

REA : APPRRE

All about us!

Pittsburgh

4 November 2016



Introductions



History

- Begun in 1903 by an interdenominational gathering of scholars (mostly college presidents and Bible scholars), early on included William Rainey Harper and John Dewey
- 1920's and 1930's there was a shift to become more interfaith and widely ecumenical and a focus which included professionals in the field
- 1950's as the organization grew very active, people began to form their own more specific denominational and professional gatherings
- 1970's saw the founding of an association specifically of professors of religious education (APRRE)
- 2003 APRRE and REA joined to once again be primarily a scholarly society (formally named the Religious Education Association: An Association of Professors, Practitioners and Researchers in Religious Education)

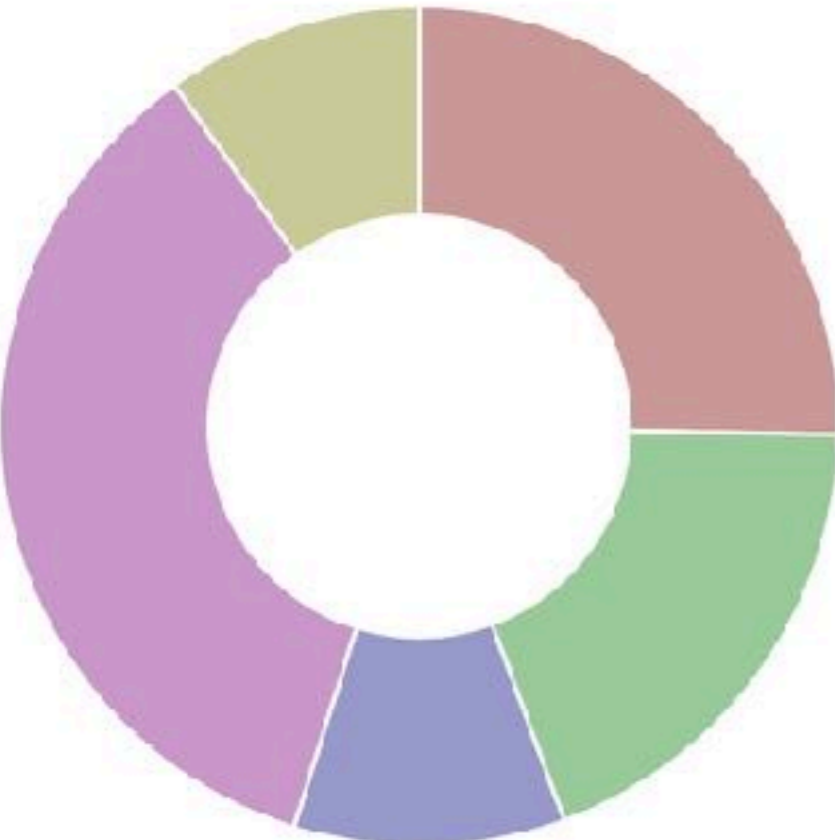
The mission of the Religious Education Association is to create opportunities for exploring and advancing the interconnected practices of scholarship, research, teaching, and leadership in faith communities, academic institutions, and the wider world community.

4 Goals

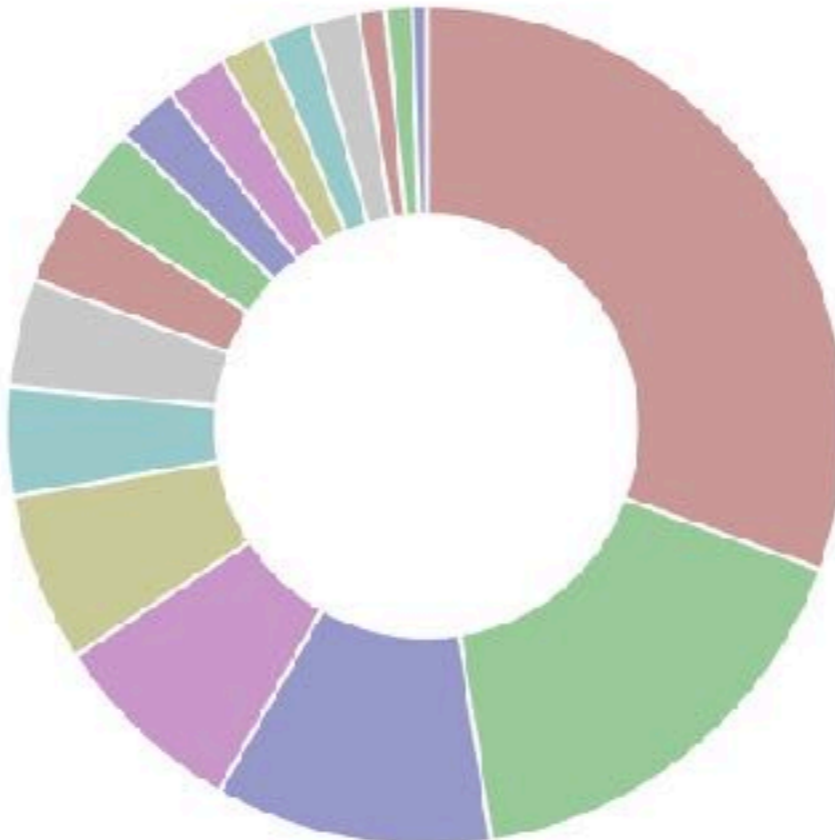
- Through **sharing, critiquing and encouraging publication** of substantive research, probing scholarship and practical approaches to religious education (particularly through its journal *Religious Education* and the book series *Horizons*);
- Through **ecumenical, inter-religious, and cross-cultural, interdisciplinary and inter-professional dialogue** that stimulates members to recall and examine historic traditions and explore fresh visions of religious education for the diverse and ever-changing human family in our complex world community;
- Through **creation of international networks** of communication, cooperation and support in order to strengthen leaders in religious education, and religious education as a distinctive and vital field; and
- Through **interpreting the nature, purposes, and value of the field** of religious education to the wider society and those preparing to become professors, researchers, or other leaders in religious education.

Membership

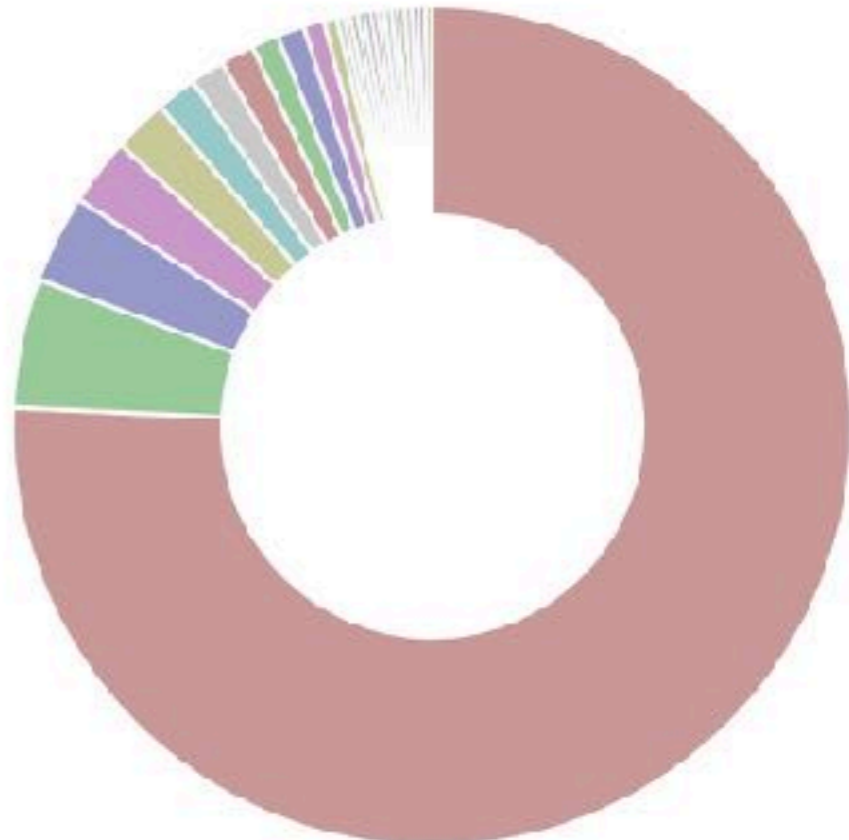
- primarily professors, teachers and scholars in religious education, although significant professionals are also involved
- international, although primarily North American
- doctoral students are particularly encouraged
- members from multiple faith traditions and institutional settings, although still primarily Christian and educational



Membership level distribution.



Faiths represented by REA members.



Countries represented by REA members.

stats online

Membership processes

- membership is for one year, sliding scale fees
- full subscription to the journal, access shortly after you join (if you do it online)
- join online (religiouseducation.net/join)
- you can renew online as well
- there is a password protected membership directory

Organization

- Board made up of officers, chairs of standing committees, and a student representative
- Board also includes *ex officio* the secretary, networking coordinator, and journal editor
- an internationally recognized scholarly journal, *Religious Education*, a monograph publication series *Horizons*, a quarterly newsletter *eREACH*
- three standing committees: religious education in academic disciplines and institutions, religious education in faith communities, religious education in public life and global community
- several “as needed” working groups focused on specific topics in any given year
- annual conferences and annual sessions at the AAR meeting
- a variety of digital presences (website, Facebook, Vimeo, Twitter, etc.)

Communication

- Website (<http://www.religiouseducation.net/>)
- Facebook page (<http://bit.ly/reafacebook>)
- eREACH newsletter (www.religiouseducation.net/newsletters/ereach)
- Twitter (<https://twitter.com/reaapprre>)
- Vimeo (<https://vimeo.com/reaapprre>)

Opportunities

- Call for papers for the next annual meeting posted every year early in November, non-members can submit papers but if chosen (through a blind process) they must join in order to present
- Scholarly journal accepts submissions from around the world, *Religious Education*
- Scholarly book series, *Horizons in Religious Education*
- Employment listings and other news via RSS at the website
- Small grants available through the *Harper Committee*

Q & A

www.religiouseducation.net