

**General Assembly Planning Committee Meeting Notes**  
**Friday, January 11, 2008**

Topic	Discussion	Action/Accountability/Comments
<b>Opening</b>	After introductions the meeting was convened and with the lighting of the chalice Barb read a meditation "On Throwing Pots."	Process Observer: Barbara Atlas
<b>Ft. Lauderdale Security Issues</b>	<p>Jan distributed the answers to some questions related to the costs of 1) canceling GA in Ft. Lauderdale, 2) setting up a satellite site, or 3) moving to another city. Minimum cancellation costs exceed \$800,000 and moving some events (e.g. SoLT) are around \$100,000 in addition to current convention center costs. A conservative estimate for setting up a satellite site is between \$25,000 and \$50,000. An alternate city <i>may</i> be doable but the odds of finding another city with a convention center that could accommodate us at this late date are slim and most certainly there would be a hotel attrition obligation.</p> <p>Response to the challenges: UUA Bylaws do not permit canceling GA; adding a satellite venue has hard costs in terms of transportation and set-up and also substantial human resource costs (e.g. doubling volunteers) and, financial considerations aside, it would put an incredible burden on volunteer committee, the board, staff and others to try to do GA well at two venues.</p> <p>Discussion included acknowledging the seriousness of the issues surrounding the Ft. Lauderdale site and accepting the challenges to the Planning Committee to programmatically address the very real civil liberties concerns in America today and those that may be more tender at GA in 2008. The Committee also did not want to lose sight of the positive reasons why it was excited about going to Ft. Lauderdale last January – namely it is a gay friendly community whose reliance on tourism makes it hospitable to diversity, it is economically accessible in ways in which GA in other cities has not been in recent years, and it is both safe and accessible for persons of all ages.</p>	<p>The Planning Committee has looked at various scenarios and agrees that GA 2008 not be moved from Ft. Lauderdale. With regard to staffing and supporting a satellite site, the PC does not have any reason to believe that it can do this and do this well. Having said this, the PC acknowledges that the Convention Center in Ft. Lauderdale is not an ideal site for a variety of reasons, but the compelling value of inclusiveness during the meeting of congregations has led the Planning Committee to this position supporting keeping GA 2008 as planned. Programming at GA 2008 and support services offered such as chaplaincy will be intentionally reinforced to acknowledge and lift up the civil liberties and individual disenfranchisement issues that are attendant to the Ft. Lauderdale site.</p> <p>MOTION #1: To not move GA 2008 from Ft. Lauderdale and will not set up a satellite site. (Ginger)</p> <p>MOTION #2: The Planning Committee will support programming only at the Ft. Lauderdale CC and will address the concerns raised programmatically and with additional chaplaincy support. (Fred)</p>
<b>Accessibility</b>	The question of Accessibility Services – how individualized and extensive are the services the PC needs to provide at GA – was discussed. There was an acknowledgement that extensive accessibility support is not always feasible outside a national scale meeting.	The PC needs to set policy around what it can reasonably provide to reduce unrealistic expectations about accessibility services to help folks make plans based on what support they can expect at GA.
<b>AI</b>	Appreciative Inquiry Team Leads – Helen Bishop and Laura Park are two	Beth to confirm with Gini that the PC is

	people who can work at GA 08 to introduce the AI process to congregational leaders. There is a substantial discussion component to the AI process where conversations like the erosion of civil liberties could take place around rounds. Presentation and Reflection on Friday would be an ideal setting for the AI process (Tues – Friday from UUU to the AI resource) after a feature presentation the PC can put together on civil liberties. AI is already planned on Thursday with congregational leaders as a follow-up to Open Space at GA 07.	interested in scheduling an AI conversation following featured programming on immigration/undocumented persons and on the erosion of civil liberties.
<b>GA 09 Theme</b>	General Assembly: A Meeting of Congregations will be the single annually recurring theme each year.	MOTION #3: GAPC will dispense with themes at future meetings. (Lynda)
<b>Pre-April Meeting Agenda</b>	The pre-April PC meeting is a combination of training around cultural misappropriation and an opportunity for teams doing different worship services to do planning face to face.	Task Groups will determine who needs to attend the April meeting as a representative of the PC.
<b>Agenda Review Housekeeping</b>	Mission of the GAPC: need to revisit in another year after the UUA Board and DPA have a joint meeting and have established Global Ends. The Congregations Come First task force is not a logical GAPC interface since it lives in funding the work of the association and the competing funding requests coming from Districts and the Association.	Add to agenda Public Witness request as part of Jan's report. Openness Policy and Elections Policy discussion this afternoon. Involvement of Host District in GA PC work. Follow through with programming around civil liberties discussion.
<b>Lunch with area ministers</b>	Sean Dennison and his Church Administrator and Tim Goldsmith and his Church Administrator joined members of the PC for lunch and discussion..	
<b>Reconvene</b>		Process Observer: Denise Hall
<b>Observations and Concerns about SLC Convention Center</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Question about enough space for hanging banners – possibly two places</li> <li>2. Room 255 very far away from the center of most activities – be careful about programming too much there</li> <li>3. Youth and Young Adults in some part of the Ballroom space.</li> <li>4. Beautiful, new space – good layout, artistic touches very inviting. Lots of open spaces for eating, talking and gathering.</li> <li>5. First and second floor transition access on escalators a potential bottleneck. Need volunteer traffic directors.</li> </ol>	Remember traffic flow concerns on escalators outside the ballroom area when assigning volunteers.
<b>GACS Director's Report</b>	<p>Jan reported on receiving a thank you letter from someone who attended GA last year and sent in a \$50 contribution for the RE fund.</p> <p>Staff Update: Lorna Gilbert no longer with the GACS staff Jan working on hiring someone for that position. Stacy is working from home – enjoying mothering Sofia Rose. Don has been picking up the slack.</p> <p>Jan has been appointed to the Green Meetings Board and will be attending a conference in Vancouver.</p> <p>Our catering service in Portland diverted 70% of refuse from the landfill and the Carbon Fund contributions were significantly up.</p> <p>Meeting Strategies Worldwide is helping us track our greening efforts and</p>	GACS office should be back to full staffing soon.

	<p>performance and improvement over successive GA.</p> <p>Jan, Devorah Greenstein and Kay Montgomery met to discuss the Accessibility Services concerns and the need for clarity around responsibility for the survey.</p> <p>Jan and Don will be attending the Religious Conference meeting soon and are thinking ahead to what places the GAPC site selection team will be looking at for 2013 – and that GA will be somewhere in the Midwest.</p> <p>In the event of very low registration for a GA (a fear until very recently about Ft. Lauderdale) where would the PC want to make a cut in order to reduce expenses? Should we develop a tool/priority/policy on where to look for savings in the event of the need to drastically scale back the cost of a GA? (e.g. reduce 1 screen in Plenary Hall, cut back on child care or evening entertainment, or Featured Presentations etc.) Will discuss in April.</p> <p>There is a budget request from Advocacy and Witness for \$1,500 for a sound system and other support systems for a Friday Public Witness Event <i>Valuing All Families</i>. Discussion of the lateness of the request and lack of resources for the PC to accommodate the amount requested. The PC can help with some transportation (shuttle) to the event but that is all that can be offered.</p>	<p>The Accessibility Survey will not take place until after this year's GA because there would not be enough time to make changes in time for GA 2008. The GACS will put accessibility request form online for this year.</p> <p>The PC may want to take up discussion on a Plan B tool in the event it would be important to scale back costs of putting on a GA and also discuss how to promote more interest in attending GA when registration numbers fall short of expected levels.</p> <p>MOTION #4: Budget Request for Public Witness denied – (Melodie) Action is Beth to talk to Susan Leslie.</p>
<b>GA 09 Budget</b>	<p>Jan walked the PC through the first pass at the GA 2009 Budget. First consideration: Need to add in at least \$15,000 for elections. There was a discussion about some alternatives to having a paper/pencil balloting process for the 2009 elections including online voting.</p> <p>We will ask Bill about subsidy for Congregational Presidents registration subsidy when we have our conference call.</p> <p>Discussion of Worship &amp; Celebration to be a combined budget of \$10,000 to include Opening, Closing, Sunday and any other worship services at GA.</p> <p>A Young Adult Grant was advocated at \$3,000 and agreed by the committee.</p>	<p>MOTION #5: To approve the Proposed 09 GA Budget as discussed and amended.</p>
<b>District Coordinator's Report</b>	<p>David Fisher had sent out a written report on his activities for promoting GA in Ft. Lauderdale as well as seeking input for selection of a service project for 08. He covered the activities of Ambiance, Transportation, Info Services and other portfolios on the Volunteer Committee.</p> <p>David put out a request to congregations for suggestions for pre and post GA tours and has received none yet.</p> <p>David reported no heightened anxiety locally about the security/ID issues that have been raised by Rev. Becker but rather excitement about GA coming to the area.</p>	<p>The PC would like to have a second FAQ up on the GA web pages about services in Ft. Lauderdale – cheap food, grocery stores, vegan restaurants, dental and medical services, how far are the distances, how hot will it be, are there cheap places to park etc. etc.</p> <p>Ask Crisis Response Team for a plan for how to respond to any civil disruptions that may occur or, if a plan exists, to share it with us.</p>
<b>UUA Trustee's Report</b>	<p>Eva Marx reported on the UUA Boards strong reaction to the questions raised with regard to security and profiling – especially with regard to youth of color attending GA 2008. Ask that the Board stand in solidarity with the PC on all issues related to Ft. Lauderdale and that the leadership is in partnership.</p>	<p>Ask the Board to help at the security entrances and also to write supportive letters for going to GA in 2008 – that issues raised have been addressed appropriately by GACS staff and</p>

		Planning Committee. The PC thanks the Board for its statement of support.
<b>2012 Site Recommendation Report</b>	Lynda provided a verbal supplemental report on the written site selection visit for GA 2012.	MOTION #6: to approve the site selection committee's recommendation of Phoenix for GA 2012.
<b>Review of GAPC Structure and Organization</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mission Statement – wait for another year</li> <li>2. Covenant – revisited and affirmed by members of the PC</li> <li>3. Planning Committee Agreement on Communications – be aware of SPAM filters and check SPAM box to make sure no PC e-mails are misplaced</li> <li>4. Conflict of Interest Policy – slight revision affirmed</li> <li>5. Planning Committee Membership Structure &amp; Governance – consider whether attendees to GAMAP and Grid meetings not necessarily PC Exec. Suggested that no visitors to participate in PC Retreats or check-ins. Revisit in April..</li> <li>6. Statement on Multiculturalism – need to edit and decide how to use. Can add to GA web pages.</li> </ol>	<p>W. Wieder filed a statement on a workshop he will present at GA 08 sponsored by the PSWD. The PC agreed this is not a conflict of interest.</p> <p>Denise Hall will work on edited short version for Program book.</p>
<b>Saturday, January 12, 2008 Meeting</b>		
<b>Opening</b>	The meeting reconvened with a song “Where Do We Come From?” and a reading written by Sarah Dan Jones led by Melodie.	Process Observer: Melodie Feather
<b>Task Groups</b>	Plenary Hall and Services Task Groups meet for 2 hours.	
<b>Task Groups Report Out</b>	<p>Barb reporting for Plenary Hall:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Task Group discussed the importance of not calling the photographing of banners the “virtual banner parade” which could cause confusion and concern that the PC is planning on omitting the actual parade of banners and instead use the term “capturing the banners”.</li> <li>2. The parade this year will be staged in the empty hall behind plenary and will enter the hall from the front on either side of the stage and cross to the center of the stage and then march two abreast down the center aisle to the rear of Plenary Hall and be finished in less than 15 minutes.</li> <li>3. Melodie will be the liaison to Lisa Presley on Tech rehearsals making her portfolio a challenge – she needs to be in Plenary Hall at 7 AM and then for evening entertainment until 1 AM. The Task Group recommends some shifting of responsibility for Evening Entertainment.</li> <li>4. RE: the Ware Lecture – need to prepare a motion that the PC intends to reassert and clarify its role in selection of the Ware Lecturer.</li> <li>5. Need to have Jerry Gaynor begin to train someone else on the Procedural Microphone; also CSW has asked for suggestions for a new member of the Commission to replace Catherine Blue.</li> <li>6. No one had been assigned to the Candidate Forum that the UUA Board</li> </ol>	<p>Joan will arrange for photographer.</p> <p>Fred to check to make sure GA has rented Hall B for the staging of the banner parade.</p> <p>Redistribute onsite supervision portfolio for Evening Entertainment. Decision was that Ginger would cover Wednesday evening, Walt Thursday, and Tim Friday and Saturday.</p> <p>Take up the selection of the Ware Lecturer in</p>

	<p>will be sponsoring – Beth will take that on.</p> <p>Ginger reporting for Services:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Amy has been in Ft. Lauderdale – will be good but not as great as Portland in terms of our accomplishments. Shawna McKinley will probably be on site in Florida rather than Amy.</li> <li>2. Right Relations – Tim reported there is still no leader for the team – the leader will be selected by Gini.</li> <li>3. Evening Entertainment – well in hand, with the suggestion that the DJ receive an honorarium rather than GA Registration.</li> <li>4. Evaluation – Eva handling, and may add a question on greening and AR/AO/MC.</li> <li>5. Exhibit Hall – no report. Same decorator this year as last year. A conversation was held about having an author’s booth for book signing in the Exhibit.</li> <li>6. Chaplaincy Team, Spiritual Practices and Meditation Room; Spiritual Practices is normally offsite (a hotel) this can be used the rest of the time as a Chaplains Team and Right Relations Team meeting space. Space permitting we may get two contiguous rooms. Chaplains’ office with open office hours will remain in Convention Center and be shared with Right Relations and perhaps other chaplaincies. The Task Group discussed the role of the Chaplains and the Right Relations team members with regard to the security concerns at Ft. Lauderdale. Suggested having an additional member be added to the Chaplains team to serve as back-up and coordinate schedules and be on call for people assigned and scheduled at the security gate serving as ambassadors. Perhaps even have strolling musicians at the security check point.</li> </ol> <p>Members of the PC brainstormed names of people to ask to participate in the Ambassadors’ Team.</p>	<p>our telephone conference with Bill Sinkford.</p> <p>Tim will make room reservation for Right Relations team</p> <p>David F to inform Susan Friend that the DJ will not receive GA registration but be paid an honorarium. The Committee needs to determine who gets the UUA rates for exhibitors. MOTION #8: Authors Booth in Exhibit Halls</p> <p>The volunteer coordinator will be asked to assist the PC in recruiting additional assistants to the Chaplaincy Team to serve as ambassadors able to work outside and take conflict management training. Those recruited should indicate on their volunteer applications “Special Assignment: Ambassador”</p> <p>There will be a local area mental health professional on call throughout GA.</p>
<p><b>Brainstorm Issues to Discuss with Bill Sinkford</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ware Lecture Policy – to be responsibility of the PC beginning 2010</li> <li>2. Brief him on the fact that we are not going to run an off site venue – will he speak to UUMA or should the PC Chair send the UUMA Exec the motion</li> <li>3. GA Choir Director - for 09 to sing at Sunday Worship because the re-visioning of the role of GA is as a laboratory for best practices in worship and governance for our congregations.</li> <li>4. Inform Bill in our restructuring of the work of the Worship &amp; Celebration Task Group is to have a single budget for Worship that includes all Worship services at PC.</li> </ol>	

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Scholarship Process – is not producing enough applications because congregations are not willing to contribute their share. Maybe include an incentive for congregations to add in a line item in their budgets for GA attendance for leaders.</li> <li>6. Security Plan and our decisions about the Ambassadors.</li> <li>7. Congregational Presidents’ Subsidy ends in 2008 and one is not included in the 2009 GA budget.</li> <li>8. UU University collaboration to take on role of training leaders.</li> <li>9. Featured Program on Civil Liberties followed by AI workshops.</li> </ol>	
<b>Task Groups</b>	Worship & Celebration and Constituencies Task Groups meet for 2 hrs.	
<b>Task Groups Report Out</b>	<p>Lynda reported on Worship &amp; Celebration:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Opening Celebration – prelude and banner parade music to be covered by the orchestra from Sources. Walt contact Jason and set up a conference call. Speakers for the introduction to movements needs to be clarified, also the artistic control of what happens within the Sources program (e.g. hymns).</li> <li>2. Native American acknowledgement needs to be introduced somewhere in Opening – perhaps in David’s opening remarks.</li> <li>3. The PC will produce the Opening program unless Jason will produce the ‘Sources portion and PC the rest – Walt needs to communicate to Jason that Lynda needs the digital file of the program used in Clearwater with names of speakers included.</li> <li>4. Ask Jan if we need to have copies of the signed contracts with the Orchestra, the Conductor and the Percussion Group of ‘Sources’.</li> <li>5. Sunday Morning Service – Beth liaison on 2 of the 3 conference calls. Want to incorporate themes on inclusion/exclusion and the possible plan for a visual piece – a reflective mirror. Mimi is working up some folky accessible music, and perhaps a percussion background around a Langston Hughes poem. Marta Valentin Chase is the liturgist and Marlon Lavanhar is the preacher and Mimi Bornstein is the Choir Director.</li> <li>6. SLT – Beth Miller has control of this service but needs to be reminded that PC staff are available to support the technical quality of the service: Sarah Dan, Melodie, and Fred. Suggestion to have a bell tolling between the reading each reading of a name of a minister who passed in the previous year. Victoria Safford will be preaching.</li> <li>7. Pre-plenary worship: Denise will contact the worship leaders reminding them of the Feb. 1 deadline for the program book and include other info on the Timeline that is attached to the Worship Leaders Agreement. Contemporary Worship: Allison Miller plus Dani Everton and Garner Takahashi Morris (youth) will be the worship leaders. Darrick will put</li> </ol>	<p>Opening Tech Rehearsal is Tech 2.</p> <p>David to confer with ambiance person on visual representation on the Native Nations in décor/backdrop. Walt to speak with Ken Hurto on who would be a good FL minister to light the chalice.</p> <p>Jan will ask Tim if we need to have copies of Jason’s contracts. Beth needs to communicate to Sunday Morning Worship team when their Tech Rehearsal 6 is and ask if the Sunday Morning Choir also wants to request rehearsal time. 8 AM on Sunday morning for tech final for Sunday morning worship.</p> <p>Walt to contact Beth Miller re: suggestions for reading the names of deceased ministers, the Worship Leaders meeting in April, the timeline for</p> <p>Denise will contact all pre-plenary worship leaders with timeline reminders post this meeting. All 3 worship leaders (Sarah Lammert,</p>

	<p>together the Bridging portion of the service.</p> <p>8. Rehearsal Blocks: Fred distributed a Plenary Hall rehearsal grid for use as a working document. The PC will schedule rehearsal times for Contemporary Worship, GA Choir and Sunday Worship. Fred to re-work the Plenary Hall rehearsal grid.</p> <p>Tim reported on the Constituencies Task Group:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Accessibility – talks with Patty Cameron and GA office related to the personal level of assistance requested. Need to direct question to the Board requesting guidance on what level of services we provide.</li> <li>2. Young Adults – transitions in the YA office.</li> <li>3. Child Care – using Kiddie Korps again for the 3rd year. The location is likely to be the Renaissance Hotel.</li> <li>4. Young FUUN - location TBD. Ginger and Tim working on some proposals on how Young FUUN might be changed which will not take place until 2010.</li> <li>5. Youth Caucus – Darrick will be leading staff services although Jesse Jaeger will be around.</li> <li>6. Orientation – need to change venue.</li> <li>7. Feedback – getting ready to reserve room (deadline January 31)</li> <li>8. Pre-GA Events – Conference Call coming up on Jan. 18. Nothing to report at this time.</li> </ol>	<p>Don Southworth and Paul Johnson) will have Tech 3 time and an additional rehearsal time from 1:30 until 2:30 on Wednesday afternoon. Fred and Melodie would like ½ hour of time with Worship Leaders at their meeting in April.</p> <p>Contemporary Worship is Tech 9 and rehearsal is from 6 until 7 PM on Friday.</p> <p>Tim to E-mail Lynda contact information on Worship Leaders of the Contemporary Worship Service. Lynda will revise Worship Leaders Agreement so that it covers the Friday evening Worship service.</p> <p>Guidelines: Accessibility Services will be provided only for GA sponsored events at the hotels and all events at the Convention Center. MOTION #9: To adopt guidelines on the provision of accessibility services. (Ginger)</p> <p>EVERYONE: reserve any rooms you need by January 31, 2008 with Don Plante in the GA Office.</p>
<p><b>Committee of the Whole`</b></p>	<p>Closing Worship: 1 hour service/worshipful that acknowledges our joy in coming together and our sadness in leave-taking. There will be a part of closing that will include Bill and Gini in reflecting on the past week along with a charge to go forth into home congregations and do the work of strengthening our faith. We will ask for one or more congregational hymns and a benediction.</p> <p>Ambassadors: use the term “ambassador” instead of “chaplain” and focus on welcoming to GA rather than problem solving and keep “chaplain” designation clear. Tuesday afternoon, all day Wednesday and Thursday and Sunday mornings. We may need 8 or 80 depending on the “temperature” of the emotions at the security gate. We still need an extra Chaplain to coordinate the Ambassadors.</p>	<p>Have a greeter at the Garage entrance to not only greet but keep a count of the number of people driving in to the Ft. Lauderdale CC. If Ft. Lauderdale congregations would like to set up tables outside of the worship service on Sunday morning they can do that to promote visitors.</p>

<p><b>Telephone Conversation with Bill Sinkford</b></p>	<p>Security Issue: no off site venue; ambassadors at the Security Gate plus one extra Chaplain on our Chaplaincy Team to coordinate the ambassadors who will be people who have had some conflict management training – maybe having some musicians playing music – prepared to deal with problems and reach designated Chaplain.</p> <p>Featured Program Slot: using a free featured program slot and a President-sponsored slot to reflect with a significant number of people in Ft. Lauderdale what it means to have a large portion of undocumented people in our area and the degradation of our civil liberties in the name of Homeland Security followed by a facilitator in AI to help process the content in programs. Bill reports that VEATCH funds may be able to support a panel of experts on immigrant issues.</p> <p>The UUMA is meeting in Key West next week. They should be an early receiver of any communication coming after the Board meeting but receive nothing in advance of the Board Meeting.</p> <p>GA Choir Role in GA: discussion of having the GA choir sing at the Sunday worship service was put on hold for the time being.</p> <p>Unifying Budget for Worship and Celebration: while this is an internal budget process for the PC, the plan is to have a process for sharing of resources for the provision of worship services at GA.</p> <p>Scholarship incentives for congregations putting money into their budgets for sending delegates to GA. Bill will think about how to publicize the availability of funds for GA 08.</p> <p>Congregational Presidents Scholarship subsidy no longer in the GAPC budget for 09. Need to work more on messaging how to transition the flat subsidy formula into some other support for congregations to send their senior leaders to GA to do the business of the association.</p> <p>Ware Lecture: the immediate 08 need from the PC is for PR for the program (February 1). We need as much information on Van Jones as we can have so we can talk up GA and his appearance. We would like to announce the Ware Lecturer for 09 at GA 2008.</p> <p>Attendance Forecast for Ft. Lauderdale – the GAPC stands firm on estimates of 4,100 but we still need to move into a mode of outreach and encourage people to come to GA 08 for a variety of good reasons. The PC does not think the security issues will keep many people away.</p>	<p>Need to have clear lines of authority and accountability – who can call and what can they call about. Also the linkage to the Crisis Management Team. Need a clear communications plan.</p> <p>GAPC will be responsible for finding a speaker on the degradation of civil liberties followed by a time slot using an AI facilitator. Bill will be responsible for finding someone to speak on the immigrant's rights program also potentially to be followed by another AI facilitated conversation. Extra funding will be needed to do AI.</p> <p>Bill needs to think on this topic more.</p> <p>Need to carefully prepare for a transition from the current subsidy program for congregation presidents to the next program.</p> <p>Ideas for a general topic area for the next Ware Lecturer brainstormed briefly – marquee name in international or political areas.</p>
<p><b>Dinner Break</b></p>		
<p><b>Brainstorm Programming and Organization</b></p>	<p>Background: In 2008 the deadline for submitting applications for sponsored program slots was moved back from September 1 to October 15 and Independent Affiliates were reduced from a large number (60+) to 5. The combination of these two changes resulted in a flood of applications for</p>	



	<p>GAPC sponsored program slots this year. 70 applications were reviewed this year by 5 members of the PC for 35 slots (up from 19 slots the prior year).</p> <p>Immediate Goals: Come up with new language on how to apply for a program slot at GA in time for publication in the GA 2008 Program Book, streamline the process and/or spread the workload in a different way, establish the selection criteria and program focus, and establish a timeline that works for staff and for members of the PC and revisit the funding allocations and ensure that program content is transferable to multiple congregations.</p> <p>Influencing Factors: UU University content; district programming and other UUA programming; what's hot? congregational focus (is this program material important in the work of congregational leadership?); good fit with Board Ends; increased use of electronic communications (webinars); clusters of IA may influence need to reallocate slots; amount of available funding.</p> <p>Criteria: Entertainment; variety, performance with a powerful message; logistics; whether or not the individual or group is easy to work with; congregational applicability; spiritual depth; how does the program strengthen UUism; quality of the application (too long/too short); balance and fit; some music; avoidance of cultural misappropriation; programming that reflects our Association's anti-racist anti-oppressive values, track record of applicant, assessment of general interest. Programs should seek to teach skills, deepen the faith, instruct and inform and offer programming beyond just the basic "canvass 101" depth of information.</p> <p>Options for the Process: Revise applications – ask for objectives, etc.; state our mission and vision clearly (how does each proposal fit into the vision?); ask staff to provide particular types of programs (more depth, advanced level.) Figure out who customers are and should be. Longer time frames (e.g. skills training in more than 1 hour and 15 minutes.) Make UU University a part of GA –offer major speakers you wouldn't normally be able to hear elsewhere.</p> <p>Money: we don't spend money wisely. Select a few marquee speakers and fund them generously. Doling out small bits of money for many programs is probably not effective. Money has not proven to be the major determinant of programs at GA except in a few instances. Consider providing just a registration to GA fee for program presenters Be a provider of slots not funds. Offer presenters a 'Thank you \$25 gift certificate' instead of honoraria for speakers who would be coming to GA anyhow.</p>	<p>08 Program Selection subcommittee will consult on revisions to Program book description and applications</p>
--	---	---

**Sunday January 13, 2008 Meeting**

<b>Worship</b>	Fred	Fred Cole led a brief worship service which was followed by a personal check out.	
<b>Review Unfinished Business</b>	Beth	<p>The Committee discussed loose ends that need to be tied up before adjournment today. Several questions about the pre April PC meeting were discussed.</p> <p>We still need to fill a Featured Program Slot on civil liberties with a name speaker. Several names were mentioned that Beth and Jan will pursue.</p> <p>What to do with the statement on multiculturalism and AR/AO?</p> <p>Conflict Management Training – do we want separate training for ushers and Ambassadors?</p> <p>Recruitment of Ambassadors: David for local folks, Jan and Walt for those who are not local and Walt will recruit the Chaplain to the Ambassadors.</p> <p>PC Sponsored Programs – what to change for the program book for this year.</p> <p>Beth, Ginger, Jan, Teresa Cooley, Rob Eller Isaacs will participate in a larger conversation about coordination of pre-GA meetings and in that begin to explore the potential for possibly rolling UU University into GA programming.</p>	<p><b>Cultural Misappropriation, AR/AO Pre April Meeting Attendees:</b> Beth for the PC; Walt for Worship &amp; Celebration Task Group; Tim for Youth and Young Adult; Jason Shelton for Opening; Bob Griffith for Closing; Sarah Dan Jones for Music; Sarah Lammert, Don Southworth and Paul Johnson for the pre-Plenary worship services; Beth Miller for SLT; Marta Valentin Chase for Sunday Morning Worship. Jan will ask Gini if Fred and Melodie could have ½ hour at the end of the meeting to go over Tech requirements for Plenary Hall worship.</p> <p><b>Conflict Management Training</b> will be scheduled for Tuesday afternoon.</p> <p>The Statement on Multiculturalism needs to be edited down for the GA Program and posted on the web.</p> <p><b>PC Sponsored Programs:</b> drop the artificial ‘featured’ versus ‘sponsored’ program designations; state that “funding may be available” but do not specify amounts and use the guidelines from the Saturday night discussion on selection criteria. Keep the October 15 Deadline for submission of proposals.</p> <p><b>Housing Opens for PC Members on February 1<sup>st</sup>:</b> the Planning Committee Suite will be in the Hyatt Pier 66 and child care is at the Renaissance. The closest hotel is the Grand. The 3 UUMN personnel under our GAPC contract may book rooms at this time using the GAPC account number but payment will be only for nights approved for GA and no incidentals may be charged to the GAPC account.</p> <p><b>2009 GAPC Meetings</b> January 8 -11 in Minneapolis; April 2-5 in Salt Lake City, GA June 22 – 29 in Salt Lake City; and September 16-20 in Boston.</p>
<b>Committee of</b>		Each PC member who has a liaison relationship with the	<b>ANY SPACE NEEDS FOR GA 2008:</b> requests

<b>the Whole Portfolio Review</b>		volunteer committee should make contact to see if there is a need for anything to be done or decided in advance of the April meeting. Most of the Committee of the Whole workload is for David and Lew who were not present.	are due January 31, 2008. Rehearsals, orientation, training,
<b>Motions</b>	All	<p><b>Motion #1: Location of General Assembly 2008</b> The GA Planning Committee recommends to the UUA Board that GA 2008 be held in Ft, Lauderdale as planned.</p> <p><b>Motion #2: Second Venue at Ft. Lauderdale GA 2008</b> The GAPC will support Plenary Hall events for GA 2008 at the Convention Center as planned. The GAPC will address issues of concern about the location of GA 2008 through programming and chaplaincy.</p> <p><b>Motion #3: GA 2009 Theme</b> Moved that there not be a separate theme for annual General Assemblies but that each meeting will be a uniform: General Assembly: A Meeting of Congregations.</p> <p><b>Motion #4: Request for Funding for Public Witness at GA 2008</b> Moved that the PC deny the request for funding of the GA 2008 Public Witness Project. However, the PC will provide transportation/shuttle services to and from the PW site.</p> <p><b>Motion #5: GA 2009 Preliminary Budget</b> Moved that the proposed budget for GA 2009 be approved as amended: a) increase Election line item by \$15,000 b) Combine all worship line items in the budget into a single line titled "Worship and Celebration" and increase the total amount to \$10,000 (up \$1,000 from budget in packet).</p> <p><b>Motion #6: Site for GA 2012</b> Moved that the GAPC recommend Phoenix as the site for the 2012 General Assembly.</p> <p><b>Motion #7: Electioneering Activity Policy for Planning Committee Members</b> GAPC members are welcome to participate in UUA election processes. Members may endorse and support candidates</p>	<p>M/S/A -- Action Eva Marx to report at the January Board Meeting.</p> <p>M/S/A – Action Beth and Jan will make changes to the website and the Committee will increase chaplaincy services and arranged for featured programs with follow up Appreciative Inquiry sessions.</p> <p>M/S/A –Action Eva to report to the UUA Board and Jan will notify the GACS office.</p> <p>M/S/A – Action Beth will convey this action to Susan Leslie.</p> <p>M/S/A – Action Revise spread sheet and submit to UUA Board. (GACS office)</p> <p>M/S/A – Action Eva to take this recommendation to the UUA Board meeting for approval.</p> <p>M/S/A – Action Add to Elections section of the GAPC Policy Manual.</p>

		<p>and make financial contributions to candidates, however they may not wear campaign buttons or engage in any electioneering (except for their own election) activity while at General Assembly or when acting in an official capacity as a member of the GAPC. The Chair of the GAPC shall remain neutral, not endorsing, supporting or contributing to any candidate. The entire Committee will remain neutral until the close of GA 2008.</p> <p><b>Motion # 8: Author’s Signing Booth in Exhibit Hall</b>  Moved that, at the request of Beacon Press, a booth in the exhibit hall will be provided to be used by authors signing books. This booth is to be shared with the UUA Bookstore and usage of booth time is to be managed and agreed upon between these two entities with time left open for other authors who are part of other exhibitor’s booths to use if requested.</p> <p><b>Motion #9: Guidelines for the Provision of Accessibility Services at General Assembly</b>  Beginning at GA 2008 in Ft. Lauderdale accessibility services will be provided only within the convention center and for GA sponsored events in other venues.</p>	<p>M/S/A – Action Jan to notify Beacon Press.</p> <p>M/S/A – Action Ginger will notify Patty Cameron. The GA Office will send a letter out to regular GA attendees and provide this information in printed materials.</p>
<b>Review Upcoming Tasks/April Agenda</b>		In the Tech Pac we will include a section on reserved seating in Plenary Hall. Information	
<b>Check Out</b>			
<b>Process Observation and closing Reading</b>	Joan		

Minutes prepared by Lynda Bluestein, Secretary