



Ministerial Fellowship Meeting

Sunday, March 26, 2017

24 Farnsworth Street, Chapel
Business Meeting

Members: Nick Allen, Jackie Clement, Marge Corletti, Jan Devor, Jennifer Hamlin-Navias, Jesse King (Chair), Michael Lyde, , Joetta Prost, Maddie Sifantus, Karen Stoyanoff, Greg Ward, Nayer Taheri (sub for Shana Lynngood), absent: Don Brunnuell, Kristen Harper and Shana Lynngood.

Staff: Sarah Lammert, Alicia Forde, David Pettee, Marion Bell

Liaisons: Diana McLean, Lynn Harrison

OPEN SESSION

CWG non-confidential Items

1. Over \$30,000 has been raised through the \$250. MFC Appointment Fee. A Travel Equalization process was discussed by the CWG. The CWG recommends that the MFC affirm the use of a formula that grants a specific amount of money that would be available to candidates based upon where they live, and that after the interview, candidates would be eligible to submit receipts up to this prorated amount for the purpose of reimbursement of costs related to attending their MFC interview. Travel equalization would become available beginning at the September 2017 meeting.

If the Committee accepts this recommendation, MFC Policy 9 would need to be modified. The language currently reads: Travel Expense Policy: "Until the travel equalization fund has been developed, candidates will continue to be responsible to pay transportation and other expenses incurred in meeting with the Committee. If a candidate has special accessibility needs, the MFC will cover any additional expenses necessary for the candidate to appear before the Committee."

The CW recommends that MFC Policy 9 be updated to read:

"Following the conclusion of their interview, candidates are eligible to request travel equalization funds by submitting receipts to the Ministerial Credentialing Office up to a

predetermined figure based upon where the candidate resides at the time of their interview. Requests must be submitted within the same fiscal year in which the interview took place. If a candidate has special accessibility needs, the MFC will cover any additional expenses necessary for the candidate to appear before the Committee.”

Action – Nick moves/Karen 2nd The Committee authorizes the Ministerial Credentialing Director to determine the level of reimbursement using the travel expense reimbursement proposal model as a framework. Approved, unanimous

Action – Joetta moves to accept the above Policy 9 change/Marge 2nd. Approved, unanimous

Other Business:

Sarah mentioned the upcoming policy regarding confidentiality waivers for volunteers of the UUA

Exec / committee may soon be receiving confidential documents via AppRiver for confidentiality reasons. Bring standards up to best practices to keep information secure.

Reminder to delete or shred any files you may have. If you have a device, password-protect it.

Action - Security Training was recorded and the link will be available

Alicia looking for volunteers to create a short video to pass on ministers in prelim to pass on the Boards and CoMs for the renewal

David reported on Florida Career Center. (see report)

SWG non-confidential items

Maddie – SWG working on renewal paperwork re new competencies.

Considering how should a renewal look when their ministry doesn't fit into the forms we have, i.e. Community, entrepreneurial ministry, and military

Is it possible for us to use the institution's supervisor's form vs. our form?

Is this current renewal process designed to meet the committee's goals?

Can there be seamless move from the Ministerial formation network to the preliminary fellowship process?

TIMELINE:

[November 28, 2016 meeting

Ashley Horan, Kelly Murphy Mason, Jennifer Hamlin-Navias, Alicia Forde, Maddie]

[November to March 2017

Conversations and input with community ministers by Alicia and Maddie]

APRIL 2017: Meetings with Don Southworth (UUMA), Nica Eaton Guinn (entrepreneurial minister in Preliminary Fellowship), Cat Cox (UUSCM), Alicia, Nick (Process), Jackie (reports to UUMA) and other stakeholders. Michael Lyde and Maddie begin work on envisioning a draft.

MAY: Maddie takes a crack at writing a first draft with input from Michael and send to SWG members Alicia and Marion for input by month's end.

JUNE: Input gathered. Final proposal draft crafted.

JULY 25: Final revision uploaded to Meeting Ground for consideration by whole committee.

SEPTEMBER 2017 MEETING: Vote for approval by whole committee

PWG WORKING GROUP REPORT

Working on:

Evaluating continuing education. Polyamory. September 2017 half day training.

Mentors for new members in September 2017. Jackie and Joetta.

Policy revisions underway. Substance and grammatical. Outdated and confusing policies. Policies on final and preliminary fellowship are confusing. Pol 14 and 15. Would like to send to SWG for revision.

Policy on aspirant status over to CWG for review and revision.

There will be a document for the entire MFC to review in September 2017

Possible new MFC members Rebecca Montgomery and Shawn Newton.

Our MDiv equivalency - tailored after old competencies. Will review to fit in with new competencies.

Action - Joetta and Marion will work on getting a list regarding feedback on the new competencies

MFC EVALUATIONS

Individual evaluations

Up for renewal: Jesse, Joetta, Greg, Michael, Jackie, Jan

Jesse and Shanna will review evaluations with Committee members. They will not be shared with anyone else.

Only themes will be shared, if it becomes clear that it's not a fit between Committee member and the MFC.

Process to begin April 2017

Committee evaluations this summer, after GA 2017

Consider having an outside consultant do the evaluations; will also include ARAOMC, biases, etc. – very expensive

NEW COMPETENCIES LESSONS INSIGHTS

The required essay/comments at the end of each competency were very helpful.

Some candidates didn't integrate the comments in the competencies, though. Maybe needs a different intro or it can go on the "Tips" document.

Process for interview will be easier when we get a question bank

Action - Sarah will put out a Google doc for tips and suggested competency changes

Each competency is so packed with stuff, that sometimes the essay doesn't flush it out for me. I miss the RE essay. So there's something about seeing integrating but also addressing the goals under the competency so they look back and can see how they respond to the goals.

Should we write a unique prompt for each competency, to elaborate on what we're looking for in that essay? Maybe provide more instruction. Right now it's very generic.

➤ **Revised version in March 2018 of competency tweaks.**

Action - Joetta and Nick will map out the timeline for a change

Action – work on scheduling candidate interviews so that those with new competencies are all together and those with the old competencies are all together. Too hard to go back and forth.

Do we want to consider keeping the books on the reading list that no one ever reads?

Action - Video will be scheduled with Joetta, Nick, Sarah, and Jesse and the two new Committee members for orientation right after the September packets go on Meeting Ground

UPCOMING ODYSSEY SCHEDULE

- Greg September 2017
- Jackie-December 2017
- Joetta-March 2018
- Jan Sept 2018

Greg and Jan will be cameo panel chairs in September

Process observations /liaison reports

We need a new title for candidate liaison- "Participate observer" "associate member" ?