

Journey Toward Wholeness Transformation Committee
Conference Call Meeting Notes
August 6, 2009

Present Members: José Ballester, *Board Liaison*; Helen Boxwill; Janice Marie Johnson, *Co-chair*; Julio Noboa; Catie Chi Olson; Michael Sallwasser, *Co-chair*; Arthur Tackman; Wendy von Zirpolo; Tracy Ahlquist, *Staff Support*; Taquiena Boston, *President’s Representative*

Not Present: Natalie Fenimore

Start Time: 12:00 PM Eastern Time

End Time: 1:00 PM Eastern Time

Topic	Discussion	Decisions/Actions
Reading from Our Covenant – Helen and Arthur	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ recognize that the work we do together is sometimes difficult, and that our overall goal is to stay 'at the table' together – Helen ▪ acknowledge that this is a living document, reflecting our evolution and changes as a committee – Arthur 	
Check-in – Janice	Committee members checked in. A number of members lifted up memories of Kevin Drewery, an RE leader who passed away the evening before the call.	
Approve Minutes / Agenda Review – Michael	Minutes and agenda were approved.	
Report: GA Reflections – Janice	Janice reflected that the worship service music was wonderful; folks coming in late disrupted the mood; and the report to the Plenary went well.	Committee members will share reflections from GA electronically by the end of the month, and Tracy will compile the list.
Status: Current Assessment – Julio and Wendy Status of Contract Designing Questions Other Tasks: On-line survey, gathering	<p>Wendy spoke with Susan Gore; Wendy and Julio will speak with Susan to describe the model for interviews (engaging people in stories) and to answer any questions she might have. Susan will come up with a draft interview protocol & timeline and discuss it with them. She intends to have interviews and a draft report completed by the end of October, with a final version complete for the November meeting.</p> <p>Julio wants to make sure that the survey questions don’t duplicate the questions Susan will ask in her interviews. Will the committee be asking the same people to complete the survey as participated in the interviews? Arthur thinks there’s an opportunity here,</p>	<p>Julio will send the eight questions out to JTWTC members, in the context of the letter that was sent to Susan Gore.</p> <p>Wendy and Julio will work with Susan.</p> <p>Michael and Arthur will work</p>

<p>documents, research nominees/appointees</p> <p>Assign Responsibilities</p>	<p>because both committees have a lot of information, some of which ComCom has provided to the JTWTC. We should be incorporating that data, incomplete as it may be, into the questions. It's important to make that data a cornerstone of the assessment. We might return to ComCom and ask them to clarify some of their stats in terms of marginalized groups. Julio agrees that this is important information—can the JTWTC make a list of the types of information it would like and make a point of requesting documents that will give specifics that we're interested in? Wendy says it's important, but not necessarily part of an interview process. A letter should come from the JTWTC co-chairs that introduces the process, lets them know that their members will be contacted, and that requests specific documents. Arthur suggests that the committee might need the data up-front. Michael says that Nancy Lawrence might be a good person to reach out to, because she keeps stats on who attends the post-GA AR/AO/MC training. Might it make sense to contact those appointees and ask them what they think of the training and the process? Wendy and Arthur wonder whether the committee is requesting demographic information first and conducting interviews later, or if that can happen concurrently. Catie is concerned about the timeline. Janice says there's a lot to think about here, and we can't do it all on this phone call. Julio says there are two lines of inquiry: the phone interview (8 questions), and the other is the request for documents with data. Each should proceed at its own pace, simultaneously. Wendy agrees that we need to keep moving forward. Michael sees the committee having all of the data by the November meeting; members will process the data between the November and March meetings and will then write the report in March. Wendy says that the report that Susan will generate will be extensive and will include analysis. Julio asks if Susan might be able to meet with the committee.</p>	<p>together to compose a request for documents and will contact Nancy Lawrence and other resources.</p> <p>Michael will send a copy of the agreement with Susan Gore to the committee</p> <p>The entire committee will be copied on correspondence re: the assessment.</p>
<p>Revisiting melding of JTWTC and Accessibilities – Arthur and Janice</p>	<p>Arthur says that one of the issues that's never been fully resolved is how the JTWTC melds and assumes the responsibilities & functions of the Accessibilities Committee. That committee had a training session in early 2008 but hasn't done much since. He brings up Equal Access, the new affinity group—equality + accessibility. There are accessibility issues that need to be dealt with just to achieve basic access. When we talk about marginalized and oppressed groups, there's a different added element with people with disabilities. There's still a question about whether people with disabilities are an identity group—Equal Access feels very strongly that they are, but others disagree. The UUA's Social Justice program and the Washington Office for Advocacy will both now be more involved with issues concerning people with disabilities. Kat Liu (in the D.C. office) recently attended an interfaith training on accessibility. This is an issue of spreading our wings. Janice suggests that the committee have a more detailed conversation at its November meeting. Helen asks if it would be helpful for the JTWTC to have copies of the meeting minutes; Arthur says that the minutes are available on www.equalaccess.org.</p>	<p>Tracy will send out information about joining the access-I mailing list that Equal Access maintains.</p>
<p>Invite UUA President, Rev. Peter Morales, to</p>	<p>Michael asks what should be in the invitation to Peter Morales. Julio says it should be an introduction, and how can we collaborate?</p>	<p>Catie and Michael will work to draft a letter to invite Peter</p>

<p>meet with us – Michael</p> <p>Define Purpose of Meeting (to be expressed in invitation)</p>		<p>Morales to meet with the JTWTC and will send it to the committee before it goes to Peter from the co-chairs.</p>
<p>Ideas for Education at November Retreat – Janice</p> <p>Youth and Young Adults – presentations by Monica Cummings and Erik Kesting</p> <p>GLBTQ – presentation by Keith Kron</p> <p>Accessibilities – presentation by Devorah Greenstein</p> <p>Other Ideas – <i>provided by whom...?</i></p>	<p>Janice says that meeting with these various individuals might be a good way to jump-start our education. Catie suggests that DRUUMM and ARE be added to the list.</p> <p>Helen asks if it’s possible to do a basic introduction to the institution & staff groups at the November retreat. Taquienna says that it’s hard to know now what the staff organization & structure will look like after the October Leadership Council retreat, but they can do a basic intro. In November. Helen asks about LUUNA, a multiracial, multiethnic look at the institution, and Standing of the Side of Love & the JTWTC’s relationship to it. Taquienna says there’s an FAQ page and the campaign will be an evolving entity. Julio says that immigration is a huge issue and we should look at how we work with other groups.</p> <p>Michael says that self-education is vis-à-vis the journey toward wholeness—what does that look like, and what does wholeness look like? Wendy says the focus on staff is helpful; otherwise, it gets too broad. Janice says that Equal Access should be on the list.</p>	<p>Janice and Michael will check in with staff members from this list to see if they’ll be available during the November meeting.</p>
<p>Spreading our Wings – Michael</p> <p>Article/Interview in UU World</p> <p>JTW News</p>	<p>Michael is most interested in the article/interview with the UU World, as are the rest of the committee members. Janice is still co-chair, until further notice. Wendy says that important historical voices might be important in terms of Equal Access specifically—the committee might suggest that the <i>UU World</i> do another side article on Equal Access.</p> <p>Taquienna will talk with Kat Liu, who administers the JTW News.</p>	<p>Michael and Janice will contact the editors of the World.</p>
<p>Ideas for Self-Education– Janice</p> <p>Read “The Arc of the Universe is Long”</p>	<p>Janice says that the committee might want to invite individuals like Victor Carpenter (involved with development of Accessibilities Committee) to share their odyssey re: the work and the journey—spiritual component to the meetings together. How that person lives the faith & embodies the work that the committee is trying to do. Wendy gave some background to who Victor Carpenter and his wife Cathe are and their work.</p> <p>Janice commends <i>The Arc of the Universe is Long</i> to everyone on the committee. She asks the committee members to share two resources for self-education with the rest of the committee.</p>	<p>Wendy will ask if Rev. Carpenter will be available during the weekend of the November meeting.</p> <p>Committee members will send two items for self-education by next month.</p>
<p>Review of Action Items –</p>	<p>The committee reviewed the action items generated on the call.</p>	

Michael and Tracy		
Covenant Observation – Helen and Arthur	Helen and Arthur gave covenant observations.	
Closing Words – Julio	Julio offered closing words by anonymous.	

Respectfully submitted,
Tracy Ahlquist
August 6, 2009