

Call for Applications: Editor of *Sociology of Religion*

Association for the Sociology of Religion

Submission Deadline: June 1st, 2025

The Association for the Sociology of Religion (ASR) invites applications for the position of Editor of ASR's journal, *Sociology of Religion*. The journal has a distinguished record of publishing exceptional sociological research on all facets of religion and spirituality, along with a robust (2.4) impact factor, placing it as the top journal in the sociology of religion and in the first quartile of all sociology journals.

Published quarterly by Oxford University Press, the highly competitive journal has a 9% acceptance rate with around 200 manuscripts submitted annually. The journal is also highly efficient, with a 12-week average decision timeframe on submitted manuscripts.

Published articles feature research on the contours and antecedents of religious involvement, consequences of religiosity for other domains of social life (gender, health, politics, and more), linkages between religion and other social institutions, trends related to religious participation and disaffiliation, various expressions of faith and spirituality, and diverse methodological and theoretical approaches for examining such topics. Articles showcase top work in the field by scholars from around the world.

Sociology of Religion focuses principally on the publication of research that meets stringent scholarly standards. Theoretical and methodological sophistication is a hallmark of articles published in the journal. Articles commonly discuss the implications of research findings for the ongoing investigation of religion, social policy, and religious practice.

Applications for the position of Editor will be accepted from sole scholars or prospective co-editors who propose working in tandem with one another. If a co-editor arrangement is proposed, the respective responsibilities or roles of each colleague should be specified in the application. All applications will be reviewed by ASR Council, with plans to select an Editor-elect in the summer of 2025. The Editor of *Sociology of Religion* serves at the discretion of ASR Council, delivering a report at each annual meeting to assess journal and Editor performance.

The successful applicant will commence service in January 2026 with a twelve-month apprenticeship year, followed by a three-year term as Editor (January 2027-December 2029). An apprenticeship year will permit the successful applicant to transition into the role with direction from the current Editor. A successful three-year term as Editor may renew one or more additional terms, conditioned on agreement from ASR Council. Regardless of the number of terms served, an additional yearlong commitment past the regular term is expected, offering consultation to the next Editor as needed.

Five-Year Editor Commitment to *Sociology of Religion*

Altogether, a standard three-year Editor term spans a five-year commitment as described below.

- Year 1—Apprentice year as Editor-Elect: Train alongside the outgoing Editor, serving as Editor-Elect. This year overlaps with the final year of the outgoing Editor's regular term.
- Years 2-4 (Renewable)—Regular term as Editor: Serve as Editor for a three-year (renewable) term. The final year of the regular term doubles as the new Editor-Elect's apprentice year.
- Year 5—Consulting year as Past-Editor: Following the conclusion of the regular term, the Past-Editor is available for periodic consultation to support the new Editor's first year.

The Editor serves as the key decision-maker concerning manuscripts submitted to the journal, working in concert with the Editorial Board and manuscript reviewers. *Sociology of Religion* has a reputation for producing reviews that are timely, thorough, and governed by rigorous scholarly standards. The Editor is expected to participate in ASR's annual meetings (held each August), at which the Editor provides a report on the journal to ASR Council. Reports provided by the previous Editor will be shared with the Editor-Elect during the editorial transition. The Editor is also in charge of appointing Associate Editors, a Book Review Editor, and members of the Editorial Board.

Compensation

The successful applicant will receive the following compensation across the five-year commitment (including the three-year renewable regular term as Editor).

- A \$1,500 stipend during an apprentice year as Editor-Elect as well as funds to support attendance at the ASR annual meeting and, if needed, a training visit between the Editor and Editor-Elect. Additional Editor-Elect travel for an orientation hosted and financially supported by the publisher is also likely during the transition year.
- An annual stipend of \$13,500 for each year of the regular three-year editorial term
- Annual meeting travel funds of \$1,000 to support travel to the annual ASR meetings, at which the Editor will deliver a report on the journal to ASR Council
- Discretionary funds not to exceed \$2,500 per year to be used for editorial assistance, additional travel, or editorial activities that further the mission of ASR and its journal, with parameters governing the use of these funds subject to approval by Council
- A Book Review Editor selected by the Editor and subject to Council approval. The Book Review Editor will receive an annual stipend of \$4,000, paid directly to the Book Review Editor for each of the three years of the regular editorial term.
- A \$1,500 stipend for consultation as immediate Past-Editor during the consulting year for the next Editor.

Applications formatted with one-inch margins all around should include the following components to receive full consideration.

Part One: Applicant background and qualifications. In one to two single-spaced pages, identify and describe previous and current positions, as well as other relevant professional experience and notable achievements. Give due attention to how your positions, experience, and achievements prepare you to assume the role of Editor and to conduct the activities the appointment requires.

Part Two: Primary goals and proposed actions. In one to two single-spaced pages, articulate what primary goals will guide your editorial term and what corresponding actions might support these goals in your role as Editor. Include appraisals of the journal in its current state alongside aspirations for its future.

Part Three: Institutional environment and support. In approximately one single-spaced page, describe your current institutional environment and any forms of support you anticipate that the institution may offer, where applicable. Summarize how those resources will facilitate the discharge of editorial responsibilities or how, in their absence, you will handle these responsibilities. ASR Council recognizes that a period of negotiation may be needed to finalize mechanisms of institutional support.

Appendix A: Institutional letter of support (where applicable). Applicants employed full-time with an institution should include a letter of institutional support provided by a college dean or comparable administrator with the authority to approve the appointment and marshal necessary resources. Wherever possible, letters should indicate specific means and degrees of support (course releases, office space, administrative assistance, and other forms of support).

Appendix B: Curriculum vita. Append a copy of a current curriculum vita to the application as Appendix B. There is no page limit for a C.V.

Submission procedures. Please submit the specified materials (Parts One, Two, Three, and Appendices) as a single PDF to Dr. Tricia Bruce, President of the Association for the Sociology of Religion, at triciabruce (@) gmail.com no later than June 1st 2025.