CTSA Centennial Committee
Brief Overview
September 2022

Description and Purpose
The Centennial Committee’s purpose is to work with the Board of Directors to help the CTSA to attend to North American Catholic theology’s evolving contours and national and international contexts, challenges and opportunities; to articulate a guiding vision for the CTSA at 100, and to develop, recommend, and assist the Board in carrying out strategic plans for advancing the Society’s mission in light of these.

Recognizing the crucial role that financial resources play in enabling the Society to carry out its mission, the Centennial Committee will incorporate a focus on financial sustainability. Its purpose however, is broader – namely, to assist the Board and CTSA membership in engaging in long range and strategic planning that sets financial and other resourcing goals within the larger, orienting context of the CTSA’s mission, and of a shared vision for the Society’s next quarter-century.

This vision for “the CTSA at 100,” to be articulated with wide membership consultation, will be shaped in response to questions such as, What may or ought the CTSA look like three, five or ten years down the road? What guiding vision for The CTSA at 100 best reflects our Society’s mission and aspirations within the changed and changing circumstances of the 21st century? What priority issues and strategic goals can most fruitfully orient our work to advance this vision, and as we approach our 80th, 85th, 90th, and 95th and Centennial anniversaries? [See CTSA Board, Approved Motion, 6/10/2022]

Oriented by this vision, the Committee, working under the authority of the Board, will be responsible for developing, submitting to the Board for approval, helping to monitor, and periodically refreshing and updating a series of mission-driven, multi-year (3-5 year) strategic plans for the CTSA.

In sum, the Centennial Committee will help the Board and the members of the Society to consider in an ongoing way two fundamental questions: “Who do we want to be at 100?” and “What do we need to get there?” The Committee will formulate and recommend to the Board strategic plans for enacting the Society’s necessarily-evolving answers to these questions. [Detailed further in Centennial Document, Sections I, II]

Committee Composition, Leadership, and Terms
The Centennial Committee will ordinarily be composed of six at-large members, appointed by the President (who also appoints a Chair) to staggered, three-year terms and chosen to represent the varied diversities of Society’s membership, plus three ex-officio members (President, Past-President, and Treasurer), with the Executive Director as serving as consultant. Should be intentional about assuring wide representation, diversity of experiences, perspectives, and institutional memories, and a combination of regular refreshment and continuity in the committee’s cohort. [Detailed further in Centennial Document, Sections IV, V, VI]
Committee Tasks
In 2022-23, the Centennial Committee will, incorporating consultation with CTSA membership, review the Society’s mission, history, and present circumstances; draft a “CTSA at 100” vision statement, and surface 4-6 key strategic issues related to that vision; and in 2023-24, identify 4-6 corresponding strategic goals and align them with current or proposed projects or initiatives, setting achievable benchmarks within a 3-year initial increment, and incorporate this into a draft “CTSA at 80” strategic plan to be submitted, at a date set by the President, in advance of the June, 2024 Board meeting. [Detailed further in Centennial Document, Section III]

Prepared and submitted for Board approval September, 2022 by a pre-planning committee appointed by President Francis X. Clooney (members Christine Firer Hinze, Past President, chair; Francis X. Clooney, President; Hosffman Ospino, Secretary; Patrick Flanagan, Treasurer; Kevin Burke; Linh Hoang).