

Openness Implementation Committee – Notes from 5/5/09 Conversation.

Present during our phone conference: Evelyn Spurgin, John Blevins, Sam Trumbore, Carol Agate and Anna Olsen.

1. We welcomed Anna Olsen who will be our Board liaison starting July 1, 2009. We also commented on how much we appreciated what a terrific liaison John had been!
2. We agreed that this was a conversation to talk about what we need to talk about and to set a new date for a lengthy phone meeting.
3. The topics we need to address at future meetings include:
 - a. Updates on Board governance transition to policy governance. What does that mean for our committee and how do we ensure openness and transparency? We all agreed to refresh ourselves on the policies that have been published to date. John will let us know when new policies are posted. Do the policies sufficiently address transparency? Anna suggested we might want to have a conversation with staff in the future about openness issues.
 - b. Carol had previously suggested that we need to define for ourselves what an open and transparent UUA would look like. We agreed we would start asking the questions and having a conversation online and would continue the discussions and possible creation of a document in our next meeting and at GA.
 - c. We discussed the continued difficulty in changing the culture – Carol pointed out as an example the Fifth Principle Project. There has been nothing on the website at all about the work the committee is doing. Evelyn will email them. We need to talk in the future about what if anything we can do to continue pushing for a cultural shift.
4. We will have a lengthier phone conference on May 26, 2009 at 7:00 PM. At that time we will also decide when we will meet at GA.

Evelyn Spurgin