

**ITEM C.101
ACTION ITEM FOR GAC BUSINESS**

<i>FOR GAC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE USE ONLY</i>					
	A. Evangelism		D. Vocation		G. PC(USA), A Corporation
	B. Justice		E. Stewardship		H. Executive Committee
X	C. Spirituality		F. Audit		I. Personnel Committee
	P. Plenary				

Subject:

Minutes of the February 2008 meeting of the Spirituality and Discipleship Goal Area Committee

Recommendation:

That the General Assembly Council approve the minutes of the February 2008 meeting of the Spirituality and Discipleship Goal Area Committee.

Background:

**Minutes of the Spirituality & Discipleship Goal Area Committee of the
General Assembly Council of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)**

BROWN HOTEL – LOUIS XIV ROOM

Louisville, KY

February 14, 2008

**CALL TO ORDER AND
WORSHIP**

The meeting of the Spirituality & Discipleship Goal Area Committee of the General Assembly Council was called to order by Vice Chair John Bolt at 11:14 a.m.

John Bolt led in the opening prayer and read from Romans 12:9-2.1.

ATTENDANCE

Those present for all or a portion of the meeting were:

Elected Members

John Bolt
Catreliia Hunter
Mary Lynn Walters
Jim Dave Wilson

Corresponding Members

Linda Valentine – Executive Director of GAC

Others

Joe Small, GAC Staff –Theology Worship and Education
Rhashell Hunter, GAC Staff –Racial Ethnic and Women’s Ministries
Mary Pace, GAC Staff – Communications Office
Penny Franklin – Recorder
Lisa Houston – Administrative Staff to Committee
Charles Wiley – GAC Staff – Office of Theology and Worship
Toyia Hill - Press
Charles Easley – GAC Member
Michael Kruse – MWP Team Member
Beneva Bibbs – GAC Staff
Jack Baugh
Kyung-il Ghynn – President, Presbyterian Men

Excused

Dale Lindsay Morgan
Linda Scholl

AGENDA

John Bolt reviewed the agenda for this meeting and the Spirituality & Discipleship Goal Area Committee **VOTED** to **adopt** it as modified.

**MINUTES – SEPTEMBER
20, 2007 – ACTION ITEM**

The Spirituality and Discipleship Goal Area Committee **VOTED** to **approve** the Spirituality and Discipleship Goal Area Committee Minutes of September 20, 2007.

**MISSION WORK PLAN
09-10**

Mike Kruse of the Mission Work Plan Team led discussion of the 2009-2010 Mission Work Plan (MWP).

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Mike: The initial MWP 2005-2006 was an attempt to encapsulate everything that happens in the GAC. We now need to focus more on outcomes. This latest version captures everything in bullet points. Over the next four years, there will be ongoing measurement and prioritizing. Restricted funds need to come into the picture as we set priorities. We cannot take funds from one project to another if that is not the intended purpose. The MWP Team has had input from a variety of sources as they have gone through this process.

Mary: Is official caption through 2012?

Mike: Yes.

John: Do we need to do this every budget cycle?

Mike: We need to integrate the evaluation and review process.

Joe: The review and evaluation process is difficult due to the goals themselves. Some are not measurable. Based on evaluation, the GAC can consider what to continue and what to drop.

Mike: Not necessarily financial measurements, but that the outcomes agree with the outcomes we are intending to measure.

Joe: We can't use the objective measurements to make budget decisions.

Mike: Over the next two months, staff's responsibility is to come up with goals that can be achieved.

John: There are things that we do that we just ought to do, regardless of outcomes.

Catreliia: There are objectives that change from cycle to cycle – budget should be attached. Everything that happens feeds into evaluation for next cycle.

Mike: The GAC has never been able to get their arms around everything the GAC does. There shouldn't be a MWP Team – the GAC should be the MWP Team.

Jim: Where does responsibility lie for deciding what priority 1, 2 and 3, is and what the funding should be?

Joe: There are things that must be done that are at the core of the church's life.

Mike: What things does the GAC do that only it can do, or what can it do that it does better than others? What outcomes have been achieved by what needs to be measured?

Joe: Staff is pleased and encouraged by the latest draft of MWP. We

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have sufficient guidance to get to the other steps. Elected people and staff can be partners.

Catreliia: If not MWP Team, who would manage the process?

Mike: MWP group's mission will be how to develop the process.

Joe: Restricted funds were virtually all established because someone thought their passion was not being addressed. The core of the church's life has no special funds. Some of the money cannot be spent because of the restraints.

LUNCH RECESS

The Spirituality and Discipleship Goal Area Committee recessed for lunch at 12:36.

RECONVENE –

The Spirituality and Discipleship Goal Area Committee reconvened at 1:37

**MARY HOLMES
COLLEGE PROPERTY
SALE**

Committee Agrees: to come back with a report in April – John Bolt, vice-chair, appoints Rhaskell Hunter, Beneva Bibbs, Tom Gillespie, and Catreliia Hunter to serve on the sub-committee to develop a case statement that would govern the use of the remaining funds of the proceeds of the sale of the Mary Holmes College property in West Point, Mississippi. The subcommittee will report back to the General Assembly Council Executive Committee in April.

**ELECTION OF
COMMITTEE CHAIR
AND VICE CHAIR**

The Committee elected by acclamation Tom Gillespie as chair and Mary Lynn Walters as vice-chair

PRESBYTERIAN MEN

President Kyung-il Ghymn reports that the Presbyterian Men are doing very well. In the past, Presbyterian Men were not producing good products, but there is potential. They are no longer focusing on by-laws or the way to have a conference, but are now mission oriented. They are developing mission projects and products to sell to more than 1 million Presbyterian men in our denomination. Last year a new strategic task force was set up and changed the mission statement. Please consider adopting Presbyterian Men. They could be an important asset to the PC (USA). If cost is a concern, don't worry – Presbyterian Men will pay for their own trips.

**LEAD RESOURCE STAFF
REPORT/COMMITTEE
REVIEW OF
SPIRITUALITY AND
DISCIPLESHIP GOALS**

Joe Small presented the following from the Spirituality & Discipleship Goal Summary sheet:

Provide curriculum materials in Korean, Spanish and Braille: Language specific curriculum is not self-supporting but a mission of the church. We provide worship and hymn material in Korean and Spanish. We are trying to provide Christian Education materials on-line in Taiwanese and Portuguese first, which can be downloaded free of charge.

Families: The Youth Ministries Office is implementing a "Parents of

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Teens” program, providing resources and guidance for parents of adolescents to talk through matters of faith. The Youth Ministries Office has also begun a network of people called Presbyterian Youth Workers to exchange ideas, experiences, etc. The networks are primarily web-based, but are also present at events like the Presbyterian Youth Triennium.

Two important statements articulated Reformed understandings of the church. The Theology and Worship staff provided two papers, *The Church’s One Foundation Is Jesus Christ Her Lord* and *The Unity of the Spirit in the Bond of Peace*, to determine what it is to be the church not politically or through polity, but through the church’s faith and life. There is an acute need for resources in other languages. The goals we have been given are long-term efforts which will require the serious and sustained engagement of the church.

Diakonea – This program is designed for deacons in the PC (USA) that will be similar to the program for elders (Order Of Elders) and ministers (Company of Pastors).

Pgs 22-23 in the Annual Report – Theology Worship and Education is a combination of Youth Ministries, Spiritual Formation, Congregational Leadership, Theology and Worship, Theological Education, Christian Education, and Congregational Ministries Publishing. The budget is \$12 million, much of which is from the sale of resources and restricted funds. We mostly support our seminaries through the Theological Education Fund, which provides about \$2,000,000 per year. It maintains a token of commitment of the PC (USA). Some of the Theological Education Fund goes to pay for salaries and an office in Louisville.

**LEAD RESOURCE STAFF
REPORT/REVIEW OF RACIAL
ETHNIC AND WOMEN’S
MINISTRIES/PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN**

Rhashell Hunter noted the accomplishments published in the 2007 GAC Annual Report, with special emphasis on New Native American Ministry in Alaska and Albuquerque, and commented on the highlights of the Racial Ethnic and Women’s Ministries/Presbyterian Women Office. She also reviewed information from the *Racial Ethnic Immigrant Evangelism Church Growth Strategy Report*.

Jim questioned who determines and how do we determine race and ethnicity.

Catreli: How do we gather information on increases in racial ethnic church growth? Asking presbyteries to gather the info, and giving guidelines and criteria to help gather this information, would be helpful. Rhashell will note that.

**UPDATE ON RACIAL
ETHNIC SCHOOLS AND
COLLEGES**

Rhashell Hunter and Beneva Bibbs, associate for Racial Ethnic Schools and Colleges, presented the following:

Rhashell Hunter reviewed the Presbyterian News Service article on Racial Ethnic Schools and Colleges, emphasizing the Presbyterian Pan

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American School in Kingsville, TX and the capital campaign to increase student population with a major restructure of the campus. The current population is 150 students.

The Menaul School in Albuquerque, NM serves a majority Hispanic/Latino population. The majorities of students are not Presbyterian, but participate in worship at chapel 2-3 times per week.

Jim: Are these schools under care financially and where are they located in the budget?

Rhashell: Yes and the money is in the Racial Ethnic Schools and Colleges budget.

Jim: How are these schools determined to be racial-ethnic.

Beneva: On an historical basis.

Jim: We need leadership to lobby for funding.

Beneva: We are in covenant relationship with the schools.

In two weeks, a visitation team is going to Stillman College in Tuscaloosa, AL, a school with 925 students, and Johnson C. Smith University, with a student population of 2,000. These schools have never received money from the Christmas Joy Offering. They have inquired about becoming recipients of the Christmas Joy Offering. Look for articles in the Presbyterian News Service.

Sheldon Jackson College in Sitka, Alaska, has taken an administrative year for 2007-2008 school year because the institution was accumulating debt, but not revenue to cover the expenses. They will figure out in what direction to move. They have an articulation agreement with the University of Alaska to accept all their students – those graduating from the University of Alaska will receive a diploma from Sheldon Jackson. They have a \$5.5 million loan, and day-to-day expenses. They are land rich, with 220 acres, but disproportionately poor monetarily. They need to develop the land. The Board is grappling with the best way to develop the land. They are well known for their fishery/hatchery operation. They've leased child care to the Sitka community. The institution will come back, but in a different capacity.

Cook School for Christian Leadership in Tempe, AZ serves 30 – 50 Native Americans who live on reservations. They have always struggled. They have a \$1,000,000 budget. The Board voted to sell their land and set up a foundation. They are going out to the reservations to educate Native Americans.

Currently funds are going out to both Sheldon Jackson College and Cook School for Christian Leadership, although the two schools do not currently have students and one has closed temporarily. At Rhashell

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Hunter's request, the committee agreed to send a delegation – Rhashell Hunter, Beneva Bibbs, and someone from the Spirituality and Discipleship Committee, to Sheldon Jackson College and Cook School for Christian Leadership to determine their situation. The delegation will return to this Committee in April with a recommendation determining whether they should get funds. Funding would come from the Office of Racial Ethnic Schools and Colleges, and funds are available.

**REPORT ON
PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN**

Catreliia Hunter handed out materials to promote the Churchwide Gathering in Louisville July 11-15, 2009. There is conversation with Presbyterian Men to have special workshops at the gathering.

Catreliia discussed happenings, past and future, for the Presbyterian Women as follows:

Presbyterian Women are to send a delegation of 14 women to the U.N. Commission on the Status of Women.

There was a National Leadership Training Event in 3/07 in Albuquerque.

A 2nd work team consisting of 26 women went to New Orleans in 8/07. The first year they deconstructed homes, and the second year built homes

Catreliia reviewed the 2007 Mission Pledge.

2008 Birthday Offering grant recipients: The Presbyterian Church of Congo and The Presbyterian Church of Kinshasa for the "Building a Strong Future" project for the Congo; and Lakeview Presbyterian Church Weekday School in New Orleans for school restoration. The Thank Offering is to fund projects throughout the world.

Upcoming events: 20th anniversary of Presbyterian Women. There are several related articles in *Horizons Magazine*.

Global Exchange to Eastern Europe.

USA Mission Experience is to focus on immigration. A group to go to El Paso and Juarez.

**UPDATE ON
CONGREGATIONAL
MINISTRIES
PUBLISHING**

Joe Small reported that Congregational Ministries Publishing finished in the black in 2007. However, if a profit is turned, the money disappears at year-end and we start again at -0-. There is a comprehensive business plan being put into place.

Joe explained the responsibilities of the new management team, General Editor Mark Hinds, Managing Editor Jeanne Williams, and Executive Editor Steven Moore.

**DISCUSSION OF
PROPOSED
“COMMITMENT TO
GROWTH”**

The committee agreed by common consent to review the proposed “Commitment to Growth” on their own.

CALVIN JUBILEE

Joe Small gave the following presentation:

2009 is the 500th anniversary of the birth of John Calvin. Calvin remains a remarkable force in the Presbyterian Church. He was the only one of the reformers to attempt thoroughly and systematically to make the distinction between clergy and laity. He gives to us the clear notion that everything is grace. Calvin is a poet as well as a theologian. The hope is to put together a DVD to recover a full appreciation of Calvin, and to look at 2009 not as the culmination of something, but as the start of something.

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY
REFERRALS AND
OVERTURES - ACTION
ITEM**

The Committee **VOTED** to recommend Sections I, II and III to the council and that this be adopted as its response to various referrals from previous General Assemblies.

**JOINT MEETING WITH
STEWARDSHIP AND
MISSION SUPPORT
COMMITTEE – STONY
POINT**

Tom Taylor, Deputy Executive Director for Mission, facilitated a presentation by Gary Batty of the Stony Point Center February 2008 update. He gave an overview of the recent history of Stony Point.

Bill Pindar, Jane McDonald, and Bonnie Ruggiero from Stony Point were present.

Bill Pindar, Stony Point’s Director, having submitted his resignation, expressed appreciation for the support of GAC staff. Bill will continue as director through June 30, 2008.

Gary Batty reviewed the following three items that Stony Point was instructed to address at this meeting:

2008 Balanced Budget with Notes
Update on Board Business Plan Implementation
Stony Point Core Mission and Program Statement

Gary indicated that a position is posted for a Transitional Director – it is a 2-3 year position. The position will be posted on One Door. Transitional vs. Interim status was defined and debated.

John Bolt, chair of the Spirituality & Discipleship Committee, asked for questions or comments. Questions were asked and answered by Gary Batty and the other representatives of Stony Point.

Joe Small questioned who pays if there is a budgetary shortfall. Joey Bailey, Deputy Executive Director for Shared Services, indicated that in

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the event of a shortfall, the GAC increases the amount of Stony Point's interest-free loan.

Another question specifically asked about the probability of Stony Point repaying their loan to the PC (USA). Gary said that the Board hopes to get on even footing and begin to repay the loan.

Gary indicated that capital improvements cannot be made with the current budget.

Joey Bailey explained that, in the past, if the Congregational Ministries Division under spent their budget, they sent money to Stony Point as needed. The GAC paid Stony Point's insurance and the director's salary. These things no longer apply.

The Spirituality and Discipleship Committee and Stewardship and Mission Support Committee received the Stony Point Center Business Plan dated February 2008 and a balanced budget for 2008. Quarterly reports from the Stony Point Board will be provided to both committees for the next twelve months.

ADJOURNMENT WITH APPRECIATION AND PRAYERS

Carolyn Knight led the Stewardship and Mission Support Committee and the Spirituality and Discipleship Committee in prayer and adjourned at approximately 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Bolt
Vice-Chair

Rhashell Hunter
Joseph D. Small
Lead Resource Staff

Penny Franklin
Recorder