

**Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PA SSHE)
Interdisciplinary Association for Philosophy & Religious Studies
(IAPRS)**

[Approved April 8, 2006, IAPRS Business Meeting, EUP]

Constitution

Mission:

- To facilitate discussion among PA SSHE faculty on academic and political issues affecting departments in PA SSHE.
- To make recommendations and take action to protect and promote academic integrity and security for our members in PA SSHE
- To promote philosophy & religious studies in Pennsylvania
- To provide an annual conference for Pennsylvania students and faculty to present papers and panel discussions on topics in philosophy and religious studies (Although our focus is on PA SSHE students and faculty, we welcome participation and presentation proposals from students and faculty from non-PA SSHE schools.)

Membership

- Membership allows a faculty member to participate in the annual business meeting as a voting member and to serve as an officer of IAPRS
- Membership dues for departments shall be established at the annual business meeting. These dues are for supporting the annual conference costs and for promoting the IAPRS mission. Faculty and students from schools whose department fees have been paid, and faculty who have paid the most recent annual conference registration fee, will get priority consideration for presenting at the annual conference.
- A person is a member if he or she has paid the annual conference fee for the most recent IAPRS spring conference. Membership and officer positions are not open to students. Only faculty from PA SSHE schools can be members.

Officers

- There shall be four official positions of the IAPRS (though one person may serve as both Secretary and Treasurer): President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. Each officer is responsible for promoting the mission of the IAPRS.
- Faculty will be elected to fill each of these positions by a majority vote (or failing a majority vote, by a plurality of the votes cast) of the members at the annual business meeting (normally held at the annual IAPRS conference).

Officer's duties

The President will be responsible for organizing the annual conference at his/her home campus, for conducting the annual business meeting, and for being the association's primary spokesperson.

The Vice President will be responsible for assisting the President, acting as IAPRS President in case the President is unable to do so, and is expected to serve as the next President of IAPRS.

The Treasurer will be responsible for all IAPRS funds received to be kept secure in a bank, writing any checks needed for conducting official IAPRS business, providing a treasury report at the annual business meeting, and sending out annual reminder notices to departments of their membership dues. The Treasurer will also be responsible for knowing which (a) faculty have paid their individual conference fees, and which (b) departments have paid their annual membership dues as of the most recent annual conference.

The Secretary will be responsible for recording and disseminating official minutes of the annual business meeting.

Decision procedures

- The Executive Committee of IAPRS will be composed of the IAPRS officers and shall conduct association planning and business in between the annual business meetings held every year. Decisions will be made by majority consent of the officers.
- Decisions made at the annual business meeting will be the primary method of setting IAPRS policy and conducting business. Decisions will be made by majority consent of the members present.

Amending the IAPRS Constitution

The IAPRS Constitution may be amended provided that 2/3 of the voting members present at the annual business conference agree to the proposed amendment.