

**Unitarian Universalist Ministers Association  
Annual Meeting ~ June 21, 2001  
Cleveland, Ohio**

1. President Gary Smith called the meeting to order at 9:51 a.m..
2. The Annual Meeting minutes for 2000 were approved with the addition of the full text of resolutions.
3. Daniel Simer-O'Connell was appointed parliamentarian and timekeeper.
4. Rules and Procedures were adopted as presented.
5. Nomination of New Members to the Exec
  - 5.a. Walt Weider, Chair of the Nominating Committee asked the new nominees to stand as he introduced them: Kendyl Gibbons, President; Roberta Nelson, Vice President; Lisa Friedman, Secretary; Roger Jones, Treasurer; Rupert Lovely, Good Offices; John Gibson, Anti-Oppression, Anti-Racism and Multiculturalism.
  - 5.b. Secretary Annie Foerster appointed two students as tellers to collect and count the ballots.

6.                    was elected to the Ministerial Conference in Berry Street.

7. President's Report

Gary emphasized the importance of our association in providing connections with others who do and understand the work we do.

Patricia Jimenez was appointed as an ad hoc member of the Exec to assist in the anti-oppression work of the Committee. A bylaws change was introduced to reflect this new make-up of the Exec and to update the years each portfolio would be elected. **MSP** to approve the recommended bylaws. *Passed.*

Gary asked Jose Ballester to report on the Conversations on Racism that took place on Tuesday, June 19.

Gary invited Kirk Loadman-Copeland, chair of Convo '02, to introduce his committee. Each of them reported on an aspect of the work toward the new Convo.

Scotty Meek - the committee's web site is up and running

Robert Scheibly - there will be a hymn contest and art program

Patricia Jimenez - volunteers are needed

Susan Manker Seale - there will be no keynote speaker; instead several colleagues will inspire and challenge participants.

Kirk Loadman-Copeland - register soon.

Gary announced that this year's professional days was again put on with collaboration of Religious Education professionals. He encouraged us all to work closely with our own RE people.

Gary thanked Vice President Kenn Hurto for his work on assessment of leadership, for creating a panel for counseling and discipline, and for contributing to the conversation on socially responsible investing.

Gary thanked the Metro New York Chapter for their resolution on Field Staff Ministry. The Exec will study it.

Gary thanked the current members of the Exec and introduced them. He introduced Administrative Assistant Peter Boulatta, our first full-time assistant. He applauded Peter on a remarkable year with support for the Exec. Gary also thanked Sam Trumbore for help in electronic communication; the Exec appointees to the MFC, Stephan Papa and Marge Corletti; the staff of the Department of Ministry for their work on our behalf; and to one and all for the privilege of serving colleagues.

Gary received a standing ovation from the attendees.

## 8. CENTER

Chair Beth Miller thanked the members of CENTER Committee for their fine work. She applauded this year's presenters Michelle Bentley and Robert for their program. Next year's program will be *Identity Based Conflict* with Jay Rothman. Beth announced the presenters and programs for next year's chapter considerations.

This was Beth's last year on CENTER. Paul Ratzlaff will chair next year's CENTER Committee. Lynn Unger, Ian Evison and Sam Trumbore will be new members on the committee. She also thanked David Hubner from the Department of Ministry for serving on CENTER. Kenn Hurto will hold that position next year.

## 9. Guidelines Committee Report

John Nichols, chair of the Guidelines Committee, discussed the Exec's requests for Guideline review. He summarized his written report and promised to send out material on "The relationship of Minister Emeriti/ae and the incoming minister." Members were urged to get back to the committee their considered opinions on the issue.

## 10. Office of Church Staff Finance

Ralph Mero, Director of Church Finances, expanded on his written report, thanking Paul Johnson, chair of the Church Staff Finance Committee for that committee's work with the Department of Ministry. The Committee, according to Ralph, is an advocacy on financial issues that are important to all profession staff.

John Weston, UUA Settlement Director, reported that ministerial settlements this fall are paying an average of \$6,000 more than last year. The Department will honor and recognize congregations that have reached fair-share compensation. He reported that the UUA retirement plan has been adopted by a continually growing number of congregations.

Ralph announced the Department is awaiting the December 9 Board of Appeals decision in San Francisco on housing allowance rules. It may allow an increase in dollars set aside for housing allowance.

The Socially Responsible Investing Task Force has become a standing committee. They will update the list of stocks that are not acceptable to social responsible investing and will put out materials to educate ministers in this field.

Ralph reports he has shared the ministers' concerns with Fidelity about Occidental Petroleum. We are assured there is no Occident or Talisman Energy in our

policy portfolios.

Ralph reported on the financial well-being of students and the burden of student debt. \$257,000 has been distributed as debt-reduction grants through the Living Tradition Fund. \$37,400 has been distributed to retired ministers to deal with fuel costs.

The Living Tradition Fund is expected to reach \$180,000 this year, thanks to congregations who make collections during ordinations and installations.

#### 11. Treasurer's Report

Patt Herdklotz explained her written report and the increase of costs for Executive Committee meetings. She reported that the worship service this morning collected \$9,373.39. Half will go to the Living Tradition Fund and half to Eastern European Ministers Fund.

The new budget reflects inflow and outgo of monies for Professional Days, a change in accounting methods. This will help the Exec track the costs of meetings.

**MSP** to adopt the 2001-02 budget. *passed.*

Patt explained the new design of the Exec's Treasurer's portfolio. The Administrative Assistant will do the bookkeeping and the treasurer will be able to do reports, advocacy and education.

#### 12. Other Business

Gary presented the proposed bylaws changes, moved unanimously by the Exec. **MSP** *Passed Unanimously*

#### 13. Report of Election Tellers

Secretary Annie Foerster announced the result of the Election Tellers' tallies that all were elected as nominated.

Gary introduced the new Exec members and thanked those who are leaving the Exec this year, Betsy Stevens, Annie Foerster, Patt Herdklotz, Jose Ballester and Kenn Hurto.

#### 14. Meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Annie Foerster, Secretary

## Suggested bylaws change

June 2001 UUMA Annual Meeting discussion

### Rationale

Two years ago the membership voted to include a portfolio on the Exec that would deal with anti-racism, anti-oppression and multi-cultural issues. For two years, one position has been appointed. The Exec wishes to make this two permanent positions, one to concentrate on racism and the second on oppression issues, elected as the rest of the Exec is elected.

### ARTICLE VI - OFFICERS

Section 1: The officers shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, ~~four~~ six Executive Committee Members-at-Large, and a Representative to the Standing Committee on Continuing Education.

Section 3: The Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer shall perform the functions inherent in their titles.

### ARTICLE VII - THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1: The Board of Trustees of the UUMA shall be the same as the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall consist of the four Officers (President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer), ~~four~~ six Members-at-Large, the Continuing Education Representative, and the President-Designate when such office is filled.

Section 3: ~~Five~~ six members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of business.

### ARTICLE VIII - STANDING COMMITTEES

Section 3: PUBLICATIONS AND ONLINE : The Executive Committee shall appoint one of its members to be in charge of publications *and online communications*. The person in that position shall be responsible for recommending an editor or editors for the UUMA Newsletter, ~~and~~ developing plans for and recommending editors for whatever other publications the UUMA shall undertake, *and to recommend coordinators for UUMA-related online chat lines*. The Executive Committee shall make all appointments.

*Section 6: ANTI-RACISM, ANTI-OPPRESSION AND MULTI-CULTURALISM: The Executive Committee shall appoint one of its members to be in charge of Anti-racism and Multi-culturalism issues and another to be in charge of Anti-oppression issues.*

*Renumber current Section 6 as Section 7.*

### ARTICLE IX - NOMINATING COMMITTEE AND ELECTIONS

Section 1: The Nominating Committee shall consist of five members, two of whom shall be nominated and elected in the same year as the President to serve for a term of three years, and three of whom shall be nominated and elected in the same year as the President-Designate to serve for terms of three years. Dating from 1995, the Nominating Committee shall choose candidates for three year terms as President, Vice President, and two Members-at-Large. Every three years, dating from 1996, the Nominating Committee shall choose candidates for three-year terms for Treasurer, and ~~two~~ three Members-at-Large. Every three years, dating from ~~1997~~ 2000, the Nominating Committee shall choose candidates for three-year terms for Secretary, ~~one~~ two Members-at-Large and President Designate.