

## Commission on Social Witness



Notes – Conference Call 10/5/2013

Susan convened the call at 11:05 a.m. Eastern time. Those present were Susan Goekler (Chair), David Breeden, Caitlin Cotter, Christina Sillari, and Jessica Halperin (UUA staff liaison). Christina shared a chalice reading.

Before considering specific proposals for CSAIs, we agreed to judge the ideas presented and not the quality of the writing. We reviewed the criteria from the proposer's guide and the UUA bylaws.

After discussing all 7 submissions, we agreed to ask two proposers to merge very similar proposals and other proposers to provide some clarifications. (After the call, the proposers of the similar proposals agreed to combine.) The CSW accepted the merged proposal plus the remaining 5 (6 total) for inclusion in the congregational poll. Individual Commissioners agreed to contact proposers.

To meet the deadline for GA proposals, we agreed to the following assignments:

- a. David will consult with UU Rise and perhaps the Phoenix UU Churches to develop and submit a proposal on implementation of the immigration as a Moral Issue SOC.
- b. Caitlin will work with Jessica to develop and submit a proposal on reproductive justice.
- c. Christina will contact Heather Rion Staff (former Commissioner) about developing a proposal for the sermon contest winner's worship service; and then develop and submit such.
- d. Susan will develop and submit proposals on mini assemblies for proposed CSAI, proposed AIWs, and a hearing on the newly selected CSAI.

We reviewed assignments from June.

Staff member Jessica pointed out some issues that had arisen during the CSAI proposal process that need CSW consideration.

- a. Need to amend bylaws to remove "sponsored organizations" as allowable proposers of CSAIs.
- b. Need to clarify the process for endorsements.
- c. Need to review proposer's guide to determine whether more explanation would result in better proposals, especially in the Actions section.

Susan added the need to discuss the AIW process and CSW's role vis a vis staff and board with respect to social witness.

Susan will send a poll to determine the next call. We closed at 1:00 p.m. Eastern time with David sharing process observations and Caitlin sharing a reading.