

**CONSTITUTION OF  
THE RELIGIOUS STUDIES ASSOCIATION**

ADOPTED JANUARY 1995

ARTICLE I  
NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Religious Studies Association.

ARTICLE II  
PURPOSE

The purposes of this association are to promote inter-faith communication and to provide an opportunity to discuss religious and/or spiritual issues and concerns in a non-judgmental manor.

ARTICLE III  
MEMBERS

- Section 1. Persons interested in becoming members may join after attending two consecutive meetings. No formal application or interview is required.
- Section 2. Active members shall be enrolled as students of The University of Alabama. Associate members shall be faculty or staff interested in religious discussions.
- Section 3. Annual dues of \$5.00 shall be paid by September 30 of each year, after which a member will be dropped by nonpayment of dues.
- Section 4. In order to maintain active membership status, a member must attend at least four (4) meetings per semester. Failure to meet this requirement will result in expulsion from the association. Expelled members must wait a semester (excluding summers) before they may seek active membership status.

ARTICLE IV  
OFFICE

- Section 1. The officers of the association shall be President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. These officers shall comprise the executive committee.
- Section 2. Officers shall be elected at the first meeting in February each year from the pool of nominations. Active members seeking office may be nominated by other members or by themselves.

- Section 3. Elections shall be by secret ballot. Candidates receiving one vote more than 50% of the total number of votes cast shall be named to their respective offices.
- Section 4. Officers shall be elected to serve for one year, beginning at the close of the meeting at which they are elected. Vacancies in offices shall be filled by nomination and voting by a quorum of active members.
- Section 5. The President is responsible for public relations and presiding over all meetings.
- Section 6. The Vice President is responsible for setting up for all meetings and assisting the President.
- Section 7. The Secretary is responsible for recording the minutes of each meeting and taking suggestions for speakers or topics. Those records must be open to inspection by all members.
- Section 8. The Treasurer is responsible for collecting membership dues and dispensing funds for needed materials.

#### ARTICLE V MEETINGS

- Section 1. The regular meetings of the association shall be held on the first and third Mondays of each month from September to May unless otherwise ordered by the organization or by the Executive Committee.
- Section 2. The regular meeting on the first Monday in February shall be known as the annual meeting and shall be for the purpose of electing officers, receiving reports from officers and committees, and for any other business that may arise.
- Section 3. Special meetings may be called by the President or the Executive Committee and shall be called upon the written request of 10 members of the association. The purpose of the meeting shall be stated in the notice, and three days notice shall be given except in cases of emergencies.
- Section 4. Fifty percent of the active members shall constitute a quorum.

#### ARTICLE VI RELATIONSHIP

The Religious Studies Association shall have no relationship to or be controlled by any other local, state or national organization.

**ARTICLE VII**  
**COMMITTEES**

- Section 1. The Executive Committee shall include the officers of the association. they shall supervise affairs of the association between its business meetings, make recommendations to the association and perform other duties specified in these by-laws. The Executive Committee shall be subject to the orders of the association, and none of its acts shall conflict with actions taken by the association.
- Section 2. Other Committees, standing or special, shall be appointed by the President as the association or the Executive Committee deem necessary to carry on the work of the association.

**ARTICLE VIII**  
**ADVISOR**

One or more advisors shall be elected each year in the same manor as the association's officers. Responsibilities shall be those assigned by The University of Alabama's Student Handbook.

**ARTICLE IX**  
**PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

- Section 1. At any of the business or regular meetings anyone can speak when recognized by the President or speaker.
- Section 2. Condemnation or intolerance of an individuals personal beliefs or comments will not be permitted. If this is violated the Executive Committee upon unanimous decision, reserves the right to ask guilty persons to leave.

**ARTICLE X**  
**AMENDMENTS**

This constitution may be amended at any regular meeting of the association by two-thirds vote, provided that the amendment has been submitted in writing at the previous meeting.

**ARTICLE XI**  
**BY-LAWS**

By-laws to this constitution may be added at any regular meeting of the association by two-thirds vote, provided the by-law has been submitted in writing at the previous regular meeting.