those who take the trouble to hold office in associations affiliated to the IAHR. As Editor of SOR I am planning to give greater prominence to such associations. This will be done by listing with particular prominence those journals which are published by, or on behalf of, associations affiliated to the IAHR. If you have such a journal, the list will also include the name of your association just after it. I hope you will find this acceptable. The effect will be to make the work in your country even better known, especially in other countries to which SOR is sent.

As to languages, the summaries published in SOR are always in English. (Up until 1975 they were always in Dutch.) However, the titles of the journals, and of the articles, are always given in the original languages. Starting with 1996, I would like to give an English translation of the title of the IAHR-related journals and of their associations in the list of journals consulted. Evidently, I would like to receive your agree-

ment on the correct form for this.

Currently there seem to be about 14 journals (including *Numen* which is the official journal of the IAHR itself) which have a formal relationship with an IAHR related association. It may be that in your country this is not regarded as necessary. No problem! There is no obligation in this regard. As president or secretary in your country, however, you may wish to consider your position in this respect. It may be that you currently publish a "bulletin" which is rather substantial, and which you wish to upgrade to journal status. What would this mean? As far as the SOR is concerned we publish summaries of academic (scientific) papers, which are more or less substantial. If you are used to publishing one or two of these in your bulletin, then it would be desirable to regard it as a "journal" for our purposes.

Since this letter contains various questions to which I would very greatly value your response, I am taking the liberty of enclosing a questionnaire. You may need some time to consult with your colleagues. However it would be very helpful to receive a response as soon as possible.

Finally, if you are not familiar with the SOR please let me know, and I will arrange to send you a specimen copy. For bibliographical purposes a regular exchange arrangement is desirable.

With all best wishes,
Professor Michael Pye

(Subscriptions: Roots and Branches, 51 Searle Street, Cambridge CB4 3DB, England)
(Editorial correspondence: Prof. Michael Pye, Zur Hege 11, 35041 Marburg, Germany)

(At this juncture, the General Secretary would like to invite the editors of the IAHR-related journals to send any advertisements or announcements they may have about their journals to me for publication in this Bulletin. Beginning with the winter issues of SOR and this Bulletin, we are planning to distribute the two together. Therefore, we urge those who are interested in subscribing to both to please contact me. The most convenient way would be to fill out the membership form on page 62 below and send it to me. Information on subscriptions to SOR are found on page 28 below.)



Science of Religion Questionnaire

- 1) Name of the association in original language:
- 2) Name of the association in English:
- 3) Does the English translation of this name have official status?
- 4) Does the English translation of this name represent the original *precisely*?
- 5) Does your association publish or sponsor a journal which includes substantial articles about the study of religion? If so, continue with question 6. If not, proceed to question 12.
- 6) What is the title of the journal (i.e. in the original language):
- 7) Please give an English translation of the title:
- 8) Does this English translation of the title have official status?
- 9) Does this English translation of the title reflect the original *precisely*?
- 10) What is the ISSN number of the journal?
- 11) Can you please arrange to send the journal regularly to SOR? (This is essential for correct bibliographical procedures to be maintained. Exchange agreements are possible.)
- 12) If you have a regular publication which is not currently of "journal" status, would you like to be considered for abstracting in SOR? If so, please name the bulletin, etc.:

(Separate correspondence will follow on this point as appropriate.)

The purpose of these inquiries is to get a stable picture, from year to year, of the research about religion considered to be important by the member associations of the IAHR. Of course, the SOR will continue to publish summaries from other journals as well, some of which are very prominent in the field. At the same time, the bibliographical picture will be sharpened starting from 1996. Please return this form to the *editorial* address given above (page 26). Thank you for your kind cooperation.

Science of Religion Subscriptions

Science of Religion is a bibliographical journal containing abstracts and indexes for the study of religion. It has been published in English since 1976, under the joint editorship of Remmelt Bakker (Amsterdam, now retired) and Michael Pye (Marburg). So far 13,483 abstracts have been published. There has long been a close association with the IAHR, and from 1996 special prominence will be given to journals identified with the IAHR affiliate associations in various countries. This means that Science of Religion will play an increasingly important role in helping to identify the study of religion as an internationally established discipline.

Starting from 1996 (Volume 21) the journal will appear twice yearly in enlarged format. Current subscription rates, including postage, remain at:

Pounds Sterling (drawn on a UK bank)	33.00
US Dollars (drawn on a US bank)	49.00

For new subscribers. Your cheque or draft should be drawn on a bank as shown above to avoid extra charges. Make your cheque payable to “Roots and Branches” and send it to:

Roots and Branches (SOR), 51 Searle Street, Cambridge, Cambridge CB4 3DB,
England

Please do **not** make your cheque out to Science of Religion. After initiating your subscription you will receive an invoice in future years. Be sure to indicate subscriber's name and address!

Back issues. Back issues are available in almost complete sets. There is also an Integrated Index for Volumes 1-18 (12136 items). Inquiries to Roots and Branches at the above address.



IAHR Proceedings

Professor Michael Pye has sent us the following list of proceedings. Although the proceedings of IAHR Congresses and other conferences are published in various quarters, they represent together a significant documentation of the development of the association and of the subject. Once out of print the volumes are very difficult to obtain. Libraries may therefore be interested in this checklist.

The following is a complete list of postwar conferences showing current availability of proceedings in brief. (C) indicates a quinquennial Congress. (R) indicates a Regional Conference. (S) indicates a Special Conference.

Amsterdam	(C)	1950	
Rome	(C)	1955	
Tokyo	(R)	1958	
Marburg	(C)	1960	
Claremont	(C)	1965	
Stockholm	(C)	1970	
Turku	(R)	1973	Mouton de Gruyter, Berlin
Lancaster	(C)	1975	Limited availability (IAHR/MP)
Warsaw	(R)	1979	Limited availability (IAHR/MP)
Winnipeg	(C)	1980	Out of print
Sydney	(C)	1985	State Publishers, Australia
Marburg	(S)	1987	Diagonal Verlag, Marburg
Groningen	(R)	1988	Diagonal Verlag, Marburg
Warsaw	(S)	1989	Limited availability (IAHR/MP)
Helsinki	(R)	1990	Akadémiai Kiadó, Budapest
Rome	(C)	1990	(1) "l'Erma" di Bretschneider, Rome (2) (Mithras symposium) ditto
Burlington	(S)	1991	Mouton de Gruyter, Berlin
Beijing	(R)	1992	Roots and Branches, Cambridge
Harare	(R)	1992	Forthcoming
Brno	(S)	1994	Forthcoming
Mexico	(C)	1995	Forthcoming

Addresses of publishers:

Akadémiai Kiadó, P.O.Box 245, H-1519 Budapest, Hungary

Diagonal Verlag, Cappeler Strasse 11, Postfach 1248, D-35039 Marburg, Germany

"l'Erma" di Bretschneider, Via Cassiodoro 19, Rome, Italy

Mouton de Gruyter, Genthiner Strasse 13, Postfach 303421, D-10785 Berlin, Germany

Roots and Branches, 51 Searle Street, Cambridge CB4 3DB, England

IAHR Events

International Committee

Minutes of the Meeting

August 9, 1995

[to be approved at the next International Committee meeting]

Professor R. J. Zwi Werblowsky presided as Vice-President for points 1-8. Professor Werblowsky gave a prologue clarifying the position of the International Committee as the main democratically elected body of the IAHR. He furthermore announced that organizations whose membership was under consideration for the coming General Assembly on August 12th were invited to sit in at this meeting as observers.

1) Membership: (i) ascertainment of membership

Professor Michael Pye read the names of those present: Prof. Trompf & Prof. Joy for Australia; none for Belgium/Luxemburg; Prof. Paper for Canada; none for China; Dr. Horyna & Dr. Papousek for the Czech Republic; Dr. Rothstein & Ms. Christensen for Denmark; Dr. Ahlbäck & Dr. Helve for Finland; Prof. Meslins for France; Prof. Kippenberg & Dr. Luchesi for Germany; Dr. Lovász for Hungary; none for Indonesia; none for Israel; Prof. Scialpi & Prof. Carozzi for Italy; Prof. Hase & Prof. Kanai for Japan; Sister Kim & Prof. Yoon for South Korea; Prof. Masferrer & Prof. Lagarriga for Latin America; Dr. Presiado & Dr. Ascobereeta for Mexico; Dr. ter Haar & Dr. Snoek for the Netherlands; none for Nigeria; Dr. Thomassen for Norway; Prof. Szmyd for Poland; Dr. Gardaz for Quebec; none for Russia; Dr. Naidoo & Prof. Oosthuizen for Southern Africa; Prof. Bergman & Prof. Westerlund for Sweden; Prof. Waardenburg for Switzerland; Prof. Bocking & Dr. Knott for the United Kingdom; Prof. Lease & Prof. Martin for the USA.

Professor Pye read the following statement written by the presidents of the American Society for the Study of Religion (ASSR) and the North American Association for the Study of Religion (NAASR):

Following the Canadian initiative at the last meeting of the International Committee in Paris, correspondence and conversations have indicated that the affiliation of the American Society for the Study of Religion (ASSR) should now lapse. The reason for this is that the ASSR prefers to keep a very strict limitation on its membership which is clearly contrary to the IAHR constitution, Article 1.

Professor Larry Sullivan asked to have brought to the minutes that he protests against this move on the grounds that the ASSR membership had not been consulted. The representative for ASSR, Professor Gary Lease, pointed out that ASSR discussed formally, officially, and in full accordance with its regulations the proposed suspension of IAHR affiliation at two different annual meetings/business meetings (April 1994 in Williamsburg, Virginia and April 1995 in Santa Cruz, California) which, according to ASSR regulations, are the proper fora for such discussions to take place. At both

meetings the discussion had been firmly and virtually unanimous that the Association should not surrender its membership selection procedures, and that it should accept suspension of IAHR affiliation if that had to be.

This statement by the Presidents of ASSR and NAASR was noted and approved by the International Committee by an overwhelming majority show of hands. The voting rights for the United States of America (two votes) therefore fell to the North American Association for the Study of Religion.

Professor Pye then noted which members of the Executive Committee were in attendance: Prof. Antes, Prof. Araki, Prof. Geertz, Dr. González, Prof. Pye, Prof. Sullivan, Prof. Werblowsky, and Prof. Wiebe.

A motion was proposed to consider Professor Olupona as the representative of Nigeria, but after a debate about procedure, it was agreed that he was welcome to attend as an observer on behalf of the African Association for the Study of Religions, whose affiliation was anticipated.

Observers were duly noted from 3 associations not yet affiliated: Prof. Olupona & Prof. Hackett (African Association for the Study of Religions); Prof. Trebollé & Prof. Abumalham (Spain); and Prof. Jha (India).

Two assistants were noted without observer status: Dr. Dolevola (Czech Republic) and Dr. Arkanni (Latin America).

It was proposed by Professor Sullivan that the observers present should be given speaking rights. This was carried with 24 votes in favor, 10 against, 11 abstentions.

Membership: (ii) co-option as recommended by the Executive Committee.

Professor Pye recommended on behalf of the Executive Committee the co-option of the two editors of *Numen*. Since one of the editors, Professor Kippenberg already was a member of the International Committee, this recommendation concerned Professor Lawson only. This recommendation was agreed upon.

2) Procedures: (i) adoption of general rules for meetings as held by UNESCO and/or UNO

Professor Werblowsky explained the chair rules: abstentions do not count and in the case of a tie, the chair has the casting vote.

Procedures: (ii) adoption of procedures for election of the Executive Committee

Professor Werblowsky described the nominating procedure as set up by the constitution (Article 4.c):

A Nominating Committee, appointed by the Executive Committee, shall submit nominations for the next Executive Committee to the members of the International Committee by mail not more than twelve months and not less than nine months

prior to each international congress. Members of the International Committee may propose alternative nominations not less than one month prior to each international congress. The International Committee at its meeting just preceding the General Assembly, shall elect the Executive Committee and shall report this to the General Assembly.

Professor Werblowsky explained that the Nominating Committee is composed of elder statesmen who no longer seek office. The constraints concerning those who are eligible for election are put forward in Article 4.c: a member may not serve in the same office for more than two terms; not more than two-thirds of the committee (8 members) may be carried forward from one term to the next; and members of the committee should be chosen in such a way as reasonably to reflect various parts of the world where the academic study of religion is pursued. Two further considerations were made known to the Nominating Committee on the recommendation of the International Committee. First, that the International Committee desired improving the gender balance on the Executive Committee, and, second, that it was formally agreed at the International Committee meeting in Rome (1990) and recalled for the minutes in Paris (1993) that nominees for the Executive Committee should be actively in post at a university or a comparable institution at the time of the election.

The Committee for this round of elections consisted of Professor T. Lawson (USA), Professor L. Honko (Finland), and Professor N. Tamaru (Japan). They presented their list of nominees on September 30, 1994 in full accordance with the above-mentioned guidelines, and the list was duly published in the Congress Bulletin.

As noted in the Constitution, alternative nominations can also be put forward “not less than one month prior to each international congress”, which traditionally means one month before the day prior to the opening of the congress, or, in this case, July 4, 1995. This condition was published prominently in a number of IAHR Bulletins during 1994 and 1995. Four alternative nomination lists were received by Professor Pye in accordance with this rule.

Professor Pye provided in the Congress Bulletin copies of the four letters of alternative nominations, an additional letter which arrived too late, as well as a total list of the nominees that were nominated on time. Professor Werblowsky invited the International Committee to compare the list with the nominated candidates. A question was raised by Professor Araki, supported by Professor Sullivan, about whether sufficient consideration had been paid in the Nominating Committee to Professor Tamaru’s recommendations for nominations to the Executive Committee. Professor Lawson, coordinator of the Nominating Committee, responded by confirming the fact that sufficient consideration had been given to these recommendations. After a discussion of these matters, a motion was made to proceed to the next item of business. The motion was carried by show of hands: 37 for, 7 against, 1 abstention.

3) *Minutes of previous meeting (circulated in advance).*

A motion was proposed and seconded calling for an adoption of the minutes. The minutes were adopted by an overwhelming majority show of hands.

4) *Matters arising from the minutes.*

Professor Werblowsky thanked Professor Pye for his handling of the whole issue of the proposed change of the name of the IAHR. He commended him for remaining meticulously neutral throughout the debate and for conscientiously carrying out the procedures as stipulated by the General Assembly in Rome and the International Committee in Paris.

5) *Report by the General Secretary (circulated in advance).*

A motion was proposed and seconded calling for adoption of the report. The report was adopted by an overwhelming majority show of hands.

6) *Report by the Treasurer (circulated in advance).*

Professor Olupona announced that he would contribute \$100 for the annual dues of the Nigerian Association. Professor Bocking stated that at its last meeting in April 1995, the British Association for the Study of Religion (BASR) agreed to make a further donation to the IAHR Endowment Fund. The condition attaching is that before this further donation is made, the BASR wishes to see some activity, particularly on the part of the wealthier countries, in respect of contributions to the Fund. A further donation by the BASR would be subject to the approval of its members at their annual general assembly.

A motion was proposed and seconded calling for adoption of the report. The report was adopted by an overwhelming majority show of hands.

7) *Additional matters of report by the Executive Committee: Current arrangements for Numen.*

Professor Pye reported on the contract agreement between the IAHR and the publishers E. J. Brill of Leiden concerning the editorial conditions of Numen. The Executive Committee has furthermore agreed on the following procedure: each Executive Editor should in the future serve for a maximum of 2 five year periods, thus following the same rules which apply for the officers of the IAHR. A new appointment should be made every five years at a point one or two years before the main international congress. Professor Kippenberg had been reappointed (in 1994) for the period 1995-2000. It is to be anticipated that appointments made in 1998 or 1999, but to run for five years from 2000, would include Professor Lawson and a new editor. The reviews section would normally be handled under the direction of the editor in a second term, as is currently the case. It was also agreed that the in-coming editor at 2000 should provide the mailing address for the journal.

A motion was proposed and seconded calling for adoption of the report. The re-

port was adopted by an overwhelming majority show of hands.

8) *Election of the new Executive Committee.*

As announced in the Congress Bulletin, the election was to take place by secret ballot in two steps: (1) election of officers, and (2) election of other members.

The following nominations had been duly received by July 4, 1995:

(1) officers:

for President: Prof. Ursula King (United Kingdom)

Prof. Michael Pye (Germany)

for Vice-President (two positions):

Prof. Peter Antes (Germany)

Dr. Yolotl González Torres (Mexico)

for General Secretary:

Prof. Armin W. Geertz (Denmark)

for Deputy General Secretary:

Prof. Rosalind Hackett (USA)

for Treasurer: Prof. Donald Wiebe (Canada)

Professor Werblowsky moved that those whose candidacy is unopposed should be declared “elected unopposed”. The motion was seconded and passed by an overwhelming majority show of hands. Prof. Antes and Dr. González were thereby elected as Vice-Presidents, Prof. Geertz as General Secretary, Prof. Hackett as Deputy General Secretary, and Prof. Wiebe as Treasurer.

(2) other members (six to be elected):

Prof. Michio Araki (Japan)

Prof. Giulia Gasparro (Italy)

Dr. Helena Helve (Finland)

Prof. Ursula King (United Kingdom)

Prof. Elio Masferrer Kan (Mexico)

Prof. Jacob Olupona (USA)

Prof. Jordan Paper (Canada)

Dr. Abdulkader Tayob (South Africa)

Dr. Gerrie ter Haar (Netherlands)

Dr. ter Haar suggested that in the future, the candidates should present themselves. Upon Professor Araki’s request, the countries of each of the candidates were read by Professor Pye. Professor Werblowsky suggested that in the future, the letters of nominations should contain justifications for those nominations. Dr. Knott suggested that the nominating committee should include two lists. No binding action was taken over these suggestions.

The secret ballot was then carried out in two stages. Tellers were Ms. Dorthe Refslund Christensen and Professor Werblowsky. The results of the ballot for the office of president were as follows:

Prof. Ursula King (10 votes)

Prof. Michael Pye (35 votes)

Professor Pye was thereby elected as President. Professor King's candidacy for ordinary membership of the committee in the second ballot was therefore upheld.

The results of the ballot for the six further places on the Executive Committee were as follows:

Prof. Michio Araki (26 votes)

Prof. Giulia Gasparro (37 votes)

Dr. Helena Helve (38 votes)

Prof. Ursula King (21 votes)

Prof. Elio Masferrer Kan (14 votes)

Prof. Jacob Olupona (32 votes)

Prof. Jordan Paper (22 votes)

Dr. Abdulkader Tayob (32 votes)

Dr. Gerrie ter Haar (32 votes)

Prof. Araki, Prof. Gasparro, Dr. Helve, Prof. Olupona, Dr. Tayob, and Dr. ter Haar were thereby elected.

A motion was seconded and passed by an overwhelming majority show of hands for a vote of thanks to Professor Werblowsky for his work during this meeting and for his contribution of many years service to the IAHR.

As had been previously arranged by the Executive Committee an incoming Vice-President was to preside for the rest of the meeting. After consultation between the two incoming Vice-Presidents, it was agreed that Professor Peter Antes would preside for the remaining points on the agenda.

9) *Recommendation from the Executive Committee on individual (corresponding) memberships of the IAHR.*

As noted in the Congress Bulletin, a proposal was presented during the Executive Committee meeting at Brno in 1994 concerning this recommendation. The main reasons for introducing an individual "add-on" or "corresponding" membership of the IAHR are that there is a growing interest in the flow of information carried by the association and that a reasonable subscription could help to make the production of the IAHR Bulletin economically self-sufficient. A motion was seconded and passed by a unanimous show of hands to approve the setting up of such arrangements in principle as long as they do not receive voting rights. The details of the recommendation were

left to the incoming Executive Committee.

10) Proposals for honorary life membership of the IAHR.

As noted in the Congress Bulletin, a proposal had been presented during the Executive Committee meeting at Brno in 1994 concerning this recommendation. Professor Pye explained that honorary life memberships might be conferred on senior scholars who have distinguished themselves through life-long service to the history of religions through their scholarship, regular participation in IAHR conferences, service as national or international officers, and/or other outstanding contributions. Such memberships would help to designate the range of interests current in the IAHR and would provide a wide circle of consultants in relation to IAHR-related activities. Honorary life members would be listed on the editorial cover of *Numen* and receive the IAHR Bulletin free of charge.

This recommendation was seconded and approved by an overwhelming majority show of hands. The following scholars were proposed as Honorary Life Members:

J. O. Awolalu (Ibadan); A. Caquot (Paris); C. Colpe (Berlin); L. Honko (Turku); A. Hultkrantz (Stockholm); Kong Fan (Beijing); J. Leclant (Paris); M. Marzal (Lima); G. C. Oosthuizen (Durban); J. Ries (Namur-Suarlee); K. Rudolph (Marburg); A. Schimmel (Cambridge USA); E. Sharpe (Sydney); N. Smart (Santa Barbara); N. Tamaru (Tokyo); J. Waardenburg (Lausanne); and R. J. Z. Werblowsky (Jerusalem).

This list was overwhelmingly approved by show of hands and Professor Antes presiding expressed congratulations to the above-named on behalf of the International Committee.

11) Recommendation of new affiliations.

The following new affiliations had been recommended in Paris: African Association for the Study of Religions (regional association), and national associations in India, Spain (not a new request as incorrectly listed in the Congress Bulletin), and Ukraine. New recommendations were now proposed for Cuba and New Zealand, but since no written requests had as yet been submitted, no action was taken on them.

12) Recommendations for adjustments to the wording of the Constitution in the event of (a) a change of the name (b) agreement on the setting up of individual memberships.

The first recommendation "a" for adjustment to the wording of the Constitution in the event of a change of the name of the IAHR by the General Assembly was accepted by show of hands as follows: 42 for, 0 against, 3 abstentions. The second recommendation "b" for adjustment to the wording of the Constitution in the event of the setting up

of individual membership led to a debate concerning the pros and cons of individual membership. As a result of the action taken in point 9, a motion was seconded and approved by an overwhelming majority show of hands to shelve the recommendation until the next International Committee meeting.

13) Future conference locations.

The following locations had been suggested as venues for the international congress in the year 2000: Cape Town, Copenhagen, Jerusalem, Leiden, and Yogyakarta. At this point, Durban was also suggested. The delegates from the Netherlands reported that Leiden was not actively pursuing its candidacy. Professor Werblowsky strongly advised that Jerusalem not be the venue especially during the year that the whole Christian world would be celebrating the end of its second millennium. Professor Naidoo did not think that Cape Town was a viable venue since most of the meetings of the Southern African association were held in Durban. The Danish representatives asked for the venue among other things because it would coincide with the 100th anniversary of the history of religions in Denmark.

It was unanimously agreed that the incoming Executive Committee should pursue South Africa (most likely Durban) with Copenhagen as a second priority, and that it should report on the matter within 12 months.

The following locations had been suggested as venues for other IAHR-related conferences: Ankara, Imatra (agreed in principle for 1996), and Hildesheim. Dr. Ahlbäck noted that the Finnish Association did not officially support the proposed Imatra conference. Professor Waardenburg suggested that Professor Azim Nanji should be contacted for help in holding a conference in a Muslim country. He recommended that it follow the model of the Beijing conference with 40-50 participants. It was unanimously agreed that the incoming Executive Committee make appropriate arrangements.

14) Any other business.

Professor Kippenberg announced that the German Association will be holding a conference in Bonn during October 1995 during which it will host a meeting of the officers of the European associations concerning the proposed establishment of a European Association for the Academic Study of Religion.

Professor Antes concluded the meeting by thanking the outgoing Executive Committee and its officers for the past five years.

(Minutes by Armin W. Geertz)

International Committee
Minutes of an Additional Meeting
August 12, 1995

[to be approved at the next International Committee meeting]

1) Membership (by show of hands).

Professor Werblowsky presided. 32 members were counted as present.

2) Recommendation of new affiliations.

Professor Pye apologized for forgetting that he had indeed received a letter of request for affiliation by New Zealand. He also presented a letter delivered during the congress by representatives from Cuba requesting affiliation. Both requests were carried by a unanimous show of hands and would therefore be presented at the General Assembly.

3) Additional proposals for honorary life memberships.

Two additional names were proposed, namely: Prof. L. Bäckmann (Stockholm) and Prof. G. Widengren (Uppsala). These proposals were approved unanimously by show of hands, and congratulations were expressed by Professor Werblowsky to the named on behalf of the International Committee.

(Minutes by Armin W. Geertz)



General Assembly
Minutes of the Meeting
August 12, 1995

[approved on June 5, 1996 by the Executive Committee]

(A) Presiding: Professor Werblowsky (as outgoing Vice-President).

1) Opening remarks.

Professor Werblowsky began the meeting by asking for a minute of silence in memory of the recently deceased President of the IAHR, Professor Ugo Bianchi.

Professor Werblowsky expressed the gratitude and deeply felt thanks of the Congress participants and the IAHR to Dr. Yolotl González, Professor Elio Masferrer, the Asociación Latinoamericana para el estudio de las Religiones, the Sociedad Mexicana para el estudio de las Religiones, and the Claustro de Sor Juana for their warm hospitality and for a well-run and highly stimulating international congress. The General Assembly applauded.

He then expressed the regrets of the conference organizers for the need to move the date of the General Assembly from Thursday to Saturday. The Executive Committee had tried to remedy this by introducing proxy voting cards. He also apologized for the confusion concerning the precise time of the meeting. Since the meeting was limited to two hours, he asked that everyone keep their comments brief and concise.

2) Brief report by the outgoing General Secretary (c.f. written report).

Professor Pye referred to the report that was distributed during the congress, and he thanked all the many individuals and institutions around the world who helped make the organization work the last five years. The report was acknowledged by acclamation.

3) Brief report by the outgoing Treasurer (c.f. written report).

Professor Geertz referred to the report that was distributed during the congress, and he thanked the members of the IAHR for the honor and privilege of serving them. The report was acknowledged by acclamation.

4) Report on the election of the incoming Executive Committee.

Professor Werblowsky explained the electoral procedures and reported the results. He also mentioned the excellent fact that with respect to the non-officer positions, the three highest number of votes had gone to female colleagues. He congratulated the incoming committee, and the General Assembly accepted the results by acclamation.

Public transfer of office to the incoming Executive Committee.

Professor Werblowsky then formally transferred the office to the incoming Executive

Committee and the new officers moved up to the platform accompanied by the acclamation of the General Assembly.

(B) Presiding: Professor Pye (as incoming President).

5) Brief statement by the incoming President.

Professor Pye thanked the International Committee for its support which he considered to be a recognition of the overall policies that he had pursued in office over the past years. He thanked them for their confidence. He also thanked Professor Werblowsky for his dedication and steadfast defense of the integrity of the IAHR during 10 years as General Secretary and a further 10 years as Vice-President. He also praised Professor Bianchi's dedication and energetic contribution to the IAHR and expressed sorrow for the fact that Professor Bianchi had not been able to participate in this congress since he knew Professor Bianchi had been very intent on attending. He stated further that he would always hold Professor Bianchi in fond memory.

Professor Pye expressed his satisfaction with the results of the outgoing Executive Committee in its efforts to extend the diversity of the IAHR regionally, culturally, racially, and with respect to gender balance. He felt that the committee had worked well together, and he thanked Professor Geertz in particular for his part in this.

Professor Pye explained that one of the important jobs of the incoming Executive Committee will be to improve the administrative procedures of the IAHR in order to ensure not only that it run smoothly and efficiently, but also that its procedures be made even more transparent to the membership at large. He hoped that these procedures will be ready for the next International Committee meeting in Hildesheim, Germany in 1998.

Professor Pye concluded by thanking the Mexican hosts for a memorable and successful congress.

6) Brief statement by the incoming General Secretary.

Professor Geertz also thanked the hosts of the congress and extended thanks to the many friendly assistants who made sure that each participant felt welcome and satisfied. He stated that Mexico has a very rich resource in its people.

Professor Geertz noted that the regional diversification policies of the past 10 years had given the IAHR a larger ground base and a more truer international representation, but it had also contributed to a crisis of identity expressed in two main ways: the question of the name of the IAHR and the self-critical process concerning the theoretical object of the study of religion and how to approach it. He stated that he would follow the guidelines decided upon by the General Assembly on the question of the name, and that he would continue to encourage the self-critical process, undaunted by questions of identity, since criticism is essential to the development of our science.

Professor Geertz expressed furthermore that his policy objectives would be to continue the diversification policy at an easy pace, to consolidate and support the member-

ship both old and new, to improve the administration of the organization, and to continue efforts to build up the Endowment Fund. Concerning the improvement of the administration, he expressed the wish to reach the membership at large on a one-to-one basis, thereby making the IAHR relevant and necessary for each individual member. He also expressed the wish to coordinate publication policies with new subscription possibilities and hopefully create a larger economical base. On a concluding note, he hoped to improve the democratic procedures of the IAHR in order to make them more clear to the international community and to stimulate a common interest in international and intercultural cooperation.

Professor Geertz thanked the International Committee for its support and expressed the hope to live up to its expectations.

7) New affiliations.

The following new affiliations were recommended by the International Committee:

African Association for the Study of Religion (regional association) and national associations in Cuba, Belgium/Luxemburg, the Czech Republic, India, New Zealand, Russia, Spain and the Ukraine. The Belgo-Luxembourgeois, Czech, and Russian associations are affiliated as reorganizations in continuity with previous affiliations.

There were no comments from the floor. All were accepted by unanimous vote. Voting cards were then handed out to the newly affiliated representatives. Statements and thanks were given on behalf of the new affiliates by Professor Jha (India), Professor Olupona (African Association), Professor Trebolé (Spain), and a representative from Cuba. Professor Pye gave them as a gift the proceedings of the Lancaster Congress (1975) as a symbol of the continuity of the IAHR despite any possible change of name.

8) Proposed change of name.

Professor Pye explained that the International Committee, at its meeting in Paris on September 19, 1993 (c.f. the minutes in the IAHR Bulletin 27, pp. 5-6), passed the following resolution: "It is recommended that the name of the IAHR be changed to 'The International Association for the Academic Study of Religions' in English and 'L'Association Internationale pour l'Étude Scientifique des Religions' in French." This matter was now brought forward to the General Assembly for a final decision. Since this subject had been widely discussed during the past five years, Professor Pye explained that only brief statements would be possible at this time. He further explained that in view of the importance of this item steps were taken to ensure compliance with the constitutional requirement that only members of affiliated associations who were registered for the Congress were entitled to vote at the General Assembly. Thus, voting cards had been distributed during the week prior to the General Assembly on the basis of up-to-date membership lists made available to the General Secretary.

The first 15 minutes were reserved for opening statements by a proponent (Dr.

Terry Thomas from the U.K.) and an opponent (Professor Werblowsky). These were followed by statements from the floor by Prof. Masferrer, Dr. Snoek, Prof. Araki, Prof. Bergman, Prof. Paper, Prof. Meslins, Prof. Sullivan, Prof. Kippenberg, and Prof. Abumalham.

Professor Pye then described the voting procedure. The vote would be a simple majority vote. In case of a tie, it would not be passed. Professor Pye stated that whichever side wins, the Executive Committee is aware of the need to take steps to ensure the interests of those who have lost. Furthermore, he stated that he had remained neutral throughout the 5 years, but today would cast his vote. Then, addressing in particular the new affiliates, he said that members should not vote for the change of name simply because the recommendation was on the agenda, but only if they were sure that they wanted the change to be made. If in doubt, members could vote against change or abstain.

The result of the vote was as follows: 34 for, 58 against, 8 abstentions. As a result of this vote, the name of the IAHR therefore remained unchanged.

9) Other recommendations of the International Committee requiring a vote by the General Assembly.

Professor Pye announced that since the name had not been changed, there were no further recommendations from the International Committee to the General Assembly.

10) Suggestions from the General Assembly to the incoming Executive Committee.

Dr. Snoek from the Dutch Association suggested that the General Assembly consider the following motion for adoption:

The General Assembly requests the Executive Committee to prepare a change of the Constitution to the effect that it will state explicitly that the IAHR accepts as members, organizations whose members study religions or religious phenomena from a non-ideological point of view.

Dr. Snoek proposed that this text be brought to the International Committee at its next meeting in order to decide upon a recommendation for the next General Assembly.

The result of the vote was as follows: 26 for, 12 against, 25 abstentions. The motion was thereby adopted.

11) Any other business.

Dr. Yolotl González closed the Congress and Professor Peter Antes thanked the hosts once again. Professor Michael Pye wished all a good journey and expressed the hope to see them again at the next Congress, perhaps in Durban, South Africa.

(Minutes by Armin W. Geertz)

Other Reports

Reports on the IAHR special conference in Aarhus, Denmark on “Rationality and the Study of Religion”, the IAHR regional conference in Bogota, Columbia which includes the “VI Congreso Latinoamericano de Religión y Etnicidad”, and the IAHR co-sponsored international colloquium together with the International Society for Sociology of Religions and the Association for the Study of Religious Phenomenon (Florence) on “The Religious Factor and the European and World Geostrategy” in Florence, Italy will receive full reportage in the winter issue of this Bulletin.

The following information arrived from the President of the Germany Association, Professor Hans Kippenberg.

To the chairmen and secretaries of the European National Associations for the Academic Study of Religions/History of Religions;
The members of the Executive Committee of the IAHR;
The participants of the founding meeting of a European Association for the Academic Study of Religions in Bonn, October 1995.

Dear colleagues,

In October a new European Association for the Academic Study of Religions was founded. The minutes of the meeting enclosed will give you the necessary information.

As chairman of the steering committee I would like to inform you about the next steps we plan. We will have a first meeting of the new association in Hildesheim in 1998. This meeting will take place in the context of cultural activities preparing the Expo 2000, a World Fair in Hannover scheduled for the year 2000. Its subject will be the relation Man - Nature - Technics. As students of religions we should address the impact of the European history of religions on that relation.

Regarding the structure of the meeting we would like to make the following suggestions: First, the meeting should be held during a weekend from Friday afternoon to Monday evening or Tuesday morning. Only such an arrangement allows the participants to make use of reasonable flight fares. The precise date of the weekend is dependent on reduced prices and the hotels' offer for our meeting. You will hear about this issue later.

Second, the meeting should shed light on present actual research concerning the history of European religions. We urgently need information regarding research done in your country that fits that description and that deserves public presentation. We propose to reserve most of the time of the meeting for presentation and discussion of this kind of research.

Third, the meeting should address the issue of the academic teaching of Comparative Religion/Religious Studies. This subject is of particular importance for a closer

cooperation between universities in different European countries. Since the members of the Executive Committee and International Committee of the IAHR are present in Hildesheim we expect them to contribute to this subject too.

Fourth, we have to give our new association statutes. Six months before the meeting the steering committee will submit a proposal. All participants of the meeting, that are members of the national European associations may vote on the statutes. Following to the passing of the statutes a board must be elected.

We would like to invite you to discuss these items in the boards and meetings of the national associations and among colleagues. We would appreciate very much receiving your information, answers and proposals until the end of June. We only have chances of securing financing for the conference if we present a preliminary program already in 1996.

With kind regards
Professor Hans Kippenberg

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Minutes of the First Meeting of the
“European Association for the Academic Study of Religions”
Bonn, Oktober 5th, 1995

A list of those present at the meeting was established. The meeting started at 9:15 p.m. Those present were welcomed.

1. Opening and presentation of the proposal

The founding of a European Association was suggested by the chairman of the DVRG, Prof. H. G. Kippenberg. The proposed goals of such an association are the following:

- to develop and coordinate the activities of the national associations in Europe;
- to help establish national associations in countries lacking one;
- to organise a European meeting at least once between the quinquennial International Congress of the IAHR;
- to stimulate discussions of the academic curricula with the aim of making them more consistent with each other;
- to be a platform for joint research projects.

This act is in accordance with § 3b of the Constitution of the IAHR.

2. Members of the Executive Committee and their reaction

Leading members of the Executive Committee of the IAHR were present. General Se-

cretary A. W. Geertz emphasised that the founding of a European association is not an initiative of the IAHR, but he expressed no objection to such an act. The relationships between the different levels should be kept clear. President Michael Pye informed those present that the members of the Executive Committee of the IAHR welcome and approve the formation of a European association. Dr. ter Haar (member of the Executive Committee of the IAHR) raised the question as to who is involved in the formation of this association. It was pointed out by Prof. Kippenberg that all those present are involved.

3. Reactions of the various European National Associations

15 European national societies were invited by a letter written by Prof. Kippenberg to attend the meeting.

Their reactions were as follows:

1. L'Association Belgo-Luxembourgeoise d'Histoire des Religions: Expressed interest in the foundation of a European association (letter of October 3rd).
2. British Association for the Study of Religions: Endorsement and support for the foundation of a European association (letter of October 1st).
3. Czech Society for the Study of Religion: Dr. Horyna could not be present for reasons beyond his and our control.
4. Dansk Selskab for Religionshistorie: Prof. Jensen expressed support at the meeting.
5. Magyar Vallástudományi Tarsaság: Prof. Irén Lovász expressed at the meeting the need of the foundation of such an association. It would be a means of support for the Hungarian society, because it would provide urgently needed information. She also expressed enthusiasm about the possibility of joint projects.
6. Nederlands Genootschap van Godsdiensthistorici: Dr. ter Haar expressed support at the meeting.
7. Norwegian Association for the History of Religions: Prof. Braarvig expressed appreciation of the proposal at the meeting.
8. Polskie Towarzystwo Religioznawcze: Prof. Palubicki expressed support for the proposal at the meeting and suggested further aims of the European association.
9. Sociedad Espanola de Ciencias d las Religiones: Professor Trebollé expressed support at the meeting, but inquired as to whether the association was planned to be an organisation of its own or a sort of confederation of all national societies.
10. Società Italiana di Storia delle Religioni: The Italian society is - because of the death of Prof. Ugo Bianchi - not in a position to take a decision on the matter (letter of September 29).
11. Société Ernest Renan: expression of approval of the proposal (letter of Oct. 1).

12. Société Suisse pour la Science des Religions: Professor Waardenburg expressed approval at the meeting and great pleasure about the possible foundation of a European Association.
13. & 14. Suomen Uskotieteellinen Suera and Svenska Samfundet för Religionshistorisk Forskning: Prof. Peter Bryder expressed strong support for the idea at the meeting.

4. Discussion of name and major aims

A discussion ensued concerning the structure of the planned organisation and the procedure of founding it. It was discussed whether the society should be an association of all national European organisations, i.e. a level between the national organisations and the IAHR, thus consisting only of the heads of all regional organisations, or, on the other hand, an organisation similar to the regional associations, to which the European associations could affiliate themselves. The latter model was proposed by Professor Kippenberg and the executive committee of the DVRG. It was pointed out that the latter model (organisation supplementary to the national organisations) is to be preferred for several reasons (question of the relations of the several levels to the IAHR, financial regulations between the levels of the IAHR, financial support from the European Community in Brussels, etc.).

The name of the proposed association was discussed. The proposals were:
European Association for the Academic Study of Religions
European Association for the (Scholarly) Study of Religions
European Association for the History of Religions
European Academy of Religion
European Society of Religiology

5. Elections of a founding committee

A working committee was formed in order to prepare for the legal framework of a European Association at the projected first meeting in Hildesheim 1998. This working group will regularly inform the national committees of all steps taken in the direction of the formation of a European association.

The following formal proposal was accepted:

“Representatives from various European countries decided to form a European Association for the Academic Study of Religions.” 9 votes in favour, none against, no abstentions.

The steering committee consists of the following persons: Proff. Kippenberg, Antes, Lovász, Bryder, Trebollé and Bremmer. A vote in support of this suggestion was taken: all were in favour, no against, no abstentions. Prof. Kippenberg was elected chairman of the committee (no against, 1 abstention).

6. *Invitation to Hildesheim for a first conference in 1998*

Professor Antes pointed out that the first meeting of the European Association is going to take place in the context of preparatory cultural activities of the city of Hildesheim for the World Fair of the year 2000. The theme of the World Fair is: “Man - Nature - Technics”. The title of the meeting of the European Association should refer to the title of the World Fair in order to get support from the city council.

The meeting ended at 11:05 p.m.

(Hans Kippenberg, February 14, 1996)



News from the Net

The section will bring interesting news from the Internet. We encourage our members and readers to send us short articles or announcements on interesting web-sites. Short reports on Ph.D. projects concerning the internet are also welcome. At this juncture, our members might enjoy visiting the new on-line journal at the University of Marburg edited by Professor Michael Pye:

(<http://www.uni-marburg.de/fb11/religionswissenschaft/journal>).

The most important announcement at this time is that the Deputy General Secretary, Professor Rosalind Hackett is currently constructing the IAHR Homepage with the assistance of Ms. Miranda Bridges Clark at the University of Tennessee (mbclark@utkux.utcc.utk.edu). We would like to invite all affiliates who either have or plan on having their own homepages to contact Professor Hackett concerning links to the IAHR Homepage. Information on how to do this can be gotten directly from Professor Hackett (rhackett@utkux.utcc.utk.edu). The IAHR Homepage will be generally available sometime during September of this year.



News from the National Associations

Africa: AASR (African Association for the Study of Religions)

The African Association for the Study of Religions includes regional representatives in West Africa, East and Central Africa, and Southern Africa, as well as members from North and South America and Europe. The Association publishes a newsletter, and this report concerns the last two issues (nos. 4 and 5). Issue no. 4, dating November 1995, contains a report from a meeting held by the AASR at the XVIIth Congress of the History of Religions, where AASR affiliation to the IAHR was finalized. The AASR is currently working with the IAHR on convening the next International Congress in South Africa in the year 2000. The newsletter also contains publication news, and a list of forthcoming conferences including a conference on "The African Diaspora: African Origins and New World Self-fashioning", held at the Department of African Studies, Binghamton University, USA, 11-13 April 1996. Issues treated at the conference include "Race and ethnicity", "Race and gender" and "A Black Atlantic": Contact person: Dr. Isidore Okpewho, Dept. of African Studies, Binghamton University, 13902 NY, USA (tel: +1-607-777 2636, fax: +1-607-777 2280).

The latest newsletter, no. 5, is from May 1996. This includes a list of new publications of interest for the study of African Religion, a list of forthcoming conferences, and the constitution of AASR. The AASR will hold a conference in Kenya during 1998 and a conference coinciding with the XVIIIth Congress of the IAHR. The Harare proceedings of the IAHR regional conference in Harare, Sept. 1992, mentioned above is slated for an autumn publication. Furthermore, the AASR has established cooperation with the *Journal of Religion in Africa* (E.J.Brill, ed. by Prof. Adrian Hastings). For more information about the AASR contact Prof. Jacob Olupona, University of California, Davis, African-American and African Studies Program, Davis, California, 95616, USA. The AASR newsletter is edited by Dr. Gerrie ter Haar, Dept. of Social Sciences & Science of Religion, Katholieke Theologische Universiteit, Heidelberglaan 2, 3584 CS Utrecht, The Netherlands and Dr. Abdulkader I. Tayob, Dept. of Religious Studies, University of Cape Town, Private Bag, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa.

Belgium: Société belgo-luxembourgeoise d'Histoire Religions

The *Société belgo-luxembourgeoise d'Histoire Religions* announces the first issue of their bulletin entitled *Hieros*. For further information contact: Prof. André Motte, Université de Liège, Belgium.

Denmark: DAHR (*Danish Association for the History of Religions*)

The *Danish Association for the History of Religions* has initiated a series of seminars arranged by graduate and post-graduate student members in cooperation with the officers of the DAHR. The first seminar was held October 6-7, 1995 at the Institute of the History of Religion, University of Copenhagen on "Idealernes rolle inden for religion og religionsforskning" (The Role of Ideals in Religion and in Research on Religion). The first day focussed on ideals in particular religions, and the second day on the role of ideals in methodology and theory in the study of religion. The seminar gathered a large audience and proved to be highly successful event. The 12 papers that were given will be published (in Danish) by Museum Tusulanum Forlag, Copenhagen and edited by the student organizers. For further information contact: Mr. Oluf Schönbeck, Institute of the History of Religion, University of Copenhagen, Njalsgade 80, DK-2300 Copenhagen S, Denmark.

The editors have received the spring 1996 bulletin from the DAHR. The bulletin contains announcements of coming events in Denmark, both within the auspices of DAHR and at the universities of Aarhus and Copenhagen.

A conference co-hosted by the DAHR, The Institute for the History of Religion (University of Copenhagen), The Department of the Study of Religion (University of Aarhus), and the Nordic Network for Ph.D. Programs in the Study of Religion on "Rationality and the Study of Religion" was held June 3-8, 1996. Since the conference was a "Special Conference of the IAHR", it will be treated in depth in the next IAHR Bulletin.

The DAHR will co-sponsor another seminar with student members this autumn on "When Religion Becomes Extreme". The seminar which is in Danish will be held at the University of Aarhus, 4-5 October 1996. For further information contact Dr. Mikael Aktor, Institute of the History of Religion, University of Copenhagen, Njalsgade 80, DK-2300 Copenhagen S, e-mail: aktor@coco.ihl.ku.dk)

Germany: DVRG (*Deutsche Vereinigung für Religionsgeschichte*)

The editors have received a newsletter from the *Deutsche Vereinigung für Religionsgeschichte* dating June 1995 (Mitteilungsblatt nr. 27). The newsletter contains an interesting report on graduate studies (Graduiertenkollegs) at the universities of Bonn, Marburg, and Heidelberg.

The DVRG held a successful conference in Bonn 4-6 October 1995 on "Vergleichen und Verstehen in der Religionswissenschaft". The papers will be published under the editorship of Professor H.-J. Klimkeit. During this conference the *European Association for the Academic Study of Religions* was established. Please see the detailed report by Professor Hans G. Kippenberg on page 44 of this Bulletin.

The newsletter also contains reports on the Fifth International Conference for the Study of European Ideas on "Memory, History and Critique: European Identity at the Millennium" at Utrecht, 18-24 August 1995; "Opfer - theologische und kulturelle Kontexte" by the Internationales Symposium im Wissenschaftsforum der Ruprecht-Karls-Universität, Heidelberg, 19-21 October 1995; and the "II. Rudolf-Otto-Symposium" at the Philipps-Universität Marburg, 16-19 May 1996.

For further information contact Prof. Dr. Hans G. Kippenberg, Universität Bremen, Fachbereich 9, Postfach 330440, D-28334 Bremen.

Latin America: ALER (Asociación Latinoamericana para el Estudio de las Religiones)

The *Asociación Latinoamericana para el Estudio de las Religiones* co-sponsored a conference with the VIth Latin American Congress on Religion and Ethnicity at the Colombian Institute of Anthropology, Bogota, Columbia on "The Diversity of Religious Activity in Colombia", 10-14 June 1996. Since the conference was a "Regional Conference of the IAHR", it will be treated in depth in the next IAHR Bulletin. For further information contact: Directora Maria Victoria Uribe, Instituto Colombiano de Antropología, Unidad Administrativa Especial de COLCULTURA - ICAN, Calle 8 No. 8-87, Santafé de Bogotá, A.A. 407 Columbia (fax: 233 09 60, e-mail: gferro@cdcnet.uniandes.edu.co).

New Zealand: NZASR (New Zealand Association for the Study of Religions)

The *New Zealand Association for the Study of Religions* became affiliated to the IAHR in Mexico City in 1995. The association publishes a newsletter called *Yana* twice a year. It is described as "a vehicle for sharing news and views around the Religious Studies Community in New Zealand and the official newsletter of the New Zealand Association for the Study of Religions". We have received nos. 46 and 47. No. 46, dated June 1995, marks the first issue of the new editor Dr. Jane Simpson at the University of Canterbury. The issue contains news on visitors during 1995 and 1996, interesting information on religious studies in the state schools system, courses of teaching at the universities, number of enrolled students for each course, Ph.D. and M.A. projects, appointments, projects, and other information on the activities of members of NZASR. There is also an e-mail address listing of its members and the minutes of the NZASR conferences during 1994. It is a very informative newsletter.

Issue no. 47, dated December 1995 contains the same structure. Of notable news is the announcement of the "First Joint Australian and New Zealand Religious Studies Conference" at Lincoln University, Canterbury, 4 - 7 July 1996. The conference com-

bines the annual conference of the AASR (*Australian Association for the Study of Religions*) and the biennial conference of NZASR. The conference will cover a wide variety of themes, and the organizers also hope to attract participation by scholars in cognate disciplines such as history, art history and architecture, Maori studies, anthropology, literature, sociology, feminist studies, and theology. The newsletter also reported on the following conferences attended: "Out of Africa: Texts for Understanding the African Past" at the Humanities Research Centre, the Australian National University, Canberra, 3-6 July 1995; "Religion and Politics in South Asia" at Religious Studies, University of Canterbury, 31 August to 3 September 1995; "Islam, the New Cold War" at the Centre for Continuing Education of Victoria University, 9 September 1995; and "Islam, Modernity, Globalisation" at Deakin University in Geelong, 29-30 September.

For further information contact Dr. Jane Simpson, Religious Studies, University of Canterbury, Private Bag 4800, Christchurch 8020, New Zealand (e-mail: j.simpson@phil.canterbury.ac.nz).

South Korea: KAHR (Korean Association for the History of Religions)

The *Korean Association for the History of Religions* will be co-hosting an IAHR regional conference in Seoul either during May or November 1997. The topic, deadlines, and practical information is yet to be announced. For further information contact: Prof. Jun-shik Ch'oe, Ewha Womens University, Department of Korean Studies, Seoul, Korea (fax: 02-298-2692).

Sweden: SSRF (Svenska Samfundet för Religionshistorisk Forskning)

We have received the 1995 yearbook of the *Svenska Samfundet för Religionshistorisk Forskning* entitled *Svensk Religionshistorisk Årsskrift* (ISSN: 0283-0302) edited by Prof. David Westerlund. The yearbook includes reports on the 1995 annual meeting of the SSRF which coincided with the meeting of NORREL (Nordiska Samarbetskommittén för Religionshistorisk Forskning - Nordic Commission on Research in the History of Religions, which is the Scandinavian regional affiliate of the IAHR), the XVIIth Congress of the IAHR, and the annual meeting of the DVRG. The bulk of the yearbook contains papers on a variety of topics, a large number of book reviews, and, unfortunately, the obituaries of some of the pioneers of the study of religion: Hjalmar Sundén, Åke V. Ström, Jan Ergardt, and Haralds Biezais.

For further information contact Dr. Peter Bryder, Teologiska institutionen, Lunds Universitet, Allhelgona Kyrkogata 8, 223 62 Lund, Sweden.

Spain: SECR (Sociedad Española de Ciencias de las Religiones)

We have received the first issue of a new journal entitled *Ilu, Revista de Ciencias de las Religiones* (no. 0, 1995, ISSN: 1135-4712, vii, 288pp.) published by the Instituto Universitario de Ciencias de las Religiones, Universidad Complutense of Madrid and edited by Montserrat Abumalham, Julio Trebolle Barrera, and Santiago Montero Herero. This first issue contains papers read at the first national symposium of the study of religion co-sponsored by the above-mentioned university and the *Sociedad Española de Ciencias de las Religiones* during October 1994. The papers cover such diverse disciplines as phenomenology, anthropology, philology, philosophy, history, psychology, and sociology.

Subscription inquiries can be sent to Servicio de Publicaciones, Universidad Complutense, Donoso Cortés 65, 28015 Madrid, Spain. For further information contact Prof. Julio Trebolle Barrera, Instituto Universitario de Ciencias de las Religiones, Facultad de Filología. Despacho 204, Universidad Complutense, 28040 Madrid, Spain.

We have also received a publication entitled *Comunidades islámicas en Europa* edited by Prof. Montserrat Abumalham (Editorial Trotta, S. A.: Madrid 1995, ISBN: 84-8164-039-5, 414pp.) containing the papers of a conference on Islamic communities in Europe. The papers cover a wide range of topics especially concerning muslims in Spain and Spanish government policies concerning muslims. For copies contact Editorial Trotta, S.A., Altamirano, 34, 28008 Madrid, Spain (fax: 5491615).

Ukraine: UARR (Ukrainian Association of Religion Researchers)

The president of the *Ukrainian Association of Religion Researchers*, Prof. Anatoly Kolodny, announces a proposal by the Philosophy Institute of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences to organize translation and publication of the writings of prominent Ukrainian figures in philosophy, history, religious studies, and theology. For any who may be interested in pursuing such a project please contact Prof. Kolodny: Office: The Philosophy Institute of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, 4 Triohsvyatytska St., Kyiv, 252001 Ukraine, tel: 380 (044) 229-48-12, fax: 380 (044) 228-63-66, e-mail: kam@cpifreenet.kiev.ua; Private: 18-A Stalskey St., apt. 7, Kyiv, 253125 Ukraine.

United Kingdom: BASR (British Association for the Study of Religions)

The editors have received Bulletins nos. 77 and 78 from the *British Association for the Study of Religions*. Bulletin 77 of February 1996 contains several articles of interest. The first is a reprint of the constitution of the BASR. The second is a profile of the prominent British Islamicist Reynold Alleyne Nicholson (1868-1945) in an interesting

series on "Religious Studies in the UK". Each issue also contains sections on teaching and research news. Of more general interest is an on-going debate between Professors Michael Pye and Kim Knott concerning the XVIIth International Congress of the IAHR, and particularly on the electoral process of the IAHR. The bulletin includes a list of publications and reviews, and finally information about the 1996 Annual Conference of the BASR, September 16-19 at the University of Lancaster on the theme "Religion and Media".

Bulletin no. 78 is dated June 1996. Continuing the series on "Religious Studies in the UK" the bulletin contains a profile on the specialist in Sikh Religion, Max Arthur Macauliffe (1837-1913). The bulletin also includes reports and announcements on a large number of conferences. Of these mention can be made of "Nature Religion Today: Western Paganism, Shamanism and Esotericism in the 1990s" at Lake District Campus of Lancaster University, 9-13 April 1996; "Religion, Modernity and Ethics" hosted by the British Sociological Association, 22nd Annual Conference at Clifton Hill House, University of Bristol, 2-5 April 1997; and the BASR annual conference on "Religion and Media" to be held at University College of St. Martin, Lancaster, 16-19 September 1996. The issue concludes with book reviews and a list of publications.

For further information contact Dr. Ian Harris, Department of Religious Studies and Social Ethics, University College of St. Martin, Lancaster LA1 3JD, Great Britain (e-mail: i.harris@lancaster.ac.uk).

United States: NAASR (North American Association for the Study of Religion)

NAASR publishes a quarterly journal entitled *Method and Theory in the Study of Religion (MTSR)* which is the only international periodical devoted exclusively to articles, review essays, and responses/replies on methodological and theoretical topics in the academic study of religion. MTSR is offered at a special discount price to members of the IAHR to the amount of USD50.00. A small portion of that price goes directly to the IAHR Endowment Fund. For further information please contact the following: Europeans are asked to contact the European distributor of MTSR, Prof. Armin W. Geertz, Dept. of the Study of Religion, University of Aarhus, Main Building, DK-8000 Aarhus C, Denmark (e-mail: geertz@teologi.aau.dk); all others please contact Prof. Gary Lease, Merrill College, University of California, Santa Cruz, CA 95064, USA (e-mail: rehbock@cats.ucsc.edu) or the MTSR editors (mtsr@epas.utoronto.ca).

Addresses

Normally this section would include the addresses of the officers of each association. But due to the volume of this Bulletin, the addresses will be listed in the winter issue. I would like to use this opportunity to ask that all the associations send me a complete and up-dated address list of their membership as well as the names and addresses of their officers. It is a natural and important matter, that an international association as large as ours actually knows how many members it has and who they are! So please help us to function better.



News from Other Associations and Institutions

CESNUR (Centro Studi sulle Nuove Religioni/Centre for Studies on New Religions)

CESNUR is a non-governmental institution founded in Torino, Italy for the purpose of serving as a network for scholars studying new religions. This year the network is hosting their 10th international conference in Montreal, Canada, August 13-16, 1996. The conference is co-organized with CINR (*Centre d'information sur les nouvelles religions*) and the Faculty of Theology at the University of Montreal. The theme of the conference is "Les sociétés devant le nouveau pluralisme religieux: L'interaction entre les nouveaux mouvements religieux, les religions traditionnelles et les institutions sociales/Societies and the New Religious Pluralism: The Interaction Between New Religious Movements, Traditional Religions and Social Institutions". Among the many topics treated at plenary sessions and workshops, the following can be mentioned: "The Established Religions and the New Religious Movements", "Groups of Oriental Inspiration", "Inter-religious Dialogue", "Mormonism", "New Age", "Mort et Réincarnation", "L'Ordre du Temple Solaire", and "The Social Institutions and the New Religious Movements". The Conference is bilingual (English and French) and the plenary sessions will have simultaneous translation, while the workshops will be held in either of the two languages. Information and registration (CAN\$50 before July 31, 1996): 10e congrès international du CESNUR, Centre d'information sur les nouvelles religions, 8010 rue Saint-Denis, Montréal, Québec, Canada H2R 2G1. Téléphone: (514) 382-9641; Fax (514) 382-7554.

CSSR (The Council of Societies for the Study of Religion)

CSSR is a federation of learned societies in religion interested in "enhancing coordination of the field as a whole; it seeks to initiate, coordinate, and implement projects to strengthen and advance scholarship and teaching and to support the activities of constituent societies and of their executive offices and officers". The CSSR publishes a bulletin 4 issues annually with short articles and a large amount of information concerning the 12 affiliated societies. Most of the societies are theological, but the IAHR affiliate NAASR is a member. Volume 24, nos. 3,4 of the bulletin contains an excellent spotlight on the IAHR and the XVIIth Congress. The issue contains the following articles: Rosalind J. Hackett, "Spotlight on the International Association for the History of Religions"; Armin W. Geertz, "Information on the International Association for the History of Religions (IAHR)"; Russell T. McCutcheon, "Methodology and Theory within the IAHR: A Survey"; Simeon O. Ilesanmi, "The Civil Religion Thesis in Nigeria: A Critical Examination of Jacob Olupona's Theory of Religion and State"; Sylvia Marcos, "Report on the XVII IAHR Congress, Mexico City, 6-12 August 1995; and Yolotl

González Torres, "The History of Religion in Mexico".

For further information contact CSSR Executive Office, Valparaiso University, Valparaiso IN 46383-6493, USA, Tel: 219-464-5515, Fax: 219-464-6714, e-mail: pam@cssr.valpo.edu

The Institute for the Science of Religion (Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland)

The Institute recently held their Third International Conference on Religion and Churches in Central and Eastern Europe after the Fall of Communism on the theme "New Religious Phenomena in Central and Eastern Europe after the Fall of Communism (1989-1995)", 16-18 December 1995. Topics covered were statistics, legal issues, psychosocial characteristics, and minority issues. For further information contact Dr. Irena Borowik, Institute for the Science of Religion, Jagiellonian University, Rynek glowny 34, 2nd floor, 31-010 Krakow, Poland (e-mail: uzgrzyma@cyf-kr.edu.pl).

LISOR (Leiden Institute for the Study of Religions)

The editors have received the 1995/2 newsletter from LISOR at Rijks Universiteit, Leiden, the Netherlands. The newsletter contains an interview with Raia van der Kooij about the Septuagint, a list of publications and dissertations by LISOR-fellows, and most importantly an announcement of the 1997 biennial conference at Leiden University, January 9-10. The title of the conference is "Canonization and Decanonization in Religious Traditions". There will be four keynote speakers: Jonathan Z. Smith (Chicago) will speak on "Canon Formation as a Historical Phenomenon", Jack Goody (Cambridge) on "Sociology of Canonization in Religious Traditions", A. al-Azmeh (Exeter) on "The Interpretation and Critique of Established Canons", and David Tracy (Chicago) will speak on "Decanonization and Beyond". The deadline for sending paper proposals and abstracts is August 1, 1996. Information and registration (\$90 before December 1 1996, \$100 afterwards): Mrs. Arti Ponsen, Leiden Institute for the Study of Religions, Faculty of Theology, P.O.Box 9515, 2300 RA Leiden, the Netherlands, Fax: +31-71-5272571, e-mail: ponsen@rullet.leidenuniv.nl

REMID (Der Religionswissenschaftliche Medien- und Informationsdienst)

REMID was established in 1989 in order to provide information and analyses of religion and new religions for the public. The framework of their activities is that of the scientific study of religion. REMID has published a series of monographs and studies and hosted a symposium at the University of Marburg on “Kritik an Religionen? Religionswissenschaft und der kritische Umgang mit Religionen”, 24-26 November 1995. For further information contact REMID e. V., Postfach 2009, D-35008 Marburg, Germany, Tel: 0 64 21/6 42 70, Fax: 68 19 44.



Calendar of Events

1996

- April 26-27.* IAHR co-sponsored international colloquium together with the International Society for Sociology of Religion, the Association for the Study of Religious Phenomenon, Florence, and the Department of Social Studies, University of Florence at the Auditorium del Consiglio Regionale, Florence, Italy on "The Religious Factor and the European and World Geostrategy". Contact: ASFeR Secretary, Via Sant' Agostino, 16, 50125 Firenze, Italia (fax: 0039-55-2398210)
- June 3-8.* IAHR special conference co-hosted by the Danish Association for the History of Religions (DAHR) at the University of Aarhus, Denmark on "Rationality and the Study of Religion". Contact: Prof. Jeppe Sinding Jensen, Dept. of the Study of Religion, University of Aarhus, Main Building, DK-8000 Aarhus C, Denmark (e-mail: sinding@teologi.aau.dk).
- June 10-14.* IAHR regional conference co-hosted by the Asociación Latinoamericana para el Estudio de las Religiones (ALER) and the VIth Latin American Congress on Religion and Ethnicity at the Colombian Institute of Anthropology, Bogota, Columbia on "The Diversity of Religious Activity in Colombia". Contact: Directora Maria Victoria Uribe, Instituto Colombiano de Antropología, Unidad Administrativa Especial de COLCULTURA - ICAN, Calle 8 No. 8-87, Santafé de Bogotá, A.A. 407 Columbia (fax: 233 09 60, e-mail: gferro@cdnet.uniandes.edu.co).
- July 4-7.* The first joint Australian and New Zealand religious studies conference combining the annual conference of the Australian Association for the Study of Religions and the biennial conference of the New Zealand Association for the Study of Religions at Lincoln University, Canterbury. Contact: Dr. Jane Simpson, Religious Studies, University of Canterbury, Private Bag 4800, Christchurch 8020, New Zealand (e-mail: j.simpson@phil.canterbury.ac.nz).
- August 13-16.* 10th international CESNUR conference co-hosted by Centro Studi sulle Nuove Religioni (CESNUR), Centre d'information sur les nouvelles religions (CINR), and the Faculty of Theology, University of Montreal, Canada on "Les sociétés devant le nouveau pluralisme religieux: L'interaction entre les nouveaux mouvements religieux, les religions traditionnelles et les institutions sociales/Societies and the New Religious Pluralism: The Interaction Between New Religious Movements, Traditional Religions and Social Institutions". Contact: 10e congrès international du CESNUR, Centre d'information sur les nouvelles religions, 8010 rue Saint-Denis, Montréal, Québec, Canada H2R 2G1. Téléphone: (514) 382-9641; Fax (514) 382-7554.

1997

- May or November.* IAHR regional conference co-hosted by the Korean Association

for the History of religions. Topic and venue as yet unannounced. Contact: Prof. Jun-shik Ch'oe, Ewha Womens University, Department of Korean Studies, Seoul, Korea (fax: 02-298-2692).

August 4-8. IAHR regional conference co-hosted by the Finnish Society for the Study of Comparative Religion at the Åbo Academy in Turku, Finland on "Methodology and the Study of Religion. Contact: Dr. Tore Ahlbäck, Donner Institute, P.O.Box 70 (Gezeliusgatan 2), FIN-20501 Åbo, Finland (fax: 358 21 2311 290, e-mail tahlback@ra.abo.fi).

1998

June. IAHR regional conference co-hosted by the Deutsche Vereinigung für Religionsgeschichte at Hildesheim, Germany. The theme will somehow reflect the theme of the World Fair at Hildesheim in 2000: "Man - Nature - Technics". The conference will also serve as the venue for the International Committee meeting of the IAHR and the inaugural meeting of the European Association for the Academic Study of Religions. Contact: Prof. Dr. Peter Antes, Seminar für Religionswissenschaft, Universität Hannover, Im Moore 21, D-30167 Hannover, Germany, Fax 49-5117624025.



Information on the IAHR

The IAHR is an worldwide body of national societies for the study of religion and is a member of the Conseil international de la philosophie et des sciences humaines/The International Council for Philosophy and Humanistic Studies (CIPSH) under the auspices of UNESCO. It was founded in 1950 on the occasion of the 7th international congress of the history of religions in Amsterdam. The object of the IAHR is the promotion of the academic study of the history of religions through the international collaboration of all scholars whose research has a bearing on the subject.

The IAHR is composed of a General Assembly, an International Committee, and an Executive Committee. The International Committee consists of two delegates from each national or regional association who meet during every congress to elect the Executive Committee and to pursue other important business. The committee also meets once between the congresses. The Executive Committee consists of 12 members roughly representing major areas of the world and as reasonable a gender balance as possible. The current president is Professor Michael Pye at the University of Marburg in Germany.

During the recent congress in Mexico City, the IAHR grew to 34 national and regional associations. The IAHR holds international congresses every five years, the next most likely to be held in Durban, South Africa in the year 2000. The IAHR also sponsors regional conferences and special conferences during the quinquennial periods and carries on a tradition of holding its congresses and conferences in as many different parts of the world as possible in order to encourage intercultural exchange and to promote IAHR affiliates wherever possible.

Numen. International Review for the History of Religions is the official journal of the IAHR. The editors, Prof. Hans Kippenberg and Prof. E. Thomas Lawson, act on behalf of an international editorial board consisting of the Executive Committee of the IAHR. The journal is also accompanied by a series entitled *Supplements to Numen* with over 50 volumes. The IAHR further sponsors a quarterly journal of abstracts from periodical publications entitled *Science of Religion Abstracts and Index of Recent Articles*. The proceedings of the congresses and conferences have been published in various quarters by the hosting national associations.

Membership in the IAHR is obtained by applying for membership in an IAHR affiliated national association. Individual subscriptions to the IAHR Bulletin are also being offered. For further information please contact Prof. Armin W. Geertz, General Secretary of the IAHR.

Membership Questionnaire

(please print clearly)

The following questionnaire is for members and non-members alike. We would like to develop a database that could coordinate various IAHR activities, subscriptions, and information needs. We appreciate your cooperation.

Name (Mr., Mrs., Miss) Position Degree

Institutional address

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Tel. Fax E-mail

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Private address

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Tel. Fax E-mail

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What is your area of research?

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Are you a registered member of an IAHR-affiliated national association?.....

What is the name of your
association?.....

Do you subscribe to any of the following?

IAHR Bulletin Yes No

NUMEN Yes No

Science of Religion Abstracts Yes No

If not, do you wish to subscribe to any (or all) of the above?

Do you have access to any of the above at your university or through your association?

The Executive Committee of the IAHR

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