

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ASSOCIATION

## BYLAWS AND RULES

as amended through

**JUNE 23, 2024**

**CLEAN-UP**  
**FOR GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2025**



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**UUA BYLAWS**  
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The pronouns “they” and “their” are used in these Bylaws and Rules in place of the singular gender pronouns “he,” “she,” “his,” and “hers,” and refer to a single individual unless the context indicates otherwise.

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1

## ARTICLE I Name

### 2 Section C-1.1. Name.

3 The name of this Association shall be Unitarian Universalist  
4 Association. It is the successor to the American Unitarian  
5 Association, which was founded in 1825 and incorporated in 1847,  
6 and the Universalist Church of America, which was founded in 1793  
7 and incorporated in 1866.

## 8 ARTICLE II Purposes and Covenant

### 9 Section C-2.1. Purposes.

10 The Unitarian Universalist Association will devote its resources to  
11 and use its organizational powers for religious, educational, and  
12 humanitarian purposes. Its primary purposes are:

- 13 (a) to assist congregations in their vital ministries,
- 14 (b) to support and train leaders both lay and professional,
- 15 (c) to foster lifelong faith formation and spiritual development,  
16 to heal historic injustices,
- 17 (d) to support and encourage the creation of new Unitarian  
18 Universalist communities, and
- 19 (e) to advance our Unitarian Universalist values in the world.

20 The Unitarian Universalist Association will actively engage its  
21 members in the transformation of the world through liberating Love.

### 22 Section C-2.2. Values and Covenant.

23 As Unitarian Universalists, we covenant, congregation-to-  
24 congregation and through our Association, to support and assist one  
25 another in our ministries. We draw from our heritages of freedom,  
26 reason, hope, and courage, building on the foundation of love.

27 Love is the power that holds us together and is at the center of our  
28 shared values. We are accountable to one another for doing the work  
29 of living our shared values through the spiritual discipline of Love.

30 Inseparable from one another, these shared values are:

### 31 Shared Unitarian Universalist Values



***Image Description:** A chalice with an overlay of the word Love over the flame, with six outstretched arms that create a circle around each of the core values and form a six-petal flower shape. Each arm is a different color, and clockwise they are: Interdependence (Orange), Equity (Red), Transformation (Purple), Pluralism (Blue), Generosity (Green), and Justice (Yellow).*

32 **Interdependence.** We honor the interdependent web of all  
33 existence. With reverence for the great web of life and with humility,  
34 we acknowledge our place in it.

35 We covenant to protect Earth and all beings from exploitation. We will  
36 create and nurture sustainable relationships of care and respect,  
37 mutuality and justice. We will work to repair harm and damaged  
38 relationships.

39 **Pluralism.** We celebrate that we are all sacred beings, diverse in  
40 culture, experience, and theology.

41 We covenant to learn from one another in our free and responsible  
42 search for truth and meaning. We embrace our differences and  
43 commonalities with Love, curiosity, and respect.

44 **Justice.** We work to be diverse multicultural Beloved Communities  
45 where all thrive.

46 We covenant to dismantle racism and all forms of systemic  
47 oppression. We support the use of inclusive democratic processes to  
48 make decisions within our congregations, our Association, and  
49 society at large.

50 **Transformation.** We adapt to the changing world.

51 We covenant to collectively transform and grow spiritually and  
52 ethically. Openness to change is fundamental to our Unitarian and  
53 Universalist heritages, never complete and never perfect.

54 **Generosity.** We cultivate a spirit of gratitude and hope.

55 We covenant to freely and compassionately share our faith,  
56 presence, and resources. Our generosity connects us to one another  
57 in relationships of interdependence and mutuality.

58 **Equity.** We declare that every person is inherently worthy and has  
59 the right to flourish with dignity, love and compassion.

60 We covenant to use our time, wisdom, attention, and money to build  
61 and sustain fully accessible and inclusive communities.

### 62 Section C-2.3. Inspirations.

63 Direct experiences of transcending mystery and wonder are primary  
64 sources of Unitarian Universalist inspiration. These experiences  
65 open our hearts, renew our spirits, and transform our lives. We draw  
66 upon, and are inspired by, sacred, secular, and scientific  
67 understandings that help us make meaning and live into our values.  
68 These sources ground us and sustain us in ordinary, difficult, and  
69 joyous times. We respect the histories, contexts, and cultures in  
70 which these sources were created and are currently practiced.  
71 Grateful for the experiences that move us, aware of the religious  
72 ancestries we inherit, and enlivened by the diversity which enriches  
73 our faith, we are called to ever deepen and expand our wisdom.

### 74 Section C-2.4. Inclusion.

75 Systems of power, privilege, and oppression have traditionally  
76 created barriers for persons and groups with particular identities,  
77 ages, abilities, and histories. We pledge to replace such barriers with  
78 ever-widening circles of solidarity and mutual respect. We strive to

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79 be an Association of congregations that truly welcome all persons  
80 who share our values. We commit to being an Association of  
81 congregations that empowers and enhances everyone's  
82 participation, especially those with historically marginalized identities.

83 **Section C-2.5. Freedom of Belief.**

84 Congregational freedom and the individual's right of conscience are  
85 central to our Unitarian Universalist heritage.

86 Congregations may establish statements of purpose, covenants, and  
87 bonds of union so long as they do not require that members adhere  
88 to a particular creed.

89 **ARTICLE III Membership**

90 **Section C-3.1. Member Congregations.**

91 The Unitarian Universalist Association is a voluntary association of  
92 autonomous, self-governing member congregations, which have  
93 freely chosen to pursue common goals together.

94 **Section C-3.2. Congregational Polity.**

95 Nothing in these Bylaws shall be construed as infringing upon the  
96 congregational polity or internal self-government of member  
97 congregations, including the exclusive right of each such  
98 congregation to call and ordain its own minister or ministers, and to  
99 control its own property and funds. Any action by a member  
100 congregation called for by these Bylaws shall be deemed to have  
101 been taken if certified by an authorized officer of the congregation as  
102 having been duly and regularly taken in accordance with its own  
103 procedures and the laws which govern it.

104 **\*Section C-3.3. Admission to Membership.**

105 A congregation becomes a member upon acceptance by the Board  
106 of Trustees of the Association of its written application for  
107 membership in which it subscribes to the principles of and pledges to  
108 support the Association. The Board of Trustees shall adopt rules to  
109 carry out the intent of this Section.

110 **Section 3.4. Church of the Larger Fellowship.**

111 The Church of the Larger Fellowship, Unitarian Universalist, shall be  
112 a member congregation which is not considered to be located in any  
113 particular region.

114 **\*Section C-3.5. Certification of Membership.**

115 A member congregation shall be recognized as certified during the  
116 fiscal year of the Association in which it becomes a member and  
117 during each subsequent fiscal year in which it established that during  
118 the immediately preceding fiscal year it:

119 (a) conducted regular religious services;

120 (b) held at least one business meeting of its members, elected its  
121 own officers and maintained adequate records of membership;  
122 and

123 (c) made a financial contribution to the Association.

124 Member congregations must furnish the Association with a report of  
125 their activities showing compliance with subsections (a) and (b)  
126 above.

127 Compliance with subsection (c) above shall be determined by  
128 appropriate financial records of the Association. A member  
129 congregation shall also be considered to be certified for that part of  
130 any particular current fiscal year which precedes the deadline  
131 established by the Board of Trustees for submitting proof of  
132 compliance with subsections (a) and (b) above if during the next

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133 preceding fiscal year such a congregation made a financial  
134 contribution to the Association and filed the report required by this  
135 Section during that year.

136 A member congregation which has not been certified for three  
137 consecutive fiscal years shall be deemed inactive and placed in an  
138 "inactive congregation" category.

139 The Board of Trustees shall make rules to carry out the intent of this  
140 Section and shall determine which member congregations meet the  
141 requirements set forth herein for any fiscal year of the Association.

142 **Section C-3.6. Termination of Membership.**

143 A member congregation upon written notification to the Association  
144 may withdraw from the Association at any time. The Board of  
145 Trustees may terminate the membership of any congregation that,  
146 pursuant to the provisions of Section C-3.5, has been placed in an  
147 "inactive congregation" category maintained by the Association but  
148 shall do so only after consultation with:

149 (a) the congregation in question, whenever possible; and

150 (b) other authorized official the region designates in writing to the  
151 Association.

152 **\*Section C-3.7. Associate Member Qualifications.**

153 The Board of Trustees may admit to associate membership in the  
154 Association any major organization whose membership or  
155 constituency consists of individuals located throughout the  
156 Association and whose purposes and programs it finds to be auxiliary  
157 to and supportive of the principles of the Association and which  
158 pledges itself to support the Association. The Board of Trustees may  
159 terminate such associate membership upon a finding that the  
160 organization no longer meets the foregoing qualifications.

161 The Board of Trustees may adopt rules governing the requirements  
162 for admission to and retention of associate membership. An  
163 associate member organization shall be recognized as certified  
164 during the fiscal year in which it becomes a member, and during each  
165 subsequent fiscal year if it has made a financial contribution to the  
166 Association during the immediately preceding fiscal year. The  
167 Association shall neither exercise control over nor assume  
168 responsibility for the programs, activities or finances of any associate  
169 member.

170 **\*Section C-3.8. Independent Affiliate Organizations.**

171 The Board of Trustees may admit to affiliated status those  
172 independently constituted and operated organizations whose  
173 purposes and intentions it finds to be in sympathy with the principles  
174 of the Association, and may terminate such status upon finding that  
175 the organization no longer meets the foregoing qualifications or is not  
176 in compliance with the rules relating to such organizations. The  
177 status granted is that of independent affiliate. The Board of Trustees  
178 shall adopt rules governing the requirements for admission to and  
179 retention of affiliated status. The requirements shall include financial  
180 support of the Association by payment of an annual contribution. The  
181 Association shall neither exercise control over nor assume  
182 responsibility for the programs, activities, or finances of any  
183 independent affiliate.

184 **Section C-3.9. Autonomy of Associate Member  
185 Organizations and Independent Affiliate  
186 Organizations.**

187 Nothing in these Bylaws shall be construed as infringing upon the  
188 control of associate member organizations and independent affiliate  
189 organizations by their own membership.

Deleted: the President of the district or region in which the  
congregation is located or such

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195 **Section C-3.10. Members of Member Congregations.**

196 For the purposes of these Bylaws, a member of a member  
197 congregation is any individual who pursuant to its procedures has full  
198 or partial voting rights at business meetings of the congregation and  
199 who is certified as such by an authorized officer of the congregation.

200 **ARTICLE IV General Assembly**

201 **Section C-4.1. Meetings of the Association.**

202 Each meeting of the Association for the conduct of business shall be  
203 called a General Assembly.

204 **Section C-4.2. Powers and Duties.**

205 General Assemblies shall make overall policy for carrying out the  
206 purposes of the Association and shall direct and control its affairs.

207 **Section 4.3. Regular General Assembly.**

208 A regular General Assembly shall be held at such time during each  
209 fiscal year of the Association as the Board of Trustees shall  
210 determine.

211 **Section 4.4. Special General Assembly.**

212 A special General Assembly may be called by the Board of Trustees  
213 at any time, and shall be called upon petition of not less than fifty  
214 certified member congregations by action of the governing boards or  
215 their congregations. No more than twenty of the fifty congregations  
216 may be from the same region.

217 **Section 4.5. Place of Meeting.**

218 Each regular and special General Assembly shall be held at such  
219 place in the United States or Canada as the Board of Trustees shall  
220 determine. Subject to procedures and guidelines adopted by the  
221 Board of Trustees, delegates not physically present at General  
222 Assembly may be deemed present in person to participate in and  
223 vote at General Assembly by means of remote communication.

224 **\*Section 4.6. Notice of Meetings.**

225 Notice of each regular and special General Assembly shall be given  
226 not less than sixty days before the date thereof in such form and  
227 manner as the Board of Trustees shall determine. Such notice shall  
228 state the place, date, and hour of the meeting. Notice of each special  
229 General Assembly shall indicate at whose direction it is being called.

230 **\*Section C-4.7. Voting.**

231 Voting at each regular and special General Assembly shall be by  
232 accredited delegates from certified member congregations, certified  
233 associate member organizations, and trustees.

234 Each delegate and trustee shall have only one vote, even if present  
235 in more than one capacity. Proxy voting is prohibited except when  
236 the amendment being processed is an amendment of the articles of  
237 organization.

238 **Section 4.8. Delegates.**

239 (a) Member Delegates. Each certified member congregation is  
240 entitled to be represented at each General Assembly by  
241 delegates who are members of such congregation, selected in  
242 accordance with its bylaws or procedures. The Church of the  
243 Larger Fellowship is entitled to 22 such delegates. Other  
244 certified member congregations are entitled to that number of  
245 such delegates determined as follows: the number of  
246 delegates of a certified member congregation shall be equal to  
247 the number of members of the congregation divided by fifty,

248 plus one delegate for any fraction remaining, provided that  
249 each certified member congregation shall be entitled to at least  
250 two delegates.

251	Membership of	Member
252	Member Congregation	Delegates
253	1-100	2
254	101-150	3
255	151-200	4
256	201-250	5
257	251-300	6
258	301-350	7
259	351-400	8
260	401-450	9
261	451-500	10
262	Over 500	One for each additional 50
263		members or fraction thereof.

264 The number of members of a certified member congregation  
265 which is a member of more than one denomination shall be  
266 determined for the purposes of this Section either (i) by dividing  
267 the number of members of the federated church by the number  
268 of denominations included in the federation, or, at the option of  
269 the federated church, (ii) by reporting the actual number of  
270 members who identify themselves as Unitarian Universalists.

271 (b) Minister Delegates and Religious Education Director  
272 Delegates. Each certified member congregation is also entitled  
273 to be represented at each General Assembly by the ordained  
274 minister or ministers in ministerial fellowship with the  
275 Association settled in such congregation, and by the religious  
276 educators who are active members of the Liberal Religious  
277 Educators Association and employed in such congregation. In  
278 addition, each certified member congregation is also entitled to  
279 be represented at each General Assembly by any minister  
280 emeritus or minister emerita of such congregation in ministerial  
281 fellowship with the Association and by any religious educator  
282 emeritus or emerita designated as such by a vote at a meeting  
283 of the member congregation not less than six months prior to  
284 the General Assembly, provided that any such minister has  
285 been settled previously in such congregation, and any such  
286 religious educator emeritus or emerita who has been  
287 previously employed in such congregation.

288 (c) Associate Member Delegates. Each certified associate  
289 member organization is entitled to be represented at each  
290 General Assembly by two delegates who are members of a  
291 certified congregation.

292 **\*Section C-4.9. Accreditation of Delegates.**

293 The Board of Trustees shall make rules for the accreditation of  
294 delegates and voting procedures. Such rules may include the  
295 requirements of payment of a registration fee, a travel fund fee, or  
296 both, in order to vote at a General Assembly, except that these  
297 requirements shall not apply to the right to cast a ballot for any  
298 elective position at large.

299 **Section 4.10. Quorum.**

300 Not less than 300 accredited delegates representing not less than  
301 100 certified member congregations located in not less than 10 states

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304 or provinces shall constitute a quorum at any regular or special  
305 General Assembly.

306 **Section 4.11. Tentative Agenda for Regular General**  
307 **Assemblies.**

308 The Board of Trustees shall prepare a Tentative Agenda for each  
309 regular General Assembly which shall include:

- 310 (a) reports and other matters required by these Bylaws to be  
311 submitted to the General Assembly;
- 312 (b) proposed amendments to these Bylaws which are submitted  
313 as prescribed in Article XV, Section 15.2;
- 314 (c) items referred by the preceding General Assembly;
- 315 (d) Business Resolutions and proposed amendments to Bylaws  
316 and Rules submitted by the Commission on Appraisal;
- 317 (e) all proposed amendments to Rules and all Business  
318 Resolutions as defined in Rule G-4.18.2, submitted by:
- 319 (1) the Board of Trustees or the Executive Committee;
- 320 (2) not less than fifteen certified member congregations by  
321 action of their governing boards or their congregations;  
322 or
- 323 (3) a petition by not less than 250 members of certified  
324 member congregations with no more than 10 members  
325 of any one member congregation counted as part of the  
326 250;
- 327 (f) proposed amendments to Rules and Business Resolutions  
328 submitted by a region by official action at a duly called meeting  
329 at which a quorum is present. In a region that does not  
330 maintain a formal governance structure, a meeting for this  
331 purpose may be convened by vote of the governing bodies or  
332 membership of at least fifteen congregations in that region in  
333 good standing with the UUA. A quorum for such a meeting  
334 shall require that at least one-third of the congregations of the  
335 region be represented by one or more formally credentialed  
336 delegates; and
- 337 (g) Proposed Congregational Study/Action Issues submitted by  
338 the Commission on Social Witness pursuant to Section  
339 4.12(a).

340 Resolutions submitted under (d), (e)(2), (e)(3) and (f) must be  
341 received by the Board of Trustees by February 1 whenever the  
342 regular General Assembly opens in June. If the General Assembly  
343 opens in a month other than June, the Business Resolutions  
344 submitted under (d), (e)(2), (e)(3) and (f) must be received no later  
345 than 110 days before the date set for the opening of that General  
346 Assembly. The UUA Statements of Conscience process deadlines  
347 are established by Sections 4.12(a) and (c) and by the Board of  
348 Trustees pursuant to Section 4.13 whenever one or more regular  
349 General Assemblies are scheduled to begin in a month other than  
350 June. The Board of Trustees shall include on the Tentative Agenda  
351 all items so submitted. It may submit alternative versions of Business  
352 Resolutions in addition to the original ones submitted if in its judgment  
353 such alternatives clarify the resolutions and may make such changes  
354 in the Business Resolutions as are necessary to make each conform  
355 to a standard format. It may also submit one or more alternative  
356 versions for the purpose of combining two or more Business  
357 Resolutions. Adoption of Business Resolutions by a General  
358 Assembly shall be by two-thirds vote. The Tentative Agenda shall be  
359 mailed to each member congregation, associate member  
360 organization and trustee by March 1 if the General Assembly opens

361 in June; otherwise, not less than 90 days before the opening of the  
362 General Assembly.

363 **\*Section 4.12. UUA Statements of Conscience.**

364 The purpose of the Congregational Study/Action Process is to provide  
365 the member congregations of the Association with an opportunity to  
366 mobilize energy, ideas, and resources around a common issue. The  
367 end result will be a deeper understanding of our religious position on  
368 the issue, a clear statement of Association policy as expressed in a  
369 Statement of Conscience, and a greater capacity for the congregations  
370 to take effective action. The process for adoption of UUA Statements  
371 of Conscience shall be as follows:

372 (a) First Cycle Year

373 (1) Each member congregation or covenanting community  
374 may submit to the Commission on Social Witness by  
375 October 1 in the year preceding a General Assembly one  
376 proposed Congregational Study/Action Issue, such  
377 proposed Congregational Study/Action Issue to be  
378 approved at a duly called meeting of its members or its  
379 governing board at which a quorum is present. This  
380 commences the process of a three year UUA Statement of  
381 Conscience cycle ("the Cycle"). A Cycle year ends at the  
382 close of General Assembly.

383 (2) For the proposed Congregational Study/Action Issue to be  
384 placed on the Final Agenda of the General Assembly,  
385 twenty-five percent (25%) of all certified congregations  
386 must participate in the ballot vote concerning the proposed  
387 Congregational Study/Action Issues.

388 (3) Each of the Proposed Congregational Study/Action Issues  
389 shall be presented to the General Assembly by a delegate,  
390 and one such proposed Congregational Study/Action Issue  
391 shall be referred for study by virtue of having received the  
392 highest number of votes among all proposed  
393 Congregational Study/Action votes cast by the General  
394 Assembly; provided, however, that if no proposed  
395 Congregational Study/Action Issue receives a majority of  
396 the votes cast, then a second vote shall be taken between  
397 the two issues receiving the highest number of votes cast  
398 in the initial election.

399 (4) If no proposed Congregation Study/Action Issues are on  
400 the Final Agenda in the first Cycle year, or if no  
401 Congregational Study/Action Issue is referred for study by  
402 the General Assembly, then following the regular meeting  
403 of the General Assembly, the Cycle shall begin again as  
404 set forth in this subsection.

405 (b) Second Cycle Year

406 (1) During the meeting of the General Assembly in the second  
407 Cycle year the Commission on Social Witness shall  
408 conduct workshops on the Congregational Study/Action  
409 Issue.

410 (c) Third Cycle Year

411 (1) The Commission on Social Witness shall then compose a  
412 draft UUA Statement of Conscience. The draft UUA  
413 Statement of Conscience, and a ballot to place the draft  
414 UUA Statement of Conscience on the Final Agenda during  
415 General Assembly in the third Cycle year shall be included  
416 in the Congregational Poll.

417 (2) If the draft UUA Statement of Conscience is placed on the  
418 Final Agenda for the next regular meeting of the General

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per district...

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426 Assembly, then the next General Assembly must debate  
427 and vote on the proposed UUA Statement of Conscience.  
428 Adoption of the UUA Statement of Conscience shall require  
429 a two-thirds vote.

430 (3) If (a) the proposed UUA Statement of Conscience is not  
431 placed on the Final Agenda for the next regular meeting of  
432 the General Assembly; or (b) the General Assembly  
433 chooses, by a two-thirds vote, to refer the proposed UUA  
434 Statement of Conscience to the Commission on Social  
435 Witness for one additional year of study/action, then the  
436 Commission of Social Witness shall continue the study and  
437 revision of the proposed UUA Statement of Conscience for  
438 one more year. The revised UUA Statement of Conscience  
439 may be placed on the Final Agenda for the next regular  
440 meeting of the General Assembly pursuant to subsection  
441 (b) above. If by the regular meeting of the General  
442 Assembly following the additional year the Commission on  
443 Social Witness has been unable to find support to generate  
444 an acceptable UUA Statement of Conscience, the  
445 Congregational Study/Action Issue may be placed on the  
446 Final Agenda with a proposal to drop such Congregational  
447 Study/Action Issue.

448 (4) Following the regular meeting of the General Assembly in  
449 the third Cycle year, the Cycle shall begin again as set forth  
450 in Section 4.12(a) above.

#### 451 **Section 4.13. Revision of UUA Statements of** 452 **Conscience Process Schedule.**

453 If the Board of Trustees votes to schedule one or more regular  
454 General Assemblies to begin in a month other than June, the Board  
455 of Trustees shall forthwith revise the UUA Statements of Conscience  
456 process schedule set forth in Section 4.12 accordingly and shall  
457 immediately notify the member congregations and the Commission  
458 on Social Witness of the revised schedule in writing.

#### 459 **Section 4.14. Final Agenda for Regular General** 460 **Assemblies.**

461 The Board of Trustees shall prepare a Final Agenda for each General  
462 Assembly which shall include:

463 (a) all reports and other matters required by these Bylaws to be  
464 submitted to the General Assembly and all proposed  
465 amendments to Bylaws and Rules appearing on the Tentative  
466 Agenda that meet the requirements of Rule G-4.18.3;

467 (b) those Business Resolutions, including alternative versions, on  
468 the Tentative Agenda which meet the requirements of Rule G-  
469 4.18.3;

470 (c) Business Resolutions, amendments to Rules or Bylaws or  
471 other items submitted by the Board of Trustees or the  
472 Executive Committee, which did not originally appear on the  
473 Tentative Agenda; provided, however, that any such items  
474 appear on the Final Agenda accompanied by an explanation  
475 for the delayed submission;

476 (d) additional proposed amendments to Bylaws submitted by the  
477 Commission on Appraisal;

478 (e) those proposed Congregational Study/Action Issues on the  
479 Tentative Agenda which meet the requirements of Rule G-  
480 4.18.3, and if applicable pursuant to Section 4.12(a); and

481 (f) the UUA Statement of Conscience submitted by the  
482 Commission on Social Witness pursuant to Section 4.12(c) and  
483 (d), if applicable.

484 The Board of Trustees shall mail the Final Agenda to each member  
485 congregation, associate member organization and trustee not less  
486 than 30 days before the General Assembly.

#### 487 **Section 4.15. Agenda for Special General Assemblies.**

488 The Board of Trustees shall prepare the agenda for each special  
489 General Assembly which shall include resolutions and proposed  
490 amendments to Rules submitted by:

491 (a) the Board of Trustees;

492 (b) the petition, if any, which calls the special General Assembly;  
493 or

494 (c) not less than 50 certified member congregations by action of  
495 their governing boards or their congregations, with no more  
496 than 20 of the 50 congregations from the same ~~region~~.

497 The agenda shall be mailed to each member congregation, associate  
498 member organization and trustee not less than 30 days before the  
499 General Assembly.

#### 500 **\*Section 4.16. Additions to the Agenda of Regular** 501 **General Assemblies.**

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

505 (b) Actions of Immediate Witness

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

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

514 (3) The motion to admit each General Assembly Action of  
515 Immediate Witness ruled eligible is not debatable, but  
516 an opportunity for a two-minute statement of advocacy  
517 to the General Assembly for each eligible action by one  
518 of its sponsors prior to any such motion shall be  
519 provided. Admission of a General Assembly Action of  
520 Immediate Witness shall be by a two-thirds vote.

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

523 (5) Actions submitted pursuant to this Section 4.16(b) must  
524 be in ~~writing~~ and filed with the Chair of the Commission  
525 on Social Witness or the Commission's designee by the  
526 deadline established by the Commission and  
527 announced on the UUA website and through UUA  
528 communications.

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

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

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

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540 **Section 4.17. Items Admitted to Special General**  
541 **Assembly Agenda.**

542 Except for non-substantive items related to greetings and similar  
543 matters, no item not on the agenda for a Special General Assembly  
544 shall be admitted to the agenda of that Assembly.

545 **\*Section 4.18. Agenda Rules.**

546 General Assemblies shall adopt rules relating to the agenda.

547 **\*Section 4.19. Rules of Procedure.**

548 Rules of procedure for the conduct of the meeting shall be adopted  
549 at each General Assembly.

550 **ARTICLE V Committees of the Association**

551 **Section 5.1. Committees of the Association.**

552 The standing committees of the Association shall be:

- 553 (a) the Nominating Committee;
- 554 (b) the Presidential Search Committee;
- 555 (c) the General Assembly Planning Committee;
- 556 (d) the Commission on Appraisal;
- 557 (e) the Commission on Social Witness; and
- 558 (f) the Board of Review.

559 The President shall be a member, without vote, of the General  
560 Assembly Planning Committee, the Commission on Appraisal, and  
561 the Commission on Social Witness.

562 **Section 5.2. Election and Appointment.**

- 563 (a) Elected members. Elected members of all standing  
564 committees of the Association shall take office at the close of  
565 the General Assembly at which they are elected and shall  
566 serve until their successors are elected and qualified, except  
567 as otherwise provided herein.
- 568 (b) Appointed members. The terms of any appointed members of  
569 standing committees of the Association shall begin at the close  
570 of the regular General Assembly. The Board of Trustees shall  
571 make each appointment no later than 120 days after the  
572 beginning of the term. Appointed members shall take office  
573 upon the effective date of their appointments and shall serve  
574 until their successors are appointed and qualified, except as  
575 otherwise provided herein.

576 **Section 5.3. Qualifications of Committee Members.**

577 To serve as a member of a standing committee of the Association, a  
578 person must be a member of a member congregation. No member of  
579 a standing committee of the Association, except a member serving  
580 ex officio, may, during the term of office, serve as a trustee or officer  
581 of, or hold any salaried position in, the Association.

582 **Section 5.4. Removal of Committee Member.**

583 An elected member of a standing committee of the Association may  
584 be removed by a three-fourths vote of the Board of Trustees at a  
585 meeting at which not less than three-fourths of the Board is present,  
586 if in the opinion of the Board the member is incapacitated or unable  
587 to carry out the duties of the office or otherwise for good cause. An  
588 appointed member of a standing committee of the Association may  
589 be removed at will by a majority vote of the Board of Trustees.

590 **Section 5.5. Vacancies.**

591 A vacancy created by the death, disqualification, resignation, or  
592 removal of an elected or appointed member of a standing committee  
593 of the Association shall be filled by majority vote of the Board of  
594 Trustees. An individual appointed to fill a vacancy in an elected  
595 position shall serve until the vacancy is filled by regular or special  
596 election. An individual appointed to fill a vacancy in an appointed  
597 position shall serve for the balance of the unexpired term, and until a  
598 successor is appointed and qualified.

599 An elected member of a standing committee of the Association in  
600 office for more than one-half of a full term shall be deemed to have  
601 completed a full term for the purposes of re-election.

602 **Section 5.6. Nominating Committee.**

603 The Nominating Committee shall consist of nine members elected to  
604 terms of three years. One-third of the members shall be elected at  
605 the regular General Assembly held in each year. After serving two  
606 terms in office, a member shall not be eligible for re-election until after  
607 an interim of at least three years. The Nominating Committee shall  
608 submit nominations for certain elective positions of the Association,  
609 as provided in Article IX.

610 **Section 5.7. Presidential Search Committee.**

611 The Presidential Search Committee shall consist of five elected  
612 members and two members appointed by the Board of Trustees.  
613 Each term shall be six years. The elected members shall be elected  
614 at the regular General Assembly held four years prior to the expiration  
615 of a President's term. The terms of appointed members shall begin  
616 at the close of the regular General Assembly at which members were  
617 elected. After serving a term in office, a member shall not be eligible  
618 for re-election until after an interim of at least six years. The  
619 Committee shall nominate candidates for the office of President, as  
620 provided in Section 9.5.

621 **Section 5.8. General Assembly Planning Committee.**

622 The General Assembly Planning Committee shall consist of eight  
623 elected members and two members appointed by the Board of  
624 Trustees. The terms of elected members shall be four years and the  
625 terms of appointed members shall be two years. One-half of the  
626 elected members shall be elected at the regular General Assembly  
627 held in each odd-numbered year. After serving two terms in office,  
628 an elected member shall not be eligible for re-election until after an  
629 interim of at least four years. The Committee shall be responsible for  
630 arrangements for General Assembly and programs and meetings to  
631 be held in connection therewith. It may establish subcommittees of  
632 its members and may delegate part or all of its powers to them.

633 **Section 5.9. Commission on Appraisal.**

634 The Commission on Appraisal shall consist of nine members elected  
635 to terms of six years. One-third of the members shall be elected at  
636 the regular General Assembly held in each odd-numbered year. After  
637 serving a term in office, a member shall not be eligible for re-election  
638 until after an interim of at least six years.

639 The Commission on Appraisal shall:

- 640 (a) review any function or activity of the Association which in its  
641 judgment will benefit from an independent review and report its  
642 conclusions to a regular General Assembly;
- 643 (b) study and suggest approaches to issues which may be of  
644 concern to the Association; and
- 645 (c) report to a regular General Assembly at least once every four  
646 years on the program and accomplishments of the Association.

647 **Section 5.10. Commission on Social Witness.**

648 The Commission on Social Witness shall consist of three elected  
649 members and two members appointed by the Board of Trustees.  
650 Each term shall be four years. After serving two terms in office, a  
651 member shall not be eligible for re-election until after an interim of at  
652 least four years. One member shall be appointed in each odd-  
653 numbered year. In addition to any election required to fill a vacancy,  
654 no fewer than one nor more than two members shall be elected at  
655 the regular General Assembly held in each odd-numbered year, as  
656 is required to insure a full complement of elected members.

657 The duties of the Commission are described in Article IV.

658 **Section 5.11. Board of Review.**

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

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

665 (2) One member who is a Credentialed Religious Educator at  
666 the highest level granted by the Religious Education  
667 Credentialing Committee; and

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

674 (b) Election and Term. Each term shall be eight years. At each  
675 regular General Assembly held in an odd-numbered year there  
676 shall be elected one person who is neither a minister nor a  
677 credentialed religious educator. At each regular General  
678 Assembly held in an odd-numbered year there shall be elected  
679 either a minister, as described in subsection (a)(1), above, or a  
680 Credentialed Religious Educator at the highest level granted  
681 by the Religious Education Credentialing Committee as  
682 described in section (a)(2) above. After serving a term in office,  
683 a member shall not be eligible for re-election until after an  
684 interim of at least eight years.

685 (c) Qualifications. No member of the Board of Review shall during  
686 the term of office be a member of the Ministerial Fellowship  
687 Committee or the Religious Education Credentialing  
688 Committee.

689 (d) Removal. A member of the Board of Review may be removed  
690 without hearing by the vote of six other members, or as  
691 provided by Section 5.4.

692 (e) Duties. The duties of the Board of Review are described in  
693 Articles XI and XII.

694 **Section 5.12. Additional Committees.**

695 Additional committees may be created by any General Assembly by  
696 adoption of a resolution which shall state the membership, terms,  
697 qualification, method of selection, and duties thereof.

698 **Section 5.13. Presiding Officer.**

699 Each committee shall elect a presiding officer from among its  
700 members at its first meeting following the regular General Assembly  
701 in each odd-numbered year. In the absence of such election the

702 Board of Trustees may designate a temporary presiding officer from  
703 among members of the committee.

704 **Section 5.14. Time and Place of Meetings.**

705 Each committee shall hold meetings at such times and places as it  
706 may determine.

707 **Section 5.15. Call and Notice of Meetings.**

708 Meetings of committees may be called by the presiding officer and  
709 shall be called by the presiding officer at the request of a majority of  
710 the members of the entire committee. Notice of committee meetings  
711 shall be given in writing not less than ten nor more than sixty days  
712 before the meeting and shall state the time and place of the meeting.

713 **ARTICLE VI Board of Trustees**

714 **Section C-6.1. Responsibility.**

715 The Board of Trustees shall conduct the affairs of the Association  
716 and, subject to these Bylaws, shall carry out the Association's policies  
717 and directives as provided by law.

718 **Section 6.2. Powers.**

719 The Board of Trustees shall act for the Association between General  
720 Assemblies.

721 **Section 6.3. Membership.**

722 The Board of Trustees shall consist of:

723 (a) the President, without vote, the Moderator and the Financial  
724 Advisor; and

725 (b) Eleven trustees; and

726 (c) two youth trustees who, as of the date they commence service  
727 as trustees, are of high school age, or the equivalent, and are  
728 able to complete their term while of high school age.

729 **\*Section 6.4. Election of Trustees.**

730 (a) One-third, as nearly as possible, of the non-Youth members of  
731 the Board of Trustees shall be elected at each regular General  
732 Assembly.

733 (b) The Board of Trustees shall assign a number to each trustee  
734 position for the purposes of electing trustees.

735 (c) One Youth Trustee shall be elected at each regular General  
736 Assembly.

737 **Section 6.5. Term.**

738 (a) Trustees shall take office immediately after the close of the  
739 General Assembly at which they are elected, and shall serve  
740 for terms of three years and until their successors are elected  
741 and qualified. Any partial term of more than two years shall be  
742 considered a full term for purposes of this Section. No trustee  
743 may serve more than two successive full terms. However, a  
744 trustee may at any time become one of the elected officers of  
745 the Association and serve as long in that office as if such  
746 trustee had not previously been a trustee. No person who has  
747 served as an elected officer for a full term or as a trustee for  
748 two full terms shall thereafter be elected a trustee without an  
749 interim of at least three years.

750 (b) A Youth trustee shall take office immediately after the close of  
751 the General Assembly at which they are elected, and shall  
752 serve for a term of two years and until their successors are  
753 elected and qualified. No Youth trustee may serve more than

one term. The term of a Youth trustee is equivalent to one full term as defined in Section 6.5, for the purposes of eligibility for election as a trustee.

**\*Section 6.6. Qualifications of Trustees.**

(a) Each elected trustee shall be a member of a member congregation. A trustee who ceases to meet these qualifications shall be disqualified and the office declared vacant. Not more than one trustee shall be a member of the same member congregation. If a trustee becomes a member of a member congregation in which another trustee is already a member, such Trustee shall be disqualified and the office declared vacant. The Board of Trustees shall adopt rules for the application of this Section to persons holding membership in more than one member congregation.

(b) Youth trustees shall be a member of a member congregation if their congregation allows for youth membership. If their congregation does not allow for youth membership, the President, Minister or Religious Educator of that congregation shall submit a written notice to the Nominating Committee of the Youth trustee's affiliation with the congregation before the person may be nominated to serve as a Youth trustee. A Youth trustee shall not be a Member of or be affiliated with the same congregation as any other trustee.

**Section 6.7. Resignation and Removal of Trustees.**

A trustee may at any time resign by giving written notice to the Board of Trustees. Such resignation shall take effect at the time specified therein, or, if no time is specified, then on delivery. A trustee may be removed by a three-fourths vote of the entire Board at a meeting at which not less than three-fourths of the entire Board is present if in the opinion of the Board such trustee is incapacitated or unable to carry out the duties of the office or otherwise for good cause.

**Section 6.8. Vacancies.**

A vacancy created by the death, disqualification, resignation, or removal of a trustee shall be filled by majority vote of the remaining trustees. An individual appointed to fill a vacancy shall serve until the vacancy is filled by regular or special election.

**Section 6.9. Place of Meeting.**

The Board of Trustees shall hold its meetings at such places as the Board may determine.

**Section 6.10. Regular Meetings.**

Regular meetings of the Board of Trustees shall be held at such times as the Board may determine. No fewer than three regular meetings of the Board shall be held during each fiscal year of the Association.

**Section 6.11. Special Meetings.**

Special meetings of the Board of Trustees may be called by the Moderator or President, and shall be called by the Moderator at the request of eight trustees. Notice of special meetings shall be given in writing not less than five nor more than sixty days before the meeting and shall state the agenda, time and place of the meeting.

**Section 6.12. Waiver of Notice.**

Notice of a meeting need not be given to any trustee who submits a signed waiver of notice whether before or after the meeting, or who attends the meeting without protesting, prior thereto or at its commencement, the lack of notice.

**Section 6.13. Quorum.**

A majority plus one of the entire voting membership of the Board of Trustees shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

**Section 6.14. Compensation.**

Except for the President, members of the Board of Trustees shall not receive compensation for their services but shall be reimbursed as determined by the Board of Trustees for the expenses reasonably incurred by them in the performance of their duties.

**Section 6.15. Annual Report.**

The Secretary shall on behalf of the Board of Trustees present an annual report of its activities to the member congregations and at each regular General Assembly.

**ARTICLE VII Committees of the Board of Trustees**

**Section 7.1. Committees of the Board of Trustees.**

The standing committees of the Board of Trustees shall be:

- (a) the Executive Committee;
- (b) the Ministerial Fellowship Committee;
- (c) the Finance Committee;
- (d) the Investment Committee;
- (e) the Religious Education Credentialing Committee; and
- (f) the Audit Committee.

The President shall be a member, without vote, of the Executive Committee, the Finance Committee, and the Investment Committee.

**Section 7.2. Appointment and Term of Office.**

Except as otherwise provided, the terms of members of standing committees of the Board of Trustees shall be two years beginning at the close of the regular General Assembly. Members shall be appointed no later than 120 days after the beginning of the term. Members shall take office upon the effective date of their appointment and shall serve until their successors are appointed and qualified.

**Section 7.3. Removal of Committee Member.**

Standing committee members appointed by the Board of Trustees serve at the pleasure of the Board and may be removed by it at any time.

**Section 7.4. Vacancies.**

A vacancy on any committee of the Board among members appointed by the Board of Trustees shall be filled by it.

**Section 7.5. Executive Committee.**

The Executive Committee shall consist of the Moderator, the First Vice Moderator, the Secretary, the Financial Advisor, and the Financial Secretary. The position on the committee occupied by the First Vice Moderator shall be filled by the Second Vice Moderator at any meeting of the committee from which the First Vice Moderator is absent or at which the First Vice Moderator is presiding in the absence of the Moderator. The position on the committee occupied by the Secretary shall be filled by the Assistant Secretary at any meeting of the committee from which the Secretary is absent. The Executive Committee shall conduct the current and ordinary business of the Association between meetings of the Board of Trustees. If between meetings of the Board of Trustees, matters arise which (1) in the opinion of the Executive Committee are not current and

860 ordinary business but in the best interests of the Association must  
861 nevertheless be acted upon, or (2) the Executive Committee has  
862 been authorized by the Board to be acted upon, then the Executive  
863 Committee may act thereon for the Board of Trustees, but only if four  
864 or more members vote the action.

865 **Section 7.6. Ministerial Fellowship Committee.**

866 The Ministerial Fellowship Committee shall consist of no fewer than  
867 fourteen members as follows:

868 (a) at least six members who are not ministers appointed by the  
869 Board; and

870 (b) at least eight members who are ministers in full fellowship with  
871 the Association, four appointed by the Unitarian Universalist  
872 Ministers Association and the remainder by the Board.

873 The committee shall have jurisdiction over ministerial fellowship with  
874 the Association as provided in Article XI hereof. The Board of  
875 Trustees shall designate a person who is not a member of the  
876 committee to be its Executive Secretary and keep its records.

877 **Section 7.7. Investment Committee.**

878 The Investment Committee shall be the Investment Committee of the  
879 Unitarian Universalist Common Endowment Fund LLC. The duties  
880 of the Investment Committee are set forth in Article X.

881 **Section 7.8. Additional Committees.**

882 The Board of Trustees may appoint additional committees to serve  
883 at its pleasure and shall determine the membership, qualifications,  
884 and duties thereof.

885 **Section 7.9. Presiding Officer.**

886 The Board of Trustees shall appoint one member of each standing  
887 committee of the Board to be its presiding officer.

888 **Section 7.10. Time and Place of Meetings.**

889 Each standing committee of the Board shall hold meetings at such  
890 times and places as it may determine.

891 **Section 7.11. Call and Notice of Meetings.**

892 Meetings of standing committees of the Board may be called by the  
893 presiding officer and shall be called by the presiding officer at the  
894 request of a majority of the members of the entire committee. Unless  
895 the Board of Trustees otherwise provides, notice of meetings of each  
896 standing committee shall be given in such a manner and within such  
897 time as the standing committee determines.

898 **Section 7.12. Religious Education Credentialing Committee.**

900 The Religious Education Credentialing Committee shall consist of no  
901 fewer than seven members appointed by the Board of Trustees as  
902 follows:

903 (a) three members, none of whom is a parish minister, minister of  
904 religious education, community minister, a credentialed  
905 religious educator, or a director of religious education,  
906 appointed by the Board;

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

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

911 (d) one member who is a Credentialed Religious Educator at the  
912 highest level granted by the Religious Education Credentialing  
913 Committee, appointed by the Board; and

914 (e) one member nominated by the Board of the Liberal Religious  
915 Educators Association and appointed by the Board of  
916 Trustees.

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

921 **Section 7.13. Audit Committee.**

922 The Audit Committee shall consist of no fewer than four members as  
923 follows:

924 (a) persons appointed by the Board, none of whom are members  
925 of the Board or hold a salaried position with the Association;

926 (b) the Financial Advisor.

927 No member of the Audit Committee shall serve for more than four  
928 terms on the Audit Committee.

929 The duties of the Audit Committee are set forth in Article X.

930 **ARTICLE VIII Officers of the Association**

931 **\*Section 8.1. Officers Enumerated.**

932 (a) Elected Officers. The elected officers of the Association shall  
933 be a Moderator, a President, and a Financial Advisor.

934 (b) Appointed Non-salaried Officers. The appointed non- salaried  
935 officers of the Association shall include one or more Vice  
936 Moderators, a Secretary, and a Recording Secretary and may  
937 include such other officers as the Board of Trustees may  
938 appoint.

939 (c) Appointed Salaried Officers. The appointed salaried officers of  
940 the Association shall include a Treasurer, and may include one  
941 or more vice presidents, assistant treasurers, and such other  
942 officers as the Board of Trustees may determine.

943 **Section C-8.2. Control by Board of Trustees.**

944 All officers shall be subject to the direction and control of the Board  
945 of Trustees. All appointed officers shall be appointed by the Board  
946 of Trustees and shall serve at its pleasure.

947 **Section 8.3. Term of Office.**

948 (a) Elected Officers. The elected officers shall be elected at a  
949 regular General Assembly. The President shall take office no  
950 later than 45 days after the close of such General Assembly.  
951 All other officers shall take office immediately after the close of  
952 such General Assembly.

953 (1) President. The President shall serve for a term of six  
954 years and until their successor is elected, qualified and  
955 takes office. No President shall serve more than one  
956 term; and any partial term of more than two years served  
957 by reason of appointment and/or election to office  
958 pursuant to subsection 8.7(a) below shall be considered  
959 a full term for purposes of this subsection.

960 (2) Moderator. The Moderator shall serve for a term of six  
961 years and until their successor is elected and qualified.  
962 No Moderator shall serve more than one term; and any  
963 partial term of more than two years served by reason of

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972 appointment and/or election to office pursuant to  
973 subsection 8.7(a) below shall be considered a full term  
974 for purposes of this subsection.

975 (3) Financial Advisor. The Financial Advisor shall serve for  
976 a term of three years and until their successor is elected  
977 and qualified. No Financial Advisor shall serve more  
978 than two successive terms; and any partial term of more  
979 than two years served by reason of appointment and/or  
980 election to office pursuant to subsection 8.7(a) below  
981 shall be considered a full term for purposes of this  
982 subsection.

983 (b) Appointed Non-salaried Officers. The appointed non-salaried  
984 officers shall serve for one or more terms of two years and until  
985 their successors are appointed and qualified.

#### 986 **Section 8.4. Qualification of Officers.**

987 Each officer of the Association shall be a member of a member  
988 congregation. If an officer ceases to be a member of any member  
989 congregation, such officer shall be disqualified and the office  
990 declared vacant.

#### 991 **Section 8.5. Removal of Officers.**

992 (a) Elected Officers. An elected officer may be removed by a  
993 three-fourths vote of the entire Board of Trustees at a meeting  
994 at which not less than three-fourths of the entire Board is  
995 present if in the opinion of the Board such officer is  
996 incapacitated or unable to carry out the duties of the office. The  
997 President may also be removed by such a vote of the Board if  
998 it determines that such removal is in the best interests of the  
999 Association.

1000 (b) Appointed Officers. An appointed officer may be removed by  
1001 the Board of Trustees at any time.

#### 1002 **Section 8.6. Resignation.**

1003 An officer may resign at any time by giving written notice to the  
1004 Moderator, who shall immediately forward copies to the Board of  
1005 Trustees. Any such resignation shall take effect at the time specified  
1006 therein, or, if no time is specified, then upon delivery.

#### 1007 **Section 8.7. Vacancies.**

1008 (a) Elected Officers. A vacancy created by the death,  
1009 disqualification, resignation, or removal of an elected officer  
1010 shall be filled by majority vote of the Board of Trustees. An  
1011 individual appointed to fill a vacancy shall serve until the  
1012 vacancy is filled by regular or special election. If the position  
1013 of Moderator is deemed vacant under Section 8.8(b), the Board  
1014 may, but shall not be obligated to, appoint as Moderator any  
1015 remaining individual(s) who had been serving in the position of  
1016 Moderator when the position was deemed vacant, and may do  
1017 so either as a sole appointment or with one or more other  
1018 individuals.

1019 (b) Appointed Non-salaried Officers. A vacancy created by the  
1020 death, disqualification, resignation, or removal of an appointed  
1021 non-salaried officer may be filled by the Board of Trustees for  
1022 the balance of the unexpired term.

#### 1023 **Section 8.8. Moderator.**

1024 (a) The Moderator shall preside at General Assemblies and  
1025 meetings of the Board of Trustees and the Executive  
1026 Committee. The Moderator shall represent the Association on  
1027 special occasions and shall assist in promoting its welfare. The

1028 Moderator shall serve as Chief Governance Officer of the  
1029 Association.

1030 (b) As used in these Bylaws, the term "Moderator" may refer to a  
1031 single individual, or to multiple individuals serving in the  
1032 position, even though the word "Moderator" may appear in the  
1033 singular form of the word. When multiple individuals are  
1034 serving in the position of Moderator, if one or more of those  
1035 individuals dies, is disqualified, resigns, or is removed, the  
1036 position of Moderator shall be deemed vacant under Section  
1037 8.7(a).

#### 1038 **Section 8.9. President.**

1039 The President shall be the chief executive officer of the Association.

#### 1040 **Section 8.10. Financial Advisor.**

1041 The duties of the Financial Advisor are set forth in Article X.

#### 1042 **\*Section 8.11. Executive Vice President.**

1043 In the event an Executive Vice President should be appointed, the  
1044 Board of Trustees shall describe their duties.

#### 1045 **Section 8.12. Vice Moderators.**

1046 The Vice Moderator or Moderators shall be elected from among the  
1047 members of the Board of Trustees by its members. In the absence  
1048 of the Moderator a Vice Moderator shall preside at meetings and  
1049 perform the duties of the Moderator. A Vice Moderator shall perform  
1050 such other duties as may be assigned by the Board. In the event that  
1051 more than one Vice Moderator is elected, one of the Vice Moderators  
1052 shall be designated First Vice Moderator.

#### 1053 **Section 8.13. Vice Presidents.**

1054 Any Vice President appointed shall have such powers and shall  
1055 perform such duties as may be assigned by the Board of Trustees or  
1056 as assigned by the President in conformity with any provisions of the  
1057 Board appointment.

#### 1058 **Section 8.14. Secretary.**

1059 The Secretary shall be appointed from among the members of the  
1060 Board of Trustees and shall perform all duties usually pertaining to  
1061 the office, except those of a Clerk under Massachusetts law. The  
1062 Secretary shall represent the Association on special occasions and  
1063 shall assist in promoting the welfare of the Association.

#### 1064 **Section 8.15. Treasurer.**

1065 The duties of the Treasurer are set forth in Article X.

#### 1066 **Section 8.16. Recording Secretary.**

1067 The Recording Secretary shall at all times be a resident of the  
1068 Commonwealth of Massachusetts and upon being appointed shall be  
1069 sworn to the faithful performance of the duties of the office. If the  
1070 Recording Secretary ceases to be a resident of the Commonwealth  
1071 of Massachusetts, such person shall be disqualified and the office  
1072 declared vacant. The Recording Secretary shall keep an accurate  
1073 record of all meetings of the Association and the Board of Trustees,  
1074 shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Board,  
1075 and shall perform the duties of a Clerk under Massachusetts law.

#### 1076 **Section 8.17. Other Appointed Officers.**

1077 The Board of Trustees may appoint such other officers as it deems  
1078 necessary and shall fix their powers and duties.



1079 **Section 8.18. Compensation.**

1080 The Moderator, the Financial Advisor, and the appointed non-  
1081 salaried officers shall not receive compensation for their services but  
1082 shall be reimbursed as determined by the Board of Trustees for  
1083 expenses reasonably incurred by them in the performance of their  
1084 duties.

1085 **Section 8.19. Reports by Officers.**

1086 The Moderator, the President, the Financial Advisor, and the  
1087 Treasurer shall each make an annual report to the member  
1088 congregations and to each regular General Assembly.

1089 **ARTICLE IX Nominations and Elections**

1090 **Section 9.1. Elective Positions.**

1091 The elective positions of the Association are those of the elected  
1092 officers, the trustees, and the elected members of the standing  
1093 committees of the Association. No person shall hold more than one  
1094 elective position at a time whether by election or appointment. Ex  
1095 officio positions for the purposes of this Bylaw provision shall be  
1096 deemed part of the elected position from which the ex officio position  
1097 is derived.

1098 **Section 9.2. Nomination Procedures.**

1099 The nomination procedures set forth in these Bylaws and the Rules  
1100 adopted hereunder are exclusive, and no person who is not  
1101 nominated in accordance with such procedures can be elected to any  
1102 elective position.

1103 **Section 9.3. Notice by Nominating Committee.**

1104 On or before August 1 of each year, the Nominating Committee shall  
1105 notify all certified member congregations in writing of the elective  
1106 positions and vacancies to be filled at the next regular General  
1107 Assembly.

1108 **\*Section 9.4. Nomination by Nominating Committee.**

1109 (a) The Nominating Committee shall submit one or more  
1110 nominations for each elective position to be filled, except  
1111 Moderator and President, including positions to be filled by  
1112 special election. With respect to Board positions, the  
1113 Nominating Committee shall designate the position number for  
1114 which each person is being nominated.

1115 (b) The Nominating Committee shall endeavor to nominate  
1116 individuals so that the membership of the Board of Trustees  
1117 and each elected committee reflects the full diversity of the  
1118 Association, especially in regard to historically marginalized  
1119 communities, but also balancing amongst size of congregation,  
1120 lay and ordained, geography, age (including youth and young  
1121 adults), and gender, among others. The Nominating  
1122 Committee shall consult with groups and organizations  
1123 including those traditionally underrepresented in Unitarian  
1124 Universalist leadership, to help inform the nominating process.

1125 (c) Only one person from any one member congregation shall be  
1126 nominated to serve on the Nominating Committee or the Board  
1127 of Trustees.

1128 (d) The Nominating Committee shall issue a report with its  
1129 nominations on or before March 15 of the year in which the  
1130 nominees will be candidates for election. Nominations shall be  
1131 filed with the Secretary of the Association and distributed to all  
1132 certified member congregations, associate member  
1133 organizations, and trustees.

1134 **Section 9.5. Nomination of President and Moderator.**

1135 (a) President. The Presidential Search Committee shall submit no  
1136 fewer than two nominations for the office of President for an  
1137 election at the end of a presidential term or for a special  
1138 election. The report of the Presidential Search Committee shall  
1139 be announced by November 15 of the year before the General  
1140 Assembly at which there is to be a presidential election, except  
1141 in the case of a special election, in which case the report of the  
1142 Presidential Search Committee shall be announced by  
1143 December 10 of the year before the election.

1144 (b) Moderator. The Board of Trustees shall submit one or more  
1145 nominations for the office of Moderator for an election at the  
1146 end of a Moderator term or for a special election. The report of  
1147 the Board of Trustees shall be announced by November 15 of  
1148 the year before the General Assembly at which there is to be  
1149 a Moderator election, except in the case of a special election,  
1150 in which case the report of the Board of Trustees shall be  
1151 announced by December 10 of the year before the election.

1152 **Section 9.6. Nomination by Petition.**

1153 (a) For Moderator and President. A nomination for the office of  
1154 Moderator or President, for a regular or special election, may  
1155 be by petition signed by no fewer than fifty certified member  
1156 congregations, including at least one congregation from three  
1157 of the regions of the Association. A certified member  
1158 congregation may authorize the signing of a petition only by  
1159 vote of its governing board or by vote at a duly called meeting  
1160 of its members. Such a petition shall be filed with the Secretary  
1161 of the Association, only in such form as the Secretary may  
1162 prescribe, not later than February 1 of the year of the election  
1163 and not earlier than the preceding December 1.

1164 (b) For other Elective Positions. A nomination for any elective  
1165 position, for a regular or special election, may be by petition  
1166 signed by not less than fifty members of certified member  
1167 congregations, with no more than ten signatures of members  
1168 of any one congregation counted toward the required fifty. A  
1169 separate petition, in form prescribed by the Secretary, shall be  
1170 filed for each nomination not later than May 1 of the year of the  
1171 election and not earlier than the preceding October 1. A  
1172 petition for nomination to the Board of Trustees must designate  
1173 the position number for which the person is being nominated.

1174 **Section 9.7. Qualifications of Nominees.**

1175 Each person nominated for an elective position at large shall be a  
1176 member of a member congregation. No person shall be nominated  
1177 for more than one such elective position. If a person is nominated for  
1178 more than one such elective position, the Secretary of the  
1179 Association shall so notify such person in writing and such person  
1180 shall have twenty days from the date of the notice to select one  
1181 nomination which is acceptable. In the absence of a timely selection,  
1182 all such nominations shall be void and the person shall be so notified  
1183 in writing by the Secretary.

1184 **Section 9.8. Vacancy in Nominations.**

1185 If all persons nominated for an elective position at large die, decline  
1186 to serve or are disqualified after the time has expired for making any  
1187 further nominations, or if no valid and timely nomination is made, the  
1188 position shall be filled after the final adjournment of the regular  
1189 General Assembly at which the election would have been held in the  
1190 same manner as if the position had been filled by election and had  
1191 then become vacant.

1192 **Section 9.9. Supervision of Elections.**

1193 The Secretary shall supervise all elections for elective positions at  
1194 large. The Secretary may appoint a committee of tellers to count  
1195 ballots and perform other routine duties. The Secretary shall decide  
1196 any question arising during such an election concerning:

1197 (a) the interpretation of any provision of these Bylaws or of Rules  
1198 made hereunder relating to election procedures;

1199 (b) any procedural problem relating to the election which is not  
1200 covered by these Bylaws or by the Rules; or

1201 (c) the interpretation of the intent of a voter in marking the  
1202 ballot.

1203 The decision of the Secretary may be changed by a two-thirds vote  
1204 of the Board of Trustees. The Secretary shall remain neutral in the  
1205 election and shall not engage in electioneering, except for advocacy  
1206 of their own candidacy for offices for which they are nominated.

1207 **Section 9.10. Conduct of Elections at Large.**

1208 (a) Election by Ballot. Voting shall be by ballot, except that if only  
1209 one person has been validly nominated for an elective position  
1210 at large the persons so nominated shall be declared elected  
1211 and no voting shall be required. Delegates will have access to  
1212 electronic voting onsite at General Assembly or remotely, as  
1213 described in Section 9.10(d), or by mail ballot as described in  
1214 Section 9.10(c).

1215 (b) Eligible Voters. Votes shall be cast only by accredited  
1216 delegates from certified member congregations and certified  
1217 associate member organizations to the regular General  
1218 Assembly at which the election is held and by trustees. No  
1219 person shall cast more than one vote.

1220 (c) Mail Ballots. Accredited delegates may cast their ballots as  
1221 paper ballots by mail, if they request to do so. Mail ballots can  
1222 be requested through the Secretary, and shall be requested at  
1223 least forty-five days prior to the General Assembly at which the  
1224 election is being held. A mail ballot that is returned must be  
1225 received by the Secretary by the last business day before the  
1226 close of voting at General Assembly in order to be counted.

1227 (d) Electronic Voting. Accredited delegates may vote electronically  
1228 either onsite at General Assembly or remotely. The Secretary  
1229 shall designate the electronic voting period in the General  
1230 Assembly meeting announcement and may add more time if  
1231 justified. Electronic voting systems must be auditable,  
1232 accessible, and secure.

1233 **\*Section 9.11. Counting of Ballots.**

1234 (a) Singular Positions. If there is more than one duly nominated  
1235 candidate for a single position, not including the candidates for  
1236 the position of Moderator and President, the candidate receiving  
1237 the greatest number of votes is elected.

1238 (b) Multiple Positions of the Same Kind. If there is more than one  
1239 such elective position of the same kind to be filled, the  
1240 candidates respectively receiving the greatest number of votes  
1241 are elected.

1242 (c) Moderator and President Voting. For the positions of Moderator  
1243 and President, if there are two duly nominated candidates, the  
1244 candidate receiving the greater number of votes will be elected.  
1245 If there are more than two duly nominated candidates a ranked  
1246 vote will be held in which voters indicate their ranked choices for  
1247 candidates. If no candidate receives a majority of the first-choice  
1248 votes cast, the candidate receiving the lowest first-choice vote

1249 shall be eliminated and the ballots cast for such candidate shall  
1250 be redistributed in accordance with the second choice indicated  
1251 thereon. This process shall be repeated until one candidate  
1252 receives a majority of all votes cast or until only two candidates  
1253 remain, at which time the one receiving the greater number of  
1254 votes is elected.

1255 **Section 9.12. Special Elections.**

1256 If a vacancy occurs more than 630 days before the expiration of the  
1257 term of an elected officer, an elected member of a standing  
1258 committee of the Association, or a trustee, a special election shall be  
1259 held to fill the balance of the unexpired term. The special election  
1260 shall be held at the next regular General Assembly that begins at  
1261 least 270 days after the date of the vacancy.

1262 **\*Section 9.13. Rules for Nominations and Elections.**

1263 Rules relating to nomination and election procedures shall be  
1264 adopted by a General Assembly. Such rules shall be applicable to  
1265 elections held after the close of the General Assembly at which they  
1266 are adopted.

1267 **ARTICLE X Finance and Contracts**

1268 **\*Section 10.1. Annual Budget.**

1269 The annual budget of the Association shall be adopted and may  
1270 subsequently be amended by the Board of Trustees. A budget or  
1271 budgets for the coming year or years shall be presented to each  
1272 regular General Assembly for its consideration and such  
1273 recommendation of financial priorities as the General Assembly may  
1274 wish to make.

1275 **Section 10.2. Election and Duties of the Financial**  
1276 **Secretary.**

1277 The Financial Secretary shall be elected by the Board from among  
1278 its members. The Financial Secretary facilitates the Board's  
1279 conversations in order to fulfill its financial responsibilities.

1280 **Section 10.3. Duties of Financial Advisor.**

1281 The Financial Advisor shall advise the President and the Board of  
1282 Trustees on financial policy and shall assist the Board in long-range  
1283 planning by reviewing the sources of funds, the application of funds  
1284 designated for specific purposes, the balance between foreseeable  
1285 income and proposed expenditures, and the overall financial welfare  
1286 of the Association. From time to time the Financial Advisor shall  
1287 report to the President and the Board findings and recommendations  
1288 respecting the current financial affairs of the Association and long-  
1289 range planning.

1290 **Section 10.4 Duties of Treasurer and Assistant**  
1291 **Treasurers.**

1292 The Treasurer shall have custody of the corporate seal and the funds  
1293 and other properties of the Association and shall have the usual  
1294 duties of the Treasurer of a corporation. The Treasurer or the Board  
1295 of Trustees may from time to time delegate or assign to each  
1296 Assistant Treasurer specified duties and authority; and any person,  
1297 firm, organization or corporation dealing with the Association may  
1298 assume that any act performed by an Assistant Treasurer, including  
1299 the execution, sealing and delivery of any document, has been  
1300 performed pursuant to an effective delegation or assignment of  
1301 authority as aforesaid, and the Association shall be bound  
1302 accordingly.

1303 **Section C-10.5. Raising of Funds.**

1304 The Association shall raise capital and operating funds to carry out  
1305 its purposes. It may also raise capital and operating funds for

1306 associate member organizations and independent affiliate  
1307 organizations.

1308 **Section C-10.6. Authority to Hold Funds for the Benefit**  
1309 **of Others.**

1310 The Association may hold for investment and distribution funds given  
1311 to the Association for the benefit of a member congregation,  
1312 associate member organization, independent affiliate organization,  
1313 or other Unitarian Universalist organization.

1314 **Section C-10.7. Responsibility for Funds Held by the**  
1315 **Association.**

1316 (a) Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees shall have ultimate  
1317 responsibility for investing the funds held by the Association.

1318 (b) President. The President shall invest the endowment funds  
1319 held by the Association in the Unitarian Universalist Common  
1320 Endowment Fund LLC.

1321 (c) Investment Committee. The Investment Committee shall  
1322 manage the endowment funds held by the Association, subject  
1323 to control by the Board of Trustees.

1324 **\*Section 10.8. Contracts and Securities.**

1325 The President, Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and  
1326 Assistant Treasurer may sign and attest deeds, mortgages,  
1327 contracts, and other documents to which the Association is a party.

1328 **Section C-10.9. Pension System.**

1329 The Association shall establish and maintain a pension system for  
1330 ministers in fellowship with the Association.

1331 **Section 10.10. Fiscal Year.**

1332 The fiscal year of the Association shall be from July 1 to June 30.

1333 **Section C-10.11. Corporate Seal.**

1334 The seal of the Association shall be in such form as the Board of  
1335 Trustees shall approve.

1336 **Section 10.12. Indemnification of Trustees, Officers,**  
1337 **Employees, and Volunteers.**

1338 The Association, to the extent legally permissible, shall indemnify any  
1339 trustee, officer, employee of the Association or volunteer elected by  
1340 a General Assembly or appointed by the Board of Trustees of the  
1341 Association to serve the Association, or persons formerly holding  
1342 such positions, against all liabilities and expenses (including court  
1343 costs, attorneys' fees, and the amount of any judgment or reasonable  
1344 settlement, fines and penalties) actually and necessarily incurred by  
1345 any such person, subsequent to the adoption hereof, in connection  
1346 with the defense of any claim asserted or threatened to be asserted  
1347 against any such person, or any action, suit or proceeding in which  
1348 any such person may be involved as a party, by reason of being or  
1349 having been such trustee, officer, employee or volunteer or by reason  
1350 of any action alleged to have been taken or omitted by any such  
1351 person as such trustee, officer, employee or volunteer, except with  
1352 respect to any matter as to which they shall have been adjudicated  
1353 in any proceeding not to have acted in good faith in the reasonable  
1354 belief that their action was in the best interests of the Association;  
1355 provided, however, that as to any matter disposed of by a  
1356 compromise payment by such person, pursuant to a consent decree  
1357 or otherwise, no indemnification either for said payment or for any  
1358 other expenses shall be provided unless such compromise and  
1359 indemnification therefore shall be approved:

1360 (a) by a majority vote of a quorum consisting of disinterested  
1361 trustees;

1362 (b) if such quorum cannot be obtained, then by a majority vote of  
1363 a committee of the Board of Trustees consisting of all the  
1364 disinterested trustees;

1365 (c) if there are not two or more disinterested trustees in office, then  
1366 by a majority of the trustees then in office, provided they have  
1367 obtained a written finding by independent legal counsel  
1368 appointed by a majority of the trustees to the effect that, based  
1369 upon a reasonable investigation of the relevant facts as  
1370 described such opinion, the person to be indemnified appears  
1371 to have acted in good faith and in the reasonable belief that  
1372 their action was in the best interests of the Association;

1373 (d) if not resolved by (a), (b) or (c), above, by a court of competent  
1374 jurisdiction.

1375 If authorized in the same manner specified above for compromise  
1376 payments, expenses, including attorneys' fees actually and  
1377 necessarily incurred by any such person in connection with the  
1378 defense or disposition of any such action, suit or other proceeding  
1379 may be paid from time to time by the Association in advance of the  
1380 final disposition thereof upon receipt of (a) an affidavit of such  
1381 individual of their good faith belief that they have met the standard  
1382 of conduct necessary for indemnification under this Section and (b)  
1383 an undertaking by such individual to repay the amount so paid to the  
1384 Association if such person shall be adjudicated to be not entitled to  
1385 indemnification under this Section, which undertaking may be  
1386 accepted without reference to the financial ability of such person to  
1387 make repayment. The right of indemnification herein provided shall  
1388 inure to the benefit of the heirs, executors and administrators of each  
1389 such trustee, officer, employee or volunteer and shall not be deemed  
1390 exclusive of any other rights to which any such person may be  
1391 entitled under any statute, bylaw, agreement, vote of members or  
1392 otherwise or to which any such person might have been entitled were  
1393 it not for this provision. As used in this Section, an "interested" trustee  
1394 or officer is one against whom in such capacity the proceeding in  
1395 question, or other proceeding on the same or similar grounds, is then  
1396 pending.

1397 **Section 10.13. Duties of the Audit Committee.**

1398 The Audit Committee shall oversee the annual audit of the financial  
1399 statements of the Association by an independent certified public  
1400 accounting firm and monitor the establishment and implementation  
1401 of accounting policies and internal controls. Specific duties of the  
1402 Audit Committee shall be set forth in a charter adopted by the Board,  
1403 which may be amended by the Board from time to time.

1404

**ARTICLE XI Ministry**

1405 **Section C-11.1. Ministerial Fellowship.**

1406 Each member congregation has the exclusive right to call and ordain  
1407 its own minister or ministers, but the Association has the exclusive  
1408 right to admit ministers to ministerial fellowship with the Association.  
1409 Fellowship may be for the purposes of parish, religious education  
1410 and/or community ministry as determined by action of the Ministerial  
1411 Fellowship Committee.

1412 No minister shall be required to subscribe to any particular creed,  
1413 belief, or interpretation of religion in order to obtain and hold  
1414 fellowship.

1415 **\*Section 11.2. Ministerial Fellowship Committee.**

1416 The Ministerial Fellowship Committee shall have exclusive  
1417 jurisdiction over ministerial fellowship except as otherwise provided

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1418 in these bylaws. It shall make rules governing ministerial fellowship,  
1419 subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees.

1420 **Section 11.3. Admission to Fellowship.**

1421 A minister may be admitted to fellowship by the Ministerial Fellowship  
1422 Committee, upon complying with the requirements of these Bylaws  
1423 and the rules, policies, procedures and requests of the Committee.  
1424 A minister who is admitted to fellowship shall be admitted to  
1425 preliminary fellowship for a period that allows the Committee to  
1426 evaluate ministry, and may thereafter be admitted to full fellowship.  
1427 The term of preliminary fellowship shall be defined in the rules of the  
1428 Committee.

1429 **Section 11.4. Fellowship Records.**

1430 The Executive Secretary of the Ministerial Fellowship Committee  
1431 shall maintain up-to-date records of all ministers in fellowship with the  
1432 Association. These records shall be available only to members of the  
1433 committee, persons designated by the Committee, and, in cases of  
1434 appeals, the Board of Review.

1435 **Section 11.5. Termination of Fellowship and**  
1436 **Administrative Suspension.**

1437 The fellowship of a minister may be terminated by the Ministerial  
1438 Fellowship Committee for unbecoming conduct, incompetence or  
1439 other specified cause. Full fellowship may be terminated only after  
1440 notice by the Committee and opportunity for a Fellowship Review  
1441 before the Committee. During an investigation or the pendency of a  
1442 complaint, the Ministerial Fellowship Committee may suspend a  
1443 minister until a final determination can be made on the minister's  
1444 fellowship status.

1445 **Section 11.6. Reinstatement to Fellowship.**

1446 The Ministerial Fellowship Committee may reinstate in or readmit to  
1447 fellowship a minister who has previously resigned from fellowship or  
1448 whose fellowship has been suspended or terminated.

1449 **Section 11.7. Appeal.**

1450 A minister in full ministerial fellowship whose fellowship is terminated  
1451 may appeal the determination of the Ministerial Fellowship  
1452 Committee to the Board of Review. The Board of Review shall have  
1453 exclusive jurisdiction to hear and decide such appeals. No other  
1454 appeal shall be allowed from any decision of the Ministerial  
1455 Fellowship Committee.

1456 **Section 11.8. Procedure on Appeal.**

1457 An appeal to the Board of Review may be heard by a panel of the  
1458 Board selected as provided in its rules. The Board of Review or its  
1459 panel hearing an appeal shall limit its review to an examination of the  
1460 Ministerial Fellowship Committee's decision, the information  
1461 presented to the Committee, including the documents and other  
1462 evidence compiled during the Fellowship Review, and the reasons  
1463 articulated by the Ministerial Fellowship Committee for its decision  
1464 terminating the minister's fellowship. If the minister requests  
1465 consideration of newly discovered evidence not previously presented  
1466 to the Ministerial Fellowship Committee, then the matter shall be  
1467 returned to the Ministerial Fellowship Committee for consideration of  
1468 that evidence before the Board proceeds with the appeal. These  
1469 Bylaws and the rules of the Ministerial Fellowship Committee shall be  
1470 binding upon the Board of Review or its panel. The Ministerial  
1471 Fellowship Committee's determination of fact and/or credibility will  
1472 not be overturned unless no reasonable fact finder could have  
1473 reached such determination, and disputes of fact are to be resolved  
1474 in favor of the Ministerial Fellowship Committee's determination. The  
1475 Board of Review or its panel may set aside the decision of the

1476 Ministerial Fellowship Committee only where necessary to correct or  
1477 prevent manifest injustice. The Board of Review or its panel may  
1478 remand the case in whole or in part to the Committee or take such  
1479 other action as may be just. The Board of Review or its panel shall  
1480 set forth its finding and conclusions and will serve upon the affected  
1481 minister and the Ministerial Fellowship Committee. The decision  
1482 shall be entered in the fellowship records and shall be final and  
1483 binding upon all parties. No appeal shall be allowed from the decision  
1484 of the Board of Review. The Board of Review shall make rules to  
1485 carry out the intent of this Section.

1486 **ARTICLE XII Religious Education Credentialing**

1487 **Section 12.1. Religious Education Credentialing.**

1488 Each member congregation has the exclusive right to employ its own  
1489 religious educator, but the Association has the exclusive right to  
1490 confer on religious educators a religious education credentialing  
1491 status with the Association. No religious educator shall be required  
1492 to subscribe to any particular creed, belief, or interpretation of religion  
1493 in order to obtain and hold religious education credentialing status.

1494 **Section 12.2. Religious Education Credentialing**  
1495 **Committee.**

1496 The Religious Education Credentialing Committee shall have  
1497 exclusive jurisdiction over religious education credentialing except as  
1498 otherwise provided herein. It shall make rules governing religious  
1499 education credentialing, subject to the approval of the Board of  
1500 Trustees.

1501 **Section 12.3. Achievement of Religious Education**  
1502 **Credentialing Status.**

1503 A religious educator may achieve a religious education credentialing  
1504 status by action of the Religious Education Credentialing Committee,  
1505 upon complying with the requirements of these Bylaws and the rules,  
1506 policies, procedures and requests of the committee.

1507 **Section 12.4. Religious Education Credentialing Levels.**

1508 The Religious Education Credentialing Committee shall adopt rules  
1509 related to levels of religious education credentialing.

1510 **Section 12.5. Religious Education Credentialing**  
1511 **Records.**

1512 The Executive Secretary of the Religious Education Credentialing  
1513 Committee shall maintain up-to-date records of all religious  
1514 educators who have achieved a status as a religious educator as  
1515 described in Section 12.4 of these bylaws. These records shall be  
1516 available only to members of the committee, persons designated by  
1517 the Committee, and, in cases of appeals, the Board of Review.

1518 **Section 12.6. Termination or Administrative Suspension**  
1519 **of Religious Education Credentialing Status.**

1520 The religious education credentialing status of a religious educator  
1521 may be terminated by the Religious Education Credentialing  
1522 Committee for unbecoming conduct, incompetence or other specified  
1523 cause. Credentialing status may be terminated only after notice by  
1524 the Committee and opportunity for a Religious Education  
1525 Credentialing Status Review before the Committee. During an  
1526 investigation or the pendency of a complaint, the Religious Education  
1527 Credentialing Committee may suspend a religious educator's  
1528 credentialing status until a final determination can be made.

1529 **Section 12.7. Reinstatement of Religious Education**  
1530 **Credentialing Status.**

1531 The Religious Education Credentialing Committee may reinstate in  
1532 or readmit to religious education credentialing status a religious

1533 educator who has previously resigned from religious education  
1534 credentialing status or whose religious education credentialing status  
1535 has lapsed, been suspended or terminated.

1536 **Section 12.8. Appeal.**

1537 A religious educator with a religious education credentialing status  
1538 whose status is terminated may appeal the determination of the  
1539 Religious Education Credentialing Committee to the Board of  
1540 Review. The Board of Review shall have exclusive jurisdiction to hear  
1541 and decide such appeals. No other appeal shall be allowed from any  
1542 decision of the Religious Education Credentialing Committee.

1543 **Section 12.9. Procedure on Appeal.**

1544 An appeal to the Board of Review shall be heard by a panel of the  
1545 Board selected as provided in its rules. The Board of Review or its  
1546 panel hearing an appeal shall limit its review to an examination of the  
1547 Religious Education Credentialing Committee's decision, including  
1548 the documents and other evidence compiled during the Religious  
1549 Education Credentialing Status Review, and the reasons articulated  
1550 by the Religious Education Credentialing Committee for its decision  
1551 terminating the religious educator's credentialing status. If the  
1552 religious educator requests consideration of newly discovered  
1553 evidence not previously presented to the Religious Education  
1554 Credentialing Committee, then the matter shall be returned to the  
1555 Religious Education Credentialing Committee for consideration of  
1556 that evidence before the Board proceeds with the appeal. These  
1557 Bylaws and the rules of the Religious Education Credentialing  
1558 Committee shall be binding upon the Board of Review or its panel.  
1559 The Religious Education Credentialing Committee's determination of  
1560 fact and/or credibility will not be overturned unless no reasonable fact  
1561 finder could have reached such determination, and disputes of fact  
1562 are to be resolved in favor of the Religious Education Credentialing  
1563 Committee's determination.

1564 The Board of Review or its panel may set aside the decision of the  
1565 Religious Education Credentialing Committee only where necessary  
1566 to correct or prevent manifest injustice. The Board of Review or its  
1567 panel may remand the case in whole or part to the Religious  
1568 Education Credentialing Committee or take such other action as may  
1569 be just. The Board of Review or its panel shall set forth its finding and  
1570 conclusions and shall be communicated to the affected religious  
1571 educator and the Religious Education Credentialing Committee. The  
1572 decision shall be entered in the religious education credentialing  
1573 records and shall be final and binding upon all parties. No appeal  
1574 shall be allowed from the decision of the Board of Review. The Board  
1575 of Review shall make rules to carry out the intent of this Section.

1576 **ARTICLE XIII Regional Organizations**

1577 **Section C-13.1. Regions.**

1578 The Association shall support areas of regional responsibility known  
1579 as regions.

1580 **\*Section C-13.2. Establishment.**

1581 The establishment of regions and the manner of determining which  
1582 congregations are included in each region shall be in accordance  
1583 with rules adopted by the General Assembly.

1584 **Section 13.3. Members.**

1585 All member congregations of the Association located within the  
1586 region shall be entitled to be member congregations of that region.

1587 **Section C-13.4. Autonomy.**

1588 Each region shall be autonomous and shall be controlled by its own  
1589 member congregations to the extent consistent with the promotion of  
1590 the welfare and interests of the Association as a whole and of its  
1591 member congregations.

1592 **Section 13.5. Region Bylaws.**

1593 Each region shall adopt bylaws or policies which are not in conflict  
1594 with these Bylaws.

1595 **ARTICLE XIV Rules**

1596 **Section 14.1. Adoption and Amendment of Rules by**  
1597 **General Assemblies.**

1598 A General Assembly may adopt Rules not inconsistent with these  
1599 Bylaws. Adoption or amendment of Rules by a General Assembly  
1600 shall be by two-thirds vote. Each Rule adopted by a General  
1601 Assembly shall be identified by a "G" preceding its Rule number. A  
1602 General Assembly may amend or repeal Rules adopted by prior  
1603 General Assemblies or by the Board of Trustees, if the proposed  
1604 Rules or amendments have been placed on the agenda. Rules and  
1605 amendments thereto shall be submitted for inclusion on the agenda  
1606 in the same manner as other resolutions. The provisions of this  
1607 Section 14.1 do not apply to the Rules of Procedure contemplated by  
1608 Section 4.19.

1609 **Section 14.2. Adoption and Amendment of Rules by the**  
1610 **Board of Trustees.**

1611 The Board of Trustees may adopt Rules not inconsistent with these  
1612 Bylaws and with Rules adopted by General Assemblies and may  
1613 amend or repeal its Rules.

1614 **Section 14.3. Rules of Order.**

1615 The Rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order*  
1616 *Newly Revised* shall govern the Association in all cases to which they  
1617 are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these  
1618 Bylaws and any Rules that may be adopted hereunder.

1619 **ARTICLE XV Amendment**

1620 **Section C-15.1. Amendment of Bylaws.**

1621 (a) Amendments to Bylaws. These Bylaws may be amended by a  
1622 two-thirds vote at a regular General Assembly if a proposed  
1623 amendment has been placed on the agenda; provided,  
1624 however, that proposals to amend, repeal, or add a new  
1625 section of these Bylaws whose section number is preceded by  
1626 a "C" (hereinafter a "C Bylaw") shall be governed by  
1627 subsections (b) or (c) hereof.

1628 (b) Amendments to C Bylaws Other Than in Article II. A proposal  
1629 to amend, repeal or add a new C Bylaw, other than those C  
1630 Bylaws in Article II of these Bylaws, shall be subject to a two-  
1631 step approval process.

1632 (1) Such proposals must be placed on the agenda of a regular  
1633 General Assembly and approved preliminarily by a majority  
1634 vote at such regular General Assembly. Following such  
1635 preliminary approval, the proposal to amend, repeal or add  
1636 a new C Bylaw shall be placed on the agenda of the next  
1637 regular General Assembly for final adoption. Final adoption  
1638 shall require a two-thirds vote.

1639 (2) The text of a proposed amendment which has been  
1640 approved by one General Assembly, may be amended at  
1641 any time prior to final adoption. If the Moderator rules that

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1651 the amendment to the proposal is substantive, final  
1652 adoption shall only be by a subsequent General Assembly  
1653 except that any such proposal that has been under  
1654 consideration for final approval at three successive regular  
1655 General Assemblies shall not be subject to substantive  
1656 amendment and shall be submitted to a vote for final  
1657 approval at the third such regular General Assembly.

1658 (3) Such a proposal which, on any vote for final adoption,  
1659 receives a majority but not a two-thirds vote, shall be  
1660 placed on the agenda of the next regular General  
1661 Assembly, at which it may be finally adopted if it receives  
1662 the requisite approval. If the proposal is not passed by a  
1663 two-thirds vote at the third regular General Assembly at  
1664 which it is considered for final approval, neither the  
1665 proposal nor another proposal that is substantively similar  
1666 shall be placed on the agenda of the next regular General  
1667 Assembly.

1668 (c) Amendments to C Bylaws in Article II. A proposal to amend,  
1669 repeal or add a new C Bylaw in Article II of these Bylaws shall  
1670 be subject to the following process

1671 (1) Such a proposal shall be admitted to the agenda of a  
1672 regular General Assembly for the purpose of determining  
1673 whether the proposal shall be referred to a commission  
1674 appointed by the Board of Trustees for study. Such a study  
1675 shall involve member congregations. A majority vote at a  
1676 regular General Assembly shall be required to refer such a  
1677 proposal to the study commission. Once the study of the  
1678 proposal is complete, which shall be completed in no more  
1679 than two years, the study commission shall submit to the  
1680 Board of Trustees for inclusion on the agenda of the next  
1681 regular General Assembly any amendments to Article II  
1682 that the study commission recommends. The Board of  
1683 Trustees shall also include on the agenda any  
1684 amendments that it recommends to the study commission  
1685 proposal.

1686 (2) A motion to dispense with the study process and give  
1687 preliminary approval to a proposal to amend, repeal or add  
1688 a new C Bylaw in Article II shall be in order during the  
1689 General Assembly at which consideration of a motion to  
1690 refer the proposal to the study process is authorized. A  
1691 motion to dispense with the study process shall require a  
1692 four-fifths vote for passage. Such a proposal shall then be  
1693 placed on the agenda of the next regular General  
1694 Assembly for final adoption without amendment. Final  
1695 adoption shall require a two-thirds vote.

1696 (3) At the first General Assembly following the completion of  
1697 the study process, amendments to the Article II proposal  
1698 may be considered only as follows:

1699 (i) During the General Assembly there shall be a mini-  
1700 assembly held during which amendments to the  
1701 Article II proposal recommended by the study  
1702 commission shall be considered.

1703 (ii) A delegate may submit in writing at the mini-  
1704 assembly an amendment to an Article II proposal.  
1705 All such amendments shall be made available in  
1706 writing to the General Assembly. The Moderator, in  
1707 consultation with the chair of the study commission,  
1708 the parliamentarian and legal counsel shall prioritize  
1709 proposed amendments for consideration by the  
1710 General Assembly. A majority vote of the General

1711 Assembly is required for approval of any amendment  
1712 proposed in the mini-assembly.

1713 (iii) Following the vote on any amendments proposed in  
1714 the mini-assembly, the General Assembly shall vote  
1715 on any amendments proposed by the Board of  
1716 Trustees. A majority vote is required to adopt such  
1717 amendments. Following the vote on all  
1718 amendments, the General Assembly shall vote on  
1719 preliminary approval of the Article II proposal. A  
1720 majority vote is required for preliminary approval.

1721 (iv) If no amendments proposed in the mini-assembly  
1722 are adopted by the General Assembly pursuant to  
1723 subsection (c)(3)(ii) above, the Article II proposal  
1724 shall be submitted for final approval to the next  
1725 regular General Assembly. Final approval requires  
1726 a two-thirds vote of the General Assembly. No  
1727 amendments may be considered.

1728 (v) If one or more amendments proposed in the mini-  
1729 assembly are adopted by the General Assembly, the  
1730 Article II proposal shall be referred to the study  
1731 commission. Within six months after the close of the  
1732 General Assembly, the study commission, taking  
1733 into account the decisions of the General Assembly,  
1734 shall prepare the proposal to amend Article II. The  
1735 Board of Trustees shall put this proposal on the  
1736 agenda of the next regular General Assembly.

1737 (4) At the next regular General Assembly following the  
1738 process described in subsection (c)(3)(v), above, the  
1739 Article II proposal is subject to amendment only by a three-  
1740 fourths vote in favor of an amendment submitted to the  
1741 General Assembly in writing by the Board of Trustees or a  
1742 minimum of fifteen (15) certified congregations, as  
1743 described in Section 15.2 of these Bylaws. Final approval  
1744 of the Article II proposal requires a two-thirds vote of the  
1745 General Assembly.

1746 (5) If the Article II proposal does not receive the requisite  
1747 approval at the General Assembly following the completion  
1748 of the study process described in subsection (c)(3)(iv) or  
1749 subsection (c)(4), above, neither the proposal nor another  
1750 proposal that is substantively similar shall be placed on the  
1751 agenda of the next regular General Assembly.

1752 (6) If no study process of Article II has occurred for a period of  
1753 fifteen years, the Board of Trustees shall appoint a  
1754 commission to study Article II for not more than two years  
1755 and to recommend appropriate revisions, if any, thereto  
1756 to the Board of Trustees for inclusion on the agenda of the  
1757 next regular General Assembly. The Board of Trustees  
1758 shall also include on the agenda any amendments that it  
1759 recommends to the study commission proposal.  
1760 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein,  
1761 proposals to amend Article II which are promulgated by a  
1762 study commission in accordance with this paragraph shall  
1763 be subject to a two-step approval process as described in  
1764 subsections (c)(3) and (c)(4), above.

1765 **\*Section 15.2. Submission of Proposed Amendment.**

1766 Proposed amendments to these Bylaws may be submitted only by:

1767 (a) the Board of Trustees;

1768 (b) the General Assembly Planning Committee;

1769 (c) the Commission on Appraisal;

1770 (d) not less than fifteen certified member congregations by action  
1771 of their governing boards or their congregations; such  
1772 proposed amendments to Bylaws must be received by the  
1773 Board of Trustees on February 1 whenever the regular General  
1774 Assembly opens in June; otherwise, not less than 110 days  
1775 before the General Assembly; or

1776 (e) a region by official action at a duly called meeting at which a  
1777 quorum is present, such proposed amendment to be received by  
1778 the Board of Trustees on February 1 whenever the regular  
1779 General Assembly opens in June; otherwise, not less than 110  
1780 days before the next General Assembly. In a region that does  
1781 not maintain a formal governance structure, a meeting for this  
1782 purpose may be convened by vote of the governing bodies or  
1783 membership of at least fifteen congregations in that region in  
1784 good standing with the UUA. A quorum for such a meeting  
1785 shall require that at least one-third of the congregations of the  
1786 region be represented by one or more formally credentialed  
1787 delegates.

1788 **RULES\* of the UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST**  
1789 **ASSOCIATION**

1790 \*Rules whose section number is preceded by a "G" are those  
1791 adopted by a General Assembly and may be amended or repealed  
1792 only by a General Assembly, as provided in Section 14.1 of the  
1793 Bylaws.

1794 **RULE I Name**

1795 No existing rules applicable to Article I.

1796 **RULE II Principles and Purposes**

1797 **Rule G-2.1. Democratic Process.**

1798 Because the Association is committed to the use of the democratic  
1799 process, because its governing institutions are accountable to our  
1800 congregations, because accessibility is critical to countering systemic  
1801 and institutional oppression and because openness and trust are  
1802 characteristics of a healthy religious community, the UUA Board shall  
1803 establish policies to allow for the maximum transparency of its  
1804 proceedings and of the proceedings of all UUA committees,  
1805 commissions and task forces, consistent with their effective  
1806 functioning. These policies shall include:

- 1807 (a) providing advance notice of dates and locations of regular  
1808 business meetings, and making agendas, reports and minutes  
1809 available promptly;
- 1810 (b) providing avenues for comment on issues on the meetings'  
1811 agendas;
- 1812 (c) accommodating observers at regular business meetings, with  
1813 the exception of executive sessions.

1814 Implementing this rule shall be the responsibility of the Board of  
1815 Trustees. The Board shall designate a specific person or committee  
1816 to whom comments about adherence to this rule may be addressed.  
1817 The Board shall report to the General Assembly annually for the next  
1818 three years on its implementation.

1819 **Rule G-2.3. Non-discrimination.**

1820 The Association declares and affirms its special responsibility, and  
1821 that of its member congregations and organizations, to promote the  
1822 full participation of persons in all of its and their activities and in the  
1823 full range of human endeavor without regard to racialized identity,  
1824 ethnicity, gender expression, gender identity, sex, disability,

1825 affectional or sexual orientation, family and relationship structures,  
1826 age, language, citizenship status, economic status, or national origin  
1827 and without requiring adherence to any particular interpretation of  
1828 religion or to any particular religious belief or creed.

1829 **RULE III Membership**

1830 **Section C-3.3. Admission to Membership.**

1831 **Rule 3.3.1. New Congregations.**

1832 It is the policy of the Unitarian Universalist Association to encourage  
1833 and assist the development of new congregations as well as to  
1834 support and aid existing member congregations as stated in the  
1835 purposes of the Association.

1836 **Rule 3.3.2. Procedure for Admission.**

1837 A church or fellowship may become a member of the Association  
1838 upon approval by the Board of Trustees of the Association of a written  
1839 application for membership.

1840 The application shall include:

- 1841 (a) a statement that the applicant subscribes to the principles of  
1842 the Association and pledges itself to support the Association;
- 1843 (b) a copy of the articles of incorporation or other organizing  
1844 documents and the bylaws of the applicant;
- 1845 (c) the names and addresses of the charter members sufficient in  
1846 number to satisfy the minimum membership requirements; and
- 1847 (d) an initial payment in an amount of no less than the Fair Share  
1848 contribution to the Association's Annual Program Fund, pro-  
1849 rated for the portion of the Association's fiscal year remaining  
1850 as of the date of application.

1851 **Rule 3.3.3. Membership Requirements for Admission.**

1852 A new congregation, to be recognized as a member of the  
1853 Association, must have thirty (30) of its adult members be members  
1854 solely of the new congregation.

1855 **Rule 3.3.4. Multiple Local Congregations.**

1856 In many communities the liberal religious movement may be better  
1857 served by the establishment of two or more member congregations.

- 1858 (a) It is ordinarily desirable that a new congregation should have  
1859 the active support and sponsorship of any member  
1860 congregation or congregations located in the same geographic  
1861 area.
- 1862 (b) The Association will neither initiate nor recognize such a new  
1863 congregation until after the Association has consulted by mail  
1864 or by interview with any member congregation or  
1865 congregations located in the same geographic area. Such  
1866 consultation shall include a request for letters from the  
1867 presiding officer of the congregation's governing board and  
1868 minister of such congregation(s) stating judgment regarding  
1869 the establishment and/or recognition of the new congregation.  
1870 The Association may proceed to assist in organizing or  
1871 recognizing the new congregation despite local protest or  
1872 objection if the Association believes that such action is in the  
1873 best interests of the entire movement and that it will strengthen  
1874 the total Unitarian Universalist position in the community.

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1879 **Rule 3.3.5. Rules and Regulations for New**  
1880 **Congregations.**

1881 It is essential that Unitarian Universalist congregations be affirmative  
1882 in spirit, inclusive in fellowship, and mutually supportive in their  
1883 relationships with other congregations. The following statements  
1884 represent the Association's best judgment as to the meaning of this  
1885 general statement and shall be used by staff and the Board in  
1886 determining action upon applications for membership.

1887 (a) In receiving the application of a new congregation for  
1888 membership in the Association, the Congregational ~~Life~~ staff  
1889 shall satisfy itself that the group is making its application in  
1890 good faith and that it will make a sincere effort to carry out the  
1891 purposes of the Association. (See specifically Article II of the  
1892 Bylaws.)

1893 (b) The Association interprets its statements of purpose to mean  
1894 that no congregation may be accepted into membership if its  
1895 bylaws exclude from its local membership any person because  
1896 of race, ethnicity, gender, disability, affectional or sexual  
1897 orientation, language, citizenship status, economic status, or  
1898 national origin.

1899 (c) All member congregations must be congregational in polity; the  
1900 final authority to make decisions must be vested in the legal  
1901 membership of the congregation.

1902 (d) Member congregations shall project and embark upon a  
1903 balanced program of religious activity including adult worship  
1904 and/or discussion and when feasible establishment of a church  
1905 school in the Unitarian Universalist tradition.

1906 (e) New congregations are expected to establish and maintain  
1907 cooperative relations with Unitarian Universalist agencies, as  
1908 appropriate and feasible.

1909 (f) A congregation should be incorporated when possible under  
1910 the laws of the state in which it exists. A congregation shall  
1911 include in its articles of incorporation or other organizing  
1912 documents a clause providing that the assets of the  
1913 congregation will be transferred upon dissolution to the  
1914 Association. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if a congregation  
1915 obtains the prior written consent of the Association's Board of  
1916 Trustees, the congregation may name an organization that is  
1917 affiliated with the Association (such as a ~~camp~~, conference  
1918 center or other congregation) as the recipient of the  
1919 congregation's assets upon dissolution.

1920 **Rule 3.3.6. Order of Administrative Procedure.**

1921 The order of administrative procedure:

1922 (a) Application for congregational membership in the Association  
1923 will first be referred to UUA staff.

1924 (b) UUA staff will seek information and advice with respect to all  
1925 applications as follows:

1926 ~~U.S. Congregations – District President~~

1927 Other Congregations – Executive Officer of appropriate  
1928 Unitarian or Universalist or Unitarian Universalist international  
1929 group, if any.

1930 (c) UUA staff will make its recommendation to the President of the  
1931 Association, and the President shall then make  
1932 recommendations to the Board of Trustees of the UUA for its  
1933 final action.

1934 **Section C-3.5. Certification of Membership.**

1935 **Rule 3.5.1. Required Annual Report.**

1936 In each fiscal year of the Association (July 1 to June 30), each  
1937 member congregation shall file with the Secretary of the Association  
1938 an Annual Report on the form and in the manner provided by the  
1939 Association. The Annual Report shall include a certification by a  
1940 minister or principal officer of the member congregation stating (a)  
1941 whether or not the member congregation complied with the  
1942 conditions set forth in Section C-3.5 of the Bylaws during the  
1943 Association's prior fiscal year and (b) that the information provided to  
1944 the Association in the Annual Report is true and correct to the best of  
1945 the minister's or principal officer's knowledge.

1946 For purposes of determining compliance with Section C-3.5 of the  
1947 Bylaws, a member congregation shall be deemed to have conducted  
1948 'regular religious services' if it has held at least 10 services during the  
1949 fiscal year.

1950 A member congregation's Annual Report for a particular fiscal year  
1951 and, if submitted separately, the related certification must be received  
1952 by the Association on or before February 1 following the close of that  
1953 fiscal year whenever the regular General Assembly opens in June  
1954 and otherwise on or before the close of business on the last business  
1955 day which is at least 110 days before the date of the General  
1956 Assembly next following the close of that fiscal year. If a member  
1957 congregation's related certification is not received by the applicable  
1958 deadline, it will still be deemed timely filed if the member  
1959 congregation submits to the Association proof that it was mailed in  
1960 accordance with the provisions of Rule G-13.4.2. Such proof may be  
1961 in the form of a stamped or validated receipt for Registered or  
1962 Certified Mail or a sworn statement attesting to the proper submission  
1963 of the certification signed by the person responsible for its mailing.

1964 **Rule 3.5.2. Inactive Congregations**

1965 In September of each year UUA staff shall initiate the process of  
1966 contacting congregations in the inactive category to determine their  
1967 status.

1968 This process includes:

1969 (a) requesting a list of congregations that have failed to submit an  
1970 annual report for three consecutive fiscal years;

1971 (b) forwarding this list to the UUA's ~~Regional~~ Staff;

1972 (c) upon receipt of the annual inactive congregations list and  
1973 pursuant to the UUA's by-laws section C-3.6, the UUA's  
1974 ~~Regional~~ staff shall follow up with any congregation in their  
1975 district;

1976 (d) after follow up the ~~Regional~~ staff shall make a recommendation  
1977 about each congregation's status to the UUA Board for action  
1978 at its April meeting.

1979 **Section C-3.7. Associate Member Organizations.**

1980 **Rule 3.7.1. Limitation of Associate Membership.**

1981 It shall be the policy of the Board of Trustees to limit admissions to  
1982 associate membership to major continent-wide organizations.

1983 **Rule 3.7.2. Non-Segregation.**

1984 Each associate member organization shall in all aspects of its work  
1985 refrain from the practice of segregation based on race, ethnicity,  
1986 gender, disability, affectional or sexual orientation, language,  
1987 citizenship status, economic status, or national origin. This rule is not  
1988 intended to preclude associate member organizations designed to

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Trustees for their information

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1996 benefit groups organized to ensure their fuller participation in the  
1997 larger society and to fulfill their unique spiritual needs.

**1998 Rule 3.7.3. Application for Associate Membership.**

1999 Each applicant for membership shall submit with its application:

2000 (a) an attested copy of its charter and, unless it is included in the  
2001 charter, an attested copy of its purposes, objectives, and  
2002 bylaws;

2003 (b) the approximate number of members in the organization;

2004 (c) a list of principal officers with their personal mail addresses and  
2005 the principal mail address of the organization;

2006 (d) a financial statement showing income and expenses for the  
2007 latest fiscal year preceding the date of filing and showing  
2008 assets, liabilities and net worth as of the end of such fiscal year;

2009 (e) the dates upon which its governing board met during the twelve  
2010 months immediately preceding the date of filing;

2011 (f) any yearly reports of its governing body and its principal  
2012 officers sent to members during the twelve months immediately  
2013 preceding the date of filing;

2014 (g) evidence that it enjoys tax exempt status:

2015 (1) under Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue  
2016 Code of 1954;

2017 (2) as a registered charity as provided for in the Income Tax  
2018 Act (Canada); or

2019 (3) under the laws of the country governing the applicant's  
2020 tax status;

2021 (h) if the applicant does not enjoy tax exempt status, the reason or  
2022 reasons it does not;

2023 (i) a statement outlining the intended use of associate  
2024 membership, if granted, and the goals and objectives of the  
2025 organization that will be served by such use;

2026 (j) a statement outlining what advantage it is believed there  
2027 would be to the Association and to the furtherance of the  
2028 principles of the Association outlined in Bylaw Section C- 2.2;

2029 (k) any other information which the Board of Trustees of the  
2030 Association shall require; and

2031 (l) The contribution contemplated by Rule 3.7.10.

**2032 Rule 3.7.4. Annual Report.**

2033 Except in the year when it is admitted to membership, each associate  
2034 member shall send to the Association on or before April 30 (i) an  
2035 annual report which shall include the data required by subsections  
2036 (b), (c), (d), (e) and (f) of Rule 3.7.3 and any other information which  
2037 the Board of Trustees shall require and (ii) the contribution  
2038 contemplated by Rule 3.7.10. If an associate member fails to comply  
2039 with the provisions of this Rule, the Board of Trustees shall at its next  
2040 regular meeting consider a finding of non-compliance and the  
2041 termination of the associate membership status of such organization.

**2042 Rule 3.7.5. Report of Changes.**

2043 Each associate member shall send the Association an attested copy  
2044 of any changes in its charter, purposes, objectives, or bylaws as soon  
2045 as any such changes are made, and shall notify the Association  
2046 immediately of any change in its tax exempt status.

**2047 Rule 3.7.6. Representation of Associate Membership.**

2048 No organization shall claim or represent in any manner that it is an  
2049 associate member of the Association until such membership is voted  
2050 by the Board of Trustees; and if and when any organization's  
2051 associate membership expires or it is terminated, that organization  
2052 shall immediately cease to claim, represent or imply in any manner  
2053 that it is an associate member of the Association.

**2054 Rule 3.7.7. Mailing List.**

2055 Each associated member shall place the Association on its regular  
2056 mailing list.

**2057 Rule 3.7.8. Additional Criteria for Admission.**

2058 Before granting associate membership, the Board of Trustees shall  
2059 determine that the granting of such associate membership is likely to  
2060 be of substantial benefit to the Unitarian Universalist movement.

**2061 Rule 3.7.9. Yearly Grant of Associate Membership.**

2062 Associate membership for all new or existing associate members  
2063 shall be granted by the Board of Trustees for a designated one-year  
2064 period or portion thereof.

**2065 Rule 3.7.10. Associate Member Contributions.**

2066 The contribution required to be submitted with an application for  
2067 associate membership is \$500 for any applicant whose budget for the  
2068 twelve months preceding its application for associate membership  
2069 was \$1,000,000 or more and \$250 for any applicant whose budget  
2070 for the twelve months preceding its application for associate  
2071 membership was less than \$1,000,000. The contribution required to  
2072 be submitted with an associate member's annual report is \$500 for  
2073 any associate member whose budget for the twelve months  
2074 preceding the due date of the annual report was \$1,000,000 or more  
2075 and \$250 for any associate member whose budget for the twelve  
2076 months preceding the due date of the annual report was less than  
2077 \$1,000,000.

**2078 Section C-3.8. Independent Affiliate Organizations.**

**2079 Rule 3.8.1. Application for Independent Affiliate Status.**

2080 Each applicant for independent affiliate status shall submit with its  
2081 application:

2082 (a) an attested copy of its charter, and, unless it is included in the  
2083 charter, an attested copy of its purposes, objectives, and  
2084 bylaws;

2085 (b) the number of members or member groups in the organization;

2086 (c) a list of the principal officers with their personal mail addresses,  
2087 congregation membership or congregation where settled if the  
2088 officer is a fellowshipped minister serving a Unitarian  
2089 Universalist congregation, and the principal mail address of the  
2090 organization;

2091 (d) the contribution contemplated by rule 3.8.9;

2092 (e) a financial statement showing income and expenses for the  
2093 latest fiscal year preceding the date of filing and showing  
2094 assets, liabilities and net worth as of the end of such fiscal year;

2095 (f) the dates upon which its governing board met during the twelve  
2096 months immediately preceding the date of filing;

2097 (g) any yearly reports of its governing body and its principal  
2098 officers sent to members during the twelve months immediately  
2099 preceding the date of filing;

2100 (h) evidence of whether it enjoys tax exempt status:

2101 (1) under Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue  
2102 Code of 1954;

2103 (2) as a registered charity as provided for in the Income Tax  
2104 Act (Canada); or

2105 (3) under the laws of the country governing the applicant's  
2106 tax status;

2107 (i) if the applicant does not enjoy tax exempt status, the reason or  
2108 reasons it does not;

2109 (j) a statement outlining how its purpose, mission and structure  
2110 models interdependence through engagement with our  
2111 member congregations, coordination or collaboration of effort  
2112 and resources; and a statement outlining how the organization  
2113 supports the transformation of institutions and our world to be  
2114 aligned with those values expressed in our Principles; and

2115 (k) any other information which the Board of Trustees of the  
2116 Association shall require.

2117 **Rule 3.8.2. Non-Segregation.**

2118 Each independent affiliate organization shall in all aspects of its work  
2119 refrain from the practice of segregation based on race, ethnicity,  
2120 gender, disability, affectional or sexual orientation, language,  
2121 citizenship status, economic status, or national origin. This rule is not  
2122 intended to preclude independent affiliate organizations designed to  
2123 benefit groups organized to ensure their fuller participation in the  
2124 larger society and to fulfill their unique spiritual needs.

2125 **Rule 3.8.3. Annual Contribution and Report.**

2126 Except in the year when it is admitted to independent affiliate status,  
2127 each independent affiliate organization shall send the Association on  
2128 or before April 30 (i) an annual report which shall include the data  
2129 required by subsections (b), (c), (f), (g) and (h) of Rule 3.8.1 and any  
2130 other information which the Board of Trustees shall require and (ii)  
2131 the contribution contemplated by Rule 3.8.9. If an independent  
2132 affiliate organization fails to comply with the provisions of this Rule,  
2133 the Board of Trustees shall at its next regular meeting consider a  
2134 finding of non-compliance and the termination of the independent  
2135 affiliate status of such organization.

2136 **Rule 3.8.4. Report of Changes.**

2137 Each independent affiliate organization shall send the Association an  
2138 attested copy of any changes in its charter, purposes, objectives, or  
2139 bylaws as soon as any such changes are made and shall notify the  
2140 Association immediately of any change in its tax-exempt status.

2141 **Rule 3.8.5. Representation of Independent Affiliate**  
2142 **Status.**

2143 No organization shall claim or represent in any manner that it is an  
2144 independent affiliate with the Association until such status is voted by  
2145 the Board of Trustees; and if and when any organization's  
2146 independent affiliate status expires or it is terminated, that  
2147 organization shall immediately cease to claim, represent or imply in  
2148 any manner that it is affiliated with the Association.

2149 **Rule 3.8.6. Mailing List.**

2150 Each independent affiliate organization shall place the Association  
2151 on its regular mailing list.

2152 **Rule 3.8.7. Additional Criteria for Admission.**

2153 Before granting independent affiliate status, the Board of Trustees  
2154 shall determine that such affiliation is likely to be of substantial benefit  
2155 to the Unitarian Universalist movement.

2156 **Rule 3.8.8. Yearly Grant of Independent Affiliate Status.**

2157 Independent affiliate status for all new or existing independent  
2158 affiliate organizations shall be granted by the Board of Trustees for a  
2159 designated one-year period or portion thereof.

2160 **Rule 3.8.9. Independent Affiliate Contributions.**

2161 The contribution required to be submitted with an application for  
2162 independent affiliate status and with an independent affiliate's annual  
2163 report is \$100.

2164 **RULE IV General Assembly**

2165 **Section 4.6. Notice of Meetings.**

2166 **Rule 4.6.1. Mailing of Notice.**

2167 Notice of each regular and special General Assembly shall be given  
2168 not less than sixty days before the date thereof to each certified  
2169 member congregation, associate member organization, and trustee.  
2170 Such notice shall be given by the Secretary or the Recording  
2171 Secretary.

2172 **Rule 4.6.2. Time of Notice.**

2173 Notice so sent shall be sufficient if mailed at Boston, Massachusetts,  
2174 sixty days before any such General Assembly, addressed to the  
2175 persons who according to the records of the Association are entitled  
2176 thereto hereunder and sent to the addresses which appear on said  
2177 records. When the Secretary in their absolute discretion finds it  
2178 desirable and practicable, a copy of the notice shall be inserted in the  
2179 denomination's publication most widely circulated within the  
2180 denomination, in the issue which will be circulated as near to sixty  
2181 days before the General Assembly as possible.

2182 **Rule 4.6.3. Content of Notice.**

2183 Such notice shall contain the date, time, and place where the General  
2184 Assembly is to be held and shall state only that the business to be  
2185 transacted will be set forth in the official agenda issued in accordance  
2186 with the Bylaws. Such agenda need not accompany the notice. The  
2187 original of such notice shall be signed by the Secretary or Recording  
2188 Secretary and be made a part of the minutes of the General  
2189 Assembly to which it pertains. The signature of the Secretary or  
2190 Recording Secretary on copies of any such notice may be printed or  
2191 typewritten.

2192 **Section C-4.7. Voting.**

2193 **Rule G-4.7.1. Recording the Vote on Resolutions.**

2194 The vote on resolutions shall be recorded as having been adopted:

- 2195 (a) unanimously; or
- 2196 (b) by a vote of two-thirds or more; or
- 2197 (c) by a specified vote for or against.

2198 When any resolution is reported by the Association, the recorded  
2199 vote on each resolution shall be included.

2200 **Section C-4.9. Accreditation of Delegates.**

2201 **Rule G-4.9.1. Number of Delegates.**

2202 The Secretary of the Association shall, consistent with the Bylaws of  
2203 the Association, determine the number of delegates to which each

2204 certified member congregation and associate member organization  
2205 is entitled. The determinations of the Secretary may be appealed to  
2206 the Board of Trustees.

2207 **Rule 4.9.1A. Merged, Consolidated, or Dissolved**  
2208 **Congregations.**

2209 In the event a certified member congregation dissolves or merges or  
2210 consolidates with another congregation subsequent to its filing the  
2211 certified member certification form prescribed by Rule 3.5.1, any  
2212 delegate credentials outstanding on the date of dissolution or merger  
2213 or consolidation are thereby rendered null and void. In the event of  
2214 merger or consolidation, the merged or consolidated certified  
2215 member congregation shall be entitled during the current fiscal year  
2216 of the Association to the number of delegate credentials that reflects  
2217 the total membership of the merged or consolidated congregation or  
2218 to the number of delegate credentials that the certified member  
2219 congregations merging or consolidating would have been entitled to  
2220 but for the merger or consolidation, whichever is less.

2221 **Rule 4.9.2. Settled Ministers.**

2222 A settled minister for the purpose of accreditation as a delegate  
2223 pursuant to Bylaw Section 4.8 (b) is (a) a minister engaged by a  
2224 certified member congregation in compensated ministerial activities  
2225 which constitute fifty percent or more of a typical work schedule or  
2226 (b) a community minister who (1) maintains active involvement in  
2227 such congregation; (2) has written agreement with the congregation;  
2228 (3) is in affiliation with the congregation; and (4) is compensated for  
2229 community ministry work which constitutes fifty percent or more of a  
2230 typical work schedule recognized by the congregation as ministry. A  
2231 congregation is entitled to the number of accredited community  
2232 minister delegates equal to the number of delegates to which it is  
2233 entitled under Bylaw Section 4.8(a). A minister emeritus/a shall  
2234 previously have settled in such congregation as described in this  
2235 Rule. A certified member congregation shall certify in writing that its  
2236 minister delegates meet the criteria for minister in accordance with  
2237 this Rule.

2238 **Rule G-4.9.3. Mailing of Credential Cards.**

2239 Not less than forty-five days prior to each General Assembly, the  
2240 Secretary of the Association shall send to each certified member  
2241 congregation and associate member organization entitled to be  
2242 represented by delegates the proper number of delegate credentials.  
2243 The Secretary shall also furnish trustees with credentials.

2244 **Rule 4.9.4. Issuance of Duplicate Credential Card.**

2245 If a person who has been duly constituted a delegate arrives at a  
2246 General Assembly without a properly executed Credential Card, the  
2247 person may apply to the Secretary of the Association, or to one or  
2248 more persons designated by the Secretary, for a special certificate of  
2249 accreditation. The application shall be in writing on a form provided  
2250 by the Secretary of the Association. It shall be signed by the applicant  
2251 under the penalties of perjury. The certificate shall contain at least  
2252 the following:

2253 (a) the name of the congregation or associate member  
2254 organization involved;

2255 (b) in the case of a delegate representing a member congregation  
2256 other than a settled minister or emerita/us minister or an  
2257 accredited director of religious education, a statement that the  
2258 applicant is a member of that congregation; or in the case of a  
2259 delegate representing an associate member organization, a  
2260 statement that the applicant is a member of a certified member  
2261 congregation;

2262 (c) a statement that the person was designated as a delegate  
2263 under established procedures of the congregation or is a  
2264 settled minister or emerita/us minister thereof or is an  
2265 accredited director of religious education employed in the  
2266 congregation, or was designated as a delegate of an associate  
2267 member organization; and

2268 (d) a brief statement as to why the applicant is not able to present  
2269 an official and properly executed accrediting card.

2270 **Rule 4.9.5. Alternate Delegates.**

2271 Each certified member congregation may, in accordance with its own  
2272 Bylaws or procedures, designate alternate delegates to any General  
2273 Assembly in such number, not in excess of the number of delegates  
2274 to which it is entitled, as it may determine. Alternate delegates shall  
2275 be members of the certified member congregation they represent. All  
2276 alternates appointed must be provided by the member congregation  
2277 with a certification of their appointment signed by an officer of the  
2278 congregation.

2279 **Rule G-4.9.6. Delegate Status.**

2280 Delegates and alternates may be designated to attend each General  
2281 Assembly to be held in any fiscal year of the Association or only a  
2282 particular General Assembly as each member congregation shall  
2283 determine.

2284 **Rule 4.9.7. Issuance of Alternate Credentials.**

2285 In order to be issued credentials admitting the alternate as a delegate  
2286 to the General Assembly, the alternate must present such  
2287 certification and credential card and delegate badge of the delegate  
2288 for whom such person is serving as alternate.

2289 **Rule G-4.9.8. Registration Fee.**

2290 All delegates, alternates and trustees must register in order to be  
2291 admitted to the floor and vote at the General Assembly.

2292 **Rule 4.9.9. Amount of Fees.**

2293 The registration fee shall be set by the Board of Trustees.

2294 **Section 4.12. UUA Statements of Conscience and**  
2295 **Study/Action Issues for Social Justice.**

2296 **Rule G-4.12.1. Report of Comments on UUA Statements**  
2297 **of Conscience.**

2298 The Commission on Social Witness shall report to the General  
2299 Assembly in summary fashion those comments on UUA Statements  
2300 of Conscience submitted to it by member congregations.

2301 **Rule G-4.12.2. Study/Action Issues for Social Justice.**

2302 The Commission on Social Witness shall prepare (and the Board of  
2303 Trustees shall include with the Tentative Agenda) a report  
2304 summarizing the numbers and topics of the proposed Congregational  
2305 Study/Action Issues submitted by the certified member  
2306 congregations and sponsored organizations as defined in Section  
2307 4.12(a)(1), and the criteria which it used in selecting proposed  
2308 Congregational Study/Action Issues included in the Congregational  
2309 Poll. Each proposed Congregational Study/Action Issue that appears  
2310 on the Tentative Agenda shall be accompanied by previous General  
2311 Resolutions, actions and statements on related issues, with dates (if  
2312 applicable), and the names or number of congregations submitting  
2313 issues included within such proposed Congregational Study/Action  
2314 Issue.

2315 **Rule G-4.12.3 Report on Implementation of UUA**  
2316 **Statements of Conscience.**

2317 The UUA Administration shall report at each regular General  
2318 Assembly regarding implementation of UUA Statements of  
2319 Conscience with particular reference to the most recently adopted  
2320 Statement of Conscience. Such report shall summarize  
2321 implementation by member congregations, UUA staff and other  
2322 Unitarian Universalist groups.

2323 **Rule 4.12.4 Mini-Assembly on UUA Statement of**  
2324 **Conscience**

2325 During the regular General Assembly referred to in Section  
2326 4.12(d)(1), a mini-assembly shall be held during which the proposed  
2327 amendments to the revised UUA Statement of Conscience shall be  
2328 accepted in writing. All such amendments shall be made available in  
2329 writing to the General Assembly. The Commission on Social Witness  
2330 shall finalize the UUA Statement of Conscience, and the chairperson  
2331 of the Commission on Social Witness, in consultation with the  
2332 moderator of the General Assembly, the parliamentarian and legal  
2333 counsel, shall prioritize unincorporated amendments for  
2334 consideration by the General Assembly.

2335 **Section 4.16. Additions to the Agenda of Regular**  
2336 **General Assemblies.**

2337 **Rule G-4.16.1. General Assembly Actions of Immediate**  
2338 **Witness, and Responsive Resolutions.**

2339 The Moderator shall take such steps as the Moderator considers  
2340 practical to advise delegates and other persons or bodies as early as  
2341 possible, preferably in writing, of the contents of any actions or  
2342 resolutions presented to the General Assembly which are not on the  
2343 Final Agenda and which are admitted to the agenda pursuant to  
2344 Article IV, Section 4.16 of the Bylaws; and some time shall be  
2345 scheduled when the sponsor(s) of the action(s) or resolution(s) can  
2346 discuss the action or resolution with those interested.

2347 **Rule 4.16.2. Responsive Resolutions**

2348 Responsive resolutions are brief, advisory statements that express  
2349 the sentiment of the delegates. They must be in response to a  
2350 substantive portion of a report by an officer or committee reporting to  
2351 a regular General Assembly, per Section 4.16. Responsive  
2352 resolutions are not binding and do not set policy for the Association.  
2353 They may not act as a substitute for other types of business items,  
2354 such as business resolutions, budget motions, study/action issues,  
2355 bylaw amendments, or actions of immediate witness. The Moderator  
2356 will determine whether a proposed responsive resolution may be  
2357 added to the final agenda under this rule.

2358 **Section 4.18. Agenda Rules.**

2359 **Rule G-4.18.1. Notice to Member Congregations,**

2360 By November 1 whenever in the fiscal year the General Assembly  
2361 opens in June, otherwise not less than two hundred and ten days  
2362 before each regular General Assembly, each certified member  
2363 congregation shall be notified of the dates for submitting items for the  
2364 Tentative and Final Agenda, the procedure to be followed, and the  
2365 forms to be used.

2366 **Rule G-4.18.2. Business Resolutions and Study/Action**  
2367 **Issues for Social Justice.**

2368 A Study/Action Issue for Social Justice is one that deals with issues  
2369 of public policy within the province of the Department of Faith in  
2370 Action. A Business Resolution directly involves the administration  
2371 and structure of the Association.

2372 Any resolution submitted which, taken as a whole, has as its purpose  
2373 the making of a statement of social concern or principle shall be  
2374 deemed to be a Study/Action Issue for Social Justice.

2375 A Study/Action Issue for Social Justice or a UUA Statement of  
2376 Conscience appearing on the Final Agenda shall not be amended so  
2377 as to become a Business Resolution.

2378 **Rule G-4.18.3. Congregational Poll.**

2379 At the time of the mailing of the Tentative Agenda, each certified  
2380 member congregation shall be requested to report by February 1, on  
2381 a form provided, whether it recommends or does not recommend for  
2382 action by the General Assembly the Business Resolutions, proposed  
2383 Congregational Study/Action Issues in the first Cycle year and draft  
2384 UUA Statements of Conscience in the Fourth Cycle year, or any  
2385 additional years thereto pursuant to Section 4.12(d)(2) appearing on  
2386 the Tentative Agenda, including the alternative versions of Business  
2387 Resolutions (if any) submitted by the Board of Trustees. The  
2388 recommendation with respect to each proposed resolution or issue  
2389 must be certified by the minister, clerk or president of that  
2390 congregation as being within the procedures of that congregation.  
2391 Only a Business Resolution which a majority of the congregations  
2392 voting on the resolution recommends for the action shall be eligible  
2393 to be included on the Final Agenda from the Congregational Poll. If  
2394 there is more than one version of a Business Resolution on the  
2395 Tentative Agenda, the subject of the resolution shall be considered a  
2396 single item on the Tentative Agenda and the Congregational Poll. All  
2397 versions shall be listed consecutively within that item. An aye vote  
2398 by a congregation for one or more versions shall be counted an aye  
2399 vote for inclusion of a resolution on the subject in the Final Agenda.  
2400 If support for the subject matter of the resolution is sufficient to make  
2401 it eligible for inclusion on the Final Agenda, the version that receives  
2402 the highest number of votes by the participating congregations shall  
2403 be the one eligible for inclusion on the Final Agenda. From the  
2404 Business Resolutions eligible from the Congregational Poll, the  
2405 Board of Trustees shall include on the Final Agenda not more than  
2406 the eight Business Resolutions receiving the highest number of  
2407 "recommended for action" votes on the Congregational Poll. The  
2408 Board of Trustees may also include on the Final Agenda alternative  
2409 versions of Business Resolutions which are germane to those  
2410 selected through the Congregational Poll. In the first Cycle year, the  
2411 Board of Trustees also shall include on the Final Agenda not more  
2412 than the five proposed Congregational Study/Action Issues receiving  
2413 a majority of votes and the highest number of "recommended for  
2414 action" votes on the Congregational Directives for General Assembly  
2415 Action, provided that at least twenty-five percent (25%) of the  
2416 congregations participated in the ballot vote for such proposed  
2417 Congregational Study/Action Issues. If the number of proposed  
2418 Congregational Study/Action Issues recommended for action in the  
2419 Congregational Poll exceeds five and there is more than one such  
2420 issue in fifth position as a result of a tie vote, all issues in fifth position  
2421 shall be referred to the Final Agenda by the Commission on Social  
2422 Witness. In the fourth Cycle year, or any additional years thereto  
2423 pursuant to Section 4.12(d)(2), the Board of Trustees shall further  
2424 include on the Final Agenda a proposed UUA Statement of  
2425 Conscience, provided that at least twenty-five percent (25%) of the  
2426 congregations participated in the ballot vote for such draft UUA  
2427 Statement of Conscience. A report of the vote by which each  
2428 resolution on the Tentative Agenda was or was not "recommended  
2429 for action" shall be included on the Final Agenda. All Business  
2430 Resolutions that are included on the Final Agenda shall be discussed  
2431 during the General Assembly in a mini-assembly.

2432 **Rule 4.18.4. Matters Submitted by Regions**

2433 In the event that a proposed amendment to a Rule or to a Business  
2434 Resolution that was submitted by a region is to be considered a

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2438 General Assembly, the ~~region~~ that submitted the proposed  
2439 amendment or resolution may, in accordance with its own  
2440 procedures, designate a representative to speak in support of the  
2441 amendment or resolution at the General Assembly. The  
2442 representative must be provided by the ~~region~~ with a certification of  
2443 the representative's appointment signed by an officer of the ~~region~~.

2444 **Rule 4.18.5. Amendments to Business Agenda Items on**  
2445 **the Final Agenda**

2446 This rule defines the process for amending items on the General  
2447 Assembly final agenda under Section 4.14. This rule does not  
2448 address any proposed changes to Article II under Section C-15.1(c).

2449 (a) Delegates may submit amendments to any item which is  
2450 scheduled for a vote on the General Assembly final agenda.  
2451 Proposed amendments are due to the Secretary by the  
2452 deadline published in the agenda, which will be at least  
2453 fourteen (14) days before the start of General Assembly.  
2454 Amendments received after the published deadline will not be  
2455 considered. The Secretary will also determine the format for  
2456 amendments to be submitted, and include a description of this  
2457 in the final agenda. Each delegate may submit up to three  
2458 amendments in total for all business items.

2459 Amendments will be considered by mini-assemblies according  
2460 to this rule. Amendments must meet the following standards to  
2461 be considered:

2462 (1) They must address the same topic and goal as the item  
2463 they are amending;

2464 (2) They cannot reverse or invalidate the item;

2465 (3) They must match the structure of the UUA Bylaws and  
2466 Rules; and

2467 (4) They cannot conflict with other rules, bylaws, or  
2468 adopted statements.

2469 (b) The Moderator will review all submitted amendments to  
2470 determine whether they meet the standards in this rule. If so,  
2471 they will be considered at a business amendment mini-  
2472 assembly. The Board of Trustees will promptly post all the  
2473 amendments that will be considered.

2474 (c) The Board of Trustees will host one or more online business  
2475 amendment mini-assemblies to discuss and vote on proposed  
2476 amendments. These mini-assemblies must be held at least ten  
2477 days before the start of General Assembly, and be open to all  
2478 delegates. If an amendment receives sufficient delegate  
2479 support, it may be considered on the General Assembly final  
2480 agenda. That support will be determined by the following  
2481 process:

2482 (1) Delegates will use an online poll to vote on whether to  
2483 add a proposed amendment to the General Assembly  
2484 final agenda.

2485 (2) Proposed amendments that receive support from at least  
2486 50% of delegates voting in the mini-assembly will be  
2487 added to the General Assembly final agenda. This  
2488 support is based on the total number of delegates who  
2489 vote for or against the proposed amendment, and does  
2490 not include abstentions.

2491 (d) Regardless of the level of support in the mini-assembly online  
2492 poll, the Board of Trustees may choose to incorporate any  
2493 proposed amendment into the final agenda for items it has  
2494 submitted.

2495 (e) The Board of Trustees must publish the final language for all  
2496 items on the final agenda at least seven days before the start  
2497 of the General Assembly. This will include any proposed  
2498 amendments that received sufficient support at a business  
2499 amendment mini-assembly, unless the amendment is  
2500 withdrawn by the initial delegate who submitted it. The Board  
2501 of Trustees may also include any additional amendments it  
2502 proposes.

2503 **Rule 4.18.6. Schedule and Ballot Voting on Agenda**  
2504 **Items**

2505 Delegates will use electronic ballots to vote on items on the General  
2506 Assembly agenda. These ballots must individually verify delegate  
2507 credentials. The agenda will list when items will be considered for  
2508 discussion and voting, which must be during a scheduled business  
2509 session. Ballot voting will remain open for at least one hour after the  
2510 end of the business session when the items on the ballot are  
2511 considered. The Moderator will determine the composition of each  
2512 ballot.

2513 **Section 4.19. Rules of Procedure.**

2514 **Rule G-4.19.1. Adoption of Rules of Procedure.**

2515 The Board of Trustees shall offer rules of procedure for adoption at  
2516 the first session of each General Assembly.

2517 **RULE V Committees of the Association**

2518 **Section 5.5. Vacancies**

2519 A vacancy created by the death, disqualification, resignation, or  
2520 removal of an elected or appointed member of a standing committee  
2521 of the Association shall be filled by majority vote of the Board of  
2522 Trustees. An individual appointed to fill a vacancy in an elected  
2523 position shall serve until the vacancy is filled by regular or special  
2524 election. An individual appointed to fill a vacancy in an appointed  
2525 position shall serve for the balance of the unexpired term, and until a  
2526 successor is appointed and qualified. An elected member of a  
2527 standing committee of the Association in office for more than one-half  
2528 of a full term shall be deemed to have completed a full term for the  
2529 purposes of re-election.

2530 **Rule 5.5.1. Committee Member Resignations**

2531 A member of a committee of the Association may resign at any time  
2532 by giving written notice to the Moderator. This resignation will take  
2533 effect at the time specified in the written notice. If no effective time is  
2534 specified, the resignation will take effect immediately when it is  
2535 received.

2536 **RULE VI Board of Trustees**

2537 **Section 6.4. Election of Trustees.**

2538 No existing rules applicable to Section 6.4.

2539 **Section 6.6. Qualification of Trustees.**

2540 **Rule 6.6.1. Multiple Memberships.**

2541 For purposes of applying the Bylaw provision that no more than one  
2542 trustee shall be a member of the same member congregation, a  
2543 person holding membership in more than one member congregation  
2544 shall be treated as being a member only of that member congregation  
2545 whose services such person most regularly attends. The Secretary  
2546 shall make any determinations required by this rule, subject to appeal  
2547 to the Board of Trustees, with the affected trustee or trustees not  
2548 voting.

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2552 **Rule 6.6.2. Implementation of Section 6.6.**

2553 If at the close of a General Assembly election, the results are such  
2554 that, except for the provisions of Section 6.6, more than one person  
2555 from the same congregation would serve at the same time on the  
2556 Board of Trustees,

2557 (a) if the conflict arises solely from the election just held, the  
2558 Secretary of the Association shall thereupon declare that the  
2559 persons so elected are disqualified and that the offices to which  
2560 they have been so elected are vacant and are to be filled as  
2561 provided in the Bylaws.

2562 (b) if the conflict arises because one person from a congregation  
2563 is already serving on the Board of Trustees and another person  
2564 from that congregation has just been so elected, the Secretary  
2565 of the Association shall declare that the person just elected is  
2566 disqualified and the office to which such person has been  
2567 elected is vacant and that the vacancy is to be filled as provided  
2568 in the Bylaws.

2569 **Rule 6.7 Resignation and Removal of Trustees**

2570 A trustee may at any time resign by giving written notice to the Board  
2571 of Trustees. Such resignation shall take effect at the time  
2572 specified therein, or, if not time is specified, then on delivery. A  
2573 trustee may be removed by a three-fourths vote of the entire  
2574 Board at a meeting at which not less than three-fourths of the  
2575 entire Board is present if in the opinion of the Board such  
2576 trustee is incapacitated or unable to carry out the duties of the  
2577 office or otherwise for good cause.

2578 **RULE VII Committees of the Board of Trustees**

2579 **Section 7.4 Vacancies**

2580 **Rule 7.4.1. Committee Member Resignations**

2581 A member of a committee of the Board of Trustees may resign at any  
2582 time by giving written notice to the Moderator. This resignation will  
2583 take effect at the time specified in the written notice. If no effective  
2584 time is specified, the resignation will take effect immediately when it  
2585 is received.

2586 **RULE VIII Officers of the Association**

2587 **Section 8.1. Officers Enumerated.**

2588 **Rule 8.1.1. Officers Enumerated.**

2589 The appointed salaried officers of the Association shall include an  
2590 Executive Vice President.

2591 **Section 8.11. Executive Vice President.**

2592 **Rule 8.11.1. Executive Vice President.**

2593 The Executive Vice President shall have responsibility under the  
2594 President for the administrative affairs of the Association and shall  
2595 perform such other duties as may be assigned to such officer.

2596 **Section 8.17. Other Appointed Officers.**

2597 **Rule 8.17. Other Appointed Officers.**

2598 The members serving without pay on the Ministerial Fellowship  
2599 Committee, Finance Committee, and Investment Committees are  
2600 designated as officers of the Association for the purposes, only, of  
2601 carrying out their duties as members of such committees. The  
2602 powers and duties of such members are as defined in the Bylaws,  
2603 Rules, and Policies adopted by the Board of Trustees.

2604 **Section 8.6 Resignation**

2605 **Rule 8.6.1. Resignation of the Moderator**

2606 The Moderator may resign at any time by giving written notice to the  
2607 Secretary. This resignation will take effect at the time specified in the  
2608 written notice. If no effective time is specified, the resignation will take  
2609 effect immediately when it is received.

2610 **RULE IX Nominations and Elections**

2611 **Section 9.4. Nomination by Nominating Committee.**

2612 **Rule G-9.4.1. Report of the Nominating Committee.**

2613 (a) Any person who applies to the Nominating Committee for  
2614 nomination for the position of Financial Advisor or trustee shall  
2615 submit by the application deadline a one-page statement of  
2616 qualifications.

2617 (b) The report of the Nominating Committee required by Section  
2618 9.4(d) may be mailed to certified member congregations,  
2619 associate member organizations, and trustees either  
2620 electronically or in hard copy. The report shall promptly be  
2621 posted on the Association's website. The report shall include  
2622 the statement of qualifications submitted by each nominee for  
2623 Financial Advisor or trustee.

2624 **Section 9.11. Counting of Ballots.**

2625 **Rule G-9.11.1. Tie Vote-Elected Committee Position.**

2626 If a tie vote occurs in filling an elected position when only one  
2627 person is to be elected and when ranked voting is not being used,  
2628 or occurs in filling a slate when the slate cannot be completed  
2629 without resolving the tie, then a candidate or candidates shall be  
2630 eliminated by random draw to determine the winner.

2631 **Rule G-9.11.2. Tie Vote- Ranked Voting.**

2632 Should there be a tie for the fewest number of first preference  
2633 votes, including mail ballots, then among these, the candidate with  
2634 the fewest number of second preference votes shall be eliminated.  
2635 Should a tie persist, the procedure shall continue with third  
2636 preference votes, et cetera. Should a tie still persist, the candidate  
2637 with the fewest number of original first preference votes, shall be  
2638 eliminated. Should a tie still persist, the procedures shall continue  
2639 with original second preference votes, et cetera. Should a tie still  
2640 persist, a candidate shall be eliminated by random draw.

2641 **Section 9.13. Rules for Nominations and Elections.**

2642 **Rule G-9.13.1. Election Preparation.**

2643 Unless no voting is required according to Section 9.9(a), prior to  
2644 each regular General Assembly at which an election is to be held,  
2645 the Secretary shall prepare the voting system and ballots which  
2646 shall include the names of all candidates who have been nominated  
2647 for office in accordance with these Bylaws and whose nomination is  
2648 contested by at least one other candidate. Voting instructions shall  
2649 be sent with each credential issued by the Secretary.

2650 **Rule G-9.13.2. Order of Candidate Names.**

2651 In elections held by the Association, the order of names shall be  
2652 determined by the Secretary; provided, however, that the order of  
2653 names for elections to the Board of Trustees, other than Youth  
2654 trustee, shall be by Board position number first, and then as  
2655 determined above. For electronic voting, candidates shall be listed in  
2656 random order for each separate ballot.

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2659 **Rule G-9.13.3. Write-ins Prohibited.**

2660 In any election, the use of stickers or the writing in of the name of any  
2661 person shall not be permitted and no vote so attempted shall be  
2662 counted.

2663 **Rule G-9.13.4. Mail Ballots.**

2664 A mailed paper ballot shall be counted only if accompanied by a  
2665 valid credential of the person casting the ballot.

2666 **Rule G-9.13.5. Voting at General Assembly.**

2667 A person shall be qualified to vote at General Assembly only if that  
2668 person presents to the Secretary of the Association or those  
2669 employed by them a valid credential plus a badge issued to that  
2670 person and containing the same name as the name on the  
2671 credential.

2672 **Rule G-9.13.6. Campaigns for Elective Office.**

2673 Each candidate for an at-large elective position may submit to the  
2674 Association a campaign statement. The Association will post  
2675 electronically the statements of all candidates. Notice of the posting  
2676 shall be distributed to the congregations with the absentee  
2677 ballots and electronically, and to the delegates as a part of the final  
2678 agenda.

2679 **Rule G-9.13.7. Length of Campaigns for President and**  
2680 **Moderator.**

2681 (a) Non-public planning for campaigns for President and  
2682 Moderator, such as strategic, organizational or  
2683 communications meetings, shall not begin earlier than October  
2684 1 of the year preceding the election.

2685 (b) Active campaigning, including public announcements or  
2686 communication, virtual or in person public meetings, rallies, or  
2687 events, and solicitation of endorsements, shall not begin until  
2688 a nomination has been announced or November 15 of the year  
2689 preceding these elections.

2690 (c) Active campaigning during GA is permitted only during the  
2691 General Assembly at which the President or Moderator is  
2692 elected. Active and passive campaigning for President or  
2693 Moderator during any other General Assembly is prohibited.

2694 **Rule G-9.13.8 Campaign Finances Disclosures and**  
2695 **Limitations.**

2696 Candidates for UUA President are limited to spending no more than  
2697 \$100,000 on their campaign for election. No single donor, including  
2698 the candidate themselves and any organization or group, may  
2699 contribute more than \$5,000 in total, to a presidential campaign. In-  
2700 kind donations of greater than \$500 equivalent cash value are  
2701 reportable, but do not count against these totals.

2702 All candidates for at-large elective positions shall keep detailed and  
2703 accurate records of:

2704 (a) their campaign expenses (stated in United States dollars) by  
2705 categories of travel, postage, telephone, printing and other  
2706 such categories as seem appropriate; and

2707 (b) the number of contributors to their campaigns, including the  
2708 number of contributors in each of the following categories:

2709 (1) under \$50.00;

2710 (2) \$50.00 to \$250.00;

2711 (3) \$251.00 to \$1,000.00;

2712 (4) over \$1,000; and

2713 (5) In-kind donations with an equivalent cash value of \$500  
2714 or more.

2715 No candidate for any elective position shall solicit or knowingly accept  
2716 any contribution that is given through a tax-exempt entity with the  
2717 purpose of conferring tax-exempt status to the contribution to which  
2718 it would not otherwise be entitled. Such exempt entities include but  
2719 are not limited to member congregations, associate member  
2720 organizations and independent UUA affiliates.

2721 The names of contributors shall be disclosed. Each such report shall  
2722 identify by name any member congregation ~~and associate member~~  
2723 organization or independent affiliate of the Association and any other  
2724 tax exempt organization (including specifically, but without limitation  
2725 to, any minister's discretionary fund or similar account) that has made  
2726 any contribution to the campaign and shall state the amount of each  
2727 such contribution. Such reports shall be filed with the Secretary of  
2728 the Association. A preliminary report shall be due at the close of the  
2729 first day of the regular General Assembly at which the election  
2730 occurs. A final report shall be due 60 days thereafter. The Secretary  
2731 shall, upon written request from a member of a member  
2732 congregation, furnish such information from these reports as  
2733 requested. These reports shall be made available for inspection by  
2734 any member of a member congregation at the principal offices of the  
2735 Association and shall be brought by the Secretary to the next General  
2736 Assembly and made available for inspection there by any delegate.

2737 **Rule G-9.13.9. Separation of Campaigns from Conduct**  
2738 **of Official Business.**

2739 (a) When running for office, candidates shall be prohibited from  
2740 engaging in any electioneering or campaigning during the  
2741 conduct of official business of the Unitarian Universalist  
2742 Association.

2743 (b) Financial accounting and bookkeeping procedures shall be  
2744 established which make it explicit that no monies of the  
2745 Association were used in the financing of a candidate's  
2746 campaigning or electioneering activities.

2747 **Rule G-9.13.10 Election Campaign Practices**  
2748 **Committee.**

2749 (a) An Election Campaign Practices Committee is hereby  
2750 established and shall consist of three persons to be appointed  
2751 by the Board of Trustees for a term of two years each, and the  
2752 Secretary, ex-officio, without vote. The Board shall designate  
2753 one of the appointed members to chair the Committee. The  
2754 appointed members' terms shall begin at the close of General  
2755 Assembly in odd-numbered years. The Board may appoint an  
2756 individual to fill a vacancy in membership of the Committee;  
2757 persons appointed to fill a vacancy shall serve the balance of  
2758 the vacating member's term. Persons appointed to the  
2759 Committee shall remain neutral in elections held while they are  
2760 serving and shall not engage in electioneering. Persons who  
2761 seek nomination pursuant to Bylaw Sections 9.4, 9.5, or 9.6  
2762 are ineligible to serve on the Committee once they begin  
2763 seeking nomination, and shall be deemed to have resigned  
2764 from the Committee effective upon seeking nomination if they  
2765 are then serving.

2766 (b) The duties of the Election Campaign Practices Committee shall  
2767 be:

2768 (1) to distribute the campaign practices guidelines and  
2769 financial disclosure rules to candidates for at-large  
2770 elective positions not later than thirty days after

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2772 nomination by the nominating committee or receipt of  
2773 petition;

2774 (2) to receive and consider written complaints of alleged  
2775 violations of such guidelines or rules; if the committee  
2776 finds probable cause to establish that a violation exists,  
2777 to notify a candidate or a number of candidates how they  
2778 may voluntarily comply with guidelines or rules and how  
2779 long they have to do so; to attempt to mediate disputes  
2780 arising from such complaints; and, if no satisfactory  
2781 resolution of a complaint is achieved, to adjudicate the  
2782 dispute and report the adjudication in writing to the  
2783 candidates affected;

2784 (3) to hold such hearings as may, at the Committee's  
2785 discretion, be necessary or desirable to carry out the  
2786 intent of subsection 2 above; and

2787 (4) to report on its activities and any recommendations it  
2788 may have to the Board of Trustees at its October meeting  
2789 following the elections.

2790 (c) If compliance to an adjudicated decision is not implemented by  
2791 the stated deadline, the Committee is authorized to block or  
2792 remove Association-subsidized privileges from the candidate's  
2793 campaign.

2794 Candidates adjudicated to be in serious violation of Bylaw rules under  
2795 Section 9.13 may have their names removed from the ballot. Any  
2796 such removal shall be reported to the Board and to the General  
2797 Assembly. Such removal by the ECPC would be subject to automatic  
2798 review by the Board Executive Committee according to the provisions  
2799 of Rule G-9.13.10(d).

2800 (d) Any candidate aggrieved by the Committee's adjudication may,  
2801 within ten days of the mailing of the adjudication, appeal in  
2802 writing to the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees,  
2803 which shall have exclusive jurisdiction to hear and determine  
2804 such an appeal. The Executive Committee shall report its  
2805 decision on the appeal in writing to the affected candidates as  
2806 expeditiously as feasible. The Executive Committee of the  
2807 Board of Trustees is authorized to issue any order or ruling it  
2808 deems appropriate in connection with such a decision.

2809 (e) Any member of the Executive Committee of the Board of  
2810 Trustees who is a candidate for UUA elective office shall not  
2811 participate in any manner in the determination of any appeal  
2812 from an adjudication of the Election Campaign Practices  
2813 Committee.

2814 **RULE X Finance and Contracts**

2815 **Section 10.1. Annual Budget.**

2816 **Rule G-10.1.1 Presentation of Association Budget.**

2817 At each regular General Assembly the Board of Trustees shall  
2818 present budgets for both the Current Fiscal Year and the Succeeding  
2819 Fiscal Year. Current Fiscal Year means the fiscal year of the  
2820 Association which has just begun or which is about to begin at the  
2821 time when the Assembly is held. Succeeding Fiscal Year means the  
2822 year following the Current Fiscal Year.

2823 **Rule G-10.1.2. Expense Categories.**

2824 (a) Expense estimates in budgets presented by the Board shall be  
2825 broken down by major categories or functions in such manner  
2826 as the Board shall determine.

2827 (b) The Current Fiscal Year budget shall contain a separate  
2828 expense category provision for contingencies, the amount of

2829 which shall be a minimum of 3% of the total of all unrestricted  
2830 expense categories, exclusive of the provision for  
2831 contingencies.

2832 **Rule G-10.1.3. Estimated Income.**

2833 Income amounts in the budget for the Current Fiscal Year shall  
2834 represent the Board's best estimates of income from all sources.  
2835 Income from the Annual Fund as so estimated shall be an amount  
2836 which is not more than 7 percent greater than the actual Annual Fund  
2837 income of the fiscal year preceding the Current Fiscal Year. In the  
2838 budget for the Succeeding Fiscal Year, income from the Annual Fund  
2839 shall be estimated at an amount which represents the Board's best  
2840 estimate of the achievable results for such year.

2841 **Rule G-10.1.4. Procedures for Budget Consideration.**

2842 Any action by a General Assembly with respect to budgets shall be  
2843 taken under the following procedure:

2844 (a) A budget hearing shall be held as part of the General Assembly  
2845 program at a time when the Assembly is not in formal business  
2846 session.

2847 (b) Main motions concerning budgets which are to be made in a  
2848 formal business session shall be filed in writing with a person  
2849 or persons designated by the Moderator as early as possible  
2850 prior to or during the General Assembly but in any event on or  
2851 before the day prior to the Business Session at which the  
2852 proposed motion will be in order for adoption. The Moderator  
2853 shall take such steps as the Moderator considers practical to  
2854 advise delegates and other persons or bodies as early as  
2855 possible, preferably in writing, of the contents of the motions so  
2856 filed.

2857 (c) Any action with respect to the budget for the Current Fiscal  
2858 Year calling for increased spending in any category shall  
2859 provide for equivalent reductions in other categories of  
2860 spending and specify the categories in which such reductions  
2861 are to be made.

2862 (d) No action may be taken with respect to the Current Fiscal Year  
2863 budget which shall be inconsistent with either Rule G-10.1.2(b)  
2864 or G-10.1.3.

2865 **Rule G-10.1.5. Board of Trustees Report.**

2866 At each General Assembly the Board of Trustees shall make an  
2867 accounting of its actions taken since the preceding General  
2868 Assembly with respect to any budget votes of the preceding General  
2869 Assembly.

2870 **Section 10.8. Contracts and Securities.**

2871 **Rule 10.8.1. Contracts and Securities.**

2872 The Executive Vice President may sign and attest deeds, mortgages,  
2873 contracts, and other documents to which the Association is a party.

2874 **RULE XI Ministry**

2875 **Section 11.2. Ministerial Fellowship Committee.**

2876 **Rule 11.2. Ministerial Fellowship Committee.**

2877 The rules of the Ministerial Fellowship Committee are printed  
2878 separately and are available on request.

2879 **Section 11.8 Procedure on Appeal.**

2880 **Rule 11.8. Procedure on Appeal.**

2881 The rules of the Board of Review are available on request.

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2883 **RULE XII Religious Education Credentialing**  
2884 **RULE XIII Regional Organizations**

2885 **Section C-13.2. Establishment.**

2886 **Rule G-13.2.1. Establishing Regions.**

2887 (a) Authority to recognize a new region as a unit of the UUA, or to  
2888 remove that recognition, shall reside with the General  
2889 Assembly; provided, however, that a region may request that  
2890 the UUA cease to recognize it without approval from the  
2891 General Assembly. The UUA Secretary shall maintain a  
2892 current list of the regions of the UUA as recognized by the  
2893 General Assembly.

2894 (b) Each region shall be composed of the congregations assigned  
2895 to that region by the Board of Trustees

2896 (c) The boundaries of each region encompass the areas served  
2897 by its member congregations.

2898 (d) Upon application to the Board of Trustees and after notice and  
2899 an opportunity to be heard is afforded the affected regions, a  
2900 congregation may change its regional membership with  
2901 approval of the Board of Trustees.

2902 (e) The Map of Regions published on the UUA Website contains  
2903 boundaries that are an approximation only of the boundary  
2904 lines determined pursuant to subparagraph (c) above and are  
2905 intended primarily as a guide for the newly admitted  
2906 congregation in determining its membership.

2907  
2908 **RULE XIV Rules**

2909 **Section 14.4. Miscellaneous Rules.**

2910 **Rule G-14.4.1. Performance of Acts.**

2911 When the last day for the performance of any act required under the  
2912 Bylaws or Rules falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or a day which is a legal  
2913 holiday in the place where the act is to be performed, the act may be  
2914 performed on the next succeeding business day.

2915 **Rule G-14.4.2. Receipt of Documents.**

2916 When any ballot, petition, notice, document, or material of any kind  
2917 whatsoever is required to be filed with, delivered to, or received by  
2918 the Association or an officer, board, committee, or agent thereof on  
2919 or before a certain day, the same shall be considered to have been  
2920 so filed, delivered, or received only if it is postmarked seven days  
2921 prior to said certain day or actually received at the office of the  
2922 Association at 24 Farnsworth Street, Boston, MA 02210, on an earlier  
2923 day or not later than 5:00 p.m. on said certain day.

2924 **RULE XV Amendments**

2925 **Section C.15.1. Amendment of Bylaws.**

2926 **Rule 15.1.1. Amending a Proposal for Changes to**  
2927 **Article II by a Study Commission.**

2928 This rule defines the process for amending a proposal for changes to  
2929 Article II made by a study commission under Section C-15.1(c).

2930 (a) Each delegate may submit only one amendment to the  
2931 proposal for consideration at the first General Assembly after  
2932 the study process is complete, under Section C-15.1(c)(3). The  
2933 Secretary will determine the format in which amendments can  
2934 be submitted. The Secretary may also allow delegates to pre-  
2935 submit amendments to be considered at the mini-assembly

2936 required under 15.1(c)(3)(i). Amendments must meet the  
2937 following standards to be considered:

2938 (1) They must only apply to a single section of the Article II  
2939 proposal;

2940 (2) They must match the structure of the UUA Bylaws and  
2941 Rules; and

2942 (3) They cannot conflict with other rules, bylaws, or adopted  
2943 statements.

2944 The final agenda will include a description of the format and  
2945 requirements for delegates to submit amendments.

2946 (b) The mini-assembly during General Assembly required under  
2947 15.1(c)(3)(i) will be organized by the Moderator to offer  
2948 opportunities to present and discuss amendments. The  
2949 Moderator may use this discussion to assist in prioritizing  
2950 amendments, but no vote will be required during the mini-  
2951 assembly.

2952 (c) Each amendment submitted by congregational petition under  
2953 Section C-15.1(c)(4) must have a primary congregational  
2954 sponsor. Each congregation may only be the primary sponsor  
2955 of one amendment to the proposal. The Secretary will  
2956 determine the format in which amendments by congregational  
2957 petition can be submitted. Amendments must meet the  
2958 following standards to be considered:

2959 (1) They must only apply to a single section of the Article II  
2960 proposal;

2961 (2) They must match the structure of the UUA Bylaws and  
2962 Rules; and

2963 (3) They cannot conflict with other rules, bylaws, or adopted  
2964 statements.

2965 (d) The Moderator will review all submitted amendments to  
2966 determine whether they meet the standards in this rule. All  
2967 submitted amendments which meet these standards will be  
2968 publicly posted.

2969 **Section 15.2. Submission of Proposed Amendments.**

2970 **Rule G-15.2.1. Form of Submission.**

2971 A proposed amendment to the Bylaws submitted by certified member  
2972 congregations must include:

2973 (a) the Article and Section which it is proposed to amend or repeal;

2974 (b) a concise summary of the principal arguments on which the  
2975 proponents rely; and

2976 (c) other Articles (or Sections) or "G" Rules affected by the  
2977 proposed amendment and proposed text of any necessary  
2978 conforming amendments and "G" Rules.

2979 Unitarian Universalist Association was given corporate status in May  
2980 1961 under special acts of legislature of The Commonwealth of  
2981 Massachusetts and the State of New York. See Chapter 148 of the  
2982 acts of 1960 of the Massachusetts legislature and Chapter 827 of the  
2983 Acts of 1960 of the New York legislature. Copies of said Acts are  
2984 attached to the minutes of the organizing meeting of the Association  
2985 held in Boston, Massachusetts, in May 1961 and also are printed in  
2986 the 1961-62 Directory of the Association.

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Deleted: <#>Transition Provision. The amendments to  
Rule G-13.2.1 deleting the Central Midwest, Heartland, and  
Prairie Star Districts shall not become effective until those  
Districts dissolve. This transition provision shall  
automatically be deleted from the bylaws following the first  
regular General Assembly occurring after all of those  
districts have dissolved. ¶

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