

Call for Applications: Editor of *Sociology of Religion*

Association for the Sociology of Religion

Submission Deadline: August 1st, 2022

The Association for the Sociology of Religion (ASR) invites applications for the position 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 two-year (3.476) impact factor, placing it as the top journal in the sociology of religion, and a top 25 journal in sociology more broadly.

The journal is published by Oxford University Press on a quarterly basis and is highly competitive, with an 11% acceptance rate and around 200 manuscripts submitted annually. The journal is also highly efficient, with a 12-week average decision time frame on submitted manuscripts.

Published articles commonly feature research on the contours and antecedents of religious involvement, the consequences of religiosity for other domains of social life (gender, health, politics, etc.), the 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 deal with a wide array of topics, reflecting the best 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 are 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. Research published in the journal is promoted through various venues, including social media (e.g., @SORJournal Twitter account), a regular podcast with authors, and the annual meetings of the Association for the Sociology of Religion (held in August).

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 the ASR Council, with plans to have selected an Editor-elect in the summer of 2022. The Editor of *Sociology of Religion* serves at the discretion of the ASR Council, with a report delivered at each annual meeting serving as a critical means of the Council's assessment of the Editor's performance.

The successful applicant is expected to serve a three-year term as Editor beginning in 2023. A twelve-month apprentice year as Editor-elect during the 2022 calendar year will permit the successful applicant to transition into the role with direction from the journal's current Editor. A successful three-year term as Editor may lead to one or more additional terms, if the Editor and

Council both support this additional appointment. Regardless of the number of terms served, an additional yearlong commitment past the regular term is anticipated to provide consultation to the next Editor on an as needed basis. The apprentice year for the Editor-elect and the consulting year for the past-Editor are each supported by a modest stipend (\$1000). The apprentice year stipend is coupled with funds to support the Editor-elect's travel to the ASR annual meeting and, if needed, a training visit between the Editor and Editor-elect. Additional Editor-elect travel for an editor orientation hosted and financially supported by the publisher is also likely during the initial transition year. In summary, a standard three-year term entails a five-year commitment as described below.

Five-Year Editor Commitment for Sociology of Religion

- Year 1—Apprentice year: Serve as Editor-elect (\$1,000 incoming transition stipend for Editor-elect with additional travel funds) during which the Editor-elect is trained by the current Editor
 - This year overlaps with the final year of the Editor's regular term
- Years 2-4—Editor's regular term: Normal term of service as Editor (annual Editor stipend of \$10,500 with additional annual meeting travel funds and discretionary funds)
 - Note that, for one term of service, year 4 doubles as the last year of the regular term and the Editor-elect's apprentice year
- Year 5—Consulting year: Editor's term had previously concluded, but the past-Editor might be consulted periodically by new Editor (\$1,000 outgoing transition stipend for past-Editor)

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 the ASR 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 and members of the Editorial Board.

The successful applicant will be provided with the following during the three-year regular term as Editor.

- An annual editorial stipend of \$10,500 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 that could 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 negotiation with and approval by Council
- Book Review Editor, selected by the Editor and subject to Council's 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

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

- 1. Applicant background and qualifications.** In one to two single-spaced pages, identify and describe previous and current positions held, as well as any other professional experience and notable achievements to date. Due attention should be given to how the applicant's positions, experience, and achievements have prepared them to assume the role of Editor and conduct the activities the appointment requires.
- 2. Primary goals and proposed actions.** In one to two single-spaced pages, articulate the primary goals that are anticipated to guide the editorial term and the corresponding actions that would constitute the execution of duties as Editor. Aspirations for the journal and a means of realizing them should be conveyed.
- 3. Institutional environment and support.** In approximately one single-spaced page, describe the institutional environment in which the current position is held and briefly discuss any forms of support that are anticipated to be offered by the institution. A summary of how those resources will facilitate the discharge of editorial responsibilities is requested. ASR Council recognizes that a period of negotiation may be needed to finalize any mechanisms of institutional support.
- 4. Appendix A: Institutional letter of support.** All applications should include, as Appendix A, a letter of institutional support provided by a college dean or comparable administrator with the authority to approve the appointment and marshal the resources that are necessary to serve in the role of Editor. Letters that indicate specific means and degrees of support (course releases, office space, administrative assistance, and other forms of support) are strongly encouraged.
- 5. Appendix B: Curriculum vita.** Please 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 (all five items) as a single PDF document to Rachel Kraus, Executive Officer of ASR, at ASREO@bsu.edu no later than August 1st 2022.