

UUA Board of Trustees Meetings
Boston, October 18-21 2007
Report to St. Lawrence District
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(The request being honored is to report in bullet format.)

• ***Miscellaneous Matters***

- Association Sunday deemed to be a huge success, if even for the “connection piece” alone. Financial details to follow. 575 congregations signed up and > 50 UUA staff in our congregations on October 14. (I’d be surprised if \$ are less than ¾ of the million dollar goal.) Financial support is apportioned 50% to National Awareness Campaign, 25% to create congregation growth grants, and 25% to the Diversity of Ministry Team.
- National awareness/advertising campaign in Time Magazine has begun. Goal is to have nobody in our demographic who can claim they never heard of us. Time best fits our demographic profile and has > 21,000,000 in weekly readership with a couple of million of those being Hispanic and another couple of million being people of color. See Time.com. The first add was in the issue hitting the newsstands on October 5th.
- Health insurance plan has attractive changes, and is solidly in the black after year one. Rates will be up just 4% in a market averaging 12% premium increases. 750 hours is defined as full time (vs. 1000) so full time for church/academic year folks will qualify. Also most interns will now qualify for coverage.
- A “Fifth Principle” task force is being formed to re-examine our democratic process and consider possible changes to our Annual Meeting of Congregations (a.k.a. GA).
- Look for DVD, “Voices of a Liberal Faith”.

• ***UUA Financial Matters***

- Audit results received and UUA given clean opinion by KPMG.

• ***General Assembly Matters***

- Three items for GA 2008:
 - The subsidy for congregation presidents to attend will be 25%.
 - The Fort Lauderdale convention center is inside the Port of Fort Lauderdale, a government security zone, a situation which was to have ended by now. Thus government issued photo ID will likely be required, on top of our GA badge requirements. The appropriate leaders of the UUA are meeting with the Broward County security folks to smooth this out as much as possible. If this is an issue for you, keep an eye on the GA web site, and let me know your concerns.
 - A limited follow up to the Portland Open Space work will happen at GA 2008, in the form of appreciative inquiry sessions. These will be facilitated discussions amongst lay and professional leaders of congregations to inform the UUA Board in its ends (goals) setting.
- The UUA Board of Trustees has significant reporting from Open Space 2007 and processing time is being scheduled into Board meetings. One short example is attached for your reading.

• ***Congregations Come First (CCF) Task Force of the UUA Moderator:***

- I continue to serve as one of the two UUA Board members on this cross functional Partnership. I attach two documents from CCF's November meetings which I think are worth the read, and quickly give the gist of our work. One is a "Charge and Challenge" document, and the other is a "Snapshot of Current Cooperative Activities and Conversations". We meet again in January, including time with UUA President candidate(s) and likely will have another set of sessions face-to-face with District President/APF Chair/District Executive/UUA Trustee/other leaders in the not to distant future. There is energy in the association to address structural issues in how congregations are served and to solve the inequitable funding formulas which currently exist for historic reasons. Keep an eye on the CCF web page, found by googling CCF on the UUA's web site (www.uua.org)..