

General Session III

Proposed Bylaw Amendments & Unincorporated Amendments

I. AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES

Delegates will vote to admit Actions of Immediate Witness will occur after they consider amendments to the rules.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

III. REGULAR AGENDA

I. AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES

PROPOSED AMENDMENT A TO RULE 8

RULE 8: TIME LIMITS FOR GENERAL SESSION DISCUSSION

There will be up to 12 minutes of Pro and Con Discussion time on any item on the regular Final Agenda, unless that time is shortened or extended as provided below.

The only time that counts against the 12 minutes is when someone is speaking from the Pro or Con Line.

- Time spent playing back Pro or Con video or audio recordings counts toward the 12 minutes.
- Time spent discussing amendments counts toward the 12 minutes.
- Time spent by the Board of Trustees explaining the business being discussed does not count against the 12 minutes.
- The Moderator will try to divide the time between Pro and Con speakers equally, and will alternate between speakers in the Pro and Con lines.
- The Moderator can end the discussion before it reaches the time limit if either the Pro or Con line has no one waiting to speak; **provided, however, that if there are no delegates waiting to speak in one of the lines, but there are still delegates waiting in the other line, that up to 5 delegates who are already in line may, but shall not be obligated to, speak before the discussion ends.**

The Moderator may extend these time limits for a short period of time to help the discussion move smoothly.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT B TO RULE 8

RULE 8: TIME LIMITS FOR GENERAL SESSION DISCUSSION

There will be up to 12 minutes of Pro and Con Discussion time on any item on the regular Final Agenda, unless that time is shortened or extended as provided below.

The only time that counts against the 12 minutes is when someone is speaking from the Pro or Con Line.

- Time spent playing back Pro or Con video or audio recordings counts toward the 12 minutes. **All statements from the Pro or Con line, whether presented orally in the session, in writing, or recorded (audio or video), will count toward the 12 minutes. Should there be a need to play back (repeat) any recorded statement (audio or video), the first 5 minutes of such repeated statement will not count toward the 12 minutes.**
- Time spent discussing amendments counts toward the 12 minutes.
- Time spent by the Board of Trustees explaining the business being discussed does not count against the 12 minutes.
- The Moderator will try to divide the time between Pro and Con speakers equally, and will alternate between speakers in the Pro and Con lines.
- The Moderator can end the discussion before it reaches the time limit if either the Pro or Con line has no one waiting to speak.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

Bylaw Amendment #4 : Timeline for President-Elect to Take Office (p 99-100)

Bylaw Amendment #6: Religious Education Credentialing Levels (p 100-101)

Bylaw Amendment #4 : Timeline for President-Elect to Take Office (p 99-100)

Underlining indicates insertion; [brackets indicate deletion.]

4. Timeline for President-Elect to Take Office

Rationale: Creates flexibility for transition time once a new President is elected, if it is needed. This time might be used to allow the President-elect to rest after a campaign, move their household, say goodbye to their congregation or employer, or make initial decisions about their administration at the UUA. Should this amendment pass, the Board of Trustees will adopt a rule defining how the Board will set the start date in collaboration with the President-elect.

152. Section 8.3. Term of Office.

153. (a) Elected Officers. The elected officers shall be elected at a regular General Assembly. The
154. President shall take office no later than 45 days after the close of such General Assembly.
155. All other officers [and] shall take office immediately after the close of such General Assembly.
156. (1) President. The President shall serve for a term of six years and until their successor is
157. elected, [and] qualified and takes office. No President shall serve more than one term; and
158. any partial term of more than two years served by reason of appointment and/or election to
159. ofce pursuant to subsection 8.7(a) below shall be considered a full term for purposes of this
160. subsection.
161. (2) Moderator. The Moderator shall serve for a term of six years and until their successor is
162. elected and qualified. No Moderator shall serve more than one term; and any partial term of
163. more than two years served by reason of appointment and/or election to office pursuant to
164. subsection 8.7(a) below shall be considered a full term for purposes of this subsection.
165. (3) Financial Advisor. The Financial Advisor shall serve for a term of three years and until their
166. successor is elected and qualified. No Financial Advisor shall serve more than two successive
167. terms; and any partial term of more than two years served by reason of appointment and/
168. or election to office pursuant to subsection 8.7(a) below shall be considered a full term for
169. purposes of this subsection.
170. (b) Appointed Non-salaried Officers. The appointed non-salaried officers shall serve for one or more
171. terms of two years and until their successors are appointed and qualified.

NO AMENDMENTS WERE SUBMITTED AT THE BUSINESS MINI ASSEMBLY

Bylaw Amendment #6: Religious Education Credentialing Levels (p 100-101)

Underlining indicates insertion; [brackets indicate deletion.]

6. Religious Education Credentialing Levels

Rationale: Requested by the Religious Education Credentialing Committee, to create more flexibility in the terms and levels of religious education credentialing (as defined in the RECC's rules).

175. Section 12.4. Religious Education Credentialing Levels.

176. The Religious Education Credentialing Committee shall adopt rules related to levels of religious
177. education credentialing. [as follows: religious education credentialing includes Credentialed
178. Religious Educator – Associate Level status, credentialed religious educator status, and
179. Credentialed Religious Educator – Master Level status as determined by action of the Religious
180. Education Credentialing Committee.]

181. ARTICLE V Committees of the Association.

182. Section 5.11. Board of Review.

183. (a) Members. The Board of Review shall consist of eight members, as follows:

184. (1) Three members who are ministers, each of whom at the time of election is in full ministerial
185. fellowship with the Association and has held such fellowship continuously for the preceding
186. seven years; and

187. (2) One member who is a Credentialed Religious Educator at the highest level granted by the
188. Religious Education Credentialing Committee [- Master Level]; and

189. (3) Four members who are not ministers or credentialed religious educators, each of whom at the
190. time of election is a member of a certified member congregation and has been a member of
191. one or more such congregations for not less than three years as an officer or a member of the
192. governing bodies of one or more such congregations

193. (b) Election and Term. Each term shall be eight years. At each regular General Assembly held in an
194. odd-numbered year there shall be elected one person who is neither a minister nor a credentialed
195. religious educator. At each regular General Assembly held in an odd-numbered year there shall
196. be elected either a minister, as described in subsection (a)(1), above, or a Credentialed Religious
197. Educator at the highest level granted by the Religious Education Credentialing Committee
198. [- Master Level] as described in section (a)(2) above. After serving a term in office, a member
199. shall not be eligible for re-election until after an interim of at least eight years.

200. ARTICLE VII Committees of the Board of Trustees

201. Section 7.13. Religious Education Credentialing Committee.

202. The Religious Education Credentialing Committee shall consist of seven members as follows:

203. (a) three members, none of whom is a parish minister, minister of religious education, community
204. minister, a credentialed religious educator, or a director of religious education, appointed by the
205. Board;

206. (b) one member who is a parish minister or community minister, appointed by the Board;

207. (c) one member who is a minister of religious education, appointed by the Board;

208. (d) one member who is a Credentialed Religious Educator at the highest level granted by the
209. Religious Education Credentialing Committee [- Master Level], appointed by the Board; and

210. (e) one member nominated by the Board of the Liberal Religious Educators Association and
211. appointed by the Board of Trustees.

212. The Committee shall have jurisdiction over religious education credentialing with the Association as
213. provided in Article XII thereof. The Board of Trustees shall designate a person who is not a member of
214. the committee to be its Executive Secretary and keep its records.

NO AMENDMENTS WERE SUBMITTED AT THE BUSINESS MINI ASSEMBLY

III. REGULAR BUSINESS AGENDA

Bylaw Amendment #1 : Timeline for Submitting Actions of Immediate Witness (p 97)

- 2 Unincorporated Amendments

Bylaw Amendment #2: Timelines for Campaigns for Moderator and President [AS AMENDED] (p 97-98)

- 1 Incorporated Amendment
- 1 Unincorporated Amendment

Bylaw Amendment #3: Presidential Search Committee Nominations (p 99)

- 1 Unincorporated Amendment

Bylaw Amendment #5: GA Registration Requirements (p 100)

- 1 Unincorporated Amendment

(p ##-##) denotes the page number in the program book/business agenda.

1. Timeline for Submitting Actions of Immediate Witness

Rationale: Requested by the Commission on Social witness. This communication method for submitting Actions of Immediate Witness does not require attendance at the opening session of General Assembly.

72. Section 4.16. Additions to the Agenda of Regular General Assemblies

73. (a) Non-substantive items related to greetings and similar matters may be admitted to the agenda by
74. a regular General Assembly.

75. (b) Actions of Immediate Witness

76. (1) A General Assembly Action of Immediate Witness is one concerned with a significant action,
77. event or development, the timing or specificity of which makes it inappropriate to be addressed
78. by a UUA Statement of Conscience pursuant to the Study/Action process.

79. (2) No more than three General Assembly Actions of Immediate Witness may be admitted to the
80. agenda of a regular General Assembly.

81. (3) The motion to admit each General Assembly Action of Immediate Witness ruled eligible is not
82. debatable, but an opportunity for a two-minute statement of advocacy to the General Assembly
83. for each eligible action by one of its sponsors prior to any such motion shall be provided.

84. Admission of a General Assembly Action of Immediate Witness shall be by a two-thirds vote.

85. (4) Affirmation of a General Assembly Action of Immediate Witness shall be by a two-thirds vote.

86. (5) Actions submitted pursuant to this Section 4.16(b) must be in writing and filed with the Chair of
87. the Commission on Social Witness or the Commission's designee by the deadline established
88. by the Commission and announced **[at the opening session of the General Assembly] on**
89. **the UUA website and through UUA communications.**

90. (c) Responsive Resolutions may be admitted to the agenda of a regular General Assembly and
91. acted upon

92. (1) A Responsive Resolution is a resolution made in response to a substantive portion of a report
93. by an officer or committee reporting to a regular General Assembly.

94. (2) Affirmation of a Responsive Resolution shall be by two-thirds vote.

UNINCORPORATED AMENDMENTS

A. line 89:

replace: my proposal of Accepted Actions of Immediate Witness shall be posted to the UUA Web site within one week of acceptance.

The Commission on Social Witness shall advise proposers of Actions of Immediate Witness in a timely manner whether their proposal meets the Commission's criteria for an Action. The Commission shall post all Actions of Immediate Witness that satisfy the Commission's criteria on the Association website within one week after the Commission determines the proposed Action meets its criteria.

B. The deadline for submission of Actions of Immediate Witness shall be no earlier than midnight of the opening day of GA.

Underlining indicates insertion; [brackets indicate deletion.]

2. Timelines for Campaigns for Moderator and President

Rationale: Shortens election campaigns for Moderator and President to make the process more accessible to a wider range of candidates. Modernizes language on campaign timelines to reflect the current realities of campaigning and communication.

95. Section 9.5. Nomination of President and Moderator.

96. (a) President. The Presidential Search Committee shall submit no fewer than two nominations for the
97. office of President for an election at the end of a presidential term or for a special election. The
98. report of the Presidential Search Committee shall be announced by **[February 1] November 15**
99. of the year before the General Assembly at which there is to be a presidential election, except in
100. the case of a special election, in which case the report of the Presidential Search Committee shall
101. be announced by December 10 of the year before the election.

102. (b) Moderator. The Board of Trustees shall submit one or more nominations for the office of
103. Moderator for an election at the end of a Moderator term or for a special election. The report of
104. the Board of Trustees shall be announced by **[February 1] November 15** of the year before the
105. General Assembly at which there is to be a Moderator election, except in the case of a special
106. election, in which case the report of the Board of Trustees shall be announced by December 10 of
107. the year before the election.

108. Section 9.6. Nomination by Petition.

109. (a) For Moderator and President. A nomination for the office of Moderator or President, for a
110. regular or special election, may be by petition signed by no fewer than fifty certified member
111. congregations, including at least one congregation from three of the regions of the Association. A
112. certified member congregation may authorize the signing of a petition only by vote of its governing
113. board or by vote at a duly called meeting of its members. Such a petition shall be filed with the
114. Secretary of the Association, only in such form as the Secretary may prescribe, not later than
115. February 1 of the year of the election and not earlier than the preceding **[March] December 1**.

116. (b) For other Elective Positions. A nomination for any elective position, for a regular or special
117. election, may be by petition signed by not less than fifty members of certified member
118. congregations, with no more than ten signatures of members of any one congregation counted
119. toward the required fifty. A separate petition, in form prescribed by the Secretary, shall be filed for
120. each nomination not later than May 1 of the year of the election and not earlier than the preceding
121. October 1. A petition for nomination to the Board of Trustees must designate the position number
122. for which the person is being nominated.

123. Rule G-9.13.7. Length of Campaigns for President and Moderator

124. (a) Non-public planning for campaigns **[Campaigns]** for President and Moderator, such as strategic,
125. organizational or communications meetings, shall not begin earlier than October 1 **[may**
126. **appropriately begin with small campaign committee organizational meetings and mass**
127. **mailing letters no earlier than November 1]** of the **[second]** year preceding the election.

128. (b) Active campaigning, including public announcements or communication; virtual or in person
129. public meetings, rallies, or events; and solicitation of endorsements shall not begin
130. until a nomination has been announced or November 15 **[prior to January 1]** of the year
131. preceding these elections.

132. (c) **[No electioneering (defined as publicly announced meetings, rallies, or exploratory events)**
133. **of any sort shall occur at the General Assembly two years preceding the elections for**
134. **President and Moderator. Private meetings about campaign organization that take place**
135. **outside of General Assembly booked meeting spaces are permissible.]** Active campaigning
136. during GA is permitted only during the General Assembly at which the President or
137. Moderator is elected. Active and passive campaigning for President or Moderator during
138. any other General Assembly is prohibited.

INCORPORATED AMENDMENT

[Note the incorporated text is revised for clarity]

A. line 124: delete the first word, "Private"

UNINCORPORATED AMENDMENT

A. Line 115: delete the phrase "December 1." and replace it with "November 15."

3. Presidential Search Committee Nominations

Rationale: Allows the Presidential Search Committee to submit a single candidate or multiple candidates, in parallel with the language for Moderator nominations. Rather than requiring competition between candidates which can be costly and unnecessarily divisive, this gives the Presidential Search Committee more flexibility based on the pool of candidates. Note this amendment does not change the ability for additional candidates to run by petition.

139. Section 9.5. Nomination of President and Moderator.

140. (a) President. The Presidential Search Committee shall submit **[no fewer than two]** one or more
141. nominations for the office of President for an election at the end of a presidential term or for a
142. special election. The report of the Presidential Search Committee shall be announced by February
143. 1 of the year before the General Assembly at which there is to be a presidential election, except in
144. the case of a special election, in which case the report of the Presidential Search Committee shall
145. be announced by December 10 of the year before the election.
146. (b) Moderator. The Board of Trustees shall submit one or more nominations for the office of
147. Moderator for an election at the end of a Moderator term or for a special election. The report of
148. the Board of Trustees shall be announced by February 1 of the year before the General Assembly
149. at which there is to be a Moderator election, except in the case of a special election, in which case
150. the report of the Board of Trustees shall be announced by December 10 of the year before the
151. election.

UNINCORPORATED AMENDMENT

- A. line 140 - Delete the proposed change "one or more" and restore to the original wording of "two or more"
*[Note: this unincorporated amendment has the same effect as if this proposed bylaw change were voted down.
As such, it will not be in order to be considered as an amendment on the floor.]*

5. GA Registration Requirements

Rationale: Creates flexibility to change the registration structure for GA delegates and business sessions, as the UUA considers different approaches to General Assembly in future years. This flexibility will allow the UUA to create a sustainable approach to General Assembly while also making it as easy as possible to participate in GA business sessions as a delegate. Should this amendment pass, the Board of Trustees will adopt a rule defining how registration terms for General Assembly and delegate participation will be set.

172. **Rule G-4.9.8. [Payment of Registration Fee] Registration.**

173. All delegates, alternates and trustees must [pay a registration fee] register in order to be admitted to

174. the floor and vote at the General Assembly.

UNINCORPORATED AMENDMENT

A. Line 173–174, replace with the following:

All delegates, alternates, and trustees must be fully registered and credentialed, including payment of the same fees required by nondelegate GA attendees, to be admitted to the floor and vote at the General Assembly.