

Bylaws International Organization for Qumran Studies (IOQS)
Accepted at the business meeting of the IOQS, July 21, 2016, in Leuven

Bylaws

- 1) The International Organization for Qumran Studies (hereinafter IOQS or the Organization) is constituted for the study of the Dead Sea Scrolls from any academic approach, methodology or purpose. It also includes the study of texts and subjects related to research into the Dead Sea Scrolls.
- 2) The IOQS shall have a regular conference, and possibly other academic meetings and activities. The Organization's main conference should be held every three years in conjunction with the International Organization for the Study of the Old Testament, or, in exceptional cases, to be determined by the Executive Committee, with the Society of Biblical Literature or the European Association of Biblical Studies. The triennial Business Meeting will be held during this conference.
- 3) Membership in the IOQS is obtained by presentation of a paper at one of the IOQS conferences or can be granted by the Executive Committee at request. There is no membership fee; members agree to sharing their email address with the Secretary and Web Officer so as to be in receipt of circulars pertaining to the activities of the IOQS. No electronic or other data will be shared with any other organisation or with other members of the IOQS.

Conferences

- 4) The triennial main conference may be focused on a specific topic in the study of the Dead Sea Scrolls to be determined by the Executive Committee, but also aims at giving opportunities to all scholars in the field of Dead Sea Scrolls studies to present their research.

Business Meetings

- 5) All members attending the IOQS's triennial conference may attend and vote in the triennial Business Meeting.
- 6) Any member or group of members of the IOQS may bring a motion for consideration to the Organization, usually at the triennial Business Meeting. Major motions should be in written form and submitted to the Secretary at least one week before the Meeting. The Secretary will take steps to ensure that all such motions are circulated as widely as possible among the membership before consideration. The membership may vote to waive this rule concerning time in particular circumstances.
- 7) Quorum. The members of the IOQS present at the publicized triennial Business Meeting shall constitute a quorum.
- 8) Special business meetings and/or votes of the membership to consider special questions or issues may be held. These may be held during the triennial conference or between such conferences. The latter should be held via some form of distance communication, such as email. The President and/or a majority of the Executive Committee shall have the authority to convene such a meeting.

The Executive Committee (EC)

- 9) The IOQS shall have an Executive Committee to carry out the goals of the Organization, to implement decisions of the membership, and to make decisions on behalf of the Organization in between Business Meetings.
- 10) The EC of the IOQS shall consist of six members, namely three officers and three at-

- large members. The three officers will be the President, the Secretary, and a Web Officer. The President shall direct the Organization, organize its triennial conference, and is responsible for the publication of a selection of its papers. The Secretary shall be in charge of correspondence of the organization, for the keeping up of both a list of members of the IOQS and a mailinglist of scholars involved in Qumran Studies, and the taking and maintaining of written records of the Organization and its decisions. The Secretary shall serve as Acting President should the President be unable to fulfill his or her duties. The at-large members shall also assist the President in the accomplishment of his or her duties, including the organization of the triennial conference. The Web Officer will create and maintain an official website of the IOQS.
- 11) The three at-large members of the EC should be representative of the following three geographic constituencies of the global academy (Northern and Southern America; Europe and Africa; Asia and Australasia). The overall membership of the EC should reflect as much as possible the diversities of the membership of the IOQS.
 - 12) The IOQS members shall elect the officers and EC members at the triennial Business Meeting. Nominations may be communicated to an officer beforehand, or made from the floor during the meeting. Nominations require a proposer, a second, and the agreement of the individual proposed.
 - 13) Officers and members of the EC shall serve for a term of three years. They may be re-elected twice to the same position, for a total of three terms. After a term out of that position, they may be reelected.
 - 14) Any member of the EC shall have the authority to convene a meeting of the EC, giving ample notice to all members. A quorum of the EC shall be four, including proxy votes. Meetings may be held in person or by electronic means, including email. Except in extraordinary circumstances, such meetings should be convened in association with the President or the Secretary.
 - 15) At the option of the President, decisions may be taken by the EC without officially convening a meeting. All members should be clearly informed of the matters needing attention and given ample notice. Votes may be taken in person, by mail, or by electronic means.
 - 16) The EC may establish committees or subcommittees to assist in accomplishing its tasks.
 - 17) The EC shall have the ability to elect new members to itself between business meetings to complete unfilled terms.
 - 18) These Bylaws may be amended by a vote of two-thirds of the members attending the triennial Business Meeting or between meetings by two-thirds of the written votes of members according to Article 3.