



# ACT ACADEMY OF CATHOLIC THEOLOGY

MISERICORDIA ET VERITAS OBVIABERUNT SIBI PSALM 85

## The Constitutions of the Academy of Catholic Theology

### Article I: Mission Statement

The Academy of Catholic Theology's principal purpose is to foster theological work of the highest intellectual standard that is faithful in the Spirit to the Revelation of God in Christ, as that Revelation has been handed on in Scripture and Tradition, and authoritatively interpreted by the Magisterium. Members of the Academy seek the integration of the sacred sciences and their related subdisciplines; they further value the role of philosophical investigation, especially metaphysics, in the integration of faith and reason. In this regard the Academy subscribes to the principles articulated in Instruction on the Ecclesial Vocation of the Theologian: "In theology ... freedom of inquiry is the hallmark of a rational discipline whose object is given by Revelation, handed on and interpreted in the Church under the authority of the Magisterium, and received by faith. These givens have the force of principles." The mission of the Academy is to receive and seek to understand these givens of faith, insofar as the Holy Spirit enables us to do so in via.

### Article II: Membership and Dues

#### Section 1: Admittance into Membership; Termination of Membership, Payment of Dues

1.1 Members may nominate new members by mailing or emailing nominations to the Chair of the Board, who will, after consultation with the Board, present a slate of nominees for a vote by those present at the annual meeting.

1.2 Election of new members will be held at the annual meeting by closed ballot of all members in attendance.

1.3 Total membership should not exceed ordinary members of 50 for the first five years. Extraordinary members and honoree members are at the discretion of the elected officers.

1.4 Membership in the Academy is presumed to continue unless the member fails to pay the annual dues for two consecutive years. Non-payment of dues may be construed as a voluntary resignation from the Academy.

1.5 Failure to attend three consecutive meetings will be construed as a voluntary resignation from the Academy.

<sup>1</sup> Cf. Dei Verbum § 10: "It is clear therefore that, in the supremely wise arrangement of God, sacred Tradition, Sacred Scripture, and the Magisterium of the Church are so connected and associated that one of them cannot stand without the others. Working together, each in its own way, under the action of the one Holy Spirit, they all contribute effectively to the salvation of souls."

1.6 The payment of dues will commence when a candidate is selected for membership in the Academy.

1.7 For continuing members of the Academy the payment of annual dues will be in January of the new year.

1.8 The amount of annual dues and the registration cost for the annual meeting shall be determined by the Board of the Academy.

1.9 Membership in the Academy is by invitation only, and is open to anyone who possesses a doctoral degree, or its equivalent in academic accomplishment, and whose work accords with and furthers the Academy's principal purpose.

### Article III: Officers and Their Election

#### Section 1: Board of the Academy

1.1 The governing Board of the Academy will be made up of seven ordinary members.

1.2 The Board will elect a Chair of the Board from among its members for a 1-year term.

1.3 The Board will elect a Secretary/Treasurer from among its members for a 1-year term to perform all duties associated with the maintenance of the finances and membership of the Academy, including the collection of dues, monitoring accounts, and paying all of the bills associated with the business of the Academy.

1.4 The Board shall meet once per year, in advance of the annual meeting of the Academy, normally on the day before the meeting of the Academy.

1.5 For purposes of voting a quorum shall consist of five members of the Board and shall require a simple majority.

#### Section 2: Officers of the Academy

2.1 The Officers of the Academy will be made up of the President and Vice-President.

2.2 Membership on the governing Board of the Academy does not preclude a Board Member from being elected an Officer and serving in both positions.

#### Section 3: The Election of Board Members and Officers

3.1 Board Members and Officers shall be elected at the annual meeting of the Academy.

3.2 Any full member of the Academy may be nominated for a position on the Board or the Officers. Normally, the nomination process will take place two months before the annual meeting with a slate of candidates presented to members at the annual meeting.

3.3 Elections for Board Members or Officers shall be officiated over by the Secretary of the Academy.

3.4 Election to the Board or Officers requires a simple majority vote by secret ballot.

3.5 The Board Members shall serve staggered two year terms.

3.6 The President and Vice President shall serve one year terms.

3.7 Should a vacancy among the Board Members or the Officers occur before the end of a term, such vacancy may be filled through a simple majority vote of the Board.

3.8 No limit is set on the number of times a person may be re-elected to the Board.

#### Section 4: The Duties of the Board of the Academy

4.1 The Chair of the Board shall preside at all of the meetings of the Board.

4.2 The Chair is authorized to enter into agreements with outside parties for the sake of the business of the Academy.

4.3 The Chair shall, in consultation with the Board, oversee the acceptance of papers and panels for the annual meeting.

4.4 The Board shall be responsible for planning for the development of the Academy's finances and membership.

4.5 The Board shall be responsible for proposing the date and location of the annual meeting, to be approved one year in advance by vote of the Academy.

4.6 The Board shall propose the program for the next annual meeting, to be approved one year in advance by vote of the Academy.

4.7 The Secretary/Treasurer shall be responsible for the taking of minutes at the legislative and electoral sessions of both the Board and the Academy.

4.8 The Secretary/Treasurer shall keep an accurate list of all of the members of the Academy.

4.9 The Secretary/Treasurer shall make report on the finances of the Academy at each annual meeting.

4.10 The Board shall determine the nature of any annual awards to be granted by the Academy.

4.11 The Board shall select the recipient of any awards to be granted by the Academy.

4.12 The Board shall appoint any ad hoc committees they see fit to establish for the sake of the welfare of the Academy. All committees of the Academy shall abide by the Constitutions of the Academy.

#### Section 5: The Duties of the Officers

5.1 The President shall preside at the annual meeting of the Academy and offer the Presidential address.

5.2 The President shall either be the editor, or shall appoint the editor, of the proceedings of the annual meeting

should the President determine that these be published.

5.3 The President shall be the official spokesperson for the Academy.

5.4 The Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President if the President is unavailable.

5.5 Normally the Vice-President shall be the President-elect.

#### Article IV: Meetings of the Academy

1.1 The Academy shall meet annually at a date determined by the Board in consultation with the members of the Academy.

1.2 It shall be the normal practice of the Academy to meet in Washington, D.C. at the John Paul II Cultural Center unless circumstances warrant a meeting at some other suitable location.

1.3 Roberts' Rule of Order shall govern all of the voting and legislative deliberation of the Academy at the annual meeting.

#### Article V: Amendments to the Constitutions

1.1 The Constitutions of the Academy may be amended at the annual meeting by a two-thirds vote of those present.

1.2 Notification of a proposed change in the Constitutions of the Academy must be made available to members at least two months prior to the annual meeting.

#### Article VI: Dissolution Clause

1.1 If the Academy were to dissolve as an active organization, all remaining assets would be used exclusively for exempt purposes, i.e., charitable, religious, and educational purposes, to be determined by vote of the Board at the time of dissolution, and in accord with the law of the state of Florida in which the Academy is incorporated as a non-profit corporation.