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
Proposed Bylaw and Rule Amendments will be discussed in Mini-Assemblies on Friday at 5:00 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency in the following rooms: Seaview A, Seaview B, Seaview C and Shoreline. The Planning Committee is responsible for these sessions and, immediately afterward, meets to consolidate results and formulate any amendments to be proposed.

UUA Statement of Conscience (Civil Liberties)
Discussion of the proposed UUA Statement of Conscience takes place in the Mini-Assembly Friday at 1:30 p.m. in Room 104B of the Long Beach Convention Center. The vote to adopt is scheduled for a Plenary Session.

First-Year Study/Action Issues
Four First-Year Study/Action Issues (SAIs) appear on the Final Agenda as a result of the Congregational Directives poll for General Assembly Action. Discussion of these SAIs takes place in a workshop Friday at 5:00 p.m. in Room 104B of the Long Beach Convention Center prior to voting in the Plenary Session for one issue for study and action during the coming two years.

Second-Year Study/Action Issue (Criminal Justice and Prison Reform)
No vote is taken this year on the Study/Action Issue that was chosen by the last year’s General Assembly. A workshop will be held Saturday at 5:00 p.m. in Room 301 of the Long Beach Convention Center, and those who engaged in study and action on the issue are invited to share experiences at this time. Based on the discussion, the Commission on Social Witness will draft a UUA Statement of Conscience for consideration during the coming year.

Actions of Immediate Witness
Proposed Actions of Immediate Witness (AIWs) must be posted in the CSW exhibit booth by 5:00 p.m. on Friday. The complete AIW, along with the requisite delegate signatures, must be filed in the GA Office (Convention Center main lobby ticket office) by 5:00 p.m. on Saturday. Prior to voting for adoption Monday afternoon, preliminary action on AIWs will be taken in Plenary Session on Sunday, and Mini-Assemblies to discuss the proposed AIWs will be held Sunday at 4:45 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency in the following rooms: Seaview A, Seaview B, Seaview C, Shoreline, Regency Ballroom D and Regency Ballroom F.

Budget Hearing
UUA Finance Committee members and UUA officers conduct a hearing on the 2004 - 2005 budget Friday at 1:30 p.m. in Room 305 of the Long Beach Convention Center. 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 (Convention Center main lobby ticket office) by 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, for consideration Monday.
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**UUA General Assembly**  
**June 24-28, 2004**

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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 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. You may make a substitute motion at some times 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 49 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, discuss the proposed amendments, and, for the Statement of Conscience, to work collaboratively with other delegates to draft amendments. Mini-Assemblies save Plenary Session 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 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 congregationally-based 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 the Friday deadline. Then begin collection signatures from other delegates. Submit the AIW with the required number of delegate signatures to the CSW at the GA Office by the Saturday deadline. See the cover sheet for directions, requirements, and deadlines.

**WHAT HAPPENS THEN?** The Commission will select no more than six from among those submitted which meet the criteria for an AIW. These are those submitted for admission to the Agenda. The motion to admit is not debatable, but there will be an opportunity for a two-minute statement of advocacy by the sponsor of each AIW. After consideration of proposed amendments at a Mini-Assembly, each AIW will be voted on by the delegates for adoption by the General Assembly.

**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.”

**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 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.

**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. The Bylaws are in the Program.

**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.
### Friday Plenary I  8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

- **8:30** Call to Order (Gini Courter)
- Approval of Rules of Procedure
- Preliminary Credentials Report (Wayne Arnason)
- Financial Advisor's Report (Larry Ladd)
- Investment Committee Report (Lucia Santini-Field)
- Presentation of the 2005-06 Budget (Lyn Conley)
- Beacon Press Financial Update
- Annual Program Fund Update
- Song: Gather the Spirit
- Address from President Niwano, Rissho Kosei-kai
- Introduction of International Guests
- Fearless Minds: A Retrospective
- Holdeen India Report (Kathy Sreedhar)
- Presentation of Awards
- Introduction of Service Project
- Overview of the Social Witness Process (Richard Nugent)
- Report of the Social Witness Review Taskforce
- Covenant Groups at GA
- Presentation of Awards
- Panel and Discussion: The Language of Reverence (Lee Barker)
- President's Report (William Sinkford)
- Announcements (Wayne Arnason)
- Process Observation
- **12:30** Recess

### Saturday Plenary II  8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

- **8:30** Call to Order (Gini Courter)
- Credentials Report (Wayne Arnason)
- Executive Vice-President's Report (Kay Montgomery)
- Offering for Development of Religious Education Curricula (Burton Carley)
- Awards
- How Study Action Issues Work for Congregations and the UUA (Meg Riley)
- Presentation of Study Action Issues
  - S1 Civil Marriage Equality
  - S2 Oppression of Women World Wide
  - S3 Stopping Mass Extinction
  - S4 Threat of Global Warming
- Study Action Issues
- Proposed Changes to the Study Action Issues Process
- Journey Toward Wholeness Transformation Committee Report (Kim Varney)
- Song: Love Will Guide Us
- How Congregations Can Work for Voting Rights (Welton Gaddy)
- How Statements of Conscience Are Implemented (Meg Riley)
- Debate and Vote on Statement of Conscience
- Proposed Changes to the Statement of Conscience Process
- Beacon Press: Supporting the Justice Work of Congregations (Helene Atwan)
- Moderator's Election (Wayne Arnason)
- Plenary Process Observations
- Announcements (Wayne Arnason)
- **12:30** Recess
# Agenda

## Sunday Plenary III  12:45 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.

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<td>Greetings from the UUMA (Ken Sawyer)</td>
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<td>Greetings from LREDA (Makanah Morris)</td>
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<td>Report of the Ministerial Fellowship Committee (Phyllis Daniel)</td>
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<td>Report of the Religious Education Credentialing Committee (Liz Jones)</td>
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<td>Debate and vote on Sections 7.1, 7.2, 7.13, 12.1-12.8: Religious Education Credentialing</td>
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<td>Debate and vote on Rule G-3.10.1. Democratic Process</td>
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<td>Debate and vote on Rule G-2.1 Democratic Process</td>
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<td>Song: Now Let Us Sing</td>
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<td>Starr King 100th Anniversary (Rebecca Parker)</td>
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<td>Moderator’s Report (Gini Courter)</td>
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<td>How Actions of Immediate Witness Are Implemented (Rob Keithan)</td>
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<td>Motions to Admit Actions of Immediate Witness (Richard Nugent)</td>
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<td>Faith Based Community Organizing Overview (Margie Fine)</td>
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<td>Socially Responsible Investing (Joan Cudhea)</td>
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<td>Announcements (Wayne Arnason)</td>
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<td>4:15</td>
<td>Recess</td>
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## Monday Plenary IV  1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

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<tr>
<td>1:00</td>
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<td>Credentials (Wayne Arnason)</td>
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<td>UU Women's Federation Report (Nancy Van Dyke)</td>
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<td>UU Service Committee Report (Charles Clements)</td>
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<td>Vote on Rule G-9.12.6 - G-9.12.10: Election Campaign Reform</td>
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<td>Vote on C-2.3 Bylaw Proposal; Non-discrimination</td>
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<td>Votes on Actions of Immediate Witness</td>
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<td>Song: For All That Is Our Life</td>
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<td>General Assembly Service Project Report</td>
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<td>Thanking those who made General Assembly so incredible this year</td>
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<td>Responsive Resolutions</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Final Credentials (Wayne Arnason)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Plenary Process Observations</td>
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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, or by an uncounted standing vote of the delegates present. If the Moderator wishes a counted vote or if a delegate requests it and the Moderator determines that 49 other delegates join in the request, the vote must be counted. Except for Study/Action Issues for Social Justice (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 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 or a bylaw or rule 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 expedit ed.

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 2004 - 2005 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. Sunday. 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.

RULE 11. STUDY/ACTION ISSUES FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE
Pursuant to Bylaw Section 4.12(c):
Up to five Study/Action Issues for Social Justice may be presented to the General Assembly. A sponsor of a 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 Study/Action Issue referred for study. Following the presentation by the sponsors for all Study/Action Issues eligible for consideration, time will be provided for up to four additional statements of support for each Study/Action Issue. Persons wishing to speak shall use the microphone designated for the Study/Action Issue for which he/she advocates.
After debate concerning the proposed 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 Study/Action Issues will be referred for study. The Study/Action Issue receiving the highest number of votes among all Study/Action Issues shall be referred for study providing, however, that if no 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**

The proposed Action of Immediate Witness must be in writing.

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., Friday, so that proposals may be made available for viewing prior to the filing deadline.

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., Saturday.

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.

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.

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

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).

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

Adoption of an Action of Immediate Witness may occur only during the final Plenary Session of the Assembly and 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 2004 General Assembly will be adjourned no later than 5:00 p.m., Monday, June 28.
Study/Action Issues - First Year

The four Study/Action Issues presented here were selected by certified congregations to be placed on the Agenda. The vote on the following SAIs will be to determine which one shall be referred to congregations and districts for further review and study in the Statement of Conscience process, pursuant to Bylaw Section 4.12. An implementation session on the chosen SAI will be held on Monday at 10:15 a.m.

S1 Civil Marriage Equality

Issue: What can Unitarian Universalists do to promote the understanding of civil marriage equality for same-sex couples?

Background and Reasons for Study: Marriage has changed over time to fit the needs and purposes of society. The societal norm in Western culture has not always been an exclusive partnership between any man and any woman. In the United States, interracial unions were once deemed “unnatural” and were illegal in some states until 1967 when the Supreme Court recognized this as a violation of civil rights.

The right to marry a person of one’s own gender is still illegal in America. A federal law, the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA, 1996) stipulates that marriage is between a man and a woman. Similar laws exist in 37 states; others have pending legislation. These laws unquestionably grant hundreds of state and federal civil rights, responsibilities, benefits and protections of civil marriage to opposite-sex couples, while denying these rights to more than 10 million gay and lesbian people in the United States. Same-sex couples in committed relationships face discrimination in life issues related to workplace, parenting, legal agreements, housing, taxes, memberships, immigration, medical care, legal protections, among others.

Recent decisions challenge discrimination against civil rights of lesbians and gays. The Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court ruled that same-sex and opposite-sex couples must be given equal civil marriage rights. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the Constitution protects the liberty to enter into same-sex relationships and the private lives of every person. New Jersey’s and Vermont’s civil union statutes provide same-sex couples some legal status, but is neither equal to marriage nor universally recognized. Additionally, the Netherlands, Ontario and British Columbia recognize same-sex marriages. This is a dilemma for America, who by tradition and law has recognized marriages legalized elsewhere. Many opponents perceive equality for same-sex couples as a threat to the “sanctity of traditional marriage,” pressing for a constitutional amendment barring civil marriage equality nationwide.

Marriage in the U.S. is a legal, civil contract granted by the state that gives authority to persons such as clergy, justices of the peace, judges, and ship captains to legally sanction the marriage. A religious ceremony is not required by law and remains the choice of the couple. There is growing recognition that any legislation that denies civil marriage equality for same-sex couples is unconstitutional.

Significance to Unitarian Universalism: As leaders for social justice, Unitarian Universalists have historically engaged in securing equality for lesbians and gays, and supporting civil unions and legal equity regardless of sexual orientation. The 1996 General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association passed a Resolution of Immediate Witness, “Support of the Right to Marry for Same-Sex
Couples.” With a UUA Statement of Conscience, Unitarian Universalists can give a religious voice that embraces diversity and rejects intolerance to organizations working for public support of civil marriage equality for same-sex couples.

Possible Study Questions:
• How has marriage changed over time and within different cultures?
• Why do couples form relationships and does this differ for same-sex and opposite-sex couples?
• What are the rights, benefits, and protections of marriage and should anyone be denied those rights?
• What is the status of legislation related to this issue in your state?
• Would civil marriage licenses for all peoples interfere with rights and beliefs of religious institutions?
• How do Unitarian Universalist principles of justice and equity apply to civil marriage equality?

Possible Actions:
• Study the issue and educate yourself, your congregation and community and political leaders.
• Form a book group to read What Is Marriage For? by E.J. Graf, using Beacon Press’s discussion guide.
• Join or start a local coalition working on civil marriage equality.
• Stay current and respond to legislation regarding civil marriage equality.


S2 Oppression of Women World Wide

Issue: How can Unitarian Universalists work to end the injustices perpetrated against women around the world?

Background and Reasons for Study: Although women in the West have made tremendous gains in legal and cultural protections of their rights, many women suffer worldwide with little hope of recourse for the physical and psychological abuse they endure. Many women throughout the world have little or no access to education. In Africa, and elsewhere where HIV is rampant and access to drugs is severely limited, women are abused by men who have no fear of punishment. This exposes both women and their children to the scourge of HIV/AIDS. In parts of Africa and the Middle East, women must endure the painful practice of genital mutilation. Objective public birth control education in many countries has become subject to withholding of American foreign aid. Trafficking in women has denied many thousands of women the hope of ever having a decent, free, or dignified life.

Significance to Unitarian Universalism: It is impossible to reconcile the dignity and worth of all individuals with these realities of the worldwide oppression of women. This has long called us to fight for women’s rights in the United States and has helped us begin to develop a tradition of women’s leadership in this country. It should compel us also to fight for the rights of women throughout the world, so all women may live in societies which recognize and defend their rights.

Possible Study Questions:


Study/Action Issues - First Year

• What has happened since the Beijing Accords created at the United Nations Fourth World Conference on the Status of Women? What can Unitarian Universalists do to ensure implementation of these Accords?
• How can we understand the roots of oppressive practices in other cultures and religions? Is “cultural relativism” an adequate defense of these practices? How can we dismantle current practices, so women’s human rights may be recognized and respected throughout the world?
• How does American foreign policy perpetuate the curtailment of women’s rights in other parts of the world?
• On what basis can men and women begin to challenge cultural and religious practices preventing women from getting basic and equal education and health care?

Possible Actions:
• Educate ourselves by reading the many primary accounts written by women living in societies sanctioning their oppression.
• Collaborate with the Unitarian Universalist United Nations Office, the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, Amnesty International, and other organizations advocating women’s rights.
• Lobby members of congress to develop responsible foreign policy to prevent the oppression of women.
• Work on literacy and educational projects bringing hope and opportunity to women around the world.


S3 Stopping Mass Extinction

Issue: How can we slow the massive extinction of other species and ensure the continuation of life on earth?

Background and reasons for study: Human beings are destroying other forms of life on unprecedented scales. The extinction rate for plants and animals is now thousands of times higher than the rate which prevailed prior to industrialization. The World Conservation Union puts one quarter of all mammals and one eighth of all birds at risk of extinction. A majority of the world’s biologists agree Earth is suffering a Sixth Great Extinction, dwarfing the cataclysm that killed the dinosaurs. As Dr. Edward O. Wilson wrote, “If the decision were taken today to freeze all conservation efforts at their current level while allowing the same rates of deforestation and other forms of environmental destruction to continue, it is safe to say that at least a fifth of the species of plants and animals would be gone or committed to early extinction by 2030, and half by the end of the century.”

Extinction on this scale means the permanent loss of much of the Earth’s gene pool, along with loss of undiscovered medicines, disease-resistant crops, and other potentially life-saving products. More important is the issue of whether the biosphere can adapt to such devastation or whether the impending die-off prefigures the disappearance of all forms of life.
Significance to Unitarian Universalism: We, as Unitarian Universalists, need to heed the results of science and common sense. Because the looming extinction crisis is unprecedented in human history, foresight and informed opinion are especially needed now. Our commitment to “respect the independent web of all existence of which we are a part” is one of our core principles of being in relationship with the world. Nothing that we do today would have as big an impact on our grandchildren’s futures as the loss of nature’s biological support systems, were we, and others, to ignore this principle.

Possible Study Questions:
- How does the American lifestyle—what we eat, where we work, etc.—impact the survival of other species?
- What steps can be taken to preserve natural habitat, including rainforests, coral reefs, and other regions rich in biodiversity? How does our petroleum based economy affect the Earth’s ability to support life?
- What are the impacts of human population growth and economic globalization on the flora and fauna that share our planet?
- Can UU’s provide a spiritual vision that will motivate people to cherish other living creatures and protect the continuum of life on Earth?

Possible Actions:
- Partner with the Sierra Club and other environmental organizations to develop service/learning opportunities for youth and adults.
- Form study circles on “Choices for Sustainable Living” of the Northwest Earth Institute.
- Encourage congregations to participate in the Green Sanctuary program.
- Support establishment of Unitarian Universalists For the Ethical Treatment of Animals (UUFETA) and the Seventh Principle Project chapters in our congregations.
- Share resources with coalitions like the National Religious Partnership for the Environment.

Related Prior Social Witness Statements: Responsible Consumption as a Moral Imperative (SOC 2001); Earth, Air, Water, and Fire (Gen 1997); Problem of Environmental Policy (Gen 1977); and Unitarian Universalist Statement on Survival and Population Control (Gen 1970).

Issue: What can Unitarian Universalists do to promote individual and collective changes in the way we live and work in order to slow and ultimately reverse global warming?

Background and Reasons for Study: Greenhouse gases, particularly carbon dioxide generated by burning fossil fuels, are trapping heat in earth’s atmosphere and raising temperatures. The evidence is everywhere – retreating glaciers, thinning polar ice, and warming oceans and lakes. Scientists have estimated that global warming could increase worldwide average temperatures as much as eleven degrees Fahrenheit by the year 2100. Predicted effects include extreme weather, spreading disease, widespread species extinction, and large areas of the planet becoming uninhabitable because of rising sea levels or drought. Changes in plant and animal life are well underway, including alterations in the range and distribution of plants; dying coral reefs; shifting migration patterns of birds; declining
numbers of some species such as Arctic ringed seals; and a potentially devastating impact on
countless others, from polar bears to manatees and from salmon to krill (the base of the Antarctic
food chain). Increasing acidity of the oceans from carbon dioxide absorption could eventually
threaten the survival of shelled marine animals and calcium-containing plankton. Wildfires, which
are difficult or impossible to control in earth’s northern forests, will become more likely as the
environment become drier. Yet many political and business leaders in this country have failed to take
seriously a problem we ignore at our peril. Our experiences with the insecticide DDT and synthetic
fluorocarbons should have taught us how much damage human activity can do to the environment.
The risk global warming poses to virtually all life is a greater potential danger than any other we face
today or perhaps ever have.

Significance to Unitarian Universalism: Transcendentalism awakened 19th century Unitarians to
the experience of the sacred through the unfolding of the natural world. Our seventh Principle
challenges contemporary Unitarian Universalists to remember that we are part of the interdependent
web of all existence. The choices we make, coupled with the choices made by government and the
private sector, profoundly affect our environment. We have a moral responsibility to future
generations to mitigate global warming while there is still time.

Possible Study Questions:
- Do we know enough to be confident that the earth’s climate is in fact changing in ways that are
likely to severely impact life if it continues? Where is the point at which global warming becomes
irreversible?
- How does science answer those who dispute the increasing evidence of global warming?
- How realistic are the prospects that fundamentally new technologies such as energy from
hydrogen or the sun will bring the problem under control and enable us to maintain the life style
we have become used to?
- Why is there so little public concern about what is going on? Is it psychological denial, or failure
to communicate the problem in terms that will bring the issue home to ordinary people, or both?
- What are the economic and political forces in our society that for reasons of self-interest don’t
want the question of global warming to be taken seriously?
- What are other faith traditions doing nationally and/or locally to take action on this issue? Are
there opportunities for joining forces with them?
- Should a centralized leadership effort focus on climate change be established in the UUA?

Possible Actions:
- Lead our communities by individual examples, making wise environmental choices even at
significant personal cost.
- Adopt socially responsible investing practices that consider environmental impacts.
- Establish an office within the Unitarian Universalist Association dedicated to combating global
warming by assisting individual Unitarian Universalists and congregations to study and act upon
this problem.
- Engage other faith communities, environmental groups, and other community organizations to
advocate for government programs and policies that reduce reliance upon fossil fuels.

Related Prior Social Witness Statements: Responsible Consumption is Our Moral Imperative
(SOC 2001); Earth, Air, Water, and Fire (1997 Gen); Population and Development (Gen 1996); Safer
Civil Liberties
Revised Draft Statement of Conscience
Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations

Preamble:
Liberty is at the core of our Unitarian Universalist faith. Civil liberties are at the heart of our American experiment in democracy. Those civil liberties guaranteed by the Bill of Rights, Amendments I through X to the constitution of the United States of America, are as fundamental to our practice of democracy as freedom of conscience is to our actions of faith.

Civil liberties carry a history of conflict and struggle between rights for all and privilege for some, between individual liberty and general security, between personal need and the common good, between the aspiration to reason and tolerance and the inclination to scapegoat and punish. Our democracy has the ability to balance these competing claims. Democratic process is at the heart of Unitarian Universalism. Our Unitarian Universalist Principles are grounded in freedom, reason, and tolerance. Ours is a tradition that has sought to uphold the sanctity of the individual voice, challenging ecclesiastical authority and Biblical literalism. We have affirmed that human beings need not adhere to the same beliefs or draw upon the same sources of meaning to discern the common good.

Background:
Since the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, American civil liberties have been curtailed and threatened in the name of ensuring security. As Unitarian Universalists, we look to American history, the history of our faith movement, and our shared principles and purposes to help us determine the appropriate balance between freedom and security. Prophetic people of all faiths have been instrumental in defending liberty throughout history. We stand on the shoulders of those who have fought to uphold civil liberties. Civil liberties are also essential to the free expression and practice of our faith tradition and to the diversity of faith traditions in America. They are further essential to our ability as citizens to fully engage the political process and hold our leaders accountable.

Religious liberty was at the core of the Edict of Religious Tolerance, issued in 1568 by the Unitarian King John Sigismund of Transylvania. Liberty of conscience propelled the founding of the American Civil Liberties Union in 1920 by Unitarian Roger Baldwin, with the support of the Unitarian minister Rev. John Haynes Holmes. Unitarian Universalists traditionally have been on the front lines of movements concerned with advancing civil rights and protecting civil liberties. Many of us are here today as immigrants, or children of immigrants, who fled oppression elsewhere for the promise of a vision whose core liberties are guaranteed for citizens and non-citizens alike.

Among the stewards of our national democratic processes and of our faith traditions, Unitarian Universalists are gravely concerned with the current erosion of American civil liberties. Our criminal justice system has seen increases in police brutality, harsher sentencing, racial profiling, and a call by our leaders for quicker resort to the death penalty. The “war on drugs” has given the United States the dubious distinction of having the highest incarceration rate among economically advanced nations. Federal funding for faith-based initiatives has threatened religious liberty by compromising...
Statement of Conscience

Amendments may be introduced only as called for at the Mini-Assembly on Friday, June 25th at 1:30 p.m. in Convention Center Room 104B.

the independence and equality of different religious groups. The 2000 United States Presidential election raised serious concerns about the state of voting rights for all its citizens, the denial of rights of citizens to public records, and increased government secrecy in general.

The attacks of September 11, 2001, unleashed a climate of fear that has escalated these threats to our liberties and has given birth to an ill-defined “War on Terrorism.” The message from our government is that the United States cannot be both safe and free. Building on a pre-September 11 current of diminished civil liberties, the USA PATRIOT Act was signed into law on October 26, 2001. This Act permits the unlimited detention and deportation of foreign nationals on the basis of suspicion and without due process of law. It redefines the scope of terrorism law to include domestic associations, rendering citizen organizations, including communities of faith, subject to secret surveillance and investigation. It allows the FBI to investigate American citizens without probable cause if the agents consider it for “intelligence purposes.” It permits law enforcement agencies to conduct secret searches, including phone and Internet surveillance, and grants considerably greater access to personal records with fewer due process considerations.

Dissent has been branded as unpatriotic and tantamount to aiding and abetting terrorism. Emboldened by the passage of the USA PATRIOT Act, the Bush Administration has interrogated thousands of Arab and South Asian immigrants, incarcerated hundreds in the United States on minor immigration charges or material witness claims, and detained over 1,200 foreign nationals in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, without due process or compliance with the Geneva Convention. Military tribunals have been empowered to convict suspected terrorists on the basis of hearsay and secret evidence and without independent judicial review. All this has happened in a climate of public opinion, in which Unitarian Universalists and others have too frequently failed to raise voices of reason and forbearance in the din of demagoguery and fear. This failure is evidenced by the hundreds of people who have been arrested and subject to excessive force and the denial of due process for exercising their constitutionally protected freedoms through lawful protests, rallies, vigils, and signage. Because so many of our global neighbors look to the United States as a model of democracy, the erosion of American civil liberties has given permission to governments elsewhere to do likewise.

We recognize that freedom sacrificed for safety is no longer freedom. Americans discovered this in the aftermath of the Alien and Sedition Acts of 1798, the infamous Palmer raids of 1920, the internment of 120,000 Japanese Americans following the bombing of Pearl Harbor, and the McCarthy hearings of the 1950s. We are discovering it today.

Call To Action:

As people of faith, and as Americans, we are called to action. We are called to reclaim our heritage as Unitarian Universalists and become vigilant stewards of our democracy. We are called to act as individuals, congregations, and as an Association of Congregations, to let our leaders know that some current policies are unacceptable; therefore:

• We hold public officials accountable and insist that they refrain from supporting policies and legislation that further limit civil liberties.

• We demand that Attorney General John Ashcroft be held fully accountable for his callous advocacy of policies that have eroded civil liberties, including the refusal to provide constitutionally guaranteed legal representation to detained individuals, American citizens and non-citizens alike.
We urge Congressional oversight committees publicly to monitor federal law enforcement
and intelligence agencies, including the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court, to ensure that the
excesses of the past do not become the norms of the future.
We demand repeal of the USA PATRIOT Act, call upon local officials to adopt resolutions
urging repeal and declaring their intention not to enforce its onerous provisions that limit individual
freedoms, and oppose the proposed Domestic Security Enhancement Act (PATRIOT II.)
We oppose implementation of the “total information awareness” data-mining program of the
Department of Defense, efforts to revive the Terrorism Information and Prevention System (“TIPS”)
program of the Department of Justice that sought to recruit Americans to spy on other Americans,
and profiling based on nationality, ethnicity, or religion.
We oppose nominees, to the federal appeals courts or the Supreme Court, whose records
demonstrate insensitivity to the protection of civil liberties.
We appeal to public officials and the media to support constitutional protections of the Bill of
Rights. We encourage adult education classes focused on the guarantees of the Bill of Rights and
urge public and private schools to include this focus in their regular curricula.
We support the civil liberties activity of such organizations as the American Civil Liberties
Union, Americans United for Separation of Church and State, Amnesty International USA, Bill of
Rights Defense Committee, Center for Public Integrity, The Electronic Frontier Foundation, Human
Rights First, The Interfaith Alliance, People for the American Way, the Unitarian Universalist
Service Committee, and the Unitarian Universalist United Nations Office.

Conclusion:
Nearly every generation faces grave challenges to the liberties for which so many men and women
have fought—the liberties for which many of our ancestors placed themselves in peril so that future
generations could live in freedom. Balancing freedom and security is our challenge. Let us heed the
words of Benjamin Franklin engraved on the base of the Statue of Liberty, “They that give up
essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety.”
The ultimate test of democracy is the will to protect the rights of whomever we deem the “Other.” It
is what matters most in a nation struggling to realize the promise of liberty and justice for all. It is a
matter of conscience and faith.

Background: This draft Unitarian Universalist Association Statement of Conscience builds upon
previous social witness statements on civil liberties adopted in 1963 (Support for the Bill of Rights)
and in 2002 (Support for the International Criminal Court). In June 2002, the General Assembly of
the UUA selected “Civil Liberties” as the issue suggested to congregations for two years of study,
action, and reflection. The Commission on Social Witness (CSW) received initial reports from
congregations and districts in March 2003. In June 2003, the CSW held a workshop on this issue at
General Assembly. A draft Statement of Conscience was distributed to all congregations and districts
for comment in the fall of 2003. Comments were reviewed by the CSW at its March 2004 meeting.
This revised draft is part of the final agenda of the 2004 General Assembly. A Mini-Assembly will be
held during General Assembly to receive and discuss proposed amendments beginning Friday June
25, 2004 at 1:30 p.m. Delegates of the 2004 General Assembly will debate a final revised draft
before voting on whether to adopt it (requiring a two-thirds majority). The text of other UUA
Statements of Conscience can be found at the UUA website (www.uua.org/actions) and the CSW
website (www.uua.org/csw).
Proposed Bylaw and Rule Amendments

Adoption requires a two-thirds vote, except for C-Bylaws. 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 amendments establish a Religious Education Credentialing Committee and give the Board of Review the same relationship to the Religious Education Credentialing Committee as it has to the Ministerial Fellowship Committee. In response to a request from the Religious Education Credentialing Committee, Bylaws Sections 7.13, 12.4, and 5.10 have been non-substantively changed from the language that appeared in the Tentative Agenda.

Placed on the Agenda by the Board of Trustees

Vote by Board of Trustees on the proposed amendment: For 25-0-0

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; [and]
(d) the Investment Committee; and
(e) the Religious Education Credentialing 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 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 7.13. Religious Education Credentialing Committee.
The Religious Education Credentialing Committee shall consist of seven members as follows:
(a) three members, none of whom is a parish minister, minister of religious education, community minister, a credentialed religious educator, or a director of religious education, appointed by the Board;
(b) one member who is a parish minister or community minister, appointed by the Board;
(c) one member who is a minister of religious education, appointed by the Board;
(d) one member who is a credentialed religious educator-masters level, appointed by the Board; and
(e) one member nominated by the Board of the Liberal Religious Educators
Association and appointed by the Board of Trustees. The committee shall have
jurisdiction over religious education credentialing with the Association as provided
in Article XII thereof. 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.

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.

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 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
only 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 in or readmit to religious education credentialing status 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 panel, which shall be the decision of the Board, shall set forth its finding and conclusions and shall be served upon the affected religious educator and the Religious Education Credentialing Committee. The decision shall be entered in the religious education credentialing 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.

[Additionally, existing Articles XII, XIII and XIV shall be re-numbered accordingly.]

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 [Ministerial Fellowship] Board of Review.

Section 5.10. [Ministerial Fellowship] Board of Review.
(a) Members. The [Ministerial Fellowship] Board of Review shall consist of eight members as follows:
(1) Three [Four] 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. [One member of the Board of Review who is a minister and
one who is not shall be elected at each regular General Assembly held in an odd-
numbered year and shall serve for terms of eight years and until their successors
are elected and qualified.] At each regular General Assembly held in an odd-
umbered year one person who is neither a minister nor a credentialed religious
educator shall be elected and shall serve for a term of eight years and until a
successor is elected and qualified. 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 subsection (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-
umbered 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.

(c) 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 8.9. President.
The President shall be the chief executive officer of the Association and shall be a member,
ex-officio, without vote, of all standing committees of the Association, except the
Nominating Committee and the Ministerial Fellowship Board of Review, and of all
standing committees of the Board except the Ministerial Fellowship Committee.

Section 11.5. Fellowship Records.
The Executive Secretary of the Ministerial Fellowship Committee shall maintain up-to-date
records of all ministers in fellowship with the Association. Such records shall be available
only to members of the committee, persons designated by the Committee, and, in cases of
appeals, the Ministerial Fellowship Board of Review.

Section 11.8. Appeal.
A minister in final ministerial fellowship whose fellowship is terminated may appeal the
determination of the Ministerial Fellowship Committee to the Ministerial Fellowship
Board of Review. The Ministerial Fellowship 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 11.9. Procedure on Appeal.
An appeal to the Ministerial Fellowship 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 Ministerial Fellowship Committee,
except that the Board of Review by rules may permit the introduction of newly discovered
evidence. These Bylaws, and the rules of the Ministerial Fellowship Committee, and the
rules of the Religious Education Credentialing Committee shall be binding upon the
The panel shall uphold the decision of the Ministerial Fellowship Committee or 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 Fellowship Committee or the Religious Education Credentialing Committee only where necessary to correct or prevent manifest injustice. The panel may remand the case in whole or in part to the Committee or take such other action as may be just. The decision of the panel, which shall be the decision of the Board, shall set forth its finding and conclusions and shall be served upon the affected minister and the Ministerial Fellowship Committee or the affected religious educator and the Religious Education Credentialing Committee. The decision shall be entered in the fellowship records appropriate records and shall be final and binding upon all parties.

No appeal shall be allowed from the decision of the Board of Review. The [Ministerial Fellowship] Board of Review shall make rules to carry out the intent of this section.

The following proposed amendments set requirements in matters of UUA governance. Proposed Rule G-3.10.1 is submitted by the requisite number of member congregations. Proposed Rule G-2.1 is submitted by the Board of Trustees as an alternative to proposed Rule G-3.10.1. The Board numbered its proposal as Rule G-2.1, following the practice of numbering Rules corresponding to the most relevant Bylaw. The Board's proposal was not on the Tentative Agenda because it was passed at the April meeting of the Board in response to the proposal from congregations and after consultation with individuals who had worked on the original proposed Rule.

Placed on the Agenda by the requisite number of member congregations
Vote by Board of Trustees on the proposed amendment: Against 0-25-0

Rule G-3.10.1. Democratic process.
Because the Association is committed to the use of the democratic process through open procedures that allow all members of its member congregations to follow and participate in its governance, all meetings of the Board of Trustees and all other Association elected and appointed boards, commissions, committees, and task forces shall:

(a) make meeting dates, agendas, reports, and draft minutes available to the congregations within a week of the time they are given to committee members;
(b) be open to observers (with the exception of executive sessions to discuss personnel, ministerial fellowship, litigation, or negotiations);
(c) provide a way for members of member congregations to comment on issues before vote is taken;
(d) allow members to subscribe to board and committee email lists on a read-only basis.

Implementing this Rule shall be the responsibility of the Board of Trustees. The Board shall designate a specific person or committee to whom comments about adherence to these Rules may be addressed. The Board shall report to the General Assembly annually for the next three years on its implementation.

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.

Implementing this rule shall be the responsibility of the Board of Trustees. The Board shall designate a specific person or committee to whom comments about adherence to this rule may be addressed. The Board shall report to the General Assembly annually for the next three years on its implementation.
The following proposed Rule amendments provide for greater clarity regarding the actions of candidates for election and provide for greater authority for the Election Campaign Practices Committee. They appear on this final agenda without having been passed by the Board of Trustees in time for placement on the tentative agenda.

Placed on the Agenda by the Board of Trustees

Vote by Board of Trustees on the proposed amendment: For 25-0-0


(a) 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.

(b) 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.

(c) 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.**

(a) 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.

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

(c) 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.

**Rule G-9.12.8 Campaign Finances Disclosure.**

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

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

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

   (1) under $50.00,

   (2) $50.00 to $100.00,

   (3) $101.00 to $250.00,

   (4) $251.00 to $500.00, and
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 any other tax exempt organization (including specifically, but without limitation to, any minister’s discretionary fund or similar account) that has made any contribution to the campaign 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.

**Rule G-9.12.9  Separation of Campaigns from Conduct of Official Business.**

(a) 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.

(b) 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 campaigning or electioneering activities.

**Rule G-9.12.10 Election Campaign Practices Committee.**

(a) 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.

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

1. to distribute the campaign practices guidelines and financial disclosure rules to candidates for at-large elective positions not later than thirty days after nomination by the nominating committee or receipt of petition;

2. to receive and consider written complaints of alleged violations of such guidelines or rules; if the committee finds probable cause to establish that a violation exists, to notify a candidate or a number of candidates how they may voluntarily comply with guidelines or rules and how long they have to do so; to attempt to mediate disputes arising from such complaints; and, if no satisfactory resolution of a complaint is achieved, to adjudicate the dispute and report the adjudication in writing to the candidates affected;
(3) to hold such hearings as may, at the Committee’s discretion, be necessary or desirable to carry out the intent of subsection 2 above; and

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

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

Candidates adjudicated to be in serious violation of Rule G-9.12.6(c) may have their names removed from the ballot. Any such action pursuant to Rule G-9.12.10(c) shall be reported to the Board and the General Assembly. Such an adjudication by the ECPC would be subject to automatic review by the Board Executive Committee according to the provisions of Rule G-9.12.10.(d).

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

[e] (d) Any member of the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees who is a candidate for UUA elective office shall not participate in any manner in the determination of any appeal from an adjudication of the Election Campaign Practices Committee.
This Bylaw change was approved by the 2003 General Assembly and will need final approval this year if it is to pass. The following proposed amendment changes non-discrimination language to conform with more current understandings from our anti-oppression work.

Placed on the Agenda by the Board of Trustees

Vote by Board of Trustees on the proposed amendment: For 25-0-0

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, [color, sex,] 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.
ARTICLE I Name

Section C-1.1. Name. 
3 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. 
10 We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote
12 1. The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
13 2. Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
14 3. Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
15 4. A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
16 5. The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
17 6. The goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all;
18 7. Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.
19 23 The living tradition which we share draws from many sources:
24 24 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;
25 27 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 of love;
26 29 Wisdom from the world’s religions which inspires us in our ethical and spiritual life;
27 32 Jewish and Christian teachings which call us to respond to God’s love by loving our neighbors as ourselves;
28 34 Humanist teachings which counsel us to heed the guidance of reason and the results of science, and warn us against idolatries of the mind and spirit;
29 37 Spiritual teachings of Earth-centered traditions which celebrate the sacred circle of life and instruct us to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature.
30 40 Grateful for the religious pluralism which enriches and ennobles our faith, we are inspired to deepen our understanding and expand our vision. As free congregations we enter into this covenant, promising to one another our mutual trust and support.

Section C-2.2. Purposes.
45 The Unitarian Universalist Association shall devote its resources to and exercise its corporate powers for religious, educational and humanitarian purposes. The primary purpose of the Association is to serve the needs of its member congregations, organize new congregations, extend and strengthen Unitarian Universalist institutions and implement its principles.

Section C-2.3. Non-discrimination.
52 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 activities and in the full range of human endeavor without regard to race, color, sex, disability, affectional or sexual orientation, age, 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.
59 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.
66 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.
72 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.
82 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.
88 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. The Board of Trustees shall adopt rules to carry out the intent of this Section.

Section C-3.5. Certification of Membership.
92 A member congregation shall be recognized as certified during the fiscal year of the Association in which it becomes a member and during each subsequent fiscal year in which it established that during the immediately preceding fiscal year it: conducted regular religious services; held at least one business meeting of its members, elected its own officers and maintained adequate records of membership; and made a financial contribution to the Association.

100 Member congregations must furnish the Association with a report of their activities showing compliance with subsection (a) and (b) above.

104 Compliance with subsection (c) above shall be determined by appropriate financial records of the Association. A member congregation shall also be considered to be certified for that part of any particular current fiscal year which precedes the deadline established by the Board of Trustees for submitting proof of compliance with subsection (a) and (b) above if during the next preceding fiscal year such a congregation made a financial contribution to the Association and filed the report required by this section during that year.

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

116 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.
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 United States or Canada. The Church of the Larger Fellowship is entitled to 22 such delegates. Other organizations and independent affiliate organizations by their own 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 affiliate status those independently constituted and operated organizations whose purposes and intentions it finds to be in sympathy with the principles of the Association, and which pledges itself to support the Association. The Board of Trustees may terminate such affiliate 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 required to annually designate in writing to the Association the number of delegates which it chooses to have represent it at General Assemblies.

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 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 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-4.2. Powers and Duties.

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

Section 4.3. Regular General Assembly.

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

Section 4.4. Special General Assembly.

A special General Assembly may be called by the Board of Trustees at any time, and shall be called upon petition of not less than ten percent of the membership of the Association. The Board of Trustees may terminate such associate membership upon a finding that the organization no longer meets the foregoing qualifications.

Meeting of the Association shall be by vote of the members present at the meeting, voting shall be by roll call. No member shall have more than one vote. Voting at each regular and special General Assembly shall be by ballot except as provided in these Bylaws. Notice of each General Assembly shall be given not less than sixty days before the date thereof in such form and manner as the Board of Trustees shall determine. Voting at each regular and special General Assembly shall be by ballot except as provided in these Bylaws. Notice of each special General Assembly shall indicate at whose direction it is being called.

Section 4.5. Place of Meeting.

Each regular or special General Assembly shall be held at such place in the United States or Canada as the Board of Trustees shall determine.

Section 4.6. Notice of Meetings.

Notice of each regular and special General Assembly shall be given not less than sixty days before the date thereof in such form and manner as the Board of Trustees shall determine. Notice of each special General Assembly shall indicate at whose direction it is being called.

Section 4.7. Voting.

Voting at each regular and special General Assembly shall be by ballot except as provided in these Bylaws. The Church of the Larger Fellowship is entitled to 22 such delegates. Other associate member organizations and independent affiliate organizations by their own membership. An associate member organization shall be required to annually designate in writing to the Association the number of delegates which it chooses to have represent it at General Assemblies.

Section 4.8. Delegates.

(a) Member Delegates. Each certified member congregation is entitled to be represented at each General Assembly by delegate who is a member of such congregation, selected in accordance with its bylaws or procedures. The Church of the Larger Fellowship is entitled to 22 such delegates. Other certificate member congregations are entitled to that number of such delegates determined as follows: the number of delegates of a certified member congregation shall be equal to the number of members of the congregation divided by fifty, plus one delegate for any fraction remaining; provided that each certified member congregation shall be entitled to at least two delegates.

(b) Accredited Delegates. Each accredited member congregation is entitled to be represented at each General Assembly by an accredited delegate of the congregation.

(c) Alternate Delegates. Each accredited delegate may designate an alternate who shall be entitled to vote in the event of the absence of the accredited delegate.

Section 4.9. Amendments.

The Bylaws of the Association may be amended by a three-fourths vote of the membership present in person, or by a written ballot of the members entitled to vote, at a regular or special General Assembly of the Association.

UUA Bylaws: 2
actual number of members who identify themselves as Unitarian Universalists.

(b) Minister Delegates and Religious Education Director Delegates. Each certified member congregation is also entitled to be represented at each General Assembly by the ordained minister or ministers in full or associate ministerial fellowship with the Association settled in such congregation, and by any minister emeritus or minister emerita of such congregation in ministerial fellowship with the Association designated as such by a vote at a meeting of the member congregation not less than six months prior to the General Assembly, provided that such minister has been settled previously in such congregation, and by the director of religious education who is accredited by the Association and employed in such congregation.

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

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 requirements of payment of a registration fee, a travel fund fee, or both, in order to vote at a General Assembly, except that these requirements shall not apply to the right to cast a ballot for any elective position at large.

Section 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 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:

(a) reports and other matters required by these Bylaws to be submitted to the General Assembly;
(b) proposed amendments to these Bylaws which are submitted as prescribed in Article XIV, Section 14.2;
(c) items referred by the preceding General Assembly;
(d) Business Resolutions and proposed amendments to Bylaws and Rules submitted by the Commission on Appraisal;
(e) all proposed amendments to Rules and all Business Resolutions as defined in Rule G-4.18.2, submitted by:
   (1) the Board of Trustees or the Executive Committee;
   (2) not less than fifteen certified member congregations by action of their governing boards or their congregations; or
   (3) a petition by not less than 250 members of certified member congregations with no more than 10 members of any one member congregation counted as part of the 250;
(f) 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
(g) Study/Action Issues for Social Justice submitted by the Commission on Social Witness pursuant to Section 4.12(b).

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 4.12(b) whenever three successive regular General Assemblies open in June and by the Board of Trustees pursuant to Section 4.13 whenever one or more regular General Assemblies 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 4.12. UUA Statements of Conscience.

The process for adoption of UUA Statements of Conscience whenever three successive regular General Assemblies open in June shall be as follows:

(a) Each member congregation and district may submit to the Commission on Social Witness by December 15 of each year one Study/Action Issue for Social Justice voted at a duly called meeting of its members or its governing board at which a quorum is present.

(b) The Commission on Social Witness shall by February 1 submit to the Planning Committee for inclusion on the Tentative Agenda of the regular General Assembly not more than ten Study/Action Issues for Social Justice, each of which shall be based in whole or in part on the issues submitted to it by the member congregations and districts.

(c) Each Study/Action Issue (not to exceed five in number) that reaches the Final Agenda of the Assembly by vote of the member congregations in the Congregational Directives for General Assembly Action shall be submitted to the Assembly as follows:

(1) The Commission on Social Witness shall organize preliminary workshops to be led by advocates of each of the five Study/Action Issues, prior to the presentation of the Study/Action Issues to the General Assembly.

(2) Each of the Study/Action Issues shall be presented to the General Assembly, and one such Study/Action Issue shall be referred for study by virtue of having received the highest number of votes among all Study/Action Issues constituting a majority of the votes cast by the General Assembly; provided, however, that if no 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.

(3) After one Study/Action Issue for Social Justice has been referred for study in accordance with (ii) above, the Advocacy and Witness staff shall conduct a workshop to discuss processes for study and action on the selected issue, and shall make available a preliminary study/action packet to all attendees of the General Assembly. Such packet shall be mailed to all congregations promptly following the General Assembly.

An additional package of educational materials prepared by the Advocacy and Witness staff pertaining to the selected
Section 4.12. Tentative Agenda.

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

c) 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;

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

e) those Study/Action Issues for Social Justice on the Tentative Agenda which meet the requirements of Rule G-4.18.3; and

(f) the UUA (U.S. or Continental) Statement of Conscience submitted by the Commission on Social Witness pursuant to Section 4.12(f).

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:

(a) the Board of Trustees;

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

(c) 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 4.16. Additions to the Agenda of Regular General Assemblies.

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

(b) Not more than six General Assembly Actions of Immediate Witness, (year) may be admitted to the agenda of a regular General Assembly and acted upon.

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

(2) The petition to admit such resolutions to the agenda must be signed by 150 delegates from at least 25 congregations in at least five districts. If six petitions or fewer are received, all petitions received that have the requisite level of delegate and congregation support are eligible to be considered for possible admission to the Agenda. In the event more than six petitions are submitted that satisfy the sponsorship requirement, the Commission on Social Witness shall select six from among those which meet the criteria for a General Assembly Action of Immediate Witness, (year) and shall submit those six actions to the Agenda of the General Assembly along with a tentative designation of scope, i.e., U.S. or Continental for possible admission.

(3) The motion to admit each General Assembly (U.S. or Continental) Action of Immediate Witness, (year) ruled eligible is not debatable, but an opportunity for a two-minute statement of advocacy to the General Assembly for each eligible action by one of its sponsors prior to any such motion shall be provided.

Admission of a General Assembly (U.S. or Continental) Action of Immediate Witness to the agenda shall be determined by a two-thirds vote of the UUA (U.S. or Continental) General Assembly following March 1 comments with respect to the proposed resolutions.

The UUA (U.S. or Continental) Statement of Conscience, the study/action issue to the Commission on Social Witness, (year) may be admitted to the agenda of a regular General Assembly; or

The petition to admit such resolutions to the agenda must be signed by 150 delegates from at least 25 congregations in at least five districts. If six petitions or fewer are received, all petitions received that have the requisite level of delegate and congregation support are eligible to be considered for possible admission to the Agenda. In the event more than six petitions are submitted that satisfy the sponsorship requirement, the Commission on Social Witness shall select six from among those which meet the criteria for a General Assembly Action of Immediate Witness, (year) and shall submit those six actions to the Agenda of the General Assembly along with a tentative designation of scope, i.e., U.S. or Continental for possible admission.
ARTICLE V Committees of the Association

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 Ministerial Fellowship 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.

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 General Assembly held in an odd-numbered year. 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 Committee 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:

- 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;
- study and suggest approaches to issues which may be of concern to the Association; and
- 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.

- Each appointment and election of a member to the Commission will be for a term of four years;
- One member shall be appointed each odd-numbered year; and
- 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 and by appointment by the Board of Trustees for the balance of the term. The duties of the Commission are described in Section 4.12.

Section 5.10. Ministerial Fellowship Board of Review.

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

1. Four 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. Four members who are not ministers, 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. One member of the Board of Review who is a minister and one who is not shall be elected at each regular General Assembly held in an odd-numbered year and shall serve for terms of eight years and until their successors are elected and qualified.

(c) Qualifications. No member of the Board of Review shall during the term of office be a member of the Ministerial Fellowship 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 policies and directives as provided by law.

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) four trustees elected at large, and a youth trustee at large;
(c) one trustee representing each district.

Notwithstanding the foregoing and anything else to the contrary contained in these Bylaws, the Board of Trustees shall have five, as opposed to four, trustees at large until the earlier to occur of the expiration of the current term of the present trustee at large from Canada or the resignation of the present trustee at large from Canada.

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 such General Assembly. The Board of Trustees shall divide the districts into two groups for purposes of electing trustees.

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. No trustee may serve more than two successive full terms, regardless of the length of those terms. However, a trustee may at any time become one of the elected officers of the Association and serve as long as 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.

Notwithstanding anything else to the contrary contained in these Bylaws, each of the trustees currently representing the Prairie Star district and the St. Lawrence district shall be deemed to qualify as a trustee under this Section until the earlier to occur of the expiration of his or her current term or his or her resignation. The foregoing sentence and this sentence shall automatically expire and be deleted from these Bylaws when both trustees currently representing the Prairie Star district and the St. Lawrence district no longer qualify as trustees, by reason of expiration of term or vacancy created as referred to in Section 6.8(b).

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. The Board of Trustees shall be a member of a member congregation located in the 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.

Notwithstanding anything else to the contrary contained in these Bylaws, each of the trustees currently representing the Prairie Star district and the St. Lawrence district shall be deemed to qualify as a trustee under this Section until the earlier to occur of the expiration of his or her current term or his or her resignation. The foregoing sentence and this sentence shall automatically expire and be deleted.

A trustee may resign at any time 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 until 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 entitled to be represented by a trustee shall be governed by the bylaws of the district and Section 9.11 of these Bylaws subject to the following limitations:

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.

Section 6.9. Place of Meeting.

The Board of Trustees shall hold its meetings at such places as the Board may determine.
876 Assistant Secretary at any meeting of the committee from which
877 the Secretary is absent. The Executive Committee shall conduct
878 the current and ordinary business of the Association between
879 meetings of the Board of Trustees. If between meetings of the
880 Board of Trustees, matters arise which (1) in the opinion of the
881 Executive Committee are not current and ordinary business but in
882 the best interests of the Association must nevertheless be acted
883 upon, or (2) the Executive Committee has been authorized by the
884 Board to be acted upon, then the Executive Committee may act
885 thereon for the Board of Trustees, but only if four or more
886 members vote the action.

887 Section 7.6. Ministerial Fellowship Committee.
888 The Ministerial Fellowship Committee shall consist of fourteen
889 members as follows:
890 (a) six members who are not ministers appointed by the Board;
891 (b) six members who are ministers in final fellowship with the
892 Association, with at least one from each category of ministry
893 including community ministry, appointed by the Board; and
894 (c) two members appointed by the Unitarian Universalist
895 Ministers Association.
896 Two members of the committee, and only two, shall be trustees.
897 The committee shall have jurisdiction over ministerial fellowship
898 with the Association as provided in Article XI hereof. The Board of
899 Trustees shall designate a person who is not a member of the
900 committee to be its Executive Secretary and keep its records.

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

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

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

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

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

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

930 ARTICLE VIII Officers of the Association

931 *Section 8.1. Officers Enumerated.
932 (a) Elected Officers. The elected officers of the Association
933 shall be a Moderator, a President, and a Financial Advisor.
934 (b) Appointed Non-salaried Officers. The appointed non-
935 salaried officers of the Association shall include one or more
936 Vice Moderators, a Secretary, and a Recording Secretary
937 and may include such other officers as the Board of
938 Trustees may appoint.
939 (c) Appointed Salaried Officers. The appointed salaried officers
940 of the Association shall include a Treasurer, and may
941 include one or more vice presidents, assistant treasurers,
942 and such other officers as the Board of Trustees may
943 determine.

944 Section C-8.2. Control by Board of Trustees.
945 All officers shall be subject to the direction and control of the Board
946 of Trustees. All appointed officers shall be appointed by the Board
947 of Trustees and shall serve at its pleasure.

948 Section 8.3. Term of Office.
949 (a) Elected Officers. The elected officers shall be elected at a
950 regular General Assembly in an odd-numbered year and
951 shall take office immediately after the close of such General
952 Assembly.
953 (1) President. The President shall serve for a term of four
954 years and until his or her successor is elected and
955 qualified. No President shall serve more than two
956 successive terms; and any partial term of more than
957 two years served by reason of appointment and/or
958 election to office pursuant to subsection 8.7(a) below
959 shall be considered a full term for purposes of this
960 subsection.
961 (2) Moderator and Financial Advisor. The Moderator and
962 Financial Advisor shall each serve for a term of four
963 years and until his or her successor is elected and
964 qualified. No Moderator or Financial Advisor shall
965 serve more than two successive full terms; and any
966 partial term of more than two years served by reason
967 of appointment and/or election to office pursuant to
968 subsection 8.7(a) below shall be considered a full
969 term for purposes of this subsection.
970 (b) Appointed Non-salaried Officers. The appointed non-
971 salaried officers shall serve for one or more terms of two
972 years and until their successors are appointed and qualified.

973 Section 8.4. Qualification of Officers.
974 Each officer of the Association shall be a member of a member
975 congregation. If an officer ceases to be a member of any member
976 congregation, such officer shall be disqualified and the office
977 declared vacant.

978 Section 8.5. Removal of Officers.
979 (a) Elected Officers. An elected officer may be removed by a
980 three-fourths vote of the entire Board of Trustees at a
981 meeting at which not less than three-fourths of the entire
982 Board is present if in the opinion of the Board such officer is
983 incapacitated or unable to carry out the duties of the office.
984 The President may also be removed by such a vote of the
985 Board if it determines that such removal is in the best
986 interests of the Association.
987 (b) Appointed Officers. An appointed officer may be removed
988 by the Board of Trustees at any time.

989 Section 8.6. Resignation.
990 An officer may resign at any time by giving written notice to the
991 Moderator, who shall immediately forward copies to the Board of
992 Trustees. Any such resignation shall take effect at the time
993 specified therein, or, if no time is specified, then upon delivery.

994 Section 8.7. Vacancies.
995 (a) Elected Officers. A vacancy created by the death,
996 disqualification, resignation, or removal of an elected officer
997 shall be filled by the Board of Trustees until the next regular
998 General Assembly at which an election can be held. The
Section 8.11. Executive Vice President.

Section 8.12. Vice Moderators.

Section 8.13. Vice Presidents.

Section 8.14. Secretary.

Section 8.15. Treasurer.

Section 8.16. Recording Secretary.

Section 8.17. Other Appointed Officers.

Section 8.18. Compensation.

Section 8.19. Reports by Officers.

Section 9.1. Elective Positions.

Section 9.2. Nomination Procedures.

Section 9.3. Notice by Nominating Committee.

Section 9.4. Nomination by Nominating Committee.

Section 9.5. Nomination by Petition.

Section 9.6. Election by Petition.

Section 9.7. Petition for Non-elective Officers.

Section 9.8. Petition by Nominating Committee.

Section 9.9. Petition for President and Moderator.

Section 9.10. Petition by Councils and Congregations.

Section 9.11. Petition by Other Organizations.


Section 9.13. Petition by the Ministerial Fellowship.

Section 9.14. Petition by the Ministerial Fellowship Board of Review.

Section 9.15. Petition by the United Church.

Section 9.16. Petition by the American Baptist Churches.

Section 9.17. Petition by the National Council of Churches.

Section 9.18. Petition by the National Council of Churches in the U.S.A.

Section 9.19. Petition by the National Baptist Convention.

Section 9.20. Petition by the Conference of Christian Churches.


Section 9.22. Petition by the Conference of Christian Churches.

Section 9.23. Petition by the Conference of Christian Churches.

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 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 made, the position shall be filled after the final adjournment of the regular General Assembly at which the election would have been held in the same manner as if the position had been filled by election and had then become vacant.

Section 9.8. Supervision of Elections.
The Secretary shall supervise all elections for elective positions at large. The Secretary may appoint a committee of tellers to count ballots and perform other routine duties. The Secretary shall decide any question arising during such an election concerning: the interpretation of any provision of these Bylaws or of Rules made hereunder relating to election procedures; any procedural problem relating to the election which is not covered by these Bylaws or by the Rules; or the interpretation of the intent of a voter in marking the ballot.

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

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

Section 9.11. Nominations and Elections of Trustees Representing Districts.
(a) District Bylaws. Each district shall in its bylaws set forth the method by which the certified member congregations of the Association within that district shall nominate and elect a trustee. Where two or more districts are required to share a single trustee, each such district shall adopt compatible bylaw provisions. In the absence of valid district bylaw provisions, the trustee representing that district or group of districts shall be elected in accordance with the Bylaws and Rules of the Association.
(b) Time of Election. The election of a district trustee, except an election to fill a vacancy pursuant to Section 6.8(b), shall be held not less than 45 nor more than 300 days before the regular General Assembly following such trustee is to take office.
(c) Method of Nominations. The district bylaws shall provide that nominations may be made by a specific number of certified member congregations.
(d) Method of Election. If a district’s bylaws do not include a provision for the election of the trustee representing that district or the group of districts of which that district is a part, the trustee for that district or the group of districts of which that district is a part shall be elected using one of the following methods:
(1) at large within the district, with each member of a certified member congregation casting a ballot by mail;
(2) by delegates at a district meeting at which each certified member congregation is entitled to the same number of voting delegates as specified in Section 4.8(a) of these Bylaws, with absentee ballots by the delegates permitted;
(3) by each certified member congregation, acting at a legal meeting of such congregation, casting that number of votes equal to the number of delegates specified in Section 4.8(a) of these Bylaws, allocated among the candidates as it shall determine;
(4) by delegates at a district meeting at which each certified member congregation is entitled to the same number and kind of voting delegates as specified in Section 4.8(a) and (b) of these Bylaws with absentee ballots by the delegates permitted;
(5) by each certified member congregation, acting at a legal meeting of such congregation, casting that number of votes equal to the number of delegates specified in Section 4.8(a) of these Bylaws, with the votes of the congregation allocated among the candidates as it shall determine and by each minister and Director of Religious Education, who meets the criteria for delegate status set forth in Section 4.8(b) of these Bylaws, casting a vote.
(e) Certification of Election. The secretary of the district or such other district officer as may be designated in the district bylaws shall certify the results of the election to the

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1252 Secretary of the Association as soon as they are available.  
1253 Such certificate shall be conclusive that the person so 
1254 certified has been duly elected if the district has adopted 
1255 bylaws conforming to the requirements of this section. A 
1256 trustee elected to fill a vacancy shall take office immediately 
1257 upon such certification. 
1258 (f) Invalid Election. If the procedures for the nomination or 
1259 election of a district trustee violate the provisions of these 
1260 Bylaws, the election shall be invalid and a new election shall 
1261 be held not more than twelve months after the invalid 
1262 election. 
1264 Rules relating to nomination and election procedures shall be 
1265 adopted by a General Assembly. Such rules shall be applicable to 
1266 elections held after the close of the General Assembly at which 
1267 they are adopted. 
1268 
1269 ARTICLE X Finance and Contracts 
1270 *Section 10.1. Annual Budget. 
1271 The annual budget of the Association shall be adopted and may 
1272 subsequently be amended by the Board of Trustees. A budget or 
1273 budgets for the coming year or years shall be presented to each 
1274 regular General Assembly for its consideration and such 
1275 recommendation of financial priorities as the General Assembly 
1276 may wish to make. 
1277 *Section 10.2. Duties of Finance Committee. 
1278 The Finance Committee shall submit proposed annual budgets for 
1279 the Association to the Board of Trustees and make 
1280 recommendations to the Board with respect to major financial 
1281 policies of the Association other than those pertaining to 
1282 investments. It shall review the use made of specific funds held by 
1283 the Association and shall also recommend long-range financial 
1284 plans. 
1285 *Section 10.3. Duties of Financial Advisor. 
1286 The Financial Advisor shall advise the President and the Board of 
1287 Trustees on financial policy and shall assist the Board in long- 
1288 range planning by reviewing the sources of funds, the application 
1289 of funds designated for specific purposes, the balance between 
1290 foreseeable income and proposed expenditures, and the overall 
1291 financial welfare of the Association. From time to time the 
1292 Financial Advisor shall report to the President and the Board 
1293 findings and recommendations respecting the current financial 
1294 affairs of the Association and long-range planning. 
1295 *Section 10.4 Duties of Treasurer and Assistant 
1296 Treasurers. 
1297 The Treasurer shall have custody of the corporate seal and the 
1298 funds and other properties of the Association and shall have the 
1299 usual duties of the Treasurer of a corporation. The Treasurer or 
1300 the Board of Trustees may from time to time delegate or assign to 
1301 each Assistant Treasurer specified duties and authority; and any 
1302 person, firm, organization or corporation dealing with the 
1303 Association may assume that any act performed by an Assistant 
1304 Treasurer, including the execution, sealing and delivery of any 
1305 document, has been performed pursuant to an effective delegation 
1306 or assignment of authority as aforesaid, and the Association shall 
1307 be bound accordingly. 
1308 *Section C-10.5. Raising of Funds. 
1309 The Association shall raise capital and operating funds to carry out 
1310 its purposes. It may also raise capital and operating funds for 
1311 associate member organizations and independent affiliate 
1312 organizations. 
1313 *Section C-10.6. Funds Held for Others. 
1314 With the approval of the Board of Trustees, the Association may 
1315 hold for investment and distribution funds belonging to or given for 
1316 the benefit of a member congregation, associate member 
1317 organization, independent affiliate organization, or other 
1318 organizations. Such funds may be invested in the General 
1319 Investment Fund of the Association unless they are subject to 
1320 specific restrictions which require some other form of investment. 
1321 Section C-10.7. Responsibility for Investments. 
1322 (a) Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees shall have 
1323 ultimate responsibility for investing the funds belonging to or 
1324 held by the Association. 
1325 (b) Investment Committee. The Investment Committee shall 
1326 supervise the investments of the Association subject to 
1327 control by the Board of Trustees. 
1328 *Section 10.8. Contracts and Securities. 
1329 The President, Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and 
1330 Assistant Treasurer may sign and attest deeds, mortgages, 
1331 contracts, and other documents to which the Association is a party. 
1332 *Section 10.9. Pension System. 
1333 The Association shall establish and maintain a pension system for 
1334 ministers in full fellowship with the Association. 
1335 *Section 10.10. Fiscal Year. 
1336 The fiscal year of the Association shall be from July 1 to June 30. 
1337 *Section C-10.11. Corporate Seal. 
1338 The seal of the Association shall be in such form as the Board of 
1339 Trustees shall approve. 
1340 *Section 10.12. Indemnification of Trustees, Officers, 
1341 Employees, and Volunteers. 
1342 The Association, to the extent legally permissible, shall indemnify 
1343 any trustee, officer, employee of the Association or volunteer 
1344 elected by a General Assembly or appointed by the Board of 
1345 Trustees of the Association to serve the Association, or persons 
1346 formerly holding such positions, against all liabilities and expenses 
1347 (including court costs, attorney's fees, and the amount of any 
1348 judgment or reasonable settlement, fines and penalties) actually 
1349 and necessarily incurred by any such person, subsequent to the 
1350 adoption hereof, in connection with the defense of any claim 
1351 asserted or threatened to be asserted against any such person, or 
1352 any action, suit or proceeding in which any such person may be 
1353 involved as a party, by reason of being or having been such 
1354 trustee, officer, employee or volunteer or by reason of any action 
1355 alleged to have been taken or omitted by any such person as such 
1356 trustee, officer, employee or volunteer, except with respect to any 
1357 matter as to which he or she shall have been adjudicated in any 
1358 proceeding not to have acted in good faith in the reasonable belief 
1359 that his or her action was in the best interests of the Association 
1360 provided, however, that as to any matter disposed of by a 
1361 compromise payment by such person, pursuant to a consent 
1362 decree or otherwise, no indemnification either for said payment or 
1363 for any other expenses shall be provided unless such compromise 
1364 and indemnification therefore shall be approved: 
1365 (a) by a majority vote of a quorum consisting of disinterested 
1366 trustees; 
1367 (b) if such quorum cannot be obtained, then by a majority vote of 
1368 a committee of the Board of Trustees consisting of all the 
1369 disinterested trustees; 
1370 (c) if there are not two or more disinterested trustees in office, 
1371 then by a majority of the trustees then in office, provided they 
1372 have obtained a written finding by independent legal counsel 
1373 appointed by a majority of the trustees to the effect that, 
1374 based upon a reasonable investigation of the relevant facts 
1375 as described such opinion, the person to be indemnified 
1376 appears to have acted in good faith and in the reasonable 
1377 belief that his or her action was in the best interests of the 
1378 Association; 
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No minister shall be required to subscribe to any particular creed, action of the Ministerial Fellowship Committee. Fellowship may be for the purposes of parish, associate fellowship. Classes of ministerial fellowship which shall include full and admitted to final fellowship. A probationary period of three years, and may thereafter be admitted to fellowship shall be admitted to preliminary fellowship for these Bylaws and the rules of the committee. A minister who is Fellowship Committee, upon complying with the requirements of these Bylaws and the rules of the committee. A minister who is admitted to fellowship shall be admitted to preliminary fellowship for a probationary period of three years, and may thereafter be admitted to final fellowship. 

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 C-11.2. Ministerial Fellowship Committee. The Ministerial Fellowship Committee shall have exclusive jurisdiction over ministerial fellowship except as otherwise provided herein. 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 of the committee. A minister who is admitted to fellowship shall be admitted to preliminary fellowship for a probationary period of three years, and may thereafter be admitted to final fellowship.

Section 11.4. Classes of Ministerial Fellowship. The Ministerial Fellowship Committee shall adopt rules related to classes of ministerial fellowship which shall include full and associate fellowship.

Ministers in full fellowship are those admitted to fellowship who are:

1. engaged in full-time active ministerial service;
2. actively seeking positions in such service and have recently so served; and
3. retired from such service by reason of advanced age or illness.

Ministers in associate fellowship are those in fellowship who are not currently in full fellowship.

Section 11.5. Fellowship Records. The Executive Secretary of the Ministerial Fellowship Committee shall maintain up-to-date records of all ministers in fellowship with the Association. Such records shall be available only to members of the committee, persons designated by the Committee, and, in cases of appeals, the Ministerial Fellowship Board of Review.

Section 11.6. Suspension or Termination of Fellowship. The fellowship of a minister may be suspended or terminated by the Ministerial Fellowship Committee for unbecoming conduct or other specified cause. Final fellowship may be suspended or terminated only after notice and opportunity for a hearing before the Committee at which the minister 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 11.7. Reinstatement in Fellowship. 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 11.8. Appeal. A minister in final ministerial fellowship whose fellowship is terminated may appeal the determination of the Ministerial Fellowship Committee to the Ministerial Fellowship Board of Review. The Ministerial Fellowship 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 11.9. Procedure on Appeal. An appeal to the Ministerial Fellowship 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 Ministerial Fellowship Committee, except that the Board of Review by rules may permit the introduction of newly discovered evidence. These Bylaws and the rules of the Ministerial Fellowship Committee shall be binding upon the panel. The panel shall uphold the decision of the Ministerial Fellowship Committee if it can be sustained by a reasonable view of the record. The panel may set aside the decision of the Fellowship Committee only where necessary to correct or prevent manifest injustice. The panel may remand the case in whole or in part to the Committee or take such other action as may be just. The decision of the panel, which shall be the decision of the Board, shall set forth its finding and conclusions and shall be served 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 Ministerial Fellowship Board of Review shall make rules to carry out the intent of this section.

ARTICLE XII Regional Organizations

Section C-12.1. Districts. The Association shall support areas of regional responsibility known as districts.

*Section C-12.2. 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 12.3. Members. All member congregations of the Association located within the district shall be entitled to be member congregations of that district.
**ARTICLE XIII  Rules**

Section 13.1. Adoption and Amendment of Rules by General Assemblies.

1301 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.

1302 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 13.1 do not apply to the Rules of Procedure contemplated by Section 4.19.

Section 13.2. Adoption and Amendment of Rules by the Board of Trustees.

1321 The Board of Trustees may adopt Rules not inconsistent with these Bylaws and with Rules adopted by General Assemblies and may amend or repeal its Rules.

Section 13.3. Rules of Order.

1331 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 XIV  Amendment**

Section C-14.1. Amendment of Bylaws.

1411 (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.

1412 (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.

1413 (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.

1414 (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.

1415 (c) (1) 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 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.

1416 (2) 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.

1417 (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.

1418 (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.
RULES* of the
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ASSOCIATION

1647 "Rules whose section number is preceded by a "G" are those
1648 adopted by a General Assembly and may be amended or repealed
1649 only by a General Assembly, as provided in Section 13.1 of the
1650 Bylaws.

RULE I Name
1651 No existing rules applicable to Article I.

RULE II Principles and Purposes
1654 No existing rules applicable to Article II.

RULE III Membership
1656 Section C-3.3. Admission to Membership.

Rule 3.3.1. New Congregations.
1658 It is the policy of the Unitarian Universalist Association to
1659 encourage and assist the development of new congregations as
1660 well as to support and aid existing member congregations as
1661 stated in the purposes of the Association.

Rule 3.3.2. Procedure for Admission.
1663 A church or fellowship may become a member of the Association
1664 upon approval by the Board of Trustees of the Association of a
1665 written application for membership.

1666 The application shall include:
1667 (a) a statement that the applicant subscribes to the principles of
1668 the Association and pledges itself to support the
1669 Association;
1670 (b) a copy of the articles of incorporation or other organizing
1671 documents and the bylaws of the applicant;
1672 (c) the names and addresses of the charter members sufficient
1673 in number to satisfy the minimum membership requirements; and
1674 (d) an initial payment in an amount of no less than the Fair Share
1675 contribution to the Association's Annual Program Fund, pro-
1676 rated for the portion of the Association's fiscal year remaining
1677 as of the date of application.

1679 Rule 3.3.3. Membership Requirements for Admission.
1680 A new congregation, to be recognized as a member of the
1681 Association, must have thirty (30) of its adult members be
1682 members solely of the new congregation.

Rule 3.3.4. Multiple Local Congregations.
1684 In many communities the liberal religious movement may be better
1685 served by the establishment of two or more member congregations.

1686 (a) It is ordinarily desirable that a new congregation should have
1687 the active support and sponsorship of any member
1688 congregation or congregations located in the same
1689 geographic area.

1690 (b) The Association will neither initiate nor recognize such a new
1691 congregation until after the Association has consulted by
1692 mail or by interview with any member congregation or
1693 congregations located in the same geographic area. Such
1694 consultation shall include a request for letters from the
1695 presiding officer of the congregation's governing board and
1696 minister of such congregation(s) stating judgment regarding
1697 the establishment and/or recognition of the new congregation.

1698 The Association may proceed to assist in
1699 organizing or recognizing the new congregation despite local
1700 protest or objection if the Association believes that such
1701 action is in the best interests of the entire movement and that
1702 it will strengthen the total Unitarian Universalist position in
1703 the community.

Rule 3.3.5. Rules and Regulations for New
1705 Congregations.
1706 It is essential that Unitarian Universalist congregations be
1707 affirmative in spirit, inclusive in fellowship, and mutually supportive
1708 in their relationships with other congregations. The following
1709 statements represent the Association's best judgment as to the
1710 meaning of this general statement and shall be used by staff and
1711 the Board in determining action upon applications for membership.

1712 (a) In receiving the application of a new congregation for
1713 membership in the Association, the Congregational Services
1714 staff shall satisfy itself that the group is making its application
1715 in good
1716 faith and that it will make a sincere effort to carry out the
1717 purposes of the Association. (See specifically Article II of the
1718 Bylaws.)

1719 (b) The Association interprets its statements of purpose to
1720 mean that no congregation may be accepted into
1721 membership if its bylaws exclude from its local membership
1722 any person because of race, ethnicity, gender, disability,
1723 affectional or sexual orientation, language, citizenship status,
1724 economic status, or national origin.

1725 (c) All member congregations must be congregational in polity;
1726 the final authority to make decisions must be vested in the
1727 legal membership of the congregation.

1728 (d) Member congregations shall project and embark upon a
1729 balanced program of religious activity including adult worship
1730 and/or discussion and when feasible establishment of a
1731 church school in the Unitarian Universalist tradition.

1732 (e) New congregations are expected to establish and maintain
1733 cooperative relations with Unitarian Universalist agencies, as
1734 appropriate and feasible.

1735 (f) A congregation should be incorporated when possible under
1736 the laws of the state in which it exists. A congregation shall
1737 include in its articles of incorporation or other organizing
1738 documents a clause providing that the assets of the
1739 congregation will be transferred upon dissolution to the
1740 Association. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if a congregation
1741 obtains the prior written consent of the Association's Board of
1742 Trustees, the congregation may name an organization that is
Rule 3.3.6. Order of Administrative Procedure.

The order of administrative procedure:

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

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

- U.S. Congregations - District President
- Other Congregations – Executive Officer of appropriate Unitarian or Universalist or Unitarian Universalist international group, if any.

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

Section C-3.5. Certification of Membership.

Rule 3.5.1. Required Annual Report.

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

Section C-3.6. Inactive Congregations.

Rule 3.5.2. Inactive Congregations

In September of each year the Congregational Services Director shall initiate the process of contacting congregations in the inactive category to determine their status.

Rule 3.7.1. Limitation of Associate Membership.

Each associate member organization shall in all aspects of its work refrain from the practice of segregation based on race, ethnicity, gender, disability, affectional or sexual orientation, language, citizenship status, economic status, or national origin. This rule is not intended to preclude associate membership to major continent-wide organizations designed to benefit groups organized to ensure their fuller participation in the larger society and to fulfill their unique spiritual needs.

Rule 3.7.2. Non-Segregation.

Each applicant for membership shall submit with its application:

(a) an attested copy of its charter and, unless it is included in the bylaws;
(b) the approximate number of members in the organization;
(c) a statement outlining the intended use of associate membership, if granted, and the goals and objectives of the organization;
(d) a financial statement showing income and expenses for the latest fiscal year preceding the date of filing; and
(e) the dates upon which its governing board met during the twelve months immediately preceding the date of filing.

The application for associate membership shall be deemed to have conducted ‘regular religious services’ if it has held at least 10 services during the fiscal year.

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

Rule 3.7.3. Application for Associate Membership.

Each applicant for membership shall submit with its application:

(1) under Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1954;
(2) as a registered charity as provided for in the Income Tax Act (Canada); or
(3) under the laws of the country governing the applicant’s tax status;
(4) evidence that it enjoys tax exempt status;
(5) a statement outlining the intended use of associate membership, if granted, and the goals and objectives of the organization that will be served by such use;
(6) any other information which the Board of Trustees of the Association shall require.
1909 Except in the year when it is admitted to membership, each
1910 associate member shall send to the Association on or before April
1911 30 (i) an annual report which shall include the data required by
1912 subsections (b), (c), (d), (e) and (f) of Rule 3.7.3 and any other
1913 information which the Board of Trustees shall require and (ii) the
1914 contribution contemplated by Rule 3.7.10. If an associate member
1915 fails to comply with the provisions of this Rule, the Board of
1916 Trustees shall at its next regular meeting consider a finding of non-
1917 compliance and the termination of the associate membership status
1918 of such organization.

1920 Each associate member shall send the Association an attested
1921 copy of any changes in its charter, purposes, objectives, or bylaws
1922 as soon as any such changes are made, and shall notify the
1923 Board immediately of any change in its tax exempt status.

1924 Rule 3.7.6. Representation of Associate Membership.
1925 No organization shall claim or represent in any manner that it is an
1926 associate member of the Association until such membership is
1927 voted by the Board of Trustees; and if and when any organization's
1928 associate membership expires or it is terminated, that organization
1929 shall immediately cease to claim, represent or imply in any manner
1930 that it is an associate member of the Association.

1931 Rule 3.7.7. Mailing List.
1932 Each associate member shall place the Association on its regular
1933 mailing list.

1935 Before granting associate membership, the Board of Trustees shall
1936 determine that the granting of such associate membership is likely
1937 to be of substantial benefit to the Unitarian Universalist movement.

1938 Rule 3.7.9. Yearly Grant of Associate Membership.
1939 Associate membership for all new or existing associate members
1940 shall be granted by the Board of Trustees for a designated one
1941 year period or portion thereof.

1942 Rule 3.7.10. Associate Member Contributions.
1943 The contribution required to be submitted with an application for
1944 associate membership is $500 for any applicant whose budget for
1945 the 12 months preceding its application for associate membership
1946 was $1,000,000 or more and $250 for any applicant whose budget
1947 for the 12 months preceding its application for associate
1948 membership was less than $1,000,000. The contribution required to
1949 be submitted with an associate member's annual report is $500 for
1950 any associate member whose budget for the 12 months preceding
1951 the due date of the annual report was $1,000,000 or more and $250
1952 for any associate member whose budget for the 12 months
1953 preceding the due date of the annual report was less than
1954 $1,000,000.

1955 Section C-3.8. Independent Affiliate Organizations.
1957 Each applicant for independent affiliate status shall submit with its
1958 1910 application:
1959 (a) an attested copy of its charter, and, unless it is included in
1960 the charter, an attested copy of its purposes, objectives, and
1961 bylaws;
1962 (b) the approximate number of members in the organization;
1963 (c) a list of the principal officers with their personal mail
1964 addresses and the principal mail address of the organization;
1965 (d) if the applicant is a church or other religious organization:
1966 (1) the name of the denomination or sect in which the
1967 applicant has membership and if there is a minister, the
1968 name, address, and the name of each religious
1969 denomination or sect in which the minister is currently
1970 ordained or otherwise recognized; and
1971 (2) an attested copy of a letter or other instrument
1972 showing that each such denomination or sect has
1973 been notified of the application. (Note: The Unitarian
1974 Universalist Association will not always require that
1975 other denominations or sects approve an application
1976 for independent affiliate status but reserves the right to
1977 do so;
1978 (e) the contribution contemplated by Rule 3.8.9;
1979 (f) a financial statement showing income and expenses for the
1980 latest fiscal year preceding the date of filing and showing
1981 assets, liabilities and net worth as of the end of such fiscal
1982 year;
1983 (g) the dates upon which its governing board met during the
1984 twelve months immediately preceding the date of filing;
1985 (h) any yearly reports of its governing body and its principal
1986 officers sent to members during the twelve months
1987 immediately preceding the date of filing;
1988 (i) evidence that it enjoys tax exempt status:
1989 (1) under Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue
1990 Code of 1954;
1991 (2) as a registered charity as provided for in the Income
1992 Tax Act (Canada); or
1993 (3) under the laws of the country governing the applicant's
1994 tax status;
1995 (j) if the applicant does not enjoy tax exempt status, the reason
1996 or reasons it does not;
1997 (k) a statement outlining the intended use of independent
1998 affiliate status, if granted, and the goals and objectives of the
1999 organization that will be served by such use;
2000 (l) a statement outlining what advantage it is believed there
2001 would be to the Association and to the furtherance of the
2002 principles of the Association outlined in Bylaw Section C-
2003 2.2; and
2004 (m) any other information which the Board of Trustees of the
2005 Association shall require.

2007 Each independent affiliate organization shall in all aspects of its
2008 work refrain from the practice of segregation based on race,
2009 ethnicity, gender, disability, affectional or sexual orientation,
2010 language, citizenship status, economic status, or national origin.
2011 This rule is not intended to preclude independent affiliate
2012 organizations designed to benefit groups organized to ensure their
2013 fuller participation in the larger society and to fulfill their unique
2014 spiritual needs.

2016 Each independent affiliate organization shall send the Association
2017 on or before April 30 (i) an annual report which shall include the
2018 data required by subsections (b), (c), (f), (g) and (h) of Rule 3.8.1
2019 and any other information which the Board of Trustees shall require
2020 and (ii) the contribution contemplated by Rule 3.8.9. If an
2021 independent affiliate organization fails to comply with the provisions
2022 of this Rule, the Board of Trustees shall at its next regular meeting

UUA Bylaws: 16
Section C-4.7. Voting.

Rule G-4.7.1. Recording the Vote on Resolutions.

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

2036 (a) unanimously; or
2037 (b) by a vote of two-thirds or more; or
2038 (c) by a specified vote for or against.

2040 When any resolution is reported by the Association, the recorded
2041 vote on each resolution shall be included.

Section C-4.9. Accreditation of Delegates.

Rule G-4.9.1. Number of Delegates.

Rule G-4.9.1A. Merged, Consolidated, or Dissolved Congregations.

2050 In the event a certified member congregation dissolves or merges
2051 or consolidates with another congregation subsequent to its filing
2052 any delegate credentials outstanding on the date of dissolution or
2053 merger or consolidation are thereby rendered null and void. In the
2054 event of merger or consolidation, the merged or consolidated
2055 certified member congregation shall be entitled during the current
2056 fiscal year of the Association to the number of delegate credentials
2057 that reflects the total membership of the merged or consolidated
2058 congregation or to the number of delegate credentials that the
2059 certified member congregations merging or consolidating would
2060 have been entitled to but for the merger or consolidation, whichever
2061 is less.

Rule 4.9.2. Settled Ministers.

2062 A settled minister for the purpose of accreditation as a delegate
2063 pursuant to Bylaw Section 4.8 (b) is (a) a minister engaged by a
2064 certified member congregation in compensated ministerial activities
2065 which constitute fifty percent or more of a typical work schedule or
2066 (b) a community minister who (1) maintains active involvement in
2067 such congregation, (2) has written agreement with the
2068 congregation, (3) receives endorsement from the congregation
2069 including a pledge of continuing relationship and support and
2070 affirmation that the community minister's work is recognized by the
2071 congregation as ministry, and (4) is compensated for community
2072 ministry work which constitutes fifty percent or more of a typical
2073 work schedule recognized by the congregation as ministry. A
2074 2079 congregation is entitled to the number of accredited community
2075 minister delegates equal to the number of delegates to which it is
2076 entitled under Bylaw Section 4.8(a). A minister emeritus/a shall
2077 previously have settled in such congregation as described in this
2078 Rule. A certified member congregation shall certify in writing that
2079 its minister delegates meet the criteria for minister in accordance
2080 with this Rule.

Rule G-4.9.3. Mailing of Credential Cards.

2081 Not less than forty-five days prior to each General Assembly, the
2082 Secretary of the Association shall send to each certified member
2083 congregation and associate member organization entitled to be
2084 represented by delegates the proper number of delegate
2085 credentials. The Secretary shall also furnish trustees with
2086 credentials.

Rule 4.9.4. Issuance of Duplicate Credential Card.

2087 If a person who has been duly constituted a delegate arrives at a
2088 General Assembly without a properly executed Credential Card, the
2089 person may apply to the Secretary of the Association, or to one or

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 Study/Action
issues for Social Justice submitted by the certified member
congregations and districts, and the criteria which it used in
selecting Study/Action Issues for Social Justice included in the
Congregational Directives for General Assembly Action. Each

Statements of Conscience.

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.

Rule 4.12.4 Mini-Assembly on UUA Statement of
Conscience

During the next regular General Assembly following the General
Assembly referred to in Section 4.12(e), a mini-assembly shall be
held during which the proposed amendments to the revised UUA
(U.S. or Continental) 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 (U.S. or Continental) 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.

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

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
whenever in the fiscal year the General Assembly opens in June,
or otherwise not less than two hundred and ten days before each
regular General Assembly, notify each certified member
congregation and district of the dates for submitting items for the
Tentative and Final Agenda, the procedure to be followed, and the
forms to be used.

Rule G-4.18.2. Business Resolutions and Study/Action

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

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

A Study/Action Issue for Social Justice or a UUA (U.S. or
Continental) Statement of Conscience appearing on the Final
Agenda shall not be amended so as to become a Business
Resolution.

The General Assembly Planning Committee shall offer rules of procedure for adoption at the first session of each General Assembly.

RULE V Committees of the Association

No existing rules applicable to Article V.

RULE VI Board of Trustees

Section 6.4. Election of Trustees.

Rule 6.4.1. Division of Districts for Election Purposes.

The Trustees representing districts are divided into the following two groups:

GROUP A
- Clara Barton
- Florida
- Mountain Desert
- Northeast
- Ohio Meadville
- Pacific Northwest
- Pacific Southwest
- Southwest
- St. Lawrence

GROUP B
- Ballou Channing
- Central Midwest
- Heartland
- Joseph Priestley
- Massachusetts Bay
- Metropolitan New York
- New Hampshire - Vermont
- Pacific Central
- Prairie Star
- Thomas Jefferson

Section 6.6. Qualifications of Trustees.

Rule 6.6.1. Multiple Memberships.

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

Rule 6.6.2. Implementation of Section 6.6.

If at the close of a General Assembly election, the results are such that, except for the provisions of Section 6.6, more than one person from the same congregation would serve at the same time on the Board of Trustees, the Secretary of the Association shall thereupon declare that the persons so elected are disqualified and that the offices to which they have been so elected are vacant and are to be filled as provided in the Bylaws.

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

RULE VII Committees of the Board of Trustees

No existing rules applicable to Article VII.

RULE VIII Officers of the Association

Section 8.1. Officers Enumerated.

Rule 8.1.1. Officers Enumerated.

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

Section 8.11. Executive Vice President.

Rule 8.11.1. Executive Vice President.

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

Section 8.17. Other Appointed Officers.

Rule 8.17. Other Appointed Officers.

The members serving without pay on the Ministerial Fellowship Committee, Finance Committee, and Investment Committees are designated as officers of the Association for the purposes, only, of carrying out their duties as members of such committees.
RULE IX Nominations and Elections

Section 9.10. Counting of Ballots.


Except in the election of a President, if a tie vote occurs in filling an office when only one person is to be elected, or occurs in filling a slate of officers when the slate cannot be completed without resolving the tie, then as soon as possible before the final adjournment of the General Assembly involved, additional ballots shall be cast by those present and entitled to vote, except that initially the Moderator shall not vote. The additional ballots shall contain only the names of the candidates who are tied. These ballots shall be cast along with a recounting of the ballots cast for the tied candidates by absentee ballots, and the result of the foregoing procedures shall determine the election, unless there is still a tie, in which case the Moderator shall then cast a ballot to resolve it.

Rule G-9.10.2. Tie Vote-Moderator.

If the tie involves the election of a Moderator, the proceedings to resolve the tie shall be presented over by the Secretary of the Association who in all matters involving the resolutions of the tie shall have the rights and duties of the Moderator.

Rule G-9.10.3. Tie Vote-President.

If, in the election of a President, in any particular counting of the preferential ballots, including absentee ballots, there is a tie vote among candidates having the least number of votes, then each such tied candidate shall be eliminated, and in the next counting, the ballots accumulated for said candidate shall be redistributed among the remaining candidates on the basis of the highest effective preferences marked on all the ballots that have been cast. However, if in this process, such elimination leaves only a single candidate who in that counting still does not have a majority of the counted votes, or if only two candidates remain in the contest and they are tied, then there shall be as many run-off election procedures, conducted under the provision of Rule G-9.10.1 as are necessary to result in the election of a President by at least a majority of the votes cast.


Unless no ballot is required according to Section 9.9(a), prior to each regular General Assembly at which an election is to be held, the Secretary shall prepare ballots upon which shall appear the names of all persons who have been nominated for office in accordance with these Bylaws. One such ballot shall be sent with each credential card issued by the Secretary.


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.


(a) 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.

(b) 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.

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

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

(b) Active campaigning and solicitation of endorsements shall not begin prior to January I of the year preceding these elections.

(c) No electioneering of any sort shall occur at the General Assembly two years preceding the elections for President and Moderator.


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

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

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

(1) under $50.00,

(2) $50.00 to $100.00,

(3) $101.00 to $250.00,

(4) $251.00 to $500.00, and

(5) over $500.00, and

(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 any other tax exempt organization (including specifically, but without limitation to, any minister's discretionary fund or similar account) that has made any contribution to the campaign and shall state the amount of each such contribution. Such reports shall be filed with the Secretary of the Association. A preliminary report...

(a) 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.

(b) 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 campaigning or electioneering activities.


(a) 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.

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

(1) to distribute the campaign practices guidelines and financial disclosure rules to candidates for at-large elective positions not later than thirty days after nomination by the nominating committee or receipt of petition;

(2) to receive and consider written complaints of alleged violations of such guidelines or rules; if the committee finds probable cause to establish that a violation exists, to attempt to convince a candidate or a number of candidates voluntarily to comply with guidelines or rules; to attempt to mediate disputes arising from such complaints; and, if no satisfactory resolution of a complaint is achieved, to adjudicate the dispute and report the adjudication in writing to the candidates affected;

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

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

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

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

RULE X Finance and Contracts

Section 10.1. Annual Budget.

Rule G-10.1.1 Presentation of Association Budget.

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

Rule G-10.1.2. Expense Categories.

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

(b) The Current Fiscal Year budget shall contain a separate expense category provision for contingencies, the amount of which shall be a minimum of 3% of the total of all unrestricted expense categories, exclusive of the provision for contingencies.

Rule G-10.1.3. Estimated Income.

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

Rule G-10.1.4. Procedures for Budget Consideration.

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 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.
2600 Assembly with respect to any budget votes of the preceding 2601 General Assembly.

2602 Section 10.8. Contracts and Securities.
2604 The Executive Vice President may sign and attest deeds, 2605 mortgages, contracts, and other documents to which the 2606 Association is a party.

RULE XI Ministry

2608 Section 11.2. Ministerial Fellowship Committee.
2610 The rules of the Ministerial Fellowship Committee are printed 2611 separately and are available on request.

RULE XII Regional Organizations

2617 Section C-12.2. Establishment.
2618 Rule G-12.2.1. Establishing Districts.
2619 (a) The districts shall be twenty in number and named Ballou 2620 Channing, Central Midwest, Clara Barton, Florida, Heartland, 2621 Joseph Priestley, Massachusetts Bay, Metropolitan New 2622 York, Mountain Desert, Mid-South, Northeast, New 2623 Hampshire-Vermont, Ohio Meadville, Pacific Central, Pacific 2624 Northwest, Pacific Southwest, Prairie Star, St. Lawrence, 2625 Southwest, and Thomas Jefferson.
2626 (b) Each district shall be composed of the congregations 2627 assigned to that district by the Board of Trustees
2628 (c) The boundaries of each district encompass the areas served 2629 by its member congregations.
2630 (d) Upon application to the Board of Trustees and after notice 2631 and an opportunity to be heard is afforded the affected 2632 districts, a congregation may change its district membership 2633 with approval of the Board of Trustees.
2634 (e) The District Map published in the Annual Directory contains 2635 boundaries that are an approximation only of the boundary 2636 lines determined pursuant to subparagraph (c) above and are 2637 intended primarily as a guide for the newly admitted 2638 congregation in determining its membership.

RULE XIII Rules

2640 Section 13.4. Miscellaneous Rules.
2642 When the last day for the performance of any act required under 2643 the Bylaws or Rules falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or a day which is 2644 a legal holiday in the place where the act is to be performed, the act 2645 may be performed on the next succeeding business day.
2646 Rule G-13.4.2. Receipt of Documents.
2647 When any ballot, petition, notice, document, or material of any kind 2648 whatsoever is required to be filed with, delivered to, or received by 2649 the Association or an officer, board, committee, or agent thereof on 2650 or before a certain day, the same shall be considered to have been 2651 so filed, delivered, or received only if it is postmarked seven days 2652 prior to said certain day or actually received at the office of the 2653 Association at 25 Beacon Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02108, 2654 on an earlier day or not later than 5:00 p.m. on said certain day.
## Results of Congregational Directives for GA Action 2004

Eligible Ballots: 187  
Ineligible Ballots: 12

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<tr>
<th>Study/Action Issues on Final Agenda</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
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<tr>
<td>S1 Civil Marriage Equality</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>S2 Oppression of Women World Wide</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>S3 Stopping Mass Extinction</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>28</td>
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<tr>
<td>S4 Threat of Global Warming</td>
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<td>13</td>
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<td>Date</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 15, 2004</td>
<td>Deadline for receipt of proposed Study/Action Issues</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 1, 2005</td>
<td>Deadline for congregations to complete the online Annual Certification Form and UUA Directory Questionnaire (instructions mailed to congregations in November 2004)</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 1, 2005</td>
<td>Deadline for receipt of proposed Business Resolutions and Amendments to Bylaws and Rules</td>
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<td>Tentative Agenda &amp; Congregational Directives ballot mailed to certified congregations</td>
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<td>March 1, 2005</td>
<td>Deadline for receipt of comments on first stage Study/Action Issue (to be determined at GA 2004) and proposed Statement of Conscience (Criminal Justice and Prison Reform)</td>
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<td>Deadline for receipt of Congregational Directives for GA Action ballots</td>
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<td>May 9, 2005</td>
<td>Delegate credentials mailed to certified congregations</td>
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<td>May 24, 2005</td>
<td>Final Agenda mailed to congregations</td>
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