

Church and Academy

Purpose:

The impetus for a section on the ‘Church and the Academy’ grows out of a sense of a broadening gap between the church and the academy, as well as challenges in both institutions that could be met at least in part by a closer union between them. The purpose of the Church and Academy section, therefore, is to develop historical, theological, and social analysis on the relation between the church and the academy, especially within Stone-Campbell ecclesial contexts, through generative and peer review sessions at the Christian Scholars Conference. We hope this research effects three specific outcomes: to maintain and encourage the strong commitment to ecclesial life among scholarly practitioners within the academy, to encourage the development of lifelong scholarly engagement among ministers and other church leaders, and, thereby, to effect a more unified practical, intellectual, and spiritual union between the Church and the Academy that enriches the life of both institutions.

Constitution:

The Church and Academy Section will be served by a section committee of no less than 4 and no more than 6 members. Each member agrees to serve 3 years with one member rotating off every year. The board must consist of at least one person who is a full time minister by some reasonable definition. The board must also consist of at least one woman and one person of color.

A ‘chair’ will be appointed each year by a vote of the committee whose function will be to organize an annual meeting with the committee and in consultation with the conference director, David Fleer, and to arrange the sessions at each conference. The committee will consult together to determine the nature and number of sessions (no less than 2 each year) and will assist in the process for selecting submitted papers/abstracts.