UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ASSOCIATION OF CONGREGATIONS

48th Annual General Assembly
A Meeting of Congregations

Salt Lake City, Utah        June 24-28, 2009

AGENDA
## Business Process

### Mini-Assemblies

All business of the General Assembly is conducted in Plenary Sessions. Mini-Assemblies offer opportunities in small sessions for delegates to speak on issues, find out more about individual business items before a vote in plenary, and propose amendments to the business item or social witness statement. The Planning Committee or the Commission on Social Witness may move amendments to business items as a result of discussion in Mini-Assemblies.

### Bylaw and Rule Amendments

There will be a special assembly, held in the Plenary Hall on Friday from 6:45 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. to discuss the proposed Article II bylaw change (the Purposes & Principles). Delegates later vote in Plenary whether to send the proposal to congregations for a year’s discussion. If voted up, a vote to adopt would be in 2010.

### UUA Statement of Conscience (Peacemaking)

Discussion of the proposed UUA Statement of Conscience takes place in the two-part Mini-Assembly on Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. and from 10:45 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the Salt Palace room 255 D. Amendments may be introduced only as called for at the Mini-Assembly. The vote to adopt is scheduled for a Plenary Session.

### Actions of Immediate Witness

Proposed Actions of Immediate Witness (AIWs) must be posted in the CSW exhibit booth (#818) by 5:00 p.m. on Thursday. The complete AIW, along with the requisite delegate signatures, must be filed in the GA Office (Room 150 G in the Salt Palace) by 5:00 p.m. on Friday. Prior to voting on adoption on Sunday, preliminary action on AIWs will be taken in Plenary Session on Saturday, and Mini-Assemblies to discuss the proposed AIWs and offer amendments will be held on Saturday at 11:00 a.m. in the Marriott Hotel in the following rooms: Deer Valley I, II, III and Grand Ballroom Salons A, B & C.

### Budget Hearing

The UUA Finance Committee members and UUA officers conduct a hearing on the 2009 - 2010 budget Friday at 11:00 a.m. in Room 250 F of the Salt Palace. This session offers an opportunity to ask questions about and consider changes to the budget. Motions on the budget must be submitted in writing in the GA Office (Room 150 G in the Salt Palace) by 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, for consideration Sunday.
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June 24-28, 2009

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**Guide for Delegates**

## Living the Democratic Process

### Purpose

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY: A MEETING OF CONGREGATIONS** is an annual opportunity for delegates from member congregations to affirm, promote, and practice the democratic process while conducting the business of the Association.

**RULES OF PROCEDURE** are adopted at the start of the Assembly. They are printed (as proposed but not necessarily as adopted) in the GA Agenda. The Rules of Procedure are designed to help the delegates effectively represent their congregation.

### Speaking in Plenary

Before speaking you must be recognized by the Moderator, and to be recognized you must be at a microphone. The Moderator recognizes you by referring to the microphone (“I recognize the delegate at the Pro microphone…”).

Any **DELEGATE** may speak; non-delegates need the consent of the Moderator or vote of the Assembly to admit the speaker to the floor. (This happens only rarely.) Once recognized, identify yourself (name and society from which you are a delegate), e.g., “I’m Chris Doe from Rip Roaring Congregation of Great City, Ohio.”

**BE SUCCINCT** and remember you have only two minutes. You may speak on a motion only once as long as others wish to speak.

Speaking time is limited. Do not speak if your point has already been made by another speaker. Be respectful of other delegates by only speaking when you have something important to add to the discussion.

There are four microphones: **PRO, CON, PROCEDURE and AMENDMENT**

- To speak in favor - go to the **PRO** mike.
- To speak against - go to the **CON** mike.
- To make an amendment – go to the **AMENDMENT** Table for assistance.
- To raise a procedural issue, go to the **PROCEDURE** mike.

**PROCEDURAL** questions are limited to:

- Parliamentary inquiry
- Points of order and information
- Question of privilege
- Motions to extend or limit time of debate, change the order of business, recess, or adjourn.

**TIME USED ON PROCEDURAL ISSUES IS INCLUDED** in the time set for debating the item on the floor. Procedural issues must be raised at the Procedure microphone. They take precedence over discussion.

The **AMENDMENT** mike is used only for making an amendment that has first been processed at the Amendment Table.

### Debate

**THERE MUST BE 15 MINUTES OF DISCUSSION ALLOWED ON THE MOTION AS PRINTED** (or as presented by the Planning Committee or Commission on Social Witness) before an amendment may be proposed unless the Rules of Procedure specify otherwise. If no one is standing at a microphone to speak on the motion as presented, this time may be shortened. The Moderator alternates recognizing speakers at **PRO** and **CON** microphones.

**AFTER 15 MINUTES OF DEBATE, AMENDMENTS MAY BE PRESENTED.** Debate takes place on each amendment until it is resolved. **Only one amendment may be presented at a time.** (You can’t amend an amendment.) An amendment may be to insert new words, delete words, or to delete and insert. Each amendment may cover only one subject. An amendment may not change a non-business resolution into a Business Resolution; for example, you can’t add language to an Action of Immediate Witness that requires specific action from congregations or the UUA Board or staff. Before an amendment may be presented to the delegates, it must be presented in writing at the Amendment table next to the Amendment mike (see also “Mini-Assembly” below).
Some motions must be filed prior to the opening of a session, particularly ones concerning the Budget. See Rules of Procedure in the Final Agenda for deadlines and place for filing them.

Motions of Amendment to items on the Agenda, Actions on Reports, etc., may be made as part of the debate. Be careful that your motion does not change the meaning so much that it is a substitute rather than an amendment. At times, you may make a substitute motion but must recognize it as such.

**Voting**

Delegates vote by:
- Voice (call for ayes and nays)
- Uncounted show of voting cards
- Counted show of voting cards
- Written ballot

The Moderator is responsible for determining whether a motion passed or failed. A delegate who disagrees with the Moderator’s determination may come to the procedural microphone and ask for a counted vote. At least 99 other delegates must support the request to force the counted vote.

It is crucial that you bring your voting card with you to each Plenary Session. Voting cards are difficult to replace, if lost, and you cannot vote without your card. As a delegate, you may not give your voting card to anyone else to use.

**Mini-Assembly**

A Mini-Assembly is an opportunity for delegates to propose amendments to resolutions on the final agenda and to the proposed Actions of Immediate Witness admitted to the final agenda. It’s an opportunity to discuss the proposed amendments, and, for the Statement of Conscience, to work collaboratively with other delegates to draft amendments. Mini-Assemblies save Plenary time and permit freer debate than plenaries do. It is not possible to offer an amendment to a business resolution, bylaw change, rule change, or social witness statement during plenary debate if it was not submitted for consideration at the appropriate mini-assembly.

There is a mini-assembly scheduled for the rule changes listed on the final agenda. All mini-assemblies are listed in the program.

After a Mini-Assembly and before voting in Plenary Session, the Planning Committee may incorporate proposed amendments into a Business Resolution or a Bylaw and the Commission on Social Witness may incorporate proposed amendments into a Statement of Conscience or an Action of Immediate Witness. For Statements of Conscience, the Commission on Social Witness is required to report all amendments to the GA delegates. The Commission on Social Witness can prioritize the amendments, including the order of their presentation at the amendment microphone in Plenary. If you wish to modify the Statement of Conscience, plan to attend the entire mini-assembly and work collaboratively with other delegates to suggest amendments.

**Budget Hearing**

At the Budget Hearing questions may be answered, but no motions may be made. Motions to modify the budget must be made in writing by the time announced in the Rules of Procedure. Budget motions, if adding funds to an item or proposing new spending, must specify which other specific categories are to be reduced. See Rule G-10.1.4.

**Statements of Conscience**

Based on feedback from the mini-assembly, the Commission on Social Witness may recommend that the delegates change the length of time the statement is debated before amendments are in order.

Debate is limited to 12 minutes per amendment.

**Actions of Immediate Witness**

Sometimes significant actions, events, or developments occur that delegates may wish to address immediately. The process for admitting Actions of Immediate Witness to the agenda means that congregations commonly have no opportunity to consider and discuss them in advance of General Assembly, so care should be taken to only submit Actions of Immediate Witness that could not otherwise be accommodated in the Congregational Study/Action Issue process. Consult Article IV, Section 4.16 (b) (1) of the UUA Bylaws for the criteria for an Action of Immediate Witness.

**How many Actions of Immediate Witness may be admitted to the agenda?** No more than six.
Guide for Delegates

**How can a delegate place an Action of Immediate Witness on the Agenda?** Pick up the required cover sheet and petition form for signatures at the Commission on Social Witness (CSW) booth. Submit a copy of the AIW at the CSW booth for posting by 5:00 p.m. on Thursday. Then begin collection of signatures from other delegates. Submit the AIW with the required number of delegate signatures to the CSW at the GA Office by 5:00 p.m. on Friday. See the cover sheet for directions, requirements, and deadlines.

**What happens then?** The Commission will review the AIWs to determine if they meet the criteria for an AIW. The Commission will select no more than six from among those submitted which meet the criteria for an AIW. The Commission on Social Witness screens proposed Actions of Immediate Witness according to the criteria of grounding, fit and opportunity as well as significance, timeliness and specificity (see bylaw section 4.16). Preference is given to proposed Actions of Immediate Witness that emerge from a documented group process. These will be submitted to delegates for admission to the Agenda at the Saturday morning Plenary Session. After consideration of proposed amendments at a Mini-Assembly, each AIW will be voted on by the delegates for adoption by the General Assembly at the Sunday morning Plenary Session.

**Point of Procedure.** You use this for questioning parliamentary procedure. A delegate may interrupt debate by going to the procedural microphone and saying “Point of Procedure” and wait to be recognized. A sample point is “Is this not an amendment to an amendment?” or “Was a vote taken?”

**Need Information?** Have a question about the status of the Agenda, a business matter, procedures, etc.? Ask a member of the Planning Committee. They will be identifiable on the floor of the Assembly during each Plenary Session. When the Assembly is not in session, look for one of them at the GA Office.

**Do you have an amendment? Are you unhappy with wording?** Time constraints preclude more than two or three amendments to an item being considered in plenary. Preliminary work on agenda items is completed in the mini-assembly.

**Committee of the Whole**

When the Assembly is debating a particularly complex or difficult question (there may be two, three, or four alternate versions or ideas) the Moderator may decide, or a delegate may move, that the Assembly move into a “Committee of the Whole” to consider the subject. If done, the Rules of Procedure are eased and the Assembly now acts as a committee.

- A person other than the Moderator may occupy the Chair.
- Discussion may take place without motions.
- The only motions allowable are motions to amend, adopt, or reconsider.
- Non-binding straw votes may be taken.
- The formality of pro/con microphones is somewhat relaxed.
- You may speak only once on a topic in a discussion unless no one else wishes to speak.
- Time limits are relaxed or do not exist unless the “Committee” sets them.

Once the Committee of the Whole has decided what it wants to do, a delegate moves that the Committee of the Whole “rise and report” specifying the agreed-upon result. The Moderator takes the Chair, and the Plenary Session of the General Assembly is again in session. The motion formulated in the Committee is reported and vote is taken immediately, without debate or possibility of amendment.

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**To Get Your Questions Answered**

**Play Fair.** The guidelines that follow are not subterfuges for you to use to get around time limits. They are designed to make you more knowledgeable and effective.

**Point of Information.** Raise a point of information when you want to get information, not give it. A delegate may request “Point of Information” from any microphone. It’s exactly that: a request for information such as “On what are we voting?” or “What is the cost to the UUA of this motion?” Your question cannot be a statement, and no preface except your identification is permitted.

**Point of Personal Privilege.** Raise a point of personal privilege when your ability to do business is being hampered. Any delegate may request a Point of Personal Privilege. You go to the procedural microphone and say “Point of Personal Privilege” and wait to be recognized by the Moderator. After recognition, identify yourself and state your point (no statement, no argument or preface, just the bare request), such as “It is not possible to hear from the pro microphone” or “Our section was not counted.”
Agenda: Order of Business

Late arriving items may require rearrangement of the agenda as published.

Plenary I
Wednesday 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
7:00 Banner Parade
Welcome and Call to Order
Chalice Lighting
Welcoming New Congregations
Review and adopt rules for this General Assembly
Introductions:
• The General Assembly Planning Committee
• Youth Caucus and Young Adult Caucus Managers
• Right Relationships Team
President’s Report: The Rev. William G. Sinkford
8:30 Recess

Plenary II
Thursday 8:00 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.
8:00 Call to Order
Chalice Lighting and Worship
Welcome to UU University
8:45 Recess

Candidates Forum II followed by Plenary III
Friday 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
1:00 Candidates Forum
1:30 Call to Order
Chalice Lighting
Credentials (Paul Rickter)
Introduction to Breakthrough Congregations (Growth Team)
Breakthrough Congregation: First Unitarian Church of Des Moines, IA
Introduction of International Guests (Eric Cherry)
Description of GA Service Project
O. Eugene Pickett Award
Leadership Council Report (Kay Montgomery, Tim Brennan)
Journey Toward Wholeness Transformation Committee Report
UUA Financial Advisor’s Report (Dan Brody)
Socially Responsible Investing
Investment Committee Report
Budget Report (Lyn Conley)
Special Recognitions (Beth Graham and Bill Sinkford)
Offering for the Sinkford Fund and the President’s Freedom to Marry Fund
Song
Breakthrough Congregation: First Unitarian Church of Albuquerque, NM
Debate/Vote Statement of Conscience: Peacemaking
Announcements
5:00 Recess
**Agenda: Order of Business**

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**Plenary IV**  
**Saturday 8:45 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.**

8:45 Call to Order  
Chalice Lighting  
Report from the UUA Board  
(Trustees At Large)  
Presentation of the Distinguished Service Award  
Breakthrough Congregation Presentation:  
UU Church of Bloomington, Indiana  
Reports from Associate Member Organizations:  
UU Women’s Federation (LindaLu Burciaga)  
UU Service Committee (Charlie Clements)  
UU United Nations Office (Bruce Knotts)  
Motions to Admit Actions of Immediate Witness  
Announcements  
Worship  
10:30 Recess

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**Plenary V**  
**Saturday 1:15 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

1:15 Call to Order  
Chalice Lighting  
Breakthrough Congregation: UU Congregation of South County, Peace Dale, RI  
Update: Congregationally Based Community Organizing  
Song  
Debate and Vote on Bylaw Amendments: Article II  
Presentation of the Wilton Peace Prize  
3:00 Recess

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**Plenary VI**  
**Sunday 1:15 p.m. -5:30 p.m.**

1:15 Call to Order  
Chalice Lighting  
Reports:  
Youth Ministry  
(Bill Sinkford, Gini Courter)  
Beacon Press  
(Helene Atwan)  
Fifth Principle Task Force  
(Denny Davidoff)  
Green Sanctuaries Recognition  
Debate and Vote on Actions of Immediate Witness  
Announcements  
Song  
Moderator’s Report  
Recognizing the folks who made GA happen  
Responsive Resolutions (if any)  
Invitation to GA 2010 in Minneapolis  
Final credentials and announcements  
5:30 Adjournment
**RULE 1. ORDER OF BUSINESS**
Consideration of and action upon items must proceed in the order set forth in the Final Agenda unless during the meeting that order is changed by majority vote.

**RULE 2. MEANS OF VOTING**
So long as a quorum is present, action on any question, unless the Bylaws otherwise provide, will be decided in the first instance by an uncounted show of hands/voting cards. If the Moderator wishes a counted vote or if a delegate requests it and the Moderator determines that 99 other delegates join in the request, the vote must be counted. Except for Congregational Study/Action Issues (Rule 11), no vote will be taken by written ballot unless the delegates order a written ballot by a two-thirds vote. Provided a quorum is present at each Plenary Session, all matters submitted to a vote of the delegates will be determined by the number of votes cast by delegates present and voting on the matter. The required proportion of votes cast by delegates to approve any action or resolution will be as set forth in the Bylaws or Rules or these Rules of Procedure.

**RULE 3. MINUTES**
The Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees will approve the minutes of the General Assembly Plenary Sessions, which will be prepared by the Recording Secretary in consultation with Legal Counsel.

**RULE 4. PRESENTATION OF ITEMS**
The provisions of Rule 5 notwithstanding, the Planning Committee and/or the Commission on Social Witness will, at their discretion, move the item as printed on the Final Agenda or move an amended version of the item.

**RULE 5. AMENDMENTS**
Except for clarifying amendments, amendments to the main motion and motions to refer, table or to call the question will not be in order until there has been at least fifteen minutes of debate, if that much is needed, on the merits of the main question as moved. Amendments to a business resolution, a bylaw, a rule, or a proposed amendment must be submitted for consideration at the appropriate mini-assembly in order to be offered in the plenary session. No amendment or other change to any motion under consideration will be entertained unless it is submitted in writing on forms prescribed by the Moderator, who may, however, waive this requirement.

**RULE 6. TIME LIMITS**
The following time limits are imposed on all business transacted by the Assembly except as otherwise provided in these Rules for Actions of Immediate Witness, Study Action Issues and UUA Statement of Conscience. If, however, there is no objection from the floor, the Moderator may grant minor extensions of time. Any time limits imposed by this rule may be extended by a two-thirds vote.

- a) No person may speak on any motion for more than two minutes, and not more than once, so long as there are others who have not spoken who desire the floor, except that persons having special information may, with the permission of the Moderator, reply to questions.

- b) Thirty minutes is allowed for discussion of any proposed bylaw or rule amendment, resolution, or action on a report that is on or admitted to the Final Agenda. Whenever possible, the discussion time will be equally divided between proponents and opponents and by the alternate recognition of speakers at microphones designated Pro and Con.

- c) A motion to call the previous question on the main motion shall not be in order if there are potential speakers at both Pro and Con microphones and the original or extended time for discussion has not expired. A motion to call the previous question on a motion to amend the main motion is in order after 10 minutes of discussion concerning the amendment.

**RULE 7. MICROPHONES**

- a) Pro and Con Microphones. Usage of the microphones designated “Pro” or “Con” is limited to statements in support of or in opposition to motions.

- b) Amendment Microphone. Usage of the microphone designated “Amendment” is limited to presenters of motions and members of the Board of Trustees who may use the microphone only for:

  1) making an amendment to a main motion or another amendment, provided the motion is otherwise in order;
2) using such additional time remaining under Rule 6, if any, to speak in support of the amendment; and

3) stating the Board of Trustees’ position at the outset of debate on those items on the Final Agenda on which the Board takes a position.

c) Procedure Microphone. All other matters must be brought to the Procedure microphone.

**RULE 8. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

At any stage of the meeting, the Moderator, without a vote of the Assembly, at his or her discretion from time to time may order the meeting resolved into a Committee of the Whole or reconvened in regular Session. While the meeting is acting as a Committee of the Whole, the following Special Rule will apply:

The Presiding Officer, without a vote of the Committee of the Whole, may permit reconsideration of any action taken by the Committee of the Whole and other departures of the Rules of Parliamentary Procedure if it appears to him or her that the work of the Committee of the Whole will thereby be expedited.

When the General Assembly is reconvened, the only motion in order will be to adopt the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole. A motion recommended by the Committee of the Whole will not be subject to amendment, debate, or delay.

**RULE 9. BUDGET MOTION**

Any motion concerning the 2009 - 2010 budget that is to be made at the time provided for such motions during the formal business sessions must be filed in writing at the General Assembly Office not later than 5:00 p.m. Saturday. All such motions must provide for reductions in specific other categories of spending equivalent to the increase in spending recommended in the motion. Adoption of the motion requires a two-thirds vote.

**RULE 10. RESOLUTIONS AND ACTIONS NOT ON THE FINAL AGENDA**

A Resolution or Action not on the Final Agenda may be considered only under the following circumstances:

a) under Bylaw Section 4.16, which permits the addition of Actions of Immediate Witness to the Agenda and consideration of non-substantive resolutions;

b) under Bylaw Section 4.16(c), which permits the addition of Responsive Resolutions in response to a substantive portion of a report by an officer or committee reporting to the Assembly.

The author of a Responsive Resolutions must notify the Moderator of the title and content of their Responsive Resolution as soon as it is practical to do so. A resolution submitted to the Commission on Social Witness for consideration as an Action of Immediate Witness may not be submitted as a Responsive Resolution.

**RULE 11. CONGREGATIONAL STUDY/ACTION ISSUES**

Pursuant to Bylaw Section 4.12(a):

In a year in which Congregational Study/Action Issue(s) are proposed, up to five Congregational Study/Action Issues may be presented to the General Assembly. A sponsor of a Congregational Study/Action Issue determined by the Commission on Social Witness to be eligible for consideration will have two minutes to speak in support of obtaining the vote necessary to be selected as the Congregational Study/Action Issue referred for study. Following the presentation by the sponsors for all Congregational Study/Action Issues eligible for consideration, time will be provided for up to four additional statements of support for each Congregational Study/Action Issue. Persons wishing to speak shall use the microphone designated for the Congregational Study/Action Issue for which he/she advocates.

After debate concerning the proposed Congregational Study/Action Issues, a written ballot, prepared by the Commission on Social Witness, will be used to receive the vote of the delegates for which one of the Congregational Study/Action Issues will be referred
for study. The Congregational Study/Action Issue receiving the highest number of votes among all Congregational Study/Action Issues shall be referred for study providing, however, that if no Congregational Study/Action Issue receives a majority of the votes cast, then a second vote shall be taken between the two Issues receiving the highest number of votes cast in the initial election.

**RULE 12. UUA STATEMENT OF CONSCIENCE**

One hour will be allowed for debate.

The Commission on Social Witness may recommend for delegate approval by majority vote an amount of time for the Statement to be debated before amendments are in order. If no such recommendation is proposed and approved, no amendment shall be in order unless there has been at least 30 minutes of debate, if that much is needed, on the merits of the proposed UUA Statement of Conscience.

A motion to amend a proposed UUA Statement of Conscience is not in order in the Plenary Session unless it first was presented to a mini-assembly as described in Rule 4.12.4. Up to twelve minutes will be allowed for the debate of an amendment.

The Commission on Social Witness will have the discretion to prioritize the amendments including their presentation at the amendment microphone in Plenary.

**RULE 13. ACTIONS OF IMMEDIATE WITNESS**

a) The proposed Action of Immediate Witness must be in writing.

b) A copy for posting at the Commission on Social Witness booth must be delivered to the booth in the exhibit area no later than 5:00 p.m., Thursday, so that proposals may be made available for viewing prior to the filing deadline.

c) The copy to be filed must have attached signatures showing the requisite delegate support specified in Bylaw Section 4.16(b)(2) and must be filed with the Commission on Social Witness in the General Assembly Office by no later than 5:00 p.m. Friday.

d) The Commission on Social Witness may provide a summary of the Actions of Immediate Witness that meet the criteria for admission to the agenda during Friday morning’s plenary and seek a sense of the meeting.

e) Each sponsor of an Action of Immediate Witness determined by the Commission on Social Witness to be eligible to be considered for possible admission to the agenda under Bylaw Section 4.16(b) will have two minutes to speak in support of obtaining a vote supporting the admission of the action to the agenda.

f) The sponsor will move admission at a Plenary Session scheduled before vote on the action is to occur and when called upon to do so by the Moderator.

g) The motion to admit is not debatable and requires a two-thirds vote of support.

h) A motion to amend an Action of Immediate Witness is not in order in the Plenary Session unless it first was presented to a mini-assembly, as described in Bylaw Section 4.16(b)(4).

i) Twenty minutes will be allowed for debate, if needed, on each proposed Action of Immediate Witness. No amendment shall be in order unless there have been at least twelve minutes of debate, if that much is needed, on the merits of the proposed Action of Immediate Witness.

j) Debate and voting on adoption of an Action of Immediate Witness will occur during Plenary on Sunday morning. Adoption must be by two-thirds vote, as specified in Bylaw Section 4.16(b)(5).

**RULE 14. AMENDING THE RULES OF PROCEDURE**

These Rules of Procedure will be adopted by a two-thirds vote and may be amended, suspended, or repealed during the course of the Assembly only by a two-thirds vote, except for the preceding Rule 9, the amendment, suspension, or repeal of which requires a four-fifths vote.

**RULE 15. ADJOURNMENT**

The final business session of the 2009 General Assembly will be adjourned no later than 5:30 p.m., Sunday, June 28.
This Statement of Conscience responds to a multi-year study/action process in which the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations agreed to reflect on the following question: Should the Unitarian Universalist Association reject the use of any and all kinds of violence and war to resolve disputes between peoples and nations and adopt a principle of seeking just peace through nonviolent means?

We direct this Statement of Conscience primarily to the religious leaders, member congregations, individual members, and friends of the Unitarian Universalist Association. We offer it as a guide for advocacy and public witness, and as a pastoral resource for persons struggling with critical life decisions.

HISTORICAL AND THEOLOGICAL CONTEXT

This Statement of Conscience is grounded in the following Unitarian Universalist historical practices and theological principles.

A. Historical Practices

Throughout our history, some Unitarian Universalists have been pacifists who unconditionally opposed all wars, while others have opposed or supported specific wars on a selective basis. Many Unitarian Universalists have served honorably in the military.

In the 19th century, a substantial number of Unitarians and Universalists opposed the Mexican War but supported the Union in the Civil War. In the 20th century both denominations passed resolutions supporting both World Wars, though not without dissent. Since the 1961 formation of the Unitarian Universalist Association, we adopted resolutions opposing the Vietnam War, and many Unitarian Universalists have supported the use of military force for humanitarian purposes.

Our past practice has been to discern the appropriate response in particular circumstances. In this Statement of Conscience, we reject war as inconsistent with our theological principles and religious values, with the exceptions of self-defense and the use of force for humanitarian purposes.

B. Theological Principles

The fundamental unity and interdependence of all existence. The interdependence we have long affirmed has become the daily reality of our globalized world. Our interdependence makes it both possible and necessary that we see the peoples of the world as one community in which there is no Other to war against.

The transforming power of love. We affirm the reality of love as a dynamic relational power within and among us. This power moves us to create relationships of compassion, respect, mutuality and forgiveness; to love our neighbor; and to recognize everyone as our neighbor. Love of our neighbor is fundamentally incompatible with war.

The inherent worth and dignity of all persons. All human beings have the right to a meaningful and fulfilling life, including physical safety and economic and social well-being. War devalues human worth, restricting the possibilities for human fulfillment and denying the right to life itself.

Human freedom. Most human beings are free moral agents with the capacity to make choices and are accountable for these choices. Human freedom may be used creatively or destructively. These possibilities are expressed not only in our individual choices and actions, but also in the institutions and social structures we create. War is the product of human choices, restricting human agency and limiting the possibilities for human freedom.
Rejection of moral dualism. We reject as false the sharp separation of good and evil, assigning individuals and nations into one or the other category. Moral dualism can blind us to the potential for evil within ourselves and within our nation and to the inherent worth and dignity of those whom our nation labels as enemies. We affirm the reality of evil in the world but reject the assumption that war is the most effective response to evil.

Cooperative power. Power is created and expressed in complex networks of human relationships. Power can be used to create or destroy, to liberate or oppress. War is an expression of destructive power. Preventing war and creating nonviolent alternatives require the use of cooperative power—power with, not power over. Cooperative power is grounded in a commitment to mutual persuasion over coercion.

Justice and peace. Justice concerns the fair ordering of human relationships, including social and political relationships. War signals the breakdown of fairly ordered human relations; it is inherently unjust. Peace is an attribute of relationship; it is a process, not a stagnant state. Peace emerges as our social and political institutions become more cooperative and more just. Lasting peace rests on just relationships.

Humility and open-mindedness. We affirm an open-mindedness that makes us suspicious of all claims of finality, including our own. Humility, inherent in this open-mindedness, doesn’t prevent us from taking strong stands; but we must always remain open to the possibility that we are wrong or that future circumstances may call for a different position.

WHERE WE STAND

Pacifism and Just War. We reject war as an instrument of national foreign policy, except for self-defense and humanitarian purposes. Both the pacifist and just war traditions provide a basis for prophetic critique and nonviolent witness against war. Yet pacifist and just war approaches are applied inconsistently and are readily manipulated. We affirm and promote nonviolent measures to prevent war, while considering the right of conscience that calls some of us to choose conscientious objection and some of us to choose military service.

Moral responsibility. We affirm a moral responsibility to prevent war and to foster and advocate nonviolent means of responding to conflict. We hold that this responsibility is shared by the world community of nations.

Peace work. We support a multi-layered approach to the work of peace that includes: (a) peacekeeping – early intervention to prevent war, stop genocide, and monitor ceasefires; (b) peacemaking – mediating between hostile parties, negotiating equitable and sustainable peace agreements, and post-conflict rebuilding and reconciliation; and (c) peacebuilding – creating institutions and structures that address the roots of conflict, including economic exploitation, political marginalization, and lack of judicial accountability.

Just policing. We support the emerging model of just policing, which seeks to fulfill the peacekeeping responsibility by applying the concept of community policing to the international context.

Humanitarian intervention. We affirm the responsibility of the international community to protect persons from genocide and other crimes against humanity through limited armed intervention, but only when authorized by the United Nations.

Foreign policy and practice. We oppose the militarization of U.S. foreign policy and the practice of preventive war.

Right of individual conscience. We affirm the right of individual conscience. We advocate a range of individual choices, including military service and conscientious objection, as fully compatible with Unitarian Universalism. For those among us who make a formal commitment as conscientious objectors, we will offer documented certification, honor their commitment to nonviolence, and offer pastoral support. For those among us who make a formal commitment to military service, we will honor their commitment, welcome them home, and offer pastoral support.
A culture of peace. We advocate a culture of peace through a transformation of public policies, religious consciousness, and individual lifestyles. At the heart of this transformation is the readiness to honor the truths of multiple voices from a theology of covenant grounded in love.

CALLS TO ACTION

Peacemaking calls for action at all levels of human interaction. To be effective, our actions must be incorporated into existing structures and institutions, and new systems must be created.

International Peacemaking

We covenant to advocate vigorously for policies that move the United States toward collaborative leadership in building a peaceful, just, and sustainable world. These include:

• Supporting the Unitarian Universalist-United Nations Office in advancing the United Nations Millennium Development Goals, the Earth Charter, the International Criminal Court, the United Nations Convention Against Torture, and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

• Supporting the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee in ending the use of torture and addressing institutional and structural violence in all its forms;

• Supporting interfaith groups such as the Center on Conscience and War in advocating for the right of conscientious objection, including education and resources on the availability of this option; and

• Supporting the establishment of a national peace ministry network among Unitarian Universalists to identify resources, disseminate information, and revisit goals on peacemaking.

Societal Peacemaking

We covenant to act in the wider community in reducing the causes of institutional and structural violence. We do this through:

• Supporting the socially responsible investment of our Association and congregational assets;

• Supporting Association and congregational initiatives aimed at eradicating racism, classism, and all other forms of cultural and economic oppression; and

• Supporting Unitarian Universalist Ministry for Earth in advocating life styles and policies that promote harmony with our natural environment.

Congregational Peacemaking

We covenant to take up peacemaking as part of our mission through worship, religious education, and social action by:

• Developing Peace Teams to provide training in compassionate communication and conflict resolution and engage the congregation in multi-level action toward a culture of peace;

• Working through congregational governing bodies to develop and honor behavioral covenants in all aspects of congregational life;

• Working through our lifespan religious education structures to provide workshops on conflict resolution and compassionate communication, to encourage understanding and participation in social justice ventures, and to utilize Unitarian Universalist resources such as “Peacemaking in Congregations: A Guide to Learning Opportunities for All Ages;” and

• Becoming a peacemaking resource within our communities in cooperation with other faith traditions.

Interpersonal Peacemaking

As individuals we covenant to:

• Learn and practice the skills of compassionate communication;

• Honor the behavioral covenants of our congregations; and

• Adopt lifestyle changes that reflect reverence for the interdependent web of all existence.

Inner Peacemaking

We covenant to develop for ourselves and our congregations spiritual practices that cultivate inner peace. We covenant to sustain these practices as foundational to wholeness, forgiveness, and reconciliation.

In reverence for all life, we covenant to practice peace by minimizing violence at all levels of human interaction.
Proposed Bylaw Amendments

A proposal to amend a section of the Bylaws whose section number is preceded by a "C" must be placed on the agenda and approved by a majority vote at a regular General Assembly preceding the one at which it may be finally adopted. First-step approval requires a majority. Final adoption requires a two-thirds vote.

The following proposed changes to Article II of the Bylaws are a result of a process initiated when the Board of Trustees appointed the Commission on Appraisal to serve as the study commission referred to in Bylaw Section C-15.1(c)(4). The Commission on Appraisal subsequently proposed changes which have been amended by the Board of Trustees.

The Board of Trustees voted 25-0-0 to place these proposed bylaw changes on the agenda of the General Assembly for purposes of broad congregational discussion.

ARTICLE II: Covenant

Section C-2.1 Purposes.

This association of free yet interdependent congregations devotes its resources to and exercises its corporate powers for religious, educational, and humanitarian purposes. It supports the creation, vitality, and growth of congregations that aspire to live out the Unitarian Universalist Principles. Through public witness and advocacy, it advances the Principles in the world.

Section C-2.2. Sources.

Unitarian Universalism is rooted in two religious heritages. Both are grounded on thousands of years of Jewish and Christian teachings, traditions, and experiences. The Unitarian heritage has affirmed that we need not think alike to love alike and that God is one. The Universalist heritage has preached not hell but hope and courage, and the kindness and love of God. Contemporary Unitarian Universalists have reaped the benefits of a legacy of prophetic words and deeds.

Unitarian Universalism is not contained in any single book or creed. Its religious authority lies in the individual, nurtured and tested in the congregation and the wider world. As an evolving religion, it draws from the teachings, practices, and wisdom of the world’s religions. Humanism, earth-centered spiritual traditions, and Eastern religions have served as vital sources. Unitarian Universalism has been influenced by mysticism, theism, skepticism, naturalism, and process thought as well as feminist and liberation theologies. It is informed by direct experiences of mystery and wonder, beauty and joy. It is enriched by the creative power of the arts, the guidance of reason, and the lessons of the sciences.

Grateful for the traditions that have strengthened our own, we seek to engage cultural and religious practices in ways that call us into right relationship with all.

Section C-2.3 Principles.

Grateful for the gift of life, we commit ourselves as member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association to embody together the transforming power of love as we covenant to honor and uphold:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations;
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement of spiritual growth;
Proposed Bylaw Amendments

172  •  A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
173  •  The right of conscience and the use of democratic processes;
174  •  The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
175  •  Reverence for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

176  As free yet interdependent congregations, we enter into this covenant, pledging to one
177  another our mutual trust and support. Capable of both good and evil, at times we are in
178  need of forgiveness and reconciliation. When we fall short of living up to this covenant,
179  we will begin again in love, repair the relationship, and recommit to the promises we
180  have made.

181  Section C-2.4 Inclusion.
182  Systems of power, privilege, and oppression have traditionally created barriers for
183  persons and groups with particular identities, ages, abilities, and histories. We pledge to
184  do all we can to replace such barriers with ever-widening circles of solidarity and mutual
185  respect. We strive to be an association of congregations that truly welcome all persons
186  and commit to structuring congregational and associational life in ways that empower and
187  enhance everyone’s participation.

188  Section C-2.5 Freedom of Belief.
189  Congregational freedom is central to the Unitarian Universalist heritage.
190  Congregations may establish statements of purpose, covenants, and bonds of union so
191  long as they do not require a statement of belief as a creedal test for membership; nor
192  may the Association employ such a test for congregational affiliation.

The proposed text for Article II would replace the current Article II which is as follows:

ARTICLE II  Principles and Purposes

Section C-2.1. Principles.
We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to
affirm and promote:

-  The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
-  Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
-  Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our
  congregations;
-  A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
-  The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our
  congregations and in society at large;
-  The goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all;
-  Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

The living tradition which we share draws from many sources:

-  Direct experience of that transcending mystery and wonder, affirmed in all
  cultures, which moves us to a renewal of the spirit and an openness to the forces
  which create and uphold life;
-  Words and deeds of prophetic women and men which challenge us to confront
  powers and structures of evil with justice, compassion and the transforming power
Proposed Bylaw Amendments

212 of love;
213 • Wisdom from the world’s religions which inspires us in our ethical and spiritual
214 life;
215 • Jewish and Christian teachings which call us to respond to God’s love by loving
216 our neighbors as ourselves;
217 • Humanist teachings which counsel us to heed the guidance of reason and the
218 results of science, and warn us against idolatries of the mind and spirit;
219 • Spiritual teachings of Earth-centered traditions which celebrate the sacred circle
220 of life and instruct us to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature.

221 Grateful for the religious pluralism which enriches and ennobles our faith, we are
222 inspired to deepen our understanding and expand our vision. As free congregations we
223 enter into this covenant, promising to one another our mutual trust and support.

Section C-2.2. Purposes.

224 The Unitarian Universalist Association shall devote its resources to and exercise its
225 corporate powers for religious, educational and humanitarian purposes. The primary
226 purpose of the Association is to serve the needs of its member congregations, organize
227 new congregations, extend and strengthen Unitarian Universalist institutions and
228 implement its principles.

Section C-2.3. Non-discrimination.

231 The Association declares and affirms its special responsibility, and that of its member
232 congregations and organizations, to promote the full participation of persons in all of its
233 and their activities and in the full range of human endeavor without regard to race,
234 ethnicity, gender, disability, affectional or sexual orientation, age, language, citizenship
235 status, economic status, or national origin and without requiring adherence to any
236 particular interpretation of religion or to any particular religious belief or creed.

Section C-2.4. Freedom of Belief.

237 Nothing herein shall be deemed to infringe upon the individual freedom of belief which is
238 inherent in the Universalist and Unitarian heritages or to conflict with any statement of
239 purpose, covenant, or bond of union used by any congregation unless such is used as a
240 creedal test.
Proposed Bylaw Amendments for the 2010 General Assembly

underlining = insertion; brackets = deletion

The Board of Trustees passed a motion to place bylaws changes related to the election of President and Moderator on the 2010 agenda. The text of these proposed changes are being included in the 2009 Agenda Book for the purpose of broad congregational discussion. This proposed Bylaw change will not be voted on until the 2010 General Assembly.

Section 5.1. Committees of the Association.
The standing committees of the Association shall be:
(a) the Nominating Committee;
(b) the Presidential Search Committee;
(c) the General Assembly Planning Committee;
(d) the Commission on Appraisal;
(e) the Commission on Social Witness; and
(f) the Board of Review.

Section 5.2. Election and Terms of Office.
Elected members of all Section 5.1 committees shall take office at the close of the General Assembly at which they are elected and shall serve until their successors are elected and qualified except as otherwise provided herein.

One-half as nearly as possible of the elected members of the General Assembly Planning Committee and the Commission on Social Witness shall be elected at the regular General Assembly held in each odd-numbered year. The elected members of the General Assembly Planning Committee and the Commission on Social Witness shall serve for terms of four years. One-third of the members of the Nominating Committee and the Commission on Appraisal shall be elected at the regular General Assembly held in each odd-numbered year. The elected members of the Nominating Committee and the Commission on Appraisal shall serve for single terms of six years. Any member of the Nominating Committee or the Commission on Appraisal in office for a period of more than three years shall be deemed to have completed a six-year term for the purposes of re-election. The elected members of the Presidential Search Committee shall be elected at the regular General Assembly held four years before the General Assembly at which there is to be a presidential election at the expiration of a President’s term. The elected members of the Presidential Search Committee shall serve for terms of six years.
Section 5.7. Presidential Search Committee.  
The Presidential Search Committee shall consist of five members elected by the General Assembly, one member appointed by the Unitarian Universalist Ministers Association and one member appointed by the Board of Trustees. The election and appointment of members shall occur at the regular General Assembly held four years before the General Assembly at which there is to be a presidential election at the expiration of a President’s term. Each appointment and election of a member shall be for a term of six years. The Committee shall nominate candidates for the office of President.

Section 8.3. Term of Office.  
(a) Elected Officers. The elected officers shall be elected at a regular General Assembly in an odd-numbered year and shall take office immediately after the close of such General Assembly.  
(1) President. The President shall serve for a term of six years and until his or her successor is elected and qualified. No President shall serve more than one term; and any partial term of more than two years served by reason of appointment and/or election to office pursuant to subsection 8.7(a) below shall be considered a full term for purposes of this subsection.

(2) Moderator [and Financial Advisor]. The Moderator [and Financial Advisor] shall [each] serve for a term of six years and until his or her successor is elected and qualified. No Moderator [or Financial Advisor] shall serve more than one term; and any partial term of more than two years served by reason of appointment and/or election to office pursuant to subsection 8.7(a) below shall be considered a full term for purposes of this subsection.

(3) Financial Advisor. The Financial Advisor shall serve for a term of four years and until his or her successor is elected and qualified. No Financial Advisor shall serve more than two successive terms; and any partial term of more than two years served by reason of appointment and/or election to office pursuant to subsection 8.7(a) below shall be considered a full term for purposes of this subsection.

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

Section 9.4. Nomination by Nominating Committee.  
The Nominating Committee shall submit one or more nominations for each elective position at large to be filled, except Moderator and President, including those to fill any vacancies occurring prior to October 1 of the year before the election. Only one person from any one member congregation shall be thus nominated to serve on the Nominating Committee. The report of the Nominating Committee shall be filed with the Secretary of the Association and be mailed to all certified member congregations, associate member organizations, and trustees on or before December 10 of each even-numbered year.
Section 9.5. Nomination of President and Moderator.

(a) President. The Presidential Search Committee shall submit no fewer than two nominations for the office of President for an election at the end of a presidential term or when a vacancy occurs in the office prior to October of the year before the election. The report of the Presidential Search Committee shall be announced at the General Assembly held one year before the General Assembly at which there is to be a presidential election, except in the case of an election to fill a vacancy occurring after that date.

(b) Moderator. The Board of Trustees shall submit one or more nominations for the office of Moderator for an election at the end of a moderator term or when a vacancy occurs in the office prior to October of the year before the election. The report of the Board of Trustees shall be announced at the General Assembly held one year before the General Assembly at which there is to be a moderator election, except in the case of an election to fill a vacancy occurring after that date.


(a) For Moderator and President. A nomination for the office of Moderator or President, or to fill a vacancy in an unexpired term occurring prior to December 1 of the year before the election shall, may be by petition signed by no fewer than twenty-five certified member congregations, including no fewer than five certified member congregations located in each of no fewer than five different districts. A certified member congregation may authorize the signing of a petition only by vote of its governing board or by vote at a duly called meeting of its members. Such a petition shall be filed with the Secretary of the Association, only in such form as the Secretary may prescribe, not later than February 1 of the year of the election and not earlier than the preceding March 1. [If no valid and timely nomination is made by certified member congregations, the Board of Trustees shall nominate one or more candidates for the office.]

(b) For Other Elective Positions at Large. A nomination for any other elective position at large or to fill a vacancy in an unexpired term occurring prior to December 1 of the year before the election may be by petition signed by not less than fifty members of certified member congregations, with no more than ten signatures of members of any one congregation counted toward the required fifty. A separate petition, in form prescribed by the Secretary, shall be filed for each nomination not later than February 1 of the year of the election and not earlier than the preceding October 1. Nominations for youth trustee at large shall be so designated.
The Candidates are presented in order that they will appear on the ballot, determined by random drawing.

PRESIDENT

One position; four-year term

The Rev. Dr. Laurel Hallman
First Unitarian Church, Dallas, Texas

I am proud to be a candidate for president of the UUA because I have enormous faith in Unitarian Universalism and its transformative future. My years of interfaith and community organizing work have prepared me to lead us into an era of greater diversity and greater effectiveness. I know how to help people of differing backgrounds and histories find the common ground of our free faith, and I know how to effect lasting social change through the power of organized communities of faith. My years of experience at every level of congregational life—from church administrator to religious educator to congregational minister to community leader—have given me the deep knowledge of what our congregations need to grow and to flourish. I know how to empower people to use their gifts in the service of religious community, to work in solidarity with others for social justice, and to joyfully answer the call to professional religious life. My years as a primary fundraiser and steward have given me the opportunity to help others develop an attitude of abundance. I know how to encourage people and congregations to help us build a solid financial foundation for our progressive faith. I promise that I will always remember that we are first and foremost a religious association of congregations bound together by covenant. I promise that I will be faithful, not only to who we are today, but to who we must be tomorrow—a broad, inclusive religious faith that calls all of us to depth and meaning each day of our lives.

www.hallmanforuuapresident.com

The Rev. Peter Morales
Jefferson Unitarian Church, Golden, Colorado

Peter is senior minister at Jefferson Unitarian Church in Golden, Colo. He is the UUA’s former director of district services. Peter served on the UUA Board as the trustee from the Mountain Desert District. He also served on the UUMA Executive Committee as the first person to carry the new anti-racism, anti-oppression, multiculturalism portfolio. Before entering the ministry he owned and published community newspapers in Oregon. He was a Knight International Press Fellow in Peru and is a former Fulbright Lecturer in American Studies in Spain. Peter and Phyllis Windrem Morales have been married 41 years. He is a former newspaper editor and publisher. As a minister, he has stood at the steps of the Colorado Capitol with the governor and religious leaders speaking out on immigration policy. Peter is bilingual and bicultural. He has lived in Mexico, Peru, Spain, and Canada. He brings a deep understanding of and commitment to multiculturalism, anti-racism and anti-oppression. Peter has not only led one of our fastest growing congregations, he has been a national leader in growth efforts that are practical, effective, and congregationally based. He and members of his congregation produced the “Ideas for Growth” training DVD used all over the country. Peter believes that we must grow our faith. This is a moral imperative, the moral equivalent of feeding the hungry and housing the homeless. Together we can grow our faith one relationship at a time, one Sunday at a time, in every single congregation.

www.moralesforuuapresident.org

MODERATOR

One position; four-year term

Gini Courter
UU Congregation of Grand Traverse, Traverse City, MI
Church of the Larger Fellowship

Gini Courter has served our congregations as moderator since October 2003. She is seeking a second four-year term. The moderator is the chief governance officer of the Association. The moderator presides over the General Assembly, chairs the UUA Board of Trustees, and promotes the welfare of the Association. Gini is a member of two congregations: the UU Congregation of Grand Traverse in Traverse City, Mich., and the Church of the Larger Fellowship. You’ll find Gini’s blog at http://just-gini.blogspot.com.

FINANCIAL ADVISOR

One position; four-year term

Daniel Brody
First Unitarian Society, Newton, MA

I am chief financial officer of a non-profit start-up, The Boston Museum. Holding this part-time job permits me to devote a considerable amount of time, including many weekday meetings, to my service as UUA financial advisor. I previously served as chief financial officer for the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, and as deputy state budget director for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. I have a bachelor’s degree from Harvard and a master’s degree in city planning from the University of California at Berkeley. I’ve been a member of the First Unitarian Society in Newton for 15 years, and have served on its Board of Investment and its planned giving committee. In the remaining years of my service, I will work with the new president and the Board of Trustees to address the following topics: mitigating the impact of the recession on UUA programs and services; endowment spending policy; options for funding the cost of future capital campaigns; continued improvements to UUA financial reporting; accounting for unrestricted gift and bequest income; the role of the Liberal Religious Charitable Society and other organizations that hold funds to benefit the UUA; conflict of interest and whistleblower policies; management of debt, cash, and short-term investments; facilities renewal policies.
Slate of Candidates for UUA Election

BOARD OF REVIEW
Two positions open; eight-year term

The Rev. W. Frederick Wooden
Fountain Street Church (non-UUA),
Grand Rapids, MI
Foremost, I wish to serve. This liberal religious body formed me, back to my great grandmother, and it has given me a place to live out my gifts as a clergy person. As a clergy person for almost 30 years I know we clergy are only human, but we are also truly accountable. Compassion and justice are both to be honored in the work of the Board of Review.

Allison Claire
UU Community Church, Sacramento, CA
I grew up in New England and moved to California more than 25 years ago as a young political activist. Professionally, I am a public defender who represents death-row inmates in federal court. Religiously, I am a UU with Christian roots and Buddhist leanings who practices earth-based spirituality. Demographically, I am a middle-aged white lesbian. I live with my partner and our 11-year-old triplets in Sacramento, Calif. I bring to this position equally strong and passionately held commitments to (1) high standards for the performance and conduct of our clergy and credentialed religious educators, and (2) procedural fairness and respect for the inherent worth and dignity of individuals, including those accused of misconduct.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES (AT LARGE)
Two positions open; four-year term

Charlie King
First Unitarian Congregational Society,
Brooklyn, NY
Since first experiencing the denomination-wide energy of our movement at 1957 UUA May Meetings, I have witnessed peaks and valleys of our faith in times of sorrow and gladness—elation surrounding the Black Affairs Council and sadness at its abandonment; joy in advancement of women’s and GLBT rights; unending struggle against racism, classism, ableism, economic injustice and denial of human rights. I hope to devote my second term in doing all that I can to collaboratively achieve excellence in ministry, growth in congregations and membership, better governance and stewardship at all levels, more democratic and inclusive procedures, humility in relations with all faiths and spiritual inspiration to help us achieve the beloved community.

The Rev. Jeanne M. Pupke
First UU Church, Richmond, VA
Jeanne is the senior minister at First Unitarian Universalist Church in Richmond, Va. Jeanne is known for her emphasis on building up organizations. She leads a staff team that serves 550 members, 75 friends, and 155 children and youth. Jeanne is a graduate of Meadville Lombard Theological School and served as consulting minister to our church in Bend, Ore., and growth minister for the Pacific Northwest District. She comes to ministry after a career in business as a CEO in the automotive industry and a COO of a coffee company in Olympia, Wash.

COMMISSION ON SOCIAL WITNESS
Two positions open; four-year term

David May
Emerson UU Church, Houston, TX
Current chair, Commission on Social Witness; researched and initially compiled The Real Rules—Congregations and IRS Guidelines on Advocacy, Lobbying, and Elections for the UUA; past president of congregations in Texas and Colorado; past chair of outreach, public relations, and personnel committees; manager of UU public radio announcements in Houston; life-long UU. I strongly support the UUA Bylaw amendments of 2006, which now allow a Congregational Study/Action Issue to be considered for four years, instead of two. As the current chair of the Commission on Social Witness, my goal is to continue to make the social witness process more useful to congregations by assisting their members in practicing what they learn in that process with their families, churches, neighborhoods, and the world. We must change our own daily behavior first, before we can change the world.

The Rev. Heather Starr
UU Fellowship of Central Oregon, Bend, OR
A lifelong Unitarian Universalist now in the Pacific Northwest and connected with congregations en route in Philadelphia; Duluth and Virginia, Minn.; Oakland, Calif.; Portland, Ore.; Twin Falls, Idaho; and the Church of the Larger and Younger Fellowships. Leadership positions include: Interfaith Network of Central Oregon (Program Committee co-chair), Women’s Clergy Group of Central Oregon (coordinator), Pacific Northwest UUMA (secretary). Chaplained twice for UU Young Adult Conferences Opus/Concentric, has participated in six GAs. In addition to being a parish minister, worked for restaurants/coffee shops, Kelly Writers House (University of Pennsylvania), multiple hospitals (hospital chaplain), Basic Rights Oregon (GLBT equality). I am particularly interested in how to bring the collaborative, passionate, intergenerational work that is done at General Assembly out to our congregations.

2009 General Assembly
The Rev. Nana Kratochvil
All Souls Community Church of Western Michigan, Grand Rapids, MI
In 1977 I discovered Unitarian Universalism in Jackson, Miss. During my 15 years of membership there I served in several leadership positions, including president of the Mid-South District. Called to ministry, I attended and graduated from Meadville Lombard Theological School, then served Harbor Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Muskegon, Mich., for 13 years. I served both the Michigan District and its successor, Heartland, on committees and the board of trustees. I am now completing a term as president of Heartland. I look forward to continue serving this faith on the Commission on Appraisal.

Megan Dowdell
First Parish Church in Beverly, MA
Megan is proud to have served a two-year appointment on the Commission on Appraisal. She is equally thrilled to be nominated to continue to serve UU congregations in this capacity for the next six years. Her previous UUA volunteer leadership includes co-convening the UUA Consultation on Youth Ministry and serving as youth Trustee-at-Large on the UUA Board. Megan currently lives in Oakland, Calif., and studies Ethics and Social Theory at the Graduate Theological Union. Megan strongly encourages her fellow elected UUA leaders to infuse antiracism and anti-oppression in their group process, include youth and young adult UUs at every stage of their work, and make UUA volunteer leadership more economically accessible for all.

Erica Baron
UU Church of Rutland, VT
UU Fellowship of Bennington, VT
I began my journey as a UU in the First UU Society of Burlington, Vt., at age 1. I've been active in large, small, and mid-size UU congregations and experienced Unitarianism in Ireland for a year. I have a master of divinity degree from Andover Newton Theological School, and I currently serve as the minister of the UU congregations of Rutland and Bennington, Vt. I have been involved in leadership in various congregations, been active in various ways in districts in which I’ve lived and worked, and I have taught Leadership School. I bring an ability to think analytically and theologically and to connect this work with the everyday lived experience of faith.

The Rev. James Hobart
First Unitarian Church, Chicago, IL
Nominating Committee
One position open; four-year term

The Rev. Darrick Jackson
UU Church, Meriden, CT
The Rev. Darrick Jackson is a member of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Meriden, Conn. He was previously a member of both Arlington Street Church in Boston the Church of the Younger Fellowship. Darrick has been very involved on a local, district and continental level, particularly with youth and young adult communities. He looks forward to building on the connections that he has made over the years, and forging new ones, to help develop the leadership base of our denomination.

Leon Spencer
UU Fellowship, Statesboro, GA
Dr. Leon Spencer is an active UU layman and a professor of counseling at Georgia Southern University. He was honored at the 2007 GA with the Award for Distinguished Service to the Cause of Unitarian Universalism, the denomination's highest honor, recognizing his volunteer work, which has spanned four decades. From organizing UU expatriates living in Europe in the 1970s, to creating and coordinating anti-racism and anti-oppression workshops for UU congregations in the 1980s, to providing leadership at congregational, district, and denominational levels in the 1990s and 2000s, he has lived the ideals of Unitarian Universalism.

The Rev. Nana Kratochvil
All Souls Community Church of Western Michigan, Grand Rapids, MI
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UU Church of Rutland, VT
UU Fellowship of Bennington, VT
I began my journey as a UU in the First UU Society of Burlington, Vt., at age 1. I’ve been active in large, small, and mid-size UU congregations and experienced Unitarianism in Ireland for a year. I have a master of divinity degree from Andover Newton Theological School, and I currently serve as the minister of the UU congregations of Rutland and Bennington, Vt. I have been involved in leadership in various congregations, been active in various ways in districts in which I’ve lived and worked, and I have taught Leadership School. I bring an ability to think analytically and theologically and to connect this work with the everyday lived experience of faith.

The Rev. James Hobart
First Unitarian Church, Chicago, IL
Nominating Committee
One position open; four-year term

The Rev. Darrick Jackson
UU Church, Meriden, CT
The Rev. Darrick Jackson is a member of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Meriden, Conn. He was previously a member of both Arlington Street Church in Boston the Church of the Younger Fellowship. Darrick has been very involved on a local, district and continental level, particularly with youth and young adult communities. He looks forward to building on the connections that he has made over the years, and forging new ones, to help develop the leadership base of our denomination.

Leon Spencer
UU Fellowship, Statesboro, GA
Dr. Leon Spencer is an active UU layman and a professor of counseling at Georgia Southern University. He was honored at the 2007 GA with the Award for Distinguished Service to the Cause of Unitarian Universalism, the denomination’s highest honor, recognizing his volunteer work, which has spanned four decades. From organizing UU expatriates living in Europe in the 1970s, to creating and coordinating anti-racism and anti-oppression workshops for UU congregations in the 1980s, to providing leadership at congregational, district, and denominational levels in the 1990s and 2000s, he has lived the ideals of Unitarian Universalism.

The Rev. Nana Kratochvil
All Souls Community Church of Western Michigan, Grand Rapids, MI
In 1977 I discovered Unitarian Universalism in Jackson, Miss. During my 15 years of membership there I served in several leadership positions, including president of the Mid-South District. Called to ministry, I attended and graduated from Meadville Lombard Theological School, then served Harbor Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Muskegon, Mich., for 13 years. I served both the Michigan District and its successor, Heartland, on committees and the board of trustees. I am now completing a term as president of Heartland. I look forward to continue serving this faith on the Commission on Appraisal.

Megan Dowdell
First Parish Church in Beverly, MA
Megan is proud to have served a two-year appointment on the Commission on Appraisal. She is equally thrilled to be nominated to continue to serve UU congregations in this capacity for the next six years. Her previous UUA volunteer leadership includes co-convening the UUA Consultation on Youth Ministry and serving as youth Trustee-at-Large on the UUA Board. Megan currently lives in Oakland, Calif., and studies Ethics and Social Theory at the Graduate Theological Union. Megan strongly encourages her fellow elected UUA leaders to infuse antiracism and anti-oppression in their group process, include youth and young adult UUs at every stage of their work, and make UUA volunteer leadership more economically accessible for all.

Erica Baron
UU Church of Rutland, VT
UU Fellowship of Bennington, VT
I began my journey as a UU in the First UU Society of Burlington, Vt., at age 1. I’ve been active in large, small, and mid-size UU congregations and experienced Unitarianism in Ireland for a year. I have a master of divinity degree from Andover Newton Theological School, and I currently serve as the minister of the UU congregations of Rutland and Bennington, Vt. I have been involved in leadership in various congregations, been active in various ways in districts in which I’ve lived and worked, and I have taught Leadership School. I bring an ability to think analytically and theologically and to connect this work with the everyday lived experience of faith.
UUA BYLAWS

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ARTICLE I  Name

Section C-1.1. Name.

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

ARTICLE II  Principles and Purposes

Section C-2.1. Principles.

We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote

1. The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
2. Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
3. Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual and moral growth in our congregations;
4. A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
5. The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
6. The goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all;
7. Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

The living tradition which we share draws from many sources:

1. The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
2. The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
3. A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
4. The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
5. The goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all;
6. Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

The Association declares and affirms its special responsibility, and its autonomous, self-governing local churches and fellowships, referred to herein as member congregations, which have freely chosen to pursue common goals together.

Section C-2.2. Purposes.

The Unitarian Universalist Association shall devote its resources to

1. And exercise its corporate powers for religious, educational and other purposes consistent with its declared purposes and in furtherance of the principles herein described;
2. Observing and upholding the rights of every individual, within its own organization, and in its relations with other bodies;
3. Advocating the free and responsible search for truth and meaning, the inherent worth and dignity of every person, and justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
4. Accepting the ethical teachings of Earth-centered traditions which celebrate the sacred circle of life and instruct us to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature.
5. Making full participation of persons in all of its and their activities and in the full range of human endeavor without regard to race, ethnicity, gender, disability, affectional or sexual orientation, age, language, citizenship status, economic status, or national origin, and without requiring adherence to any particular interpretation of religion or to any particular religious belief or creed.

Section C-2.3. Non-discrimination.

The Association declares and affirms its special responsibility, and that of its member congregations and organizations, to promote the full participation of persons in all of its and their activities and in the full range of human endeavor without regard to race, ethnicity, gender, disability, affectional or sexual orientation, age, language, citizenship status, economic status, or national origin, and without requiring adherence to any particular interpretation of religion or to any particular religious belief or creed.

Section C-2.4. Freedom of Belief.

Nothing herein shall be deemed to infringe upon the individual freedom of belief which is inherent in the Universalist and Unitarian heritages or to conflict with any statement of purpose, covenant, or bond of union used by any congregation unless such is used as a creedal test.

ARTICLE III  Membership

Section C-3.1. Member Congregations.

The Unitarian Universalist Association is a voluntary association of autonomous, self-governing local churches and fellowships, referred to herein as member congregations, which have freely chosen to pursue common goals together.

Section C-3.2. Congregational Polity.

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

Section C-3.3. Admission to Membership.

A church or fellowship may become a member congregation upon acceptance by the Board of Trustees of the Association of its written application for membership in which it subscribes to the principles of and pledges to support the Association. The Board of Trustees shall adopt rules to carry out the intent of this Section.

Section C-3.4. Church of the Larger Fellowship.

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

Section C-3.5. Certification of Membership.

A member congregation shall be recognized as certified during the fiscal year of the Association in which it establishes that it:

1. Conducted regular religious services;
2. Made a financial contribution to the Association;
3. Is a member congregation which is not considered to be located in any particular district.

A member congregation shall also be considered to be certified for the part of the fiscal year in which it established its certification for the first time, or for any subsequent fiscal year in which it established its certification for the first time.

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

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

UUA Bylaws: 1
**Section C-3.6. Termination of Membership.**

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

(a) the local congregation in question, whenever possible;
(b) the President of the district in which the congregation is located or such other authorized official as the district designates in writing to the Association; and
(c) the trustee representing the district in which the congregation is located.

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

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

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

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

The Board of Trustees may admit to affiliated status those independently constituted and operated organizations whose purposes and intentions it finds to be in sympathy with the principles of the Association, and may terminate such status upon finding that the organization no longer meets the foregoing qualifications or is not in compliance with the rules relating to such organizations. The status granted is that of independent affiliate.

The Board of Trustees shall adopt rules governing the requirements for admission to and retention of affiliated status. The requirements shall include financial support of the Association any major organization whose membership or constituency consists of individuals located throughout the Association any major organization whose membership or constituency consists of individuals located throughout the Association and whose purposes and programs it finds to be auxiliary to and supportive of the principles of the Association and which pledges itself to support the Association. The Board of Trustees may admit to affiliated status those independently constituted and operated organizations whose purposes and intentions it finds to be in sympathy with the principles of the Association, and may terminate such status upon finding that the organization no longer meets the foregoing qualifications or is not in compliance with the rules relating to such organizations. The status granted is that of independent affiliate.

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

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

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

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

**ARTICLE IV General Assembly**

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

Each meeting of the Association for the conduct of business shall be called a General Assembly.
Section C-4.9. Accreditation of Delegates.

The Board of Trustees shall make rules for the accreditation of delegates and voting procedures. Such rules may include the following requirements of payment of a registration fee, a travel fund fee, or any other fee or requirements shall not apply to the right to cast a ballot for any delegate and voting procedures. Such rules may include the following requirements:

- A certified member congregation is entitled to be represented at each General Assembly by any minister emeritus or minister emerita of such congregation in ministerial fellowship with the Association and by any director of religious education who has been previously employed in such congregation.
- Each certified member congregation is entitled to be represented at each General Assembly by two delegates who are members of a certified congregation.

Section C-4.10. Quorum.

Not less than 300 accredited delegates representing not less than 100 certified member congregations located in not less than 10 states or provinces shall constitute a quorum at any regular or special General Assembly.

Section C-4.11. Tentative Agenda for Regular General Assemblies.

The General Assembly Planning Committee shall prepare a Tentative Agenda for each regular General Assembly which shall include:

- Reports and other matters required by these Bylaws to be submitted to the General Assembly;
- Proposed amendments to these Bylaws which are submitted as prescribed in Article XIV, Section 14.2;
- Items referred by the preceding General Assembly;
- Business Resolutions and proposed amendments to Bylaws and Rules submitted by the Commission on Appraisal;
- All proposed amendments to Rules and all Business Resolutions as defined in Rule G-4.18.2, submitted by:
  - The Board of Trustees or the Executive Committee;
  - Not less than fifteen certified member congregations by action of their governing boards or their congregations; or
  - A petition by not less than 250 members of any one member congregation counted as part of the 250;
- Proposed amendments to Rules and Business Resolutions submitted by a district by official action at a duly called meeting at which a quorum is present but not in excess of three Business Resolutions per district; and

Proposed Congregational Study/Action Issues submitted by the Commission on Social Witness pursuant to Section 4.12(a).

Resolutions submitted under (d), (e)(2), (e)(3) and (f) must be received by the Planning Committee by February 1 whenever the regular General Assembly opens in June. If the General Assembly opens in a month other than June, the Business Resolutions submitted under (d), (e)(2), (e)(3) and (f) must be received no later than 110 days before the date set for the opening of that General Assembly. The UUA Statements of Conscience process deadlines are established by Sections 4.12(a) and (c) and by the Board of Trustees pursuant to Section 4.13 whenever one or more regular General Assembly is scheduled to begin in a month other than June. The Planning Committee shall include on the Tentative Agenda all items so submitted. It may submit alternative versions of Business Resolutions in addition to the original ones submitted if in its judgment such alternatives clarify the resolutions and may make such changes in the Business Resolutions as are necessary to make each conform to a standard format. It may also submit one or more alternative versions for the purpose of combining two or more Business Resolutions. Adoption of Business Resolutions by a General Assembly shall be by two-thirds vote. The Tentative Agenda shall be mailed to each member congregation, associate member organization and trustee by March 1 if the General Assembly opens in June, otherwise, not less than 90 days before the opening of the General Assembly.

Section C-4.12. UUA Statements of Conscience.

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

1. Each member congregation, district, and sponsored organization (as designated by the Board of Trustees), may submit to the Commission on Social Witness by October 1 in the year preceding a General Assembly one proposed Congregational Study/Action Issue, such proposal Congregational Study/Action Issue to be approved at a duly called meeting of its members or its governing board at which a quorum is present. This commences the process of a four year UUA Statement of Conscience cycle ("the Cycle"). A Cycle year ends at the close of General Assembly.

2. The Commission on Social Witness shall by November 1 of that year submit to the Planning Committee for inclusion on the Tentative Agenda of the regular General Assembly not more than ten proposed Congregational Study/Action Issues, each of which shall be based in whole or in part on the issues submitted to it as described in the previous subsection. The Commission on Social Witness shall verify with the proposing congregation, district, or sponsored organization that the proposed Study/Action Issue reflects the intent of the proposer prior to being included in the poll ballot. The ten proposed Congregational Study/Action Issues shall be included for approval by the congregations on the Congregational Poll ballot, such ballot to be available and congregations notified of its availability by November 15 of the same year.
(b) Second Cycle Year

(1) Member congregations and the districts shall submit by not later than March 1 of the second Cycle year comments regarding the Congregational Study/Action Issue and the related resource guide to the Commission on Social Witness.

(2) During the meeting of the General Assembly in the second Cycle year, the Commission on Social Witness shall conduct workshops on the Congregational Study/Action Issue. Following the General Assembly, the Commission on Social Witness shall then compose a draft UUA Statement of Conscience.

(c) Third Cycle Year

(1) Member congregations and the districts shall submit by not later than March 1 of the third Cycle year comments concerning the draft UUA Statement of Conscience and the related resource guide to the Commission on Social Witness.

(2) The draft UUA Statement of Conscience shall then compose a draft UUA Statement of Conscience taking into consideration comments received by the member congregations and districts and place this revised draft on the Final Agenda of the General Assembly.

(d) Fourth Cycle Year

(1) If the draft UUA Statement of Conscience is placed on the Final Agenda for the next regular meeting of the General Assembly, then the next General Assembly must debate and vote on the proposed UUA Statement of Conscience. Adoption of the UUA Statement of Conscience shall require a two-thirds vote.

(2) If (i) the proposed UUA Statement of Conscience is not placed on the Final Agenda for the next regular meeting of the General Assembly; or (ii) the General Assembly chooses, by a two-thirds vote, to refer the proposed UUA Statement of Conscience to the Commission on Social Witness for one additional year of study/action, then the Commission of Social Witness shall continue the study and revision of the proposed UUA Statement of Conscience for one more year. The revised UUA Statement of Conscience may be placed on the Final Agenda for the next regular meeting of the General Assembly pursuant to subsections (c)(3), (c)(4) and (c)(5) above. If by the regular meeting of the General Assembly following the additional year the Commission on Social Witness has been unable to find support to generate an acceptable UUA Statement of Conscience, the Congregational Study/Action Issue may be placed on the

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


The Planning Committee shall prepare a Final Agenda for each General Assembly which shall include:

1. all reports and other matters required by these Bylaws to be submitted to the General Assembly and all proposed amendments to Bylaws and Rules appearing on the Tentative Agenda that meet the requirements of Rule G-4.18.3;
2. those Business Resolutions, including alternative versions, on the Tentative Agenda which meet the requirements of Rule G-4.18.3;
3. Business Resolutions, amendments to Rules or Bylaws or other items submitted by the Planning Committee, the Board of Trustees or the Executive Committee, which did not originally appear on the Tentative Agenda, provided, however, that any such items appear on the Final Agenda accompanied by an explanation for the delayed submission;
4. additional proposed amendments to Bylaws submitted by the Commission on Appraisal;
5. those proposed Congregational Study/Action Issues on the Tentative Agenda which meet the requirements of Rule G-4.18.3, and if applicable pursuant to Sections 4.12(a) and 4.12(d);
6. the UUA Statement of Conscience submitted by the Commission on Social Witness pursuant to Section 4.12 (c) and (d), if applicable.

The Planning Committee shall mail the Final Agenda to each member congregation, associate member organization and trustee not less than 30 days before the General Assembly.

Section 4.15. Agenda for Special General Assemblies.

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

1. the Board of Trustees;
2. the petition, if any, which calls the special General Assembly; or
3. not less than 50 certified member congregations by action of their governing boards or their congregations, with no more than 20 of the 50 congregations from the same district.

The agenda shall be mailed to each member congregation, associate member organization and trustee not less than 30 days before the General Assembly.
Section 5.1. Committees of the Association.

The standing committees of the Association shall be:

(a) the Nominating Committee;
(b) the General Assembly Planning Committee;
(c) the Commission on Appraisal;
(d) the Commission on Social Witness; and
(e) the Board of Review.

Section 5.2. Election and Terms of Office.

Elected members of all Section 5.1 committees take office at the close of the General Assembly at which they are elected and shall serve until their successors are elected and qualified except as otherwise provided herein.

One-half as nearly as possible of the elected members of the General Assembly Planning Committee and the Commission on Social Witness shall be elected at the regular General Assembly held in each odd-numbered year. The elected members of the General Assembly Planning Committee and the Commission on Social Witness shall serve for terms of four years. One-third of the members of the Nominating Committee and the Commission on Appraisal shall be elected at the regular General Assembly held in each odd-numbered year. The elected members of the Nominating Committee and the Commission on Appraisal shall serve for terms of six years. Any member of the Nominating Committee or the Commission on Appraisal in office for a period of more than three years shall be deemed to have completed a six-year term for the purposes of re-election.

Section 5.3. Qualifications of Committee Members.

In order to qualify to be appointed or to continue as a member of a standing committee of the Association, a person must be a member of a member congregation.

Section 5.4. Removal of Committee Member.

A member of any standing committee of the Association may be removed by a three-fourths vote of the Board of Trustees at a meeting at which not less than three-fourths of the Board is present, if in the opinion of the Board the member is incapacitated or otherwise unable to carry out the duties of the office.

Section 5.5. Vacancies.

A vacancy created by the death, disqualification, resignation, or removal of an elected member of a standing committee of the Association shall be filled by the Board of Trustees until the next regular General Assembly held in an odd-numbered year. The vacancy shall then be filled by election for the balance of the unexpired term, if any.

Section 5.6. Nominating Committee.

The Nominating Committee shall consist of nine elected members. A member shall not during the term of office hold any salaried position in the Association, and shall not be eligible for re-election to the Nominating Committee until after an interim of four years.

The Nominating Committee shall submit nominations for certain elective positions of the Association, as provided in Article IX.

Section 5.7. General Assembly Planning Committee.

The General Assembly Planning Committee shall consist of eight elected members and two members appointed by the Board of Trustees at its first meeting following the regular General Assembly in each odd-numbered year. No elected member shall serve on the Committee for more than two four-year terms in succession. The appointed members shall serve for terms of two years and until their successors are appointed and qualified. The Commission on Appraisal shall prepare the agenda for each regular General Assembly and shall be responsible for arrangements for programs and meetings to be held in connection therewith. It may establish subcommittees of its members and may delegate part or all of its powers to them.

Section 5.8. Commission on Appraisal.

The Commission on Appraisal shall consist of nine elected members. A member shall not during the term of office serve as a trustee or officer or hold a salaried position in the Association. The Commission on Appraisal shall:

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

Section 5.9. Commission on Social Witness.

The Commission on Social Witness shall consist of three members elected by the General Assembly and two members appointed by the Board of Trustees. The election and appointment of members shall occur only at regular General Assemblies held in odd-numbered years.

(a) Each appointment and election of a member to the Commission will be for a term of four years;
(b) One member shall be appointed each odd-numbered year; and
(c) No fewer than one nor more than two members shall be elected each odd-numbered year, as is required to insure a full complement of elected members.

No member shall serve on the Commission for more than two four-year terms in succession. In the case of a vacancy in an appointed position by reason of death, disqualification, resignation or removal, the vacancy shall be filled at any time for the remainder of the term by appointment by the Board of Trustees for the balance of the term. The duties of the Commission are described in Section 4.12 and Section 4.16 of the Bylaws and Rules G-4.12.1, G-4.12.2, and G-4.18.2.

Section 5.10. Board of Review.

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

(1) three members who are ministers, each of whom at the time of election is in final ministerial fellowship with the Association and has held such fellowship continuously for the preceding seven years; and
(2) one member who is a credentialed religious educator-masters level; and
(3) four members who are not ministers or credentialed religious educators, each of whom at the time of election is a member of a certified member congregation and has been a member of one or more
such congregations for not less than three years as an officer or a member of the governing bodies of one or more such congregations.

(b) Election and Term. At each regular General Assembly held in an odd-numbered year one person who is neither a minister nor a credentialed religious educator shall be elected as an assistant minister. At each regular General Assembly held in an odd-numbered year there shall be elected either a minister, as described in subsection (a)(1) above, or a credentialed religious educator-masters level as described in section (a)(2) above, who shall serve for a term of eight years and until a successor is elected and qualified. In the first election in an odd-numbered year following the adoption of the amendment to this subsection (b) as stated above, the election shall be of a credentialed religious educator, and this sentence shall thereafter be deleted from this subsection.

Qualifications. No member of the Board of Review shall during the term of office be a member of the Ministerial Fellowship Committee, the Religious Education Credentialing Committee, or hold any salaried position in the Association.

(d) Removal. A member of the Board of Review may be removed without hearing by the vote of six other members.

Section 5.11. Additional Committees.

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

Section 5.12. Presiding Officer.

Each committee shall elect a presiding officer from among its members at its first meeting following the regular General Assembly in each odd-numbered year. In the absence of such election the Board of Trustees may designate a temporary presiding officer from among members of the committee.

Section 5.13. Time and Place of Meetings.

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

Section 5.14. Call and Notice of Meetings.

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

ARTICLE VI Board of Trustees

Section C-6.1. Responsibility.

The Board of Trustees shall conduct the affairs of the Association and, subject to these Bylaws, shall carry out the Association's objectives as described in its Articles of Incorporation and as amended from time to time.

Section 6.2. Powers.

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

Section 6.3. Membership.

The Board of Trustees shall consist of:

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

(b) Three trustees elected at large, and a youth trustee at large;

(c) one trustee representing each district.

Section 6.4. Election of Trustees.

The youth trustee at large and one-half of the other number of trustees at large shall be elected at the regular General Assembly held in each odd-numbered year. One-half, as nearly as possible, of the trustees representing districts shall be elected prior to each election the Board of Trustees may designate a temporary presiding officer at the request of a majority of the entire Board.

Section 6.5. Term.

Trustees shall take office immediately after the close of the General Assembly at or prior to which they are elected and, with the exception of the youth trustee at large, shall serve for terms of four years or until their successors are elected and qualified. The youth trustee at large shall serve for a term of two years or until his or her successor is elected and qualified. Any partial term of more than two years shall be considered a full term for purposes of this section. No trustee may serve more than two successive full terms. However, a trustee may at any time become one of the elected officers of the Association and serve as long in that office as if such trustee had not previously been a trustee. No person who has served as elected officer for a full term shall thereafter be elected a trustee without an interim of four years.

Section 6.6. Qualifications of Trustees.

Each elected trustee shall be a member of a member congregation. An elected trustee representing a district shall reside in that district and shall be a member of a member congregation located in the district. A trustee who ceases to meet these qualifications shall be disqualified and the office declared vacant. The youth trustee at large shall be an individual aged 14 to 20 inclusive years at the time of election. 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.

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 otherwise unable to carry out the duties of the office.

Section 6.8. Vacancies.

(a) Trustee at Large. A vacancy created by the death, disqualification, resignation, or removal of a trustee at large shall be filled by majority vote of the remaining trustees at the next regular General Assembly at which an election can be held. The vacancy shall then be filled by election for the balance of the unexpired term, if any.

(b) Trustee Representing District. A vacancy created by death, disqualification, resignation, or removal of a trustee representing a district or by the creation of a new district shall be filled by majority vote of the remaining trustees at the next regular General Assembly at which an election can be held. The vacancy shall then be filled by election for the balance of the unexpired term, if any.

(1) If fewer than two regular General Assemblies have met and adjourned since the General Assembly at which the trustee took office, the governing body of the district shall make an interim appointment until the position is filled by a special election within one year from the date the vacancy occurs;

(2) If the vacancy occurs at any other point in the term, either the governing body of the district shall fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term or the District shall provide for an interim appointment by its governing body until the position is filled by a special election.

An invalid election does not create a vacancy for purposes of this section.

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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 President at the request of the Executive Committee. 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 shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

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.

Section 7.2. Appointment and Term of Office.
Members of the Executive Committee, Finance Committee, Investment Committee, Religious Education Credentialing Committee, and board-appointed members of the Ministerial Fellowship Committee and Audit Committee shall be appointed by the Board at its first meeting following the regular General Assembly in each odd-numbered year except as otherwise provided herein. Members of such committees shall serve for terms of two years and 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 Chair of the Finance Committee. 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 ordinary business but in the best interests of the Association must nevertheless be acted upon, or (2) the Executive Committee has been authorized by the Board to be acted upon, then the Executive Committee may act thereon for the Board of Trustees, but only if four or more members vote the action.

Section 7.6. Ministerial Fellowship Committee.
The Ministerial Fellowship Committee shall consist of fourteen members as follows:
(a) six members who are not ministers appointed by the Board;
(b) six members who are ministers in final fellowship with the Association, appointed by the Board; and
(c) two members appointed by the Unitarian Universalists Ministers Association.

Two members of the committee, and only two, shall be trustees. The committee shall have jurisdiction over ministerial fellowship with the Association as provided in Article XI hereof. The Board of Trustees shall designate a person who is not a member of the committee to be its Executive Secretary and keep its records.

Section 7.7. Finance Committee.
The Finance Committee shall consist of the Financial Advisor, the Treasurer, five trustees who shall not be members of the Investment Committee, and the Moderator without vote. The duties of the Finance Committee are set forth in Article X.

Section 7.8. Investment Committee.
The Investment Committee shall consist of the Financial Advisor, the Treasurer, and five other persons, at least one of whom shall be a trustee and none of whom shall be members of the Finance Committee. The duties of the Investment Committee are set forth in Article X.

Section 7.9. Additional Committees.
The Board of Trustees may appoint additional committees to serve at its pleasure and shall determine the membership, qualifications, and duties thereof.

Section 7.10. Presiding Officer.
The Board of Trustees shall appoint one member of each standing committee of the Board to be its presiding officer.

Section 7.11. Time and Place of Meetings.
Each standing committee of the Board shall hold meetings at such times and places as it may determine.

Section 7.12. Call and Notice of Meetings.
Meetings of standing committees of the Board may be called by the presiding officer and shall be called by the presiding officer at the request of a majority of the members of the entire committee. Unless the Board of Trustees otherwise provides, notice of meetings of each standing committee shall be given in such a manner and within such time as the standing committee determines.
ARTICLE VII

Officers of the Association

Section 8.1. Officers Enumerated.

Elected Officers. The elected officers of the Association shall be a President, a Moderator, a Vice President, and a Secretary.

Appointed Non-salaried Officers. The appointed non-salaried officers shall include one or more financial advisors, a secretary, and a recording secretary.

Appointed Salaried Officers. The appointed salaried officers of the Association shall include a treasurer, a director of religious education, and a director of community ministry.

The duties of the elected officers are set forth in Article II.

ARTICLE VIII

Officers of the Association

Section 8.1. Officers Enumerated.

Elected Officers. The elected officers of the Association shall be a President, a Moderator, a Vice President, and a Secretary.

Appointed Non-salaried Officers. The appointed non-salaried officers of the Association shall include one or more financial advisors, a secretary, and a recording secretary.

Appointed Salaried Officers. The appointed salaried officers of the Association shall include a treasurer, a director of religious education, and a director of community ministry.

The duties of the elected officers are set forth in Article II.
Section 8.10. Financial Advisor.  
The duties of the Financial Advisor are set forth in Article X.

*Section 8.11. Executive Vice President.  
In the event an Executive Vice President should be appointed, the Board of Trustees shall describe his or her duties.

Section 8.12. Vice Moderators.  
The Vice Moderator or Moderators shall be elected from among the members of the Board of Trustees by its members. In the absence of the Moderator a Vice Moderator shall preside at meetings and perform the duties of the Moderator. A Vice Moderator shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Board. In the event that more than one Vice Moderator is elected, one of the Vice Moderators shall be designated First Vice Moderator.

Section 8.13. Vice Presidents.  
Any Vice President appointed shall have such powers and shall perform such duties as may be assigned by the Board of Trustees or as assigned by the President in conformity with any provisions of the Board of Trustees appointment.

Section 8.14. Secretary.  
The Secretary shall be appointed from among the members of the Board of Trustees and shall perform all duties usually pertaining to the office, except those of a Clerk under Massachusetts law. The Secretary shall represent the Association on special occasions and shall assist in promoting the welfare of the Association.

Section 8.15. Treasurer.  
The duties of the Treasurer are set forth in Article X.

Section 8.16. Recording Secretary.  
The Recording Secretary shall at all times be a resident of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and upon being appointed shall be sworn to the faithful performance of the duties of the office. If the Recording Secretary ceases to be a resident of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, such person shall be disqualified and the office declared vacant. The Recording Secretary shall keep an accurate record of all meetings of the Association and the Board of Trustees, shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Board, and shall perform the duties of a Clerk under Massachusetts law.

Section 8.17. Other Appointed Officers.  
The Board of Trustees may appoint such other officers as it deems necessary and shall fix their powers and duties.

Section 8.18. Compensation.  
The Moderator, the Financial Advisor, and the appointed non-salaried officers shall not receive compensation for their services but shall be reimbursed as determined by the Board of Trustees for expenses reasonably incurred by them in the performance of their duties.

Section 8.19. Reports by Officers.  
The Moderator, the President, the Financial Advisor, and the Treasurer shall each make an annual report to the member congregations and to each regular General Assembly.

ARTICLE IX Nominations and Elections

Section 9.1. Elective Positions.  
The elective positions of the Association include the elective positions at large and those trustee positions where the election occurs at the district level. The elective positions at large of the Association are those of the elected officers, those trustees not elected at the district level, and the elected members of the standing committees of the Association. No person shall hold more than one elective position at a time whether by election or appointment. Ex officio positions for the purposes of this Bylaw provision shall be deemed part of the elected position from which the ex officio position is derived.

Section 9.2. Nomination Procedures.  
The nomination procedures set forth in these Bylaws and the Rules adopted hereunder are exclusive, and no person who is not nominated in accordance with such procedures can be elected to any elective position.

Section 9.3. Notice by Nominating Committee.  
On or before August 1 of each even-numbered year, the Nominating Committee shall notify all certified member congregations in writing of the elective positions at large and vacancies to be filled at the next regular General Assembly.

Section 9.4. Nomination by Nominating Committee.  
The Nominating Committee shall submit one or more nominations for each elective position at large to be filled, except Moderator and President, including those to fill any vacancies occurring prior to October 1 of the year before the election. Only one person from any one member congregation shall be thus nominated to serve on the Nominating Committee. The report of the Nominating Committee shall be filed with the Secretary of the Association and be mailed to all certified member congregations, associate member organizations, and trustees on or before December 10 of each even-numbered year.

Section 9.5. Nomination by Petition.  
(a) For Moderator and President. A nomination for the office of Moderator or President, or to fill a vacancy in an unexpired term occurring prior to December 1 of the year before the election shall be by petition signed by no fewer than twenty-five certified member congregations, including no fewer than five certified member congregations located in each of no fewer than five different districts. A certified member congregation may authorize the signing of a petition only by vote of its governing board or by vote at a duly called meeting of its members. Such a petition shall be filed with the Secretary of the Association, only in such form as the Secretary may prescribe, not later than February 1 of the year of the election and not earlier than the preceding March 1. If no valid and timely nomination is made by certified member congregations, the Board of Trustees shall nominate one or more candidates for the office.

(b) For Other Elective Positions at Large. A nomination for any other elective position at large or to fill a vacancy in an unexpired term occurring prior to December 1 of the year before the election may be by petition signed by not less than fifty members of certified member congregations, with no more than ten signatures of members of any one congregation counted toward the required fifty. A separate petition, in form prescribed by the Secretary, shall be filed for each nomination not later than February 1 of the year of the election and not earlier than the preceding October 1.

Nominations for youth trustee at large shall be so designated.

Section 9.6. Qualifications of Nominees.  
Each person nominated for an elective position at large shall be a member of a member congregation. No person shall be nominated for more than one such elective position. If a person is nominated for more than one such elective position, the Secretary of the Association shall so notify such person in writing and such person shall have twenty days from the date of the notice to select one nomination which is acceptable. In the absence of a timely selection, all such nominations shall be void and the person shall be so notified in writing by the Secretary.

Section 9.7. Vacancy in Nominations.  
If all persons nominated for an elective position at large die, decline to serve or are disqualified after the time has expired for making any further nominations, or if no valid and timely nomination is
1232 made, the position shall be filled after the final adjournment of the 1233 regular General Assembly at which the election would have been 1234 held in the same manner as if the position had been filled by 1235 election and had then become vacant.

1236 **Section 9.8. Supervision of Elections.**
1237 The Secretary shall supervise all elections for elective positions at 1238 large. The Secretary may appoint a committee of Tellers to count 1239 ballots and perform other routine duties. The Secretary shall 1240 decide any question arising during such an election concerning:
1241 (a) the interpretation of any provision of these Bylaws or of 1242 Rules made hereunder relating to election procedures;
1243 (b) any procedural problem relating to the election which is not 1244 covered by these Bylaws or by the Rules; or
1245 (c) the interpretation of the intent of a voter in marking the ballot.
1246 The Secretary's decision shall be final. The Secretary shall remain 1247 neutral in the election and shall not engage in electioneering,
1248 except for advocacy of his or her own candidacy for offices for 1249 which he or she is nominated.

1250 **Section 9.9. Conduct of Elections at Large.**
1251 (a) Election by Ballot. Voting shall be by written ballot, except 1252 that if only one person has been validly nominated for each 1253 elective position at large the persons so nominated shall be 1254 declared elected and no ballots shall be required.
1255 (b) Persons Entitled to Vote. Ballots shall be cast only by 1256 accredited delegates from certified member congregations 1257 and certified associate member organizations to the regular 1258 General Assembly at which the election is held and by 1259 trustees. No person shall cast more than one ballot.
1260 (c) Absentee Voting. Those entitled to cast ballots in an election 1261 may cast their ballots by mail. Absentee ballots shall be 1262 mailed at least forty five days prior to the General Assembly at 1263 which the election is being held. An absentee ballot must be 1264 received by the Secretary not less than seven calendar days 1265 before the General Assembly in order to be counted.

1266 **Section 9.10. Counting of Ballots.**
1267 (a) For President. If there are no more than two duly nominated 1268 candidates for President, the candidate receiving the greater 1269 number of votes is elected. If there are more than two duly 1270 nominated candidates for President, the ballot shall be 1271 designed to permit the designation of first, second, third, etc. 1272 choice. If no candidate receives a majority of the first-choice 1273 votes cast, the candidate receiving the lowest first choice 1274 vote shall be eliminated and the ballots cast for such 1275 candidate shall be redistributed in accordance with the 1276 second choice indicated thereon. This process shall be 1277 repeated until one candidate receives a majority of all votes 1278 cast or until only two candidates remain, at which time the 1279 one receiving the greater number of votes is elected.
1280 (b) For Other Elective Positions at Large. If there is one elective 1281 position at large to be filled, the candidate receiving the 1282 greatest number of votes is elected. If there is more than one 1283 such elective position of the same kind to be filled, the 1284 candidates respectively receiving the greatest number of 1285 votes are elected.

1286 **Section 9.11. Nominations and Elections of Trustees 1287 Representing Districts.**
1288 (a) District Bylaws. Each district shall in its bylaws set forth the method by which the certified member congregations of the 1289 Association within that district shall nominate and elect a 1290 trustee. Where two or more districts are required to share a 1291 single trustee, each such district shall adopt compatible 1292 bylaw provisions. In the absence of valid district bylaw 1293 provisions, the trustee representing that district or group of 1294 districts shall be elected in accordance with the Bylaws and 1295 Rules of the Association.
1296 (b) Time of Election. The election of a district trustee, except an 1297 election to fill a vacancy pursuant to Section 6.8(b), shall be 1298 held not less than 45 nor more than 300 days before the 1299 regular General Assembly following which such trustee is to 1300 take office.
1301 (c) Method of Nominations. The district bylaws shall provide 1302 that nominations may be made by a specific number of 1303 certified member congregations.
1304 (d) Method of Election. If a district's bylaws do not include a 1305 provision for the election of the trustee representing that 1306 district or the group of districts of which that district is a part, 1307 the trustee for that district or the group of districts of which 1308 that district is a part shall be elected using one of the 1309 following methods:
1310 (1) at large within the district, with each member of a 1311 certified member congregation casting a ballot by mail; 1312 (2) by delegates at a district meeting at which each 1313 certified member congregation is entitled to the same 1314 number of voting delegates as specified in Section 1315 4.8(a) of these Bylaws, with absentee ballots by the 1316 delegates permitted;
1317 (3) by each certified member congregation, acting at a 1318 legal meeting of such congregation, casting that 1319 number of votes equal to the number of delegates 1320 specified in Section 4.8(a) of these Bylaws, allocated 1321 among the candidates as it shall determine;
1322 (4) by delegates at a district meeting at which each 1323 certified member congregation is entitled to the same 1324 number and kind of voting delegates as specified in Section 1325 4.8(a) and (b) of these Bylaws with absentee 1326 ballots by the delegates permitted; or 1327 (5) by each certified member congregation, acting at a 1328 legal meeting of such congregation, casting that 1329 number of votes equal to the number of delegates 1330 specified in Section 4.8(a) of these Bylaws, with the 1331 votes of the congregation allocated among the 1332 candidates as it shall determine by and each minister 1333 and Director of Religious Education, who meets the 1334 criteria for delegate status set forth in Section 4.8(b) 1335 of these Bylaws, casting a vote.
1336 (e) Certification of Election. The secretary of the district or such 1337 other district officer as may be designated in the district 1338 bylaws shall certify the results of the election to the 1339 Secretary of the Association as soon as they are available. 1340 Such certificate shall be conclusive that the person so 1341 certified has been duly elected if the district has adopted 1342 bylaws conforming to the requirements of this section. A 1343 trustee elected to fill a vacancy shall take office immediately 1344 upon such certification.
1345 (f) Invalid Election. If the procedures for the nomination or 1346 election of a district trustee violate the provisions of these 1347 Bylaws, the election shall be invalid and a new election shall 1348 be held not more than twelve months after the invalid 1349 election.

1350 **Section 9.12. Rules for Nominations and Elections.**
1352 Rules relating to nomination and election procedures shall be 1353 adopted by a General Assembly. Such rules shall be applicable to 1354 elections held after the close of the General Assembly at which 1355 they are adopted.
ARTICLE X  Finance and Contracts

Section 10.1. Annual Budget.

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

Section 10.2. Duties of Finance Committee.

The Finance Committee shall submit proposed annual budgets for the Association to the Board of Trustees and make recommendations to the Board with respect to major financial policies of the Association other than those pertaining to investments. It shall review the use made of specific funds held by the Association and shall also recommend long-range financial plans.

Section 10.3. Duties of Financial Advisor.

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

Section 10.4 Duties of Treasurer and Assistant Treasurers.

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

Section C-10.5. Raising of Funds.

The Association shall raise capital and operating funds to carry out its purposes. It may also raise capital and operating funds for associate member organizations and independent affiliate organizations.

Section C-10.6. Funds Held for Others.

With the approval of the Board of Trustees, the Association may hold for investment and distribution funds belonging to or given for the benefit of a member congregation, associate member organization, independent affiliate organization, or other organization. Such funds may be invested in the General Investment Fund of the Association unless they are subject to specific restrictions which require some other form of investment.

Section C-10.7. Responsibility for Investments.

(a) Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees shall have ultimate responsibility for investing the funds belonging to or held by the Association.

(b) Investment Committee. The Investment Committee shall supervise the investments of the Association subject to control by the Board of Trustees.

Section C-10.8. Contracts and Securities.

The President, Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and Assistant Treasurer may sign and attest deeds, mortgages, contracts, and other documents to which the Association is a party.
Section 10.13. Duties of the Audit Committee.

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

ARTICLE XI Ministry

Section C-11.1. Ministerial Fellowship.

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

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

Section 11.2. Ministerial Fellowship Committee.

The Ministerial Fellowship Committee shall have exclusive jurisdiction over ministerial fellowship except as otherwise provided in these bylaws. It shall make rules governing ministerial fellowship, subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees.

Section 11.3. Admission to Fellowship.

A minister may be admitted to fellowship by the Ministerial Fellowship Committee, upon complying with the requirements of these Bylaws and the rules, policies, procedures and requests of the Committee. A minister who is admitted to fellowship shall be admitted to preliminary fellowship for a period of at least three years, be evaluated in ministry, and may thereafter be admitted to final fellowship.

Section 11.4. Fellowship Records.

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

Section 11.5. Termination of Fellowship and Administrative Suspension.

The fellowship of a minister may be terminated by the Ministerial Fellowship Committee for unbending conduct, incompetence or other specified cause. Final fellowship may be terminated only after notice by the Committee and opportunity for a Fellowship Review before the Committee. During an investigation or the pending of a complaint, the Ministerial Fellowship Committee may suspend a minister until a final determination can be made on the minister's fellowship status.

Section 11.6. Reinstatement to Fellowship.

If the Ministerial Fellowship Committee may reinstate in or readmit to fellowship a minister who has previously resigned from fellowship or whose fellowship has been suspended or terminated.

Section 11.7. Appeal.

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

Section 11.8. Procedure on Appeal.

An appeal to the Board of Review may be heard by a panel of the Board selected as provided in its rules. The Board of Review or its panel hearing an appeal shall limit its review to an examination of the Ministerial Fellowship Committee's decision, and the information presented to the Committee, including the documents and other evidence compiled during the Fellowship Review, and the reasons articulated by the Ministerial Fellowship Committee for its decision terminating the minister's fellowship. If the minister requests consideration of newly discovered evidence, not previously presented to the Ministerial Fellowship Committee, then no other appeal shall be allowed from any decision of the Ministerial Fellowship Committee.

The Board of Review or its panel may remand the case in whole or in part to the Committee or take such other action as may be just. The Board of Review or its panel shall set aside the decision of the Ministerial Fellowship Committee only where necessary to correct or prevent manifest injustice. The Board of Review or its panel may require the minister to remand the case in whole or in part to the Committee or take such other action as may be just.

The Board of Review or its panel shall set forth its findings and conclusions and will serve upon the affected minister and the Ministerial Fellowship Committee. The decision shall be entered in the fellowship records and shall be final and binding upon all parties. No appeal shall be allowed from the decision of the Board of Review. The Board of Review shall make rules to carry out the intent of this section.

ARTICLE XII Religious Education Credentialing

Section 12.1. Religious Education Credentialing.

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

Section 12.2. Religious Education Credentialing Committee.

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

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Section 12.3. Achievement of Religious Education Credentialing Status.

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

Section 12.4. Religious Education Credentialing Levels.

The Religious Education Credentialing Committee shall adopt rules related to levels of religious education credentialing as follows:

- religious education credentialing includes credentialed religious educator-associate level status, credentialed religious educator level status, and credentialed religious educator-masters level status as determined by action of the Religious Education Credentialing Committee.

Section 12.5. Religious Education Credentialing Records.

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

Section 12.6. Suspension or Termination of Religious Education Credentialing Status.

The religious education credentialing status of a religious educator may be suspended or terminated by the Religious Education Credentialing Committee for unbecoming conduct or other specified cause. Credentialing status may be suspended or terminated after notice and opportunity for a hearing before the Committee at which the religious educator shall have the right to be represented by counsel, to introduce evidence, to have any relevant and material evidence in the possession of the Association produced, and to cross-examine and rebut adverse evidence.

Section 12.7. Reinstatement of Religious Education Credentialing Status.

The Religious Education Credentialing Committee may reinstate a religious educator who has previously resigned from religious education credentialing status or whose religious education credentialing status has lapsed, been suspended or terminated.

Section 12.8. Appeal.

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

Section 12.9. Procedure on Appeal.

An appeal to the Board of Review shall be heard by a panel of the Board selected as provided in its rules. The panel hearing an appeal shall not try the case de novo but shall only review the record made before the Religious Education Credentialing Committee, except that the Board of Review by rules may permit the introduction of newly discovered evidence. These Bylaws and the rules of the Religious Education Credentialing Committee shall be binding upon the panel. The panel shall uphold the decision of the Religious Education Credentialing Committee if it can be sustained by a reasonable view of the record. The panel may set aside the decision of the Religious Education Credentialing Committee only where necessary to correct or prevent manifest injustice. The panel may remand the case in whole or part to the Religious Education Credentialing Committee or take such other action as may be just. The decision of the Board, shall be final and binding upon all parties. No appeal shall be allowed from the decision of the Board of Review.

Section 12.9.1. Amendment of Religious Education Credentialing Status.

The Religious Education Credentialing Committee may adopt rules to carry out the intent of this section, subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees.

ARTICLE XIII Regional Organizations

Section C-13.1. Districts.

The Association shall support areas of regional responsibility known as districts.

Section C-13.2. Establishment.

The establishment of districts and the manner of determining which congregations are included in each district shall be in accordance with rules adopted by the General Assembly.

Section C-13.3. Members.

All member congregations of the Association located within the district shall be entitled to be member congregations of that district.

Section C-13.4. Autonomy.

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

Section C-13.5. District Bylaws.

Each district shall adopt bylaws which are not in conflict with these Bylaws.

ARTICLE XIV Rules

Section 14.1. Adoption and Amendment of Rules by General Assemblies.

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

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

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

Section 14.3. Rules of Order.

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

ARTICLE XV Amendment

Section C-15.1. Amendment of Bylaws.

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

(b) (1) A proposal to amend, repeal or add a new C Bylaw, other than those C Bylaws in Article II of these Bylaws, shall be subject to a two-step approval process. Such proposals must be placed on the agenda of a regular General Assembly and approved preliminarily by a majority vote at such regular General Assembly. Following such preliminary approval, the proposal to
amend, repeal or add a new C Bylaw shall be placed on
the agenda of the next regular General Assembly for
final adoption. Final adoption shall require a two-thirds
vote.

(2) The text of a proposed amendment to a C Bylaw, other
than those bylaws in Article II, which has been approved
by one General Assembly, may be amended at any time
prior to final adoption. If the Moderator rules that
the amendment to the proposal is substantive, final adoption
shall only be by a subsequent General Assembly. Any
such proposal that has been under consideration for
final approval at three successive regular General
Assemblies shall not be subject to substantive
amendment at the third such regular General Assembly.

(3) A proposal to amend a C Bylaw, other than those
Bylaws in Article II, which on any vote for final adoption
receives a majority but not a two-thirds vote, shall be
placed on the agenda of the next regular General
Assembly, at which it may be finally adopted if it
receives the requisite approval. If the proposal is not
passed by a two-thirds vote at the third regular General
Assembly at which it is considered for final approval,
neither the proposal nor another proposal that is
substantively similar shall be placed on the agenda of a
General Assembly for two years.

(4) A proposal to amend, repeal or add a new C Bylaw in
Article II of these Bylaws shall be admitted to the agenda
of a regular General Assembly for the sole purpose of
determining whether the proposal shall be referred to a
commission appointed by the Board of Trustees for
review and study. Such a review shall involve member
congregations. A majority vote at a regular General
Assembly shall be required to refer such a proposal to
the study commission. Once the review and study of
the proposal is complete, which shall be completed in no
more than three years, the study commission shall
submit to the Planning Committee for inclusion on the
agenda of the next regular General Assembly following
completion of the review and study process the proposal
in the form originally presented to the regular General
Assembly and any amendments to the proposal that the
study commission recommends as a result of the review
and study process. All proposals regarding Article II of
the Bylaws that are placed on the agenda after review
and study (including amendments to such proposals
recommended by the study commission) shall require a
two-thirds vote for adoption. If the proposal does not
receive the requisite approval at the General Assembly
following the completion of the review and study
process, neither the proposal nor another proposal that is
substantively similar shall be placed on the agenda of a
General Assembly for two years.

A motion to dispense with the review and study process
with respect to a proposal to amend Article II shall be
in order at the General Assembly at which the review and
study process is authorized. A motion to dispense with
the review and study process shall require a four-fifths
vote for passage.

(3) After completion of the review and study process,
proposals regarding Article II of the Bylaws shall not be
subject to substantive amendment. The Moderator shall
determine whether an amendment to such a proposal is
substantive.

(4) If no review and study process of Article II has occurred
for a period of fifteen years, the Board of Trustees shall
appoint a commission to review and study Article II and
to recommend appropriate revisions, if any, thereto to
the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees shall
review the recommendations of the study commission
and, in its discretion, may submit the recommendations
of the study commission to the Planning Committee for
inclusion on the agenda of the next regular General
Assembly. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary
contained herein, proposals to amend Article II which
are promulgated by a study commission in accordance
with this paragraph shall be subject to a two-step
approval process. Such proposals must be approved
preliminarily by a majority vote at a regular General
Assembly. Following such preliminary approval, the
proposal shall be placed on the agenda of the next
regular General Assembly for final adoption. Final
adoption shall require a two-thirds vote.

*Section 15.2. Submission of Proposed Amendment.*

Proposed amendments to these Bylaws may be submitted only by:

(a) the Board of Trustees;
(b) the General Assembly Planning Committee;
(c) the Commission on Appraisal
d not less than fifteen certified member congregations by
action of their governing boards or their congregations; such
proposed amendments to Bylaws must be received by the
Planning Committee on February 1 whenever the regular
General Assembly opens in June; otherwise, not less than
110 days before the General Assembly; or
(e) a district by official action at a duly called district meeting at
which a quorum is present, such proposed amendment to be
received by the Planning Committee on February 1 whenever
the regular General Assembly opens in June; otherwise, not
less than 110 days before the next General Assembly.

*Rules* of the
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ASSOCIATION

*Rules* whose section number is preceded by a “G” are those
adopted by a General Assembly and may be amended or repealed
only by a General Assembly, as provided in Section 14.1 of the
UUA Bylaws.

**RULE I Name**

No existing rules applicable to Article I.

**RULE II Principles and Purposes**

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

(a) providing advance notice of dates and locations of
regular business meetings, and making agendas, reports
and minutes available promptly;
(b) providing avenues for comment on issues on the
meetings’ agendas;
(c) accommodating observers at regular business meetings,
with the exception of executive sessions.
1854 Implementing this rule shall be the responsibility of the Board of
1855 Trustees. The Board shall designate a specific person or
1856 committee to whom comments about adherence to this rule may be
1857 addressed. The Board shall report to the General Assembly
1858 annually for the next three years on its implementation.

RULE III Membership

1860 Section C-3.3. Admission to Membership.

1861 Rule 3.3.1. New Congregations.

1862 It is the policy of the Unitarian Universalist Association to
1863 encourage and assist the development of new congregations as
1864 well as to support and aid existing member congregations as
1865 stated in the purposes of the Association.

1866 Rule 3.3.2. Procedure for Admission.

1867 A church or fellowship may become a member of the Association
1868 upon approval by the Board of Trustees of the Association of a
1869 written application for membership.

1870 The application shall include:

1871 (a) a statement that the applicant subscribes to the principles of
1872 the Association and pledges itself to support the
1873 Association;

1874 (b) a copy of the articles of incorporation or other organizing
1875 documents and the bylaws of the applicant;

1876 (c) the names and addresses of the charter members sufficient
1877 in number to satisfy the minimum membership requirements;
1878 and

1879 (d) an initial payment in an amount of no less than the Fair Share
1880 contribution to the Association’s Annual Program Fund, pro-
1881 rated for the portion of the Association’s fiscal year remaining
1882 as of the date of application.

1883 Rule 3.3.3. Membership Requirements for Admission.

1884 A new congregation, to be recognized as a member of the
1885 Association, must have thirty (30) of its adult members be
1886 members solely of the new congregation.

1887 Rule 3.3.4. Multiple Local Congregations.

1888 In many communities the liberal religious movement may be better
1889 served by the establishment of two or more member congregations.

1890 (a) It is ordinarily desirable that a new congregation should have
1891 the active support and sponsorship of any member
1892 congregation or congregations located in the same
1893 geographic area.

1894 (b) The Association will neither initiate nor recognize such a new
1895 congregation until after the Association has consulted by
1896 mail or by interview with any member congregation or
1897 congregations located in the same geographic area. Such
1898 consultation shall include a request for letters from the
1899 presiding officer of the congregation’s governing board and
1900 minister of such congregation(s) stating judgment regarding
1901 the establishment and/or recognition of the new
1902 congregation. The Association may proceed to assist in
1903 organizing or recognizing the new congregation despite local
1904 protest or objection if the Association believes that such
1905 action is in the best interests of the entire movement and that
1906 it will strengthen the total Unitarian Universalist position in
1907 the community.

1908 Rule 3.3.5. Rules and Regulations for New
1909 Congregations.

1910 It is essential that Unitarian Universalist congregations be
1911 affirmative in spirit, inclusive in fellowship, and mutually supportive
1912 in their relationships with other congregations. The following
1913 statements represent the Association’s best judgment as to the
1914 meaning of this general statement and shall be used by staff and
1915 the Board in determining action upon applications for membership.

1916 (a) In receiving the application of a new congregation for
1917 membership in the Association, the Congregational Services
1918 staff shall satisfy itself that the group is making its application
1919 in good faith and that it will make a sincere effort to carry out
1920 the purposes of the Association. (See specifically Article II of
1921 the Bylaws.)

1922 (b) The Association interprets its statements of purpose to
1923 mean that no congregation may be accepted into
1924 membership if its bylaws exclude from its local membership
1925 any person because of race, ethnicity, gender, disability,
1926 affectional or sexual orientation, language, citizenship status,
1927 economic status, or national origin.

1928 (c) All member congregations must be congregational in polity;
1929 the final authority to make decisions must be vested in the
1930 legal membership of the congregation.

1931 (d) Member congregations shall project and embark upon a
1932 balanced program of religious activity including adult worship
1933 and/or discussion and when feasible establishment of a
1934 church school in the Unitarian Universalist tradition.

1935 (e) New congregations are expected to establish and maintain
1936 cooperative relations with Unitarian Universalist agencies, as
1937 appropriate and feasible.

1938 (f) A congregation should be incorporated when possible under
1939 the laws of the state in which it exists. A congregation shall
1940 include in its articles of incorporation or other organizing
1941 documents a clause providing that the assets of the
1942 congregation will be transferred upon dissolution to the
1943 Association. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if a congregation
1944 obtains the prior written consent of the Association’s Board of
1945 Trustees, the congregation may name an organization that is
1946 affiliated with the Association (such as a district, camp,
1947 conference center or other congregation) as the recipient of
1948 the congregation’s assets upon dissolution.

1949 Rule 3.3.6. Order of Administrative Procedure.

1950 The order of administrative procedure:

1951 (a) Application for church or fellowship membership in the
1952 Association will first be referred to the Congregational
1953 Services staff.

1954 (b) The Congregational Services staff will seek information and
1955 advice with respect to all applications as follows:

1956 U.S. Congregations - District President

1957 Other Congregations – Executive Officer of appropriate
1958 Unitarian or Universalist or Unitarian Universalist
1959 international group, if any.

1960 (c) The Congregational Services staff will make its
1961 recommendation to the President of the Association, and the
1962 President shall then make recommendations to the Board of
1963 Trustees of the UUA for its final action.

1964 Section C-3.5. Certification of Membership.


1966 In each fiscal year of the Association (July 1 to June 30), each
1967 member congregation shall file with the Secretary of the
1968 Association an Annual Report on the form and in the manner
1969 provided by the Association. The Annual Report shall include a
1970 certification by a minister or principal officer of the member
1971 congregation stating (a) whether or not the member congregation
1972 complied with the conditions set forth in Section C-3.5 of the
1973 Bylaws during the Association’s prior fiscal year and (b) that the
1974 information provided to the Association in the Annual Report is true
1975 and correct to the best of the minister’s or principal officer’s
1976 knowledge.

1977 For purposes of determining compliance with Section C-3.5 of the
1978 Bylaws, a member congregation shall be deemed to have

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1979 conducted ‘regular religious services’ if it has held at least 10
1980 services during the fiscal year.

1981 A member congregation’s Annual Report for a particular fiscal year
1982 and, if submitted separately, the related certification must be
1983 received by the Association on or before February 1 following the
1984 close of that fiscal year whenever the regular General Assembly
1985 opens in June and otherwise on or before the close of business on
1986 the last business day which is at least 110 days before the date of
1987 the General Assembly next following the close of that fiscal year. If
1988 a member congregation’s related certification is not received by the
1989 applicable deadline, it will still be deemed timely filed if the member
1990 congregation submits to the Association proof that it was mailed in
1991 accordance with the provisions of Rule 13.4.2. Such proof may
1992 be in the form of a stamped or validated receipt for Registered or
1993 Certified Mail or a sworn statement attesting to the proper
1994 submission of the certification signed by the person responsible for
1995 its mailing.

1996 Rule 3.5.2. Inactive Congregations
1997 In September of each year the Congregational Services Director
1998 shall initiate the process of contacting congregations in the inactive
1999 category to determine their status.

2000 This process includes:
2001 (a) requesting a list of congregations that have failed to submit
2002 an annual report for three consecutive fiscal years

2003 (b) forwarding this list to the UUA’s District Staff with copies to
2004 District Presidents and District Trustees for their information.

2005 (c) upon receipt of the annual inactive congregations list and
2006 pursuant to the UUA’s by-laws section C-3.6, the UUA’s
2007 District staff shall follow up with any congregation in their
2008 district

2009 (d) after follow up the District staff shall make a recommendation
2010 about each congregation’s status to the UUA Board for action
2011 at its April meeting.

2012 Section C-3.7. Associate Member Organizations.
2013 Rule 3.7.1. Limitation of Associate Membership.
2014 It shall be the policy of the Board of Trustees to limit admissions to
2015 associate membership to major continent-wide organizations.

2016 Rule 3.7.2. Non-Segregation.
2017 Each associate member organization shall in all aspects of its work
2018 refrain from the practice of segregation based on race, ethnicity,
2019 gender, disability, affectional or sexual orientation, language,
2020 citizenship status, economic status, or national origin. This
2021 rule is not intended to preclude associate member
2022 organizations designed to benefit groups organized
2023 to ensure their fuller participation in the larger society and to fulfill
2024 their unique spiritual needs.

2025 Rule 3.7.3. Application for Associate Membership.
2026 Each applicant for membership shall submit with its application:

2027 (a) an attested copy of its charter and, unless it is included in
2028 the charter, an attested copy of its purposes, objectives, and
2029 bylaws;

2030 (b) the approximate number of members in the organization;

2031 (c) a list of principal officers with their personal mail addresses
2032 and the principal mail address of the organization;

2033 (d) a financial statement showing income and expenses for the
2034 latest fiscal year preceding the date of filing and showing
2035 assets, liabilities and net worth as of the end of such fiscal
2036 year;

2037 (e) the dates upon which its governing board met during the
2038 twelve months immediately preceding the date of filing;

2039 (f) any yearly reports of its governing body and its principal
2040 officers sent to members during the twelve months
2041 immediately preceding the date of filing;

2042 (g) evidence that it enjoys tax exempt status:

2043 (1) under Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue
2044 Code of 1954;

2045 (2) as a registered charity as provided for in the Income
2046 Tax Act (Canada); or

2047 (3) under the laws of the country governing the applicant’s
2048 tax status;

2049 (h) if the applicant does not enjoy tax exempt status, the reason
2050 or reasons it does not;

2051 (i) a statement outlining the intended use of associate
2052 membership, if granted, and the goals and objectives of the
2053 organization that will be served by such use;

2054 (j) a statement outlining what advantage it is believed there
2055 would be to the Association and to the furtherance of the
2056 principles of the Association outlined in Bylaw Section C-
2057 2.2; and

2058 (k) any other information which the Board of Trustees of the
2059 Association shall require.

2060 (l) The contribution contemplated by Rule 3.7.10.

2062 Except in the year when it is admitted to membership, each
2063 associate member shall send to the Association on or before April
2064 the contribution required to be submitted with an application for
2065 associate membership for all new or existing associate members
2066 failing to comply with the provisions of this Rule, the Board of
2067 Trustees shall at its next regular meeting consider a finding of non-
2068 compliance and the termination of the associate membership
2069 status of such organization.

2070 Rule 3.7.5. Report of Changes.
2071 Each associate member shall send the Association an attested copy of any changes in its charter, purposes, objectives, or bylaws
2072 as soon as any such changes are made, and shall notify the
2073 Association immediately of any change in its tax exempt status.

2074 Rule 3.7.6. Representation of Associate Membership.
2075 No organization shall claim or represent in any manner that it is an associate member of the Association unless it is an
2076 associate member until it has been admitted to associate membership.
2077 This rule is not intended to preclude associate member
2078 organizations designed to benefit groups organized
2079 to ensure their fuller participation in the larger society and to fulfill
2080 their unique spiritual needs.

2081 Rule 3.7.7. Mailing List.
2082 Each associate member shall place the Association on its regular
2083 mailing list.

2085 Before granting associate membership, the Board of Trustees shall
2086 determine that the granting of such associate membership is likely
2087 to be of substantial benefit to the Unitarian Universalist movement.

2088 Rule 3.7.9. Yearly Grant of Associate Membership.
2089 Associate membership for all new or existing associate members
2090 shall be granted by the Board of Trustees for a designated one
2091 year period or portion thereof.

2092 Rule 3.7.10. Associate Member Contributions.
2093 The contribution required to be submitted with an application for
2094 associate membership is $500 for any applicant whose budget for
2095 the 12 months preceding its application for associate membership
2096 was $1,000,000 or more and $250 for any applicant whose budget
2097 for the 12 months preceding its application for associate membership

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2101 membership was less than $1,000,000. The contribution required
2102 to be submitted with an associate member’s annual report is $500
2103 for any associate member whose budget for the 12 months
2104 preceding the due date of the annual report was $1,000,000 or
2105 more and $250 for any associate member whose budget for the 12
2106 months preceding the due date of the annual report was less than
2107 $1,000,000.

2108 Section C-3.8. Independent Affiliate Organizations.


2110 Each applicant for independent affiliate status shall submit with its
2111 application:

2112 (a) an attested copy of its charter, and, unless it is included in the
2113 charter, an attested copy of its purposes, objectives, and
2114 bylaws;

2115 (b) the number of members or member groups in the organization;

2116 (c) a list of the principal officers with their personal mail addresses,
2117 congregation membership or congregation where settled if the
2118 officer is a fellowshipped minister serving a Unitarian
2119 Universalist congregation, and the principal mail address of
2120 the organization;

2121 (d) the contribution contemplated by rule 3.8.9;

2122 (e) a financial statement showing income and expenses for the
2123 latest fiscal year preceding the date of filing and showing
2124 assets, liabilities and net worth as of the end of such fiscal
2125 year;

2126 (f) the dates upon which its governing board met during the twelve
2127 months immediately preceding the date of filing;

2128 (g) any yearly reports of its governing body and its principal officers
2129 sent to members during the twelve months immediately
2130 preceding the date of filing;

2131 (h) evidence of whether it enjoys tax exempt status:

2132 (1) under Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code
2133 of 1954;

2134 (2) as a registered charity as provided for in the Income Tax
2135 Act (Canada); or

2136 (3) under the laws of the country governing the applicant’s tax
2137 status;

2138 (i) if the applicant does not enjoy tax exempt status, the reason or
2139 reasons it does not;

2140 (j) a statement outlining how its purpose, mission and structure
2141 models interdependence through engagement with our
2142 member congregations, coordination or collaboration of effort
2143 and resources; and a statement outlining how the organization
2144 supports the transformation of institutions and our world to be
2145 aligned with those values expressed in our Principles; and

2146 (k) any other information which the Board of Trustees of the
2147 Association shall require.

2148 Rule 3.8.2. Non-Segregation.

2149 Each independent affiliate organization shall in all aspects of its
2150 work refrain from the practice of segregation based on race, gender,
2151 disability, affectional or sexual orientation, language, citizenship status, economic status, or national origin.

2153 This rule is not intended to preclude independent affiliate
2154 organizations designed to benefit groups organized to ensure their
2155 fuller participation in the larger society and to fulfill their unique
2156 spiritual needs.

2157 Rule 3.8.3. Annual Contribution and Report.

2158 Except in the year when it is admitted to independent affiliate
2159 status, each independent affiliate organization shall send the
2160 Association on or before April 30 (i) an annual report which shall
2161 include the data required by subsections (b), (c), (f), (g) and (h) of
2162 Rule 3.8.1 and any other information which the Board of Trustees
2163 shall require and (ii) the contribution contemplated by Rule 3.8.9. If
2164 an independent affiliate organization fails to comply with the
2165 provisions of this Rule, the Board of Trustees shall at its next
2166 regular meeting consider a finding of non-compliance and the
2167 termination of the independent affiliate status of such organization.

2168


2170 Each independent affiliate organization shall send the Association
2171 an attested copy of any changes in its charter, purposes,
2172 objectives, or bylaws as soon as any such changes are made and
2173 shall notify the Association immediately of any change in its tax
2174 exempt status.

2175

2176 Rule 3.8.5. Representation of Independent Affiliate
2177 Status.

2178 No organization shall claim or represent in any manner that it is an
2179 independent affiliate with the Association until such status is voted
2180 by the Board of Trustees; and if and when any organization’s
2181 independent affiliate status expires or it is terminated, that
2182 organization shall immediately cease to claim, represent or imply in
2183 any manner that it is affiliated with the Association.

2184 Rule 3.8.6. Mailing List.

2185 Each independent affiliate organization shall place the Association
2186 on its regular mailing list.


2188 Before granting independent affiliate status, the Board of Trustees
2189 shall determine that such affiliation is likely to be of substantial
2190 benefit to the Unitarian Universalist movement.


2192 Independent affiliate status for all new or existing independent
2193 affiliate organizations shall be granted by the Board of Trustees for
2194 a designated one year period or portion thereof.


2196 The contribution required to be submitted with an application for
2197 independent affiliate status and with an independent affiliate’s
2198 annual report is $100.

2199 RULE IV  General Assembly

2200 Section 4.6. Notice of Meetings.

2201 Rule 4.6.1. Mailing of Notice.

2202 Notice of each regular and special General Assembly shall be
2203 given not less than sixty days before the date thereof to each
2204 certified member congregation, associate member organization,
2205 and trustee. Such notice shall be given by the Secretary or the
2206 Recording Secretary.

2207 Rule 4.6.2. Time of Notice.

2208 Notice so sent shall be sufficient if mailed at Boston,
2209 Massachusetts, sixty days before any such General Assembly.
2210 addressed to the persons who according to the records of the
2211 Association are entitled thereto hereunder and sent to the
2212 addresses which appear on said records. When the Secretary in
2213 his or her absolute discretion finds it desirable and practicable, a
Rule G-4.9.3. Mailing of Credential Cards.

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

Rule G-4.9.4. Issuance of Duplicate Credential Card.

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

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

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

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

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

Rule G-4.9.5. Alternate Delegates.

Each certified member congregation may, in accordance with its own Bylaws or procedures, designate alternate delegates to any General Assembly in such number, not in excess of the number of delegates to which it is entitled, as it may determine. All alternates appointed must be provided by the member congregation with a certification of their appointment signed by an officer of the congregation.

Rule G-4.9.6. Delegate Status.

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


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

Rule G-4.9.8. Payment of Registration Fee.

All delegates, alternates and trustees must pay a registration fee in order to be admitted to the floor and vote at the General Assembly.

Rule G-4.9.9. Amount of Fees.

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


The Commission on Social Witness shall prepare (and the Planning Committee shall include with the Tentative Agenda) a report summarizing the numbers and topics of the proposed Congregational Study/Action Issues submitted by the certified member congregations districts, and sponsored organizations as defined in Section 4.12(a)(1), and the criteria which it used in selecting proposed Congregational Study/Action Issues included in the Congregational Poll. Each proposed Congregational Study/Action Issue that appears on the Tentative Agenda shall be accompanied by previous General Resolutions, actions and statements on related issues, with dates (if applicable), and the names or number of congregations submitting issues included within such proposed Congregational Study/Action Issue.


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


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

Section 4.16. Additions to the Agenda of Regular General Assemblies.


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

Section 4.18. Agenda Rules.

Rule G-4.18.1. Notice to Member Congregations and Districts.

The General Assembly Planning Committee shall by November 1 of the year, and draft UUA Statements of Conscience in the Fourth Cycle year, or any additional years thereto pursuant to Section 4.12(d)(2) appearing on the Tentative Agenda, including the alternative versions of Business Resolutions (if any) submitted by the Planning Committee. The recommendation with respect to each proposed resolution or issue must be certified by the minister, clerk or president of that congregation as being within the procedures of that congregation. Only a Business Resolution which a majority of the congregations voting on the resolution recommends for the action shall be eligible to be included on the Final Agenda from the Congregational Poll. If there is more than one version of a Business Resolution on the Tentative Agenda, the subject of the resolution shall be considered a single item on the Tentative Agenda and the Congregational Poll. All versions shall be listed consecutively within that item. An aye vote by a congregation for one or more versions shall be counted an aye vote for inclusion of a resolution on the subject in the Final Agenda. If support for the subject matter of the resolution is sufficient to make it eligible for inclusion on the Final Agenda, the version that receives the highest number of votes by the participating congregations shall be the one eligible for inclusion on the Final Agenda. From the Business Resolutions eligible from the Congregational Poll, the Planning Committee shall include on the Final Agenda not more than the eight Business Resolutions receiving the highest number of "recommended for action" votes on the Congregational Poll. The Planning Committee may also include on the Final Agenda alternative versions of Business Resolutions which are germane to those selected through the Congregational Poll. In the first Cycle year, the Planning Committee also shall include on the Final Agenda not more than the five proposed Congregational Study/Action Issues receiving a majority of votes and the highest number of "recommended for action" votes on the Congregational Directives for General Assembly Action, provided that at least twenty-five percent (25%) of the congregations participated in the ballot vote for such proposed Congregational Study/Action Issues.

If the number of proposed Congregational Study/Action Issues recommended for action in the Congregational Poll exceeds five and there is more than one such issue in fifth position as a result of a tie vote, all issues in fifth position shall be referred to the Final Agenda by the Commission on Social Witness. In the fourth Cycle year, or any additional years thereto pursuant to Section 4.12(d)(2), the Planning Committee shall further include on the Final Agenda a proposed UUA Statement of Conscience, provided that at least twenty-five percent (25%) of the congregations participated in the ballot vote for such draft UUA Statement of Conscience. A report of the vote by which each resolution on the Tentative Agenda was or was not "recommended for action" shall be included on the Final Agenda. All Business Resolutions that are included on the Final Agenda shall be discussed during the General Assembly in a mini-assembly.
2470  Rule 4.18.4. Matters Submitted by Districts
2471 In the event that a proposed amendment to a Rule or to a Business
2472 Resolution that was submitted by a district is to be considered at a
2473 General Assembly, the district that submitted the proposed
2474 amendment or resolution may, in accordance with its own
2475 procedures, designate a representative to speak in support of the
2476 amendment or resolution at the General Assembly. The
2477 representative must be provided by the district with a certification of
2478 the representative’s appointment signed by an officer of the district.
2479
2482 The General Assembly Planning Committee shall offer rules of
2483 procedure for adoption at the first session of each General
2484 Assembly.
2485
2486 RULE V Committees of the Association
2487 (i) No existing rules applicable to Article V.
2488
2489 RULE VI Board of Trustees
2490 Section 6.4. Election of Trustees.
2491 Rule 6.4.1. Division of Districts for Election Purposes.
2492 The Trustees representing districts are divided into the following
2493 two groups:
2494
2495 GROUP A
2496 Clara Barton
2497 Florida
2498 Mid-South
2499 Mountain Desert
2500 Ohio Meadville
2501 Pacific Northwest
2502 Southwest
2503 St. Lawrence
2504 Thomas Jefferson
2505
2506 GROUP B
2507 Ballou Channing
2508 Central Midwest
2509 Heartland
2510 Joseph Priestley
2511 Massachusetts Bay
2512 Metropolitan New York
2513 Northern New England
2514 Pacific Central
2515 Prairie Star
2516
2517 Section 6.6. Qualifications of Trustees.
2518 Rule 6.6.1. Multiple Memberships.
2519 For purposes of applying the Bylaw provision that no more than
2520 one trustee shall be a member of the same member congregation,
2521 a person holding membership in more than one member
2522 congregation shall be treated as being a member only of that
2523 congregation which they have been so elected are vacant and are to be
2524 filled as provided in the Bylaws.
2525 Rule 6.6.2. Implementation of Section 6.6.
2526 If at the close of a General Assembly election, the results are such
2527 that, except for the provisions of Section 6.6, more than one person
2528 from the same congregation would serve at the same time on the
2529 Board of Trustees,
2530 (a) if the conflict arises solely from the election just held the
2531 Secretary of the Association shall thereupon declare that the
2532 persons so elected are disqualified and that the offices to
2533 which they have been so elected are vacant and are to be
2534 filled as provided in the Bylaws.
2535 (b) if the conflict arises because one person from a
2536 congregation is already serving on the Board of Trustees
2537 and another person from that congregation has just been so
2538 elected the Secretary of the Association shall declare that
2539 the person just elected is disqualified and the office to which
2540 such person has been elected is vacant and that the
2541 vacancy is to be filled as provided in the Bylaws.
2542
2543 RULE VII Committees of the Board of Trustees
2544 No existing rules applicable to Article VII.
2545
2546 RULE VIII Officers of the Association
2547 Section 8.1. Officers Enumerated.
2548 Rule 8.1.1. Officers Enumerated.
2549 The appointed salaried officers of the Association shall include an
2550 Executive Vice President.
2551 Section 8.11. Executive Vice President.
2552 Rule 8.11.1. Executive Vice President.
2553 The Executive Vice President shall have responsibility under the
2554 President for the administrative affairs of the Association and shall
2555 perform such other duties as may be assigned to such officer.
2556
2557 Section 8.17. Other Appointed Officers.
2558 Rule 8.17. Other Appointed Officers.
2559 The members serving without pay on the Ministerial Fellowship
2560 Committee, Finance Committee, and Investment Committees are
2561 designated as officers of the Association for the purposes, only, of
2562 carrying out their duties as members of such committees. The
2563 powers and duties of such members are as defined in the Bylaws,
2564 Rules, and Policies adopted by the Board of Trustees.
2565
2566 RULE IX Nominations and Elections
2567 Section 9.10. Counting of Ballots.
2569 Except in the election of a President, if a tie vote occurs in filling an
2570 office when only one person is to be elected, or occurs in filling a
2571 slate of officers when the slate cannot be completed without
2572 resolving the tie, then as soon as possible before the final
2573 adjournment of the General Assembly involved, additional ballots
2574 shall be cast by those present and entitled to vote, except that
2575 initially the Moderator shall not vote. The additional ballots shall
2576 contain only the names of the candidates who are tied. These
2577 ballots shall be counted along with a recounting of the ballots cast
2578 for the tied candidates by absentee ballots, and the result of the
2579 foregoing procedures shall determine the election, unless there is
2580 still a tie, in which case the Moderator shall then cast a ballot to
2581 resolve it.
2582 Rule G-9.10.2. Tie Vote-Moderator.
2583 If the tie involves the election of a Moderator, the proceedings to
2584 resolve the tie shall be presided over by the Secretary of the
2585 Association who in all matters involving the resolutions of the tie
2586 shall have the rights and duties of the Moderator.
2587 Rule G-9.10.3. Tie Vote-President.
2588 If, in the election of a President, in any particular counting of the
2589 preferential ballots, including absentee ballots, there is a tie vote
2590 among candidates having the least number of votes, then each
2591 such tied candidate shall be eliminated, and in the next counting,
2592 the ballots accumulated for said candidate shall be redistributed
2593 among the remaining candidates on the basis of the highest
2594 effective preferences marked on all the ballots that have been cast.
2595 However, if in this process, such elimination leaves only a single
2596 candidate who in that counting still does not have a majority of the
2597 counted votes, or if only two candidates remain in the contest and
2598 they are tied, then there shall be as many run-off election
2599 procedures, conducted under the provision of Rule G-9.10.1 as are
2600 necessary to result in the election of a President by at least a
2601 majority of the votes cast.
2604 Unless no ballot is required according to Section 9.9(a), prior to
2605 each regular General Assembly at which an election is to be held,
2606 the Secretary shall prepare ballots upon which shall appear the

On all ballots used in elections held by the Association the order of names shall be determined by the drawing of lots done by the Secretary and witnessed by two other persons. The Secretary shall certify the results of the drawing of lots, the certificate shall be attested by the witnesses, and the certificate shall be filed in the Secretary's office. This Rule shall be printed on all official ballots or on the instructions accompanying them.


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


An absentee ballot shall be counted only if accompanied by the signed and certified ballot stub of the credential card of the person casting the ballot.


A person shall be qualified to cast a ballot at General Assembly only if that person presents to the Secretary of the Association or those employed by him or her at the polls a properly certified ballot stub plus a badge issued to that person and containing the same name as the name on the ballot stub.


Each candidate for an at-large elective position may submit to the Association a campaign statement or flyer on a paper measuring 8-1/2 by 11 inches. The Association will print and compile a packet made up of the statements of all candidates to be distributed to the congregations with the absentee ballots and to the delegates as a part of the final agenda.

Each candidate for an at-large elective position shall be given an opportunity to address the General Assembly delegates at a time when no other events are scheduled. All candidates for the same position shall be given the same amount of time to speak, in the same meeting as all other candidates for that position.

Candidates for at-large election positions are expected to conduct their campaigns, both privately and publicly, according to the highest standards of decorum and mutual respect.

Rule G-9.12.7. Length of Campaigns for President and Moderator.

Campaigns for President and Moderator may appropriately begin with small campaign committee organizational meetings and mass mailing letters no earlier than November 1 of the second year preceding the election.

Active campaigning and solicitation of endorsements shall not begin prior to January 1 of the year preceding these elections.

No electioneering (defined as publicly announced meetings, rallies or exploratory events) of any sort shall occur at the General Assembly two years preceding the elections for President and Moderator. Private meetings about campaign organization that take place outside of General Assembly-booked meeting spaces are permissible.


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

2651 (a) their campaign expenses (stated in United States dollars) by categories of travel, postage, telephone, printing and other such categories as seem appropriate;

2654 (b) the number of contributors to their campaigns, including the number of contributors in each of the following categories:

2656 (1) under $50.00,

2657 (2) $50.00 to $100.00,

2658 (3) $101.00 to $250.00,

2659 (4) $251.00 to $500.00, and

2660 (5) over $500.00, and

2653 (a) campaign expenses (stated in United States dollars) by categories of travel, postage, telephone, printing and other such categories as seem appropriate;

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2656 (1) under $50.00,

2657 (2) $50.00 to $100.00,

2658 (3) $101.00 to $250.00,

2659 (4) $251.00 to $500.00, and

2660 (5) over $500.00, and

2661 (c) the number of contributions and the total amount of contributions received from each group or organization supporting the campaign.

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

The names of contributors shall be disclosed. Each such report shall identify by name any member congregation, associate member organization or independent affiliate of the Association and shall state the amount of each such contribution. Such reports shall be filed with the Secretary of the Association. A preliminary report shall be due at the close of the first day of the regular General Assembly at which the election occurs. A final report shall be due 60 days thereafter. The Secretary shall upon written request from a member of a member congregation furnish such information from these reports as requested. These reports shall be made available for inspection by any member of a member congregation at the principal offices of the Association and shall be brought by the Secretary to the next General Assembly and made available for inspection there by any delegate.

When running for office, candidates shall be prohibited from engaging in any electioneering or campaigning during the conduct of official business of the Unitarian Universalist Association.

Financial accounting and bookkeeping procedures shall be established which make it explicit that no monies of the Association were used in the financing of a candidate's campaign or electioneering activities.

An Election Campaign Practices Committee is hereby established and shall consist of three persons to be appointed by the Board of Trustees at its October meeting following those regular General Assemblies at which elections occur. Two members of the Committee shall be members of the Board of Trustees at the time of their appointment and one shall be a non-Board member. The non-Board member shall be the chair of the Committee. Persons appointed to the Election Campaign Practices Committee shall remain neutral in the election and not engage in electioneering. A person nominated pursuant to Bylaw Sections 9.4 or 9.5 is ineligible to serve on the Committee.

The duties of the Election Campaign Practices Committee shall be:
(b) The Current Fiscal Year budget shall contain a separate
Committee according to the provisions of Rule G-9.1.2.10(d). Any candidate aggrieved by the Committee's adjudication pursuant to rule G-9.12.6(c) may have their names removed from the ballot. Any action by a General Assembly with respect to budgets shall be taken under the following procedure:

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

(b) Main motions concerning budgets which are to be made in a formal business session shall be filed in writing with a person or persons designated by the Moderator as early as possible prior to or during the General Assembly. The Moderator shall take such steps as the Moderator considers practical to advise delegates and other persons or bodies as early as possible, preferably in writing, of the contents of the motions so filed.

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

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

Rule G-10.1.5. Board of Trustees Report.

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

Section 11.8. Procedure on Appeal.

Section 11.8. Procedure on Appeal.

The rules of the Ministerial Fellowship Board of Review are available on request.

Rule XI Ministry

Rule XI Ministry

Section C-12.2. Establishment.

Section C-12.2. Establishment.

Rule G-12.2.1. Establishing Districts.

Rule G-12.2.1. Establishing Districts.

Southwest, Prairie Star, St. Lawrence, Southwestern, and Thomas Jefferson.

(b) Each district shall be composed of the congregations assigned to that district by the Board of Trustees.

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

(d) Upon application to the Board of Trustees and after notice and an opportunity to be heard is afforded the affected districts, a congregation may change its district membership with approval of the Board of Trustees.

(e) The District Map published in the Annual Directory contains boundaries that are an approximation only of the boundary lines determined pursuant to subparagraph (c) above and are intended primarily as a guide for the newly admitted congregation in determining its membership.

RULE XIII Rules

Section 13.4. Miscellaneous Rules.


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

Rule G-13.4.2. Receipt of Documents.

When any ballot, petition, notice, document, or material of any kind whatsoever is required to be filed with, delivered to, or received by the Association or an officer, board, committee, or agent thereof on or before a certain day, the same shall be considered to have been so filed, delivered, or received only if it is postmarked seven days prior to said certain day or actually received at the office of the Association at 25 Beacon Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02108, on an earlier day or not later than 5:00 p.m. on said certain day.

RULE XIV Amendments

Section 14.2. Submission of Proposed Amendments.

Rule G-14.2.1. Form of Submission.

A proposed amendment to the Bylaws submitted by certified member congregations or a district must include:

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

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

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

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Unitarian Universalist Association was given corporate status in May 1961 under special acts of legislature of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the State of New York. See Chapter 148 of the acts of 1960 of the Massachusetts legislature and Chapter 827 of the Acts of 1960 of the New York legislature. Copies of said Acts are attached to the minutes of the organizing meeting of the Association held in Boston, Massachusetts in May 1961 and also are printed in the 1961-62 Directory of the Association.
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
ASSOCIATION OF CONGREGATIONS

2009 Annual Reports

UUA Board of Trustees Report
UUA Staff Report
UUA Treasurer's Report
Commission on Appraisal Report
Ministerial Fellowship Committee Report
Religious Education Credentialing Committee Report
UU Service Committee Report
UU United Nations Office Report
UU Women's Federation Report
UU Financial Advisor's Report
Independent Auditors' Report

All available online at
uua.org > About Us > Governance > General Assembly > 2009
# Business Calendar for 2010 General Assembly

**Minneapolis, Minnesota**

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<td>Deadline for receipt of proposed Congregational Study/Action Issues</td>
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<td><strong>February 1, 2010</strong></td>
<td>Deadline for congregations to complete the online Annual Certification Form and Congregational Poll (instructions mailed to congregations in November 2009)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>February 1, 2010</strong></td>
<td>Deadline for receipt of proposed Business Resolutions and Amendments to Bylaws and Rules</td>
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<td><strong>March 1, 2010</strong></td>
<td>Tentative Agenda mailed to certified congregations</td>
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<td><strong>March 1, 2010</strong></td>
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<td><strong>May 6, 2010</strong></td>
<td>GA Delegate credentials and absentee voting information mailed to certified congregations</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>May 24, 2010</strong></td>
<td>Final Agenda available to congregations at uua.org</td>
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