

CTSA MEMBERSHIP ANALYSIS

I. 1946—104 Charter Members

There is no mention in the constitution of restricting membership to priests. However, all were priests.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| Religious order priests | 80 |
| Diocesan priests | 24 |
| Total | 104 |

Of the 104 charter members, 65 held a doctoral degree.

II. Early Patterns: Growth to 1,100 Members in 1964

In 1947, 49 applied for membership, two were rejected. One of those rejected was a woman, the other a seminarian (*Proceedings* 2 [1947] 12). (Neither the *Proceedings* nor the Archives tell us who these brave souls were!)

In 1953 Luke Salm, F.S.C., became the first "nonpriest" member.

The constitution was revised in 1953 to limit active membership to "*priests* who are or have been actively engaged in the promotion of sacred studies and research in Sacred Theology, and to *religious brothers* who have attained the licentiate in Sacred Theology. . . [also] associate membership to all priests who wish to identify themselves with the aims and purposes of the Society." (CTSA archives)

From 1946 to 1964, 1,373 active and associate members were admitted to the CTSA. In 1964, there were about 1,100 active and associate members. With the exception of three brothers, all were priests.

III. Beginnings of Change 1964—1971

The constitution was further revised in 1964 to open active membership to "*all who are professionally competent in Sacred Theology*. . . Professional competence, in this instance, is understood to mean the possession of the licentiate degree in any of the sacred sciences from a pontifical university or a doctorate in any of the sacred sciences from a nonpontifical institution of higher learning" (*Proceedings* [1964] 236).

The lists of new members in the *Proceedings* from 1964 to 1971 distinguish among priests, brothers, laymen, sisters, and laywomen. Subsequent lists of new

members do not make these distinctions, although the 1972 and 1977 issues of the *Directory* continue to use religious titles. The changing character of the membership begins to become evident in these first years after Vatican II.

New Members Admitted to the CTSA, 1965-1971

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| Total new members | 613 (512 active, 101 associate) |
| Priests | 538 (444 active, 94 associate) |
| Laymen | 38 (31 active, 7 associate) |
| Brothers | 10 (all active) |
| Total women | 27 (all active) |
| Sisters | 22 (all active) |
| Laywomen | 5 (all active) |

Of 613 new members from 1965 to 1971, 75 (12%) are not priests.

IV. Recent Decades—Membership Profiles

In 1970 and 1974 the membership requirements were changed again. Active membership now requires the doctoral degree in theological or related studies, although the admissions committee may make exceptions. Associate membership requires the licentiate in any of the sacred sciences or significantly advanced participation in a doctoral program in these areas. The statistics drawn from the 1963, 1977, 1982, and 1992 editions of the *Directory* highlight the changing character and the current profile of the membership.

Gender of Active and Associate Members

| | MALE ACTIVE | MALE ASSOC. | FEMALE ACTIVE | FE- MALE ASSOC. | TOTAL | % FEMALE |
|------|----------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------------|-------|-------------|
| 1977 | 954 | 134 | 52 | 10 | 1,150 | 5% |
| 1982 | 1,005 | 129 | 93 | 26 | 1,253 | 9% |
| 1992 | 1,127 | 88 | 221 | 35 | 1,471 | 17% |

Degrees of Active Members

| | 1963 | 1982 | 1992 |
|-------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| STD | 367 (54%) | 447 (41%) | 426 (32%) |
| PhD | 39 (6%) | 369 (34%) | 609 (45%) |
| Other | 264 (39%) | 282 (26%) | 312 (23%) |
| Total | 670* | 1,098 | 1,347 |

*The 1963 *Directory of American Catholic Theologians* included active members who neglected to fill out their biographical cards among the associate members. Therefore the number is low.

Origins of Degrees of Active Members

| | 1963 | 1982 | 1992 |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| US Catholic | 262 (39%) | 385 (35%) | 489 (36%) |
| Canada | 30 (4%) | 61 (6%) | 89 (7%) |
| Rome | 298 (44%) | 349 (32%) | 321 (24%) |
| Europe | 38 (6%) | 164 (15%) | 183 (14%) |
| US non-Catholic | 9 (1%) | 109 (10%) | 195 (14%) |
| Not stated | 23 | 28 | 69 |
| TOTALS | 670 | 1,098 | 1,348 |

Employment of Active Members

| | 1963 | 1982 | 1992 |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| Catholic colleges and universities | 195 (29%) | 355 (32%) | 553 (41%) |
| Seminaries, unions | 370 (55%) | 196 (18%)* | 269 (19%) |
| Non-Catholic universities, seminaries | 3 (0%) | 35 (3%) | 85 (6%) |
| Pastors | 70 | 74 | 128 |
| Diocesan officials | 6 | 19 | 57 |
| Bishops | 11 | 14 | 30 |
| Other | 15 | 8 | 148 |
| Unknown | | 397 | 77 |
| | 670 | 1,098 | 1,347 |

*The apparently low number of members from seminaries and theological unions may be explained by the large number of "employment unknowns" in the 1982 *Directory*.

CTSA REPORTS OF RESEARCH PROJECTS

| | TOPIC | CHAIR | PUBLISHED |
|------|---|-----------------|---|
| 1972 | Bilateral Consultations I | Avery Dulles | <i>Proceedings</i> 27:179-232 |
| 1972 | Catholic Hospital Ethics | Warren Reich | <i>Proceedings</i> 27:241-69 |
| 1972 | Problem of Second Marriages | John Connery | <i>Proceedings</i> 27:233-40 |
| 1974 | Black Theology: Preliminary | Joseph Nearon | <i>Proceedings</i> 29:413-18 |
| 1975 | Renewal of Sacrament of Penance | Kenan Osborne | Book by CTSA |
| 1975 | Human Sexuality: Summary | Anthony Kosnik | <i>Proceedings</i> 30:221-38 |
| 1977 | Human Sexuality | Anthony Kosnik | Book by Paulist Press |
| 1978 | Women in Church and Society | Sara Butler | Book by CTSA |
| 1979 | Bilateral Consultation II | Richard McBrien | <i>Proceedings</i> 34:253-85 |
| 1980 | Cooperation between Theologians and the Church's Teaching Authority | Leo O'Donovan | <i>Proceedings</i> 35:325-36 |
| 1982 | Cooperation between Theologians and the Ecclesiastical Magisterium | Leo O'Donovan | Book by CTSA and CLSA |
| 1984 | Doctrinal Responsibilities | Leo O'Donovan | <i>Proceedings</i> 39:209-34 and CLSA <i>Proceedings</i> 45 (1983) 261-84 |
| 1986 | Approval of Catechisms and Catechetical Materials | John Boyle | <i>Proceedings</i> 41:181-204. Joint comm: CTSA, CTS, CLSA, NCDDRE |
| 1986 | Catholic Perspectives on Baptism, Eucharist, and Ministry | Michael Fahey | Book by University Press of America |
| 1990 | Profession of Faith/Oath of Fidelity | Michael Buckley | Book by CTSA |