List of ASR/ACSS Presidents, Their Presidential Address Titles, and Furfey Lecture Information

The information below was collected in ASR Archives, Marquette University, November 15, 2012, by Todd Fuist and supplemented with data gathered by James Cavendish

First Three Presidents of the American Catholic Sociological Society (ACSS):
1938: Ralph A. Gallagher, S.J., Loyola University of Chicago
1939: Raymond W. Murray, C.S.C., University of Notre Dame, Indiana
1940: Paul J. Mundie, Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin (first editor of the American Catholic Sociological Review)

1941: (ACSS) New York
President: Francis J. Friedel, S.M., University of Dayton, Ohio
Address Topic: Sociological findings must be used for the good of society. (This title was not listed in program; it came from a news article about the program.)

1942 (No Program)
President: Walter L. Willigan, St. John’s University, Jamaica, New York

1943 (No Program)
President: Eva J. Ross, Trinity College in Washington, D.C.

1944 (No Program)
President: Father Paul Hanly Furfey, Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.

1945 (No Program)
President: Brother Gerald J. Schnepp, S.M., St. Mary’s University, San Antonio, Texas

1946 (ACSS) Cleveland, Ohio
President: Alphonse H. Clemens, Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.
No address listed.

1947 (ACSS) Loyola University, Chicago
President: Leo J. Robinson, S.J., Gonzaga University, Spokane, Washington
No address listed.

1948 (ACSS) Loyola University, Chicago
President: Franz Mueller, College of St. Thomas, St. Paul, Minnesota.
Address called simply “Presidential Address.”

1949 (ACSS) Fordham University, New York
President: Monsignor Robert B. Navin, St. John’s College, Cleveland, Ohio
Address called simply “Presidential Address.”
1950 (ACSS) Loyola University, Chicago
President: Clement S. Mihanovich, St. Louis University
Address called simply “Presidential Address.”

1951 (ACSS) Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.
President: Thomas J. Harte, Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.
No address listed.

1952 (ACSS) Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI
President: John J. Kane, University of Notre Dame, Indiana
No address listed. There was a news article in the archives that suggested that Dr. John J. Kane of Notre Dame spoke on survey results that pointed to beliefs by protestant clergy that Catholics would steer the country in undemocratic directions if they became a majority group. The paper titles for sessions at this time, I should add, tend to focus very strongly on Catholic issues and concerns.

1953 (ACSS) St. John’s College, Cleveland, OH
President: Joseph Fitzpatrick, S.J., Fordham University
No address listed.

1954 (ACSS) Loyola University, Chicago
President: C. J. Nuesse, Catholic University of American, Washington, D.C.
No address listed.

1955 (ACSS) (No program)
President: Sister Mary Jeanine Gruesser, O.S.F., Cardinal Stritch College, Milwaukee

1956 (ACSS) Philadelphia
President: Brother D. Augustine McCaffrey, F.C.S., La Salle College, Philadelphia

1957 (ACSS) (No program)
President: Allen Spitzer, St. Louis University

1958 (ACSS) (No program)
President: John D. Donovan, Boston College

1959 (ACSS) (No program)
President: Sister Mary Edward Healy, C.S.J., College of St. Catherine, St. Paul, Minnesota

1960 (ACSS) Fordham University, New York
President: John L. Thomas, S.J., St. Louis University
Address called simply “Presidential Address.”

1961 (ACSS) St. Louis University, St. Louis
President: Jack H. Curtis, Marquette University
Address called simply “Presidential Address.”
1962 (ACSS) Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.
President: Sister Frances Jerome Woods, C.D.P., Our Lady of the Lake College.
Address called simply “Presidential Address.”

1963 (ACSS) Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles
President: John E. Hughes, Villanova University
No address listed.

1964 (ACSS) Montreal, Canada
President: Paul Facey, S.J., College of the Holy Cross
The program makes it look like the presidential address is by William Liu of Notre Dame, and
the topic is “Church and Community: The Case of the South.” However, a later program claims
the president for this year was actually Paul Facey. The program itself was unclear about this.

1965 (ACSS) Chicago
President: Paul Mundy, Loyola University of Chicago
No address listed.

1966 (ACSS) Miami Beach, FL
Theme: “The Church and the World: Focus on Change.”
President: Father Andrew M. Greeley, NORC, University of Chicago
Postscript).”

1967 (ACSS) San Francisco
Theme: “The Relevance of Research in the Sociology of Religion.”
President: Donald N. Barrett, University of Notre Dame
No address title listed.

1968 (ACSS) Boston
Theme: “Religion and Milieu.”
President: Gordon C. Zahn, University of Massachusetts at Boston
No address title listed.

1969 (ACSS) San Francisco
President: Robert J. McNamara, (then S.J.), Fordham University
No address title listed.

1970 (ACSS) Washington, D.C.
Theme: “Changing Social Structures, Focus on Religious Attitudes and Values.”
President: Paul J. Reiss, Fordham University.
No address title listed.

The name of the association changes from the American Catholic Sociological Society (ACSS)
to the Association for the Sociology of Religion (ASR).
1971 Joint Annual Meeting of the ASR and the Religious Research Association (RRA)
President: Ralph Lane Jr., University of San Francisco, first president of the reorganized and renamed Association for the Sociology of Religion.
No address title listed.
RRA’s H. Paul Douglas Lecture was on “Religion and Public Policy.”

1972 ASR Annual Meeting, New Orleans
President: Sister Marie Augusta Neal, S.N.D., Emmanuel College in Boston
Theme: “Religion as a Force in Revolutionary Social Change.”
Presidential Address: “How Prophesy [sic?] Lives.”

1973 ASR Annual Meeting
President: Thomas P. Imse, College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, Massachusetts
Presidential Address: “The Struggle of Secularism” (read by William Jarrett in Imse’s absence).

1974 ASR Annual Meeting, Montreal, Canada
President: William H. Jarrett, Canisius College, Buffalo, New York
No address title listed.

1975 ASR Annual Meeting, San Francisco
President: Ruth A. Wallace, George Washington University
Presidential Address: “Bringing Women In: Marginality in the Churches.”

1976 ASR Annual Meeting, New York
President: John L. Thomas, S.J., Georgetown University
Presidential Address: “Prolegomena to a Sociology of Organized Religious Systems.”

1977 ASR Annual Meeting, Chicago
President: David O. Moberg, Marquette University
No address title listed.

1978 ASR Annual Meeting, San Francisco
Theme: “Religion and Public Policy.”
President: Thomas M. Gannon, S.J., Loyola University, Chicago
Presidential Address: “Religious Tradition and Urban Community.”

1979 ASR Annual Meeting, Boston
Theme: “Religion and the Construction of Social Problems.”
President: Jeffrey K. Hadden, University of Virginia in Charlottesville
Presidential Address: “Religion and the Construction of Social Problems.”

1980 ASR Annual Meeting, New York
President: Carroll Julian Bourg, (formerly S.J.), Fisk University
Presidential Address: “Politics and Religion.”
1981 ASR Annual Meeting, St. Michael’s College, Toronto
President: Hart M. Nelson, Louisiana State University (before moving to Penn State University)
Presidential Address: “The Church and Critical Choices in the 1980s.”
Furfey Lecture: Marie Augusta Neal, Emmanuel College, “Commitment to Altruism in
Sociological Analysis.” (First appearance in program of Furfey Lecture.)

1982 ASR Annual Meeting, Providence, RI
Theme: “Religion and Power.”
President: Meredith B. McGuire, Trinity University in San Antonio
No address title listed.
Plenary Address: Wilfred Cantwell Smith, Harvard University, “Religion, Power, and the
Human.”
Furfey Lecture: James A. Beckford, University of Durham, “The Restoration of ‘Power’ to the
Sociology of Religion.”
Religion and Power since 1900.”

1983 ASR Annual Meeting, Detroit, MI
President: Rodney Stark, University of Washington
Presidential Address: “Exploring Religious Economics.”
Furfey Lecture: James R. Wood, Indiana University, “Leaders, Values, and Societal Change:
Towards a Research Agenda.”

1984 ASR Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX
Theme: “Religion and Secular Change: Problems of Conflict and Accommodation.”
President: Patrick H. McNamara, University of New Mexico.
Presidential Address: “Conservative Christian Families and Their Moral World: Some
Reflections for Sociologists.”
Furfey Lecture: Theodore Caplow, University of Virginia, “Contrasting Religious Trends in
America and Europe.”

1985 ASR Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C.
Theme: “Religion and the Human Condition.”
President: William R. Garrett, St. Michael’s College, Vermont (ordained Baptist minister)
Presidential Address: “Religion, Law, and the Human Condition.”
Furfey Lecture: Guy Swanson, University of California Berkeley, “Immanence and
Transcendence: Connections with Personality and Personal Life.”

1986 ASR Annual Meeting New York
Theme: “Religion, Social Structure, and Human Lives.”
President: James T. Richardson, University of Nevada at Reno
Furfey Lecture: Karel Dobbelaeere, Catholic University of Leuven (Belgium), “Some Recent
Trends in the Sociology of Religion in Europe.”
1987 ASR Annual Meeting, Chicago
Theme: “Mainlines and Sidelines: Trends in Religious Behavior.”
President: (Guy) Benton Johnson, University of Oregon
Presidential Address: “On Founders and Followers, Some Obstacles to the Stabilization of Charismatic Movements.”

1988 ASR Annual Meeting, Atlanta
Theme: “America, Religion, and the World.”
President: Roland Robertson, University of Pittsburg
Presidential Address: “America, Religion, and the World.”

1989 ASR Annual Meeting, San Francisco
President: James A. Beckford, University of Warwick (England)
Presidential Address: “The Sociology of Religion and Social Problems.”
Furfey Lecture: Thomas Luckmann, University of Constance (Germany), “Shrinking Transcendence, Expanding Religion?”

1990 ASR Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C.
Theme: “Religion, Tradition, and Motivation.”
President: Helen Rose Ebaugh, University of Houston
Presidential Address: “The Revitalization Movement in the Catholic Church: A Social Movement Perspective on Vatican II.”
Furfey Lecture: Martin Marty, University of Chicago, “Never the Same Again: Post-Vatican II Catholic-Protestant Interactions.”

1991 ASR Annual Meeting, Cincinnati, OH
Theme: “Religion in Society.”
President: Theodore E. Long, Merrimack College (before being elected President of Elizabethtown College).
Presidential Address: “Religion and Social Theory: Relocating the Sacred in Sociology and Society.”

1992 ASR Annual Meeting, Pittsburgh, PA
Theme: “Religion and the Reconstruction of Society.”
President: Edward C. Lehman, Jr., State University of New York College at Brockport
Presidential Address: “Gender and Ministry Style: Things Not What They Seem.”
Furfey Lecture: Eileen Barker, London School of Economics, “Behold the New Jerusalems!”
1993 ASR Annual Meeting, Miami Beach, FL
Theme: “Religion, Autonomy, Authority and Democracy.”
President: William V. D’Antonio, Catholic University of America
Presidential Address: “Autonomy and Democracy in an Autocratic Organization: The Case of the Roman Catholic Church.”
Furfey Lecture: N.J. Demerath III, University of Massachusetts Amherst, (No title listed.)

1994 ASR Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, CA
President: David G. Bromley, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Virginia

1995 ASR Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C.
Theme: “Community, Globality, and Research Paradigms in the Sociology of Religion.”
President: John H. Simpson, University of Toronto
Presidential Address: “The ‘Great Reversal’: Selves, Communities, and the Global System.”
Furfey Lecture: Roger O’Toole, University of Toronto, “Salvation, Redemption, and community: Reflections on the Aesthetic Cosmos.”

1996 ASR Annual Meeting, New York
Theme: “Understanding Religion, Understanding Society.”
President: Nancy Tatom Ammerman, Hartford Seminary
Presidential Address: “Organized Religion in a Voluntaristic Society.”

1997 ASR Annual Meeting, Toronto
Theme: “Modeling Diversity, Understanding Religious Ecologies.”
President: R. Stephen Warner, University of Illinois at Chicago
Presidential Address: “Approaching Religious Diversity: Barriers, Byways, and Beginnings.”

1998 ASR Annual Meeting, San Francisco
Theme: “Retrieval and Critique: Contributions of Sociology of Religion to a Critical Social Science.”
President: James R. Kelly, Fordham University
Presidential Address: “Sociology and Public Theology: A Case Study of Pro-Choice/Pro-Life Common Ground.”
Furfey Lecture: John A. Coleman, S.J., Loyola Marymount University, “The Bible and Sociology.”
1999 ASR Annual Meeting, Chicago
Theme: “Religion, Gender, and the 21st Century.”
President: Nancy Nason-Clark, University of New Brunswick
Presidential Address: “Making the Sacred Safe: Woman Abuse and Communities of Faith.”
Furfey Lecture: Mary Jo Neitz, University of Missouri, “Queering the Dragonfest: Changing Sexualities in a Non-Patriarchal Religion.”

2000 ASR Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C.
Theme: “Religion and Global Civil Society.”
President: Jose Casanova, New School for Social Research
Presidential Address: “Religion and Global Civil Society.”

2001 ASR Annual Meeting, Anaheim, CA
Theme: “Religion and Social Marginality.”
President: Anthony J. Blasi, Tennessee State University
Presidential Address: “Marginality as a Societal Position of Religion.”

2002 ASR Annual Meeting, Chicago
Theme: “Freedom and Control.”
President: Eileen Barker, London School of Economics
Presidential Address: “And the Wisdom to Know the Difference? Freedom, Control, and Responsibility- and the Sociology of Religion.”

2003 ASR Annual Meeting, Atlanta
Theme: “Sociology of Religion: Constructing an Agenda.”
President: Grace Davie, Exeter University (UK)
Presidential Address: “Creating an Agenda in the Sociology of Religion: Common Sources/Different Pathways.”

2004 ASR Annual Meeting, San Francisco
Theme: “The Causes and Consequences of Contemporary Moralities.”
President: Joseph B. Tamney, Ball State University
Presidential Address: “The Failure of Liberal Morality.”
Furfey Lecture: Immanuel Wallerstein, “Render Unto Caesar? The Dilemmas of a Multicultural World.”
2005 ASR Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA
Theme: “Religion, Politics, and the State at Home and Abroad.”
President: N.J. Demerath III, University of Massachusetts Amherst
Presidential Address: “Dear Mr. President: Assessing Religion and Politics during Your Administration for Posteriority.”

2006 ASR Annual Meeting, Montreal, Quebec, CANADA
Theme: “Intersections: History Meets the Sociology of Religion….Again.”
President: Kevin Christiano, University of Notre Dame
Presidential Address: “Clio Goes to Church: Revisiting and Revitalizing Historical Thinking in the Sociology of Religion.”
Furfey Lecture: Robert Wuthnow, Princeton University, “Cognition and Religion.”

2007 ASR Annual Meeting, New York
Theme: “Striving for a Better World: Religion and Social Change.”
President: James D. Davidson, Purdue University

2008 ASR Annual Meeting, Boston
Theme: “Religion Crossing Boundaries.”
President: Mary Jo Neitz, University of Missouri
Presidential Address: “Encounters in the Heartland: What Studying Rural Congregations Taught Me about Working across Differences.”
Furfey Lecture: Allison Hedge Coke, University of Nebraska, Kearney, “Principle.”

2009 ASR Annual Meeting, San Francisco
Theme: “Religion, Culture, Politics.”
President: Michele Dillon, University of New Hampshire
Presidential Address: “Can Post-Secular Society Tolerate Religious Differences?”

2010 ASR Annual Meeting, Atlanta
Theme: “Religion, Identity, and Place.”
President: Rhys H. Williams, Loyola University Chicago
Presidential Address: “Creating an American Islam: Thoughts on Religion, Identity, and Place.”
Furfey Lecture: Janet L. Jacobs, University of Colorado, “Sacred Space and Collective Memory: Memorializing Genocide at Sites of Terror.”
2011 ASR Annual Meeting, Las Vegas
Theme: “Socially Engaged Religion in a Global Context.”
President: Peter Beyer, University of Ottawa
Furfey Lecture: Tariq Modood, University of Bristol, “Religion Engaged in the Public Sphere: A Crisis in Secularism?”

2012 ASR Annual Meeting, Denver
Theme: “Religion and Social Change.”
President: Roger Finke, Pennsylvania State University
Furfey Lecture: Jose Casanova, Georgetown University, “Social Change and Religious Dynamics: Pre-Axial, Axial, Post-Axial.”

2013 ASR Annual Meeting, New York
Theme: “Tributaries, Eddies, and Cross-Currents: Religion Outside the Mainstream.”
President: Fred Kniss, Eastern Mennonite University
Presidential Address: “Against the Flow: Learning from New, Emergent, and Peripheral Religious Currents.”

2014 ASR Annual Meeting, San Francisco
Theme: “Religion as a Social Force.”
President: Chris Ellison, University of Texas, San Antonio
Furfey Lecture: Neal Krause, University of Michigan. “Making the Work We Do More Relevant: Using Religion and Health as a Template.”

2015 ASR Annual Meeting, Chicago
Theme: “Understanding Religious Change.”
President: Melissa Wilde, University of Pennsylvania

2016 ASR Annual Meeting, Seattle
President: Lori Beaman, University of Ottawa