

Religious Educator Credentialing Committee 2024

Notes from Observer, Matt Vasko (he/they)

I enjoyed my time with the committee. I found them to live into the UU value of putting love at the center of their work. They were kind and courteous to all the candidates. What follows are my notes from each day of the meetings that I participated in.

Monday, 4/15/24

- The committee is seeking a new chair.
- The committee seeks to grow in number and diversity. The goal is to increase the committee's number to 11.
- The Renaissance program is now "Spark."
- Part of my responsibility to this committee is to observe power dynamics/how power moves through groups.

Tuesday, 4/16/24

- We began with worship, then held two interviews.

Wednesday, 4/17/24:

- We began with worship, then held two interviews.
- The bike rack (the place where we noted tabled items) is growing. Including whether they/we should mention ableism as a growing edge when they hear it used.

Thursday, 4/18/24:

- We began with worship, then had a check-in, and watched a video from the Rev. Cecilia Kingman.
- We reviewed the bike rack and set priorities.
- We discussed the numbers of folks in the credentialing program.
 - I suggested that they consider where people saw themselves in 10 years as part of what might be getting them into or keeping them out of the program.
 - I also suggested they look at the culture of Sara Lewis' LREDA Chapter that seems to be putting more candidates into the credentialing program.
 - Finally, I suggested that ministers have a role to play in suggesting, nudging, pushing DREs to go into the credentialing program.
- Then we went into talking about the interview questions (sort-of reviewing how it went).
- Sofia Betancourt visited with us and was wonderful.