



# Catholic Research Resources Alliance

## BYLAWS FOR THE CATHOLIC RESEARCH RESOURCES ALLIANCE (CRRA)

### Article I. Name, Mission and Purpose.

**Section I. Name.** The name of this organization shall be The Catholic Research Resources Alliance (hereinafter referred to as CRRA).

**Section 2. Mission.** CRRA's mission is to provide enduring global access to Catholic research resources in the Americas.

**Section 3. Purpose.** The purpose of CRRA shall be to:

- Ensure permanent global access to all Catholic research resources
- Promote the advancement and dissemination of knowledge and services reflecting the Catholic intellectual tradition
- Facilitate the sharing of scholarship which studies and presents the Catholic intellectual tradition and correlative disciplines
- Make accessible to a global community information concerning Catholic research resources whether in print, digital, or other formats
- Cooperate with charitable, educational, theological and other library organizations, institutions, agencies, or consortia, whether public or private, in developing and/or providing library and information services for the good of the global community interested in Catholic intellectual scholarship;
- Develop and encourage activities which enhance global access to information and educational resources and services relating to Catholic scholarship;
- Promote efficient access to the Catholic information, library and archival resources in the Americas through maintenance of a single entity, such as a resource web portal or similar structure, to which participating institutions may contribute.

### Article II. Organization and Membership.

**Section 1.** Organization of the Catholic Research Resources Alliance.

The CRRA is a collaboration of academic institutions created to share their resources electronically and is composed of the following committees:

The Founding Steering Committee was composed of representatives of the Founding Member institutions. The Steering Committee is now known as the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors is a self-perpetuating Board which administers the CRRA, including responsibility for strategic planning, finance and funding sources. The Board shall determine the needs of the CRRA and shall determine the criteria, rights, and responsibilities of each category of membership. Members of the other committees are recommended and appointed by the Board of Directors.

Collections Committee of librarians, archivists and other specialists who select representative materials from among the members' collections to focus on particular aspects of Catholic research

Digital Access Committee of librarians, archivists, and other specialists who develop and follow best practices for the access to and preservation of Catholic resources

Scholars Committee of scholars and researchers who advise on areas of content and collections which would best serve the needs of scholars active in Catholic research.

Leadership Council: an honorary committee of invited prominent scholars, theologians and leaders who recognize the need for the access to and dissemination of Catholic research resources and who will promote the activities of the Catholic Research Resources Alliance.

Other Committees may be added from time to time at the judgment of the Board of Directors.

## **Section 2. Categories of Members.**

Founding Members: The Founding Members of the Catholic Research Resources Alliance are Boston College, Georgetown University, Marquette University, St. Edwards University, Seton Hall University, The Catholic University of America, University of Notre Dame and the University of San Diego. Representatives of these institutions formed the original Steering Committee.

Full Members: Full members will have the ability to participate fully in the activities of the CRRA in accordance with the CRRA Prospectus. Full membership shall include participation in the governance of the organization and the right to vote on membership decisions.

Limited Membership: categories shall be established to meet the needs of institutions that do not qualify for full membership or that desire to participate only with limited activity or services. Limited members do not have the right to vote on membership decisions.

### **Section 3. Voting Privileges.**

Voting and non-voting members shall have such rights and privileges as shall be determined by the Board of Directors except as otherwise provided in these BYLAWS.

Each voting member shall appoint one (1) official representative who shall have one (1) vote. The name and address of the official representative shall be submitted by the voting member to the Chair of the CRRA. The official representative may be changed or a temporary substitute may be appointed, provided that such change or substitution shall be submitted by the member to the Chair of CRRA.

### **Section 4. Dues and Fees.**

Dues and fees shall be in such amount as shall be determined by the Board of Directors. Dues are defined as the standard assessment paid by members to support central services, and fees are defined as the charges paid for special services or projects that may arise from time to time. Whenever there is a proposed change in the dues or fees, the Board shall provide a review and justification.

The current schedule of dues and fees shall remain in effect until such time as a new schedule is approved.

The method of collection of dues and fees on which they are payable shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

In the case of non-payment, rights and privileges of membership maybe withheld as determined by the Board of Directors.

## **Article III. Board of Directors**

### **Section 1. Composition.**

The Board of Directors shall be composed of members from the Full Membership organizations.

### **Section 2. Delegation of powers.**

The Board of Directors may delegate any of its powers to one or more officers, committees, or members of the CRRA, subject to such limitations as the Board may impose.

The Board of Directors may authorize any officer or agents, in the name of and on behalf of CRRA, to enter into or execute and deliver any and all, contracts, and other obligations or instruments. Such authority may be general or confined to specific instances.

### **Section 3. Meetings**

Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at least once each year at such time and place as may be determined by the Board.

Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the Chair at any time, or at the request of three or more members of the Board.

### **Section 4. Action Without a Meeting.**

Any action which may be taken at any meeting of the Board of Directors may be taken without a meeting, provided that all members of the Board shall submit their vote in writing, or electronically, and that the record of such action and the result of such vote shall be filed with the minutes of the meetings of the Steering Committee. Such written or electronic vote shall be treated for all purposes as a vote at a meeting.

### **Section 5. Quorum.**

A simple majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Board.

## **Article IV. Amendments.**

These BYLAWS may be amended at any meeting of the organization by a two-thirds vote provided that the amendment has been submitted with the call for the meeting. The Board of Directors may also amend these BYLAWS by a two-third vote at any meeting of the Board provided that the proposed amendment has been submitted with the notice of the meeting. The Board shall give written notice of such amendments to the membership before the next meeting of members. Any amendment adopted by the Board shall be valid until acted upon by the members at the next regular meeting or by mail ballot.

ADOPTED: FEBRUARY 4, 2008