

**The 2014 Annual Debtors Anonymous
World Service Conference**

28th Annual Report

Skokie, Illinois, USA

**2014 Convocation Minutes, General Service Board Reports,
Committee Reports, and Caucus Reports**
Holiday Inn Hotel & Conference Center
Skokie, IL, USA
August 6–10, 2014

Anonymity

This report is provided to the delegates who attended the 2014 World Service Conference, and contains complete contact information for all participants. The information in this report should be kept confidential to protect anonymity.

WSC Report Availability

A version of this report without full names and contact information will be made available to the Fellowship and other interested parties on the Debtors Anonymous Website at www.debtorsanonymous.org.

Accuracy

Every effort has been made to publish an accurate and error-free version of the Conference proceedings. Please notify the General Service Office of any errors before the 2015 Conference.



© 2014 Debtors Anonymous General Service Board, Inc.
P.O. Box 920888, Needham, MA 02492
Email: Office@debtorsanonymous.org

Table of Contents

Table of Contents	2
SECTION 1: CHRONOLOGICAL SUMMARY OF 2014 WSC MOTIONS	4
SECTION 2: ALPHABETICAL SUMMARY OF 2014 WSC MOTIONS.....	5
SECTION 3: CONVOCATION MINUTES AND REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND CAUCUSES.....	6
CONVOCATION OPENING	6
Summary of Recommendations	7
WSC Committee and Caucus Reports.....	9
Conference Committee (CC).....	9
Diversity Caucus (DIV)	11
Literature Committee (LIT)	12
Hospitals, Institutions, and Prisons Committee (HIP)	13
Public Information Committee (PI).....	14
Fellowship Communications Committee (FCC)	15
Resource Development Committee (RDC)	16
Technology Committee (TECH).....	17
Business Debtors Anonymous Committee (BDA).....	20
International Caucus (INTL)	22
Intergroup Caucus (IG)	22
CONVOCATION CLOSING	24
SECTION 4: REPORT FROM THE CHAIR	27
SECTION 5: GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE REPORT.....	30
SECTION 6: GENERAL SERVICE BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS	31
Audit Committee	31
Communications Committee.....	32
Conference Support Committee	33
Information Technology Committee	33
International Committee.....	34
Legal Affairs Committee	35
Literature Publications Committee	36
Long-Range Planning Committee	38

Nominations Committee	38
Office Committee	39
Public Information Committee	39
Annual Report from the Finance Committee	41
Balance Sheet	47
Profit and Loss Statement	48
Profit and Loss Statement, Versus Plan	49
Approved FY15 GSB Spending Plan	50
WSC 2013 — Phoenix, Arizona, USA	51
John H. Scholarship Report for WSC 2013	52
Group Contributions Report	53
SECTION 7: WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORTS	58
SECTION 8: WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MINUTES	76
Business Debtors Anonymous Committee (BDA)	76
Conference Committee (CC)	77
Fellowship Communications Committee (FCC)	86
Hospitals, Institutions, and Prisons Committee (HIP)	87
Internal Operations Committee (IOC)	88
Literature Committee (LIT)	88
Public Information Committee (PI)	89
Resource Development Committee (RDC)	91
Technology Committee (TECH)	94
SECTION 9: WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE CAUCUS MINUTES	97
Diversity Caucus (DIV)	97
Intergroup Caucus (IG)	98
International Caucus (INTL)	98
SECTION 10: RESPONSES TO 2013 WSC RECOMMENDATIONS	101
SECTION 11: GSB, COMMITTEE, and CAUCUS ROSTERS	104

SECTION 1: CHRONOLOGICAL SUMMARY OF 2014 WSC MOTIONS

GENERAL SERVICE BOARD

1. The motion was made to accept the 2014 WSC Convocation Agenda. Motion passed unanimously.
2. The motion was made to accept the 2013 World Service Conference Minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

3. That the [2014] motion to hold the 2015 WSC in Philadelphia be modified to hold the 2015 WSC in Portland, Oregon, USA. The motion passed unanimously.
4. That Sacramento, CA, USA be the conference site for the 2016 World Service Conference. The motion passed with substantial unanimity.

LITERATURE COMMITTEE

5. That the final draft of the Steps portion of the D.A. *12 Steps and 12 Traditions* book be approved. The motion passed with substantial unanimity.
6. That the Steps portion of the D.A. *12 Steps and 12 Traditions* be printed in the same format as the D.A. Manual for Service (DAMS). The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE

7. That the WSC PI Committee's revised Statement of Purpose be adopted. The motion passed unanimously.

GENERAL SERVICE BOARD

8. That the WSC approve the following amendment to the Literature Approval Process: (In Stage One, section 1, add the **highlighted** text) At the World Service Conference, the WSC Literature Committee proposes a concept for new or revised literature, along with suggested mediums, and makes a motion for approval of that concept at Convocation. ***Should the Board or the WSC Literature Committee vote by substantial unanimity to alter or rescind the concept, the WSC must be informed of the action and the reasoning for their decision.*** The motion passed unanimously.
9. The motion was made to ratify new General Service Board Class B Trustee George M. The motion passed unanimously.
10. The motion was made to renew General Service Board Class A Trustee Allen T. for another three-year term. The motion passed unanimously.
11. The motion was made to renew General Service Board Class B Trustee Pat B. for another three-year term. The motion passed unanimously.

SECTION 2: ALPHABETICAL SUMMARY OF 2014 WSC MOTIONS

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

1. That the [2014] motion to hold the 2015 WSC in Philadelphia be modified to hold the 2015 WSC in Portland, Oregon, USA. The motion passed unanimously.
2. That Sacramento, CA, USA be the conference site for the 2016 World Service Conference. The motion passed with substantial unanimity.

GENERAL SERVICE BOARD

3. The motion was made to accept the 2014 WSC Convocation Agenda. Motion passed unanimously.
4. The motion was made to accept the 2013 World Service Conference Minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously.
5. That the WSC approve the following amendment to the Literature Approval Process: (In Stage One, section 1, add the **highlighted** text) At the World Service Conference, the WSC Literature Committee proposes a concept for new or revised literature, along with suggested mediums, and makes a motion for approval of that concept at Convocation. ***Should the Board or the WSC Literature Committee vote by substantial unanimity to alter or rescind the concept, the WSC must be informed***

of the action and the reasoning for their decision. The motion passed unanimously.

6. The motion was made to ratify new General Service Board Class B Trustee George M. The motion passed unanimously.
7. The motion was made to renew General Service Board Class A Trustee Allen T. for another three-year term. The motion passed unanimously.
8. The motion was made to renew General Service Board Class B Trustee Pat B. for another three-year term. The motion passed unanimously.

LITERATURE COMMITTEE

9. That the final draft of the Steps portion of the D.A. *12 Steps and 12 Traditions* book be approved. The motion passed with substantial unanimity.
10. That the Steps portion of the D.A. *12 Steps and 12 Traditions* be printed in the same format as the D.A. Manual for Service (DAMS). The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE

11. That the WSC PI Committee's revised Statement of Purpose be adopted. The motion passed unanimously.

SECTION 3: CONVOCAATION MINUTES AND REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND CAUCUSES

CONVOCAATION OPENING

Call to Order

The 28th Annual Debtors Anonymous World Service Conference was called to order by the General Service Board Chairperson, Allen A., at 8:37 AM on Saturday, August 9, 2014, starting with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

After announcements and a reminder to place 7th Tradition contributions in the baskets in the back of the room, volunteers were asked to read the Twelve Steps, the Twelve Traditions, the History of D.A., the Twelve Concepts for D.A. World Service, and the Debtors Anonymous Conference Charter

Introduction of the Parliamentarian and WSC Voting Procedures

The Chairperson stated that the Convocation is governed by the D.A. Conference Charter and the Twelve Traditions, in addition to employing the services of a parliamentarian to assist us in keeping our meeting orderly. Michael Malamut, the professional parliamentarian who has been assisting the Debtors Anonymous Fellowship since 1998, gave a brief overview of the purpose of parliamentary procedures and a brief discussion about the parliamentary procedures that would be used during the Convocation. Michael acknowledged that the D.A. Service Concepts provide a way to implement the spiritual aspects of the program. He commented that *Robert's Rules of Order*, which is the parliamentary reference used by D.A., was the most respectful of the minority opinion and that the minority opinion was important to the historical proceedings of the convocation to let others know the nature of the opposition to motions. He said *Robert's Rules* is not about invoking authority for its own sake but to serve the body in making decisions.

Participants were encouraged to think “principles rather than details,” i.e., the underlying principles of parliamentary procedure, which include:

- Efficiency versus education
- There are time limits but time can be extended

- Majority rule versus minority rights
- Immediacy versus non-interruption (a “point of information” is now referred to as an “inquiry”)
- All comments are addressed to the Chair (“Mr. Chair, is the speaker aware that there appears to be a mistake in the report?”)
- A Motion is a formal way to do business. It is a way to have the group hear from an individual delegate, to ask for a formal action from the body.
- Question of privilege: A personal request to the group in order to participate more fully.
- A motion to commit sent to committee to perform an action for the group.
- The quorum is about respecting all delegates to act in good faith to advance the group as a whole.
- Postpone: to put off vote until tomorrow or to refer back to original committee or other disposition such as GSB or another committee.
- Extend time to debate/limit time to debate. The Chair will guide the process which must be accepted by general consensus.
- Move to previous questions or close debate (takes a 2/3 vote).
- Participants were reminded that no second is required for a motion put forth from a WSC Committee.
- After the vote is declared by the Chair, a delegate may request that the minority opinion be heard and recorded, e.g., “I wish to exercise the right to appeal and wish to have the minority position noted for the record.”

Questions from Delegates:

1. Is the “Motion to Call the Question” the same as the “Motion to Close Debate?” And is “Call to Question” or “Call to Vote” the same?
 - a. They are procedural motions – using the standard vote for that procedural motion.

- b. We will accept them all the same, if it means stop debate and call for a vote.
 - c. They may ask for clarification if it is not clear.
 - d. This does not automatically end everything. No one person should ever have the right to cut off debate for everyone else.
 - e. Sometimes done without saying anything, sometimes is general or unanimous consent, chair can say “without objection we will...”
2. If we’re ready to close, can we just raise our hand and say, “I feel ready to vote now.” And then let the Chair decide? Then the Chair can say is there substantial unanimity to continue with the vote? Yes.
 3. Does the Chair decide which motions require a simple and which require a substantial majority?
 - a. They will follow the rules.
 - b. If the Chair has a sense that there is substantial unanimity in the room, he or she can ask without having to take a formal vote.
 - c. Substantive questions will require a substantial majority. This body will decide what questions require a substantial majority.
 4. Smaller groups can be more informal.
 5. “Without objection we will ...” means unanimous consent or general consent is assumed. Only the chair can take something as done by general consent.
 6. Address all Personal Privilege to the Chair, who will announce to group.
 7. Way to get attention of chair is to stand and wait for the chair to address you. This is the way to interrupt proceedings. A member can also wave his/her voting card.
 8. If delegate objects to closing debate, he or she stands and voices objection. If it is seconded, delegate can be heard unless time for debate has expired. Then delegate can move to extend debate and requires 2/3 vote for motion.
 9. Friendly amendment began in year 2000 and opposite is not hostile amendment. Friendly only means made at a certain time in debate, before it is formally placed before body for debate. Usually means to rephrase motion. After debate started, can request to have an amendment accepted by general consent. Rarely happens in this body as all motions

- come from committees and would require committee to reconvene to discuss it.
10. Delegate stands and states “point of order” if he/she believes the rules have been broken. Chair then rules, if group doesn’t like it, his or her rule is appealable.
 11. Group conscience is a 12-Step term and not used in Parliamentary Procedure. It is used in decision making here by getting substantial unanimity of delegate body for a motion.

Quorum Established

94 delegates registered, thus a quorum of 62 was established for voting. A two-thirds vote is needed for substantial unanimity.

The GSB Chair asked for a motion to accept the 2014 WSC Convocation Agenda. The motion was accepted without objection.

The GSB Chair asked for a motion to accept the 2013 World Service Report as posted on the D.A. website. A Motion to approve the 2013 WSC Report as posted was made and seconded. The motion was approved to accept the 2013 report.

Summary of Recommendations

(Listed alphabetically, by committee, then by caucus)

RECOMMENDATIONS:

BUSINESS DEBTORS ANONYMOUS COMMITTEE
RECOMMENDATION 1: To the Tech Committee, that future phases of the new D.A. website include functionality for a forum(s) to allow D.A. groups and/or BDA groups and members to submit questions to the Fellowship as a whole that may be answered by others in the Fellowship.

BUSINESS DEBTORS ANONYMOUS COMMITTEE
RECOMMENDATION 2: That the Board prepare and submit to the Fellowship a new 5-Year Plan, as well as a procedure for an ongoing annual renewable 5-Year Plan.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION 1:
That the awarding of John H. Scholarships be done by the host committee in collaboration with a WSC

Conference Committee designee.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION 2:
To allow the WSC Conference Committee to make corrections to the John H. Scholarship application form, to gather the necessary information for the current Suggested Qualifications that were adopted at the 2013 WSC.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION 3:
That the GSB use the services of the conference organizer, Book My Group, for future World Service Conferences.

LITERATURE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION 1:
That D.A. publish the inaugural copy of the *12 Steps and 12 Traditions* in time for the 40th anniversary of D.A., in April of 2016.

PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION 1: That a pamphlet on Public Information, *Carrying the Message* be developed.

PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION 2: That D.A.'s existing audio PSAs (Public Service Announcements) be amended to reflect current information and prepared for distribution through social media and radio.

PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION 3: That the PI tab on the D.A. website be changed from "Public Information" to "Carrying the Message."

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION 1: That every General Service Representative (GSR) and Intergroup Service Representative (ISR) consider contributing monthly to the GSO in the spirit of "Every Member – Every Month."

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION 1: To make *A Currency of Hope*, Second Edition, available for sale on the Debtors Anonymous (D.A.) website in pdf format.

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION 2:

That the WSC Conference Committee cut the cost of the 2015 binder by providing a paperless option.

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION 3:
That the 2015 WSC include video conferencing to enable the 6 registered international Intergroups to participate.

DIVERSITY CAUCUS: No recommendations.

INTERGROUP CAUCUS RECOMMENDATION 1: That the Intergroup Caucus introduce the position of meeting coordinator for each Intergroup, to keep track of meetings, contacts, and disbanded meetings. In addition, to work with the General Service Office (GSO) to remind groups to re-register their groups annually.

INTERGROUP CAUCUS RECOMMENDATION 2:
Recommend adding an easier to find link/button on the home page of D.A. website to assist members who are interested in finding an Intergroup.

INTERNATIONAL CAUCUS: No recommendations.

Responses to 2014 Recommendations will be given in the 2015 Final Conference Report. Responses to the 2013 Recommendations can be found in Section 11 in this document.



WSC Committee and Caucus Reports

(Committee Reports are listed in their order of presentation at the Convocation)

Conference Committee (CC)

The Committee Chair introduced committee members and then gave the Literature Committee report to the convocation.

- Chair: Don C.
- Vice Chair: Alice K.
- Secretary: Kaila Y.
- Treasurer: Dayton L.

Committee Members - Carol Ann P., Carolyn L., Marietta M., Michael G., Peg M., Priscilla M., Steve S., Tracy F., and Sheffra W., (Alexandra BW, GSB Liaison)

Don, the Chair, commended all Committee members for the work they've done and their patience and dedication and love for the Fellowship.

Most of the work they did over the past two days was spent deciding what city to present for the WSC in 2016.

They also did especially intense work discussing the process for awarding the John H. Scholarships.

In the coming year, the CC agenda includes:

1. Addressing Issues and Concerns numbers 14-10 and 14-11 that were assigned to us.
2. Supporting Portland Host Committee in preparation for 2015 WSC.
3. Working to identify sites that could host the WSC for three consecutive years following WSC 2016. This is an idea that came out of the CC last year and this year's CC is working with the GSB and the Board's chosen event planner to find and present suitable sites. The CC has already had one conference call with the event planner and they used what they learned to help in choosing the site for the 2016 WSC. The event planner already brought several cities to consider to the CC for the three-year process.
4. The CC has been asked by the GSB to address the absence of an Internal Operations

- Committee at the WSC 2014 and they agreed to take it on.
5. Continuing work on the D.A. 40th anniversary planning initiative.
 6. Continuing work to further refining and improving the distribution process to award the John H. scholarship funds.
 7. Continuing the work from last year to explore Conference transparency, an idea that is mainly about allowing non-voting D.A. members to attend the WSC.
 8. Work to include access to literature and GSR funding for non-face-to-face D.A. meetings.

Two (2) Motions:

Motion 1: That the WSC [2014] motion to hold the 2015 WSC in Philadelphia be modified to hold the 2015 WSC in Portland, Oregon, USA.

"USA" was added to the motion by general consent. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion 2: That Sacramento, CA, USA, be the conference site for the 2016 World Service Conference.

"USA" was added to the motion by general consensus. Motion passed with substantial unanimity.

Discussion Summary:

Pro: Rep from Oakland CA gave full support from Nor Cal Intergroup.

Clarification: This motion is for the WSC 2016 to be held in Sacramento. It is not for the anniversary celebration.

Q: Is there a difference between the WSC 2016 and a separate D.A. 40th anniversary celebration?

A: Yes. This is not about the anniversary celebration. Right now, there is only the motion to have the WSC in 2016 in Sacramento.

Q: Were any other cities considered for 2016?

A: Sacramento was the only formal bid the GSB received for 2016 and it was very detailed. The GSB asked the CC to research and review other cities, possibly as sites for three consecutive WSCs, using the professional event planner previously chosen by GSB. The CC did hear about the cities identified by the event planner and had long discussions but did not have enough information about the other cities to award

the WSC for three years. They found the Sacramento proposal was very comprehensive, including the support of an already active local committee and three local intergroups. Although there was not enough information to consider other cities presented by the event planner, their work did produce a list of venues to consider in the CC's future searches. Right now, Sacramento may be considered as a place to hold the WSC for three years in row, but this motion is for only one year. It's possible, but this motion is for only one year.

Motion Passes – 1 against.

Three (3) recommendations:

CC Recommendation #1: That the awarding of John H. Scholarships be done by the host committee in collaboration with a WSC Conference Committee designee.

Background:

This CC recommendation was originally submitted to the WSC Convocation as a motion in error, as they had downgraded it to a recommendation in their committee. The CC acknowledged this oversight during its discussion and the WSC Convocation discussed it as a recommendation.

Overview/Clarifications:

Background: During open Forum, Howard of the GSO asked the CC to consider making the John H. Scholarships from the Conference Committee rather than the Host Committee. As from one year to the next, the data on which groups receive funds and how much they receive is not carried forward from one year's Host Committee to the next. If the administration of the scholarship distribution was done by a Conference Committee, there would be a more stable, institutional memory intact.

Clarification: The purpose of this recommendation is to keep institutional memory and get continuity of decision making process, to ease the process, and to give assistance to the Host Committee.

Clarification: It is for one designee from the WSC Conference Committee to work with Host Committee.

Clarification: The Conference Committee decides on parameters for the John H. awards. This is recommendation is for internal action of the Conference Committee. This is only recommendation. This is only a change of procedure. It had been only

the Host Committee making the decisions on who receives the scholarship funds.

Q: Who makes the rules on how the funds are awarded now? The Conference Committee. This is only a change in procedure. Previously, it was usually just the Host Committee.

Clarification: Please change the recommendation to read "John H. Scholarships," not "J.H. Scholarships." It was agreed to make the wording reflect this.

CC Recommendation #2: To allow the WSC Conference Committee to make corrections to the John H. Scholarship application form, in order to gather the necessary information for the current Suggested Qualifications that were adopted at the 2013 WSC.

Allen, the GSB Chair, provided this clarification: This corrects an error the GSB made. The GSB forgot to do this and this corrects that oversight.

Background: The Conference Committee identified several areas on the John H. application form that were not in sync with the Suggested Qualifications that are listed in the Guidelines of the John H. scholarship application process. We want to make sure the Guidelines are properly reflected on the application.

Q: Does the WSC have the ability to say anything about the recommendations?

A: Motions get voted on but recommendations go into the minutes with no impact from the WSC.

Q: Does the WSC have any ability to respond to recommendations?

A: The GSB seriously reviews all recommendations or any committee to which it was referred, and their findings are reported the following year, including any action taken. Whether it is followed up or not, an explanation is made at the following WSC. If a recommendation does require a motion by the WSC, that would be the next step. It might then get recommended to a committee to consider as a motion.

Q: But if there is a response to a recommendation, can a member make a suggestion to a committee or the GSB from the floor?

A: Yes. Recommendations are just recommendations of the committee or the GSB, so if you have a way to improve it, because it's not binding, you can make it

directly to the committee or GSB. Since recommendations are not binding, there is no formal process, but additional input is always welcome.

A: FYI, you can find the response to the 2013 WSC recommendations in Section III of your delegate binder.

Clarification: If you look in the minutes printed on page 21 in your delegate binder, you can see that we updated the John H. Scholarship Summary Qualifications last year and added some criteria. We wanted these printed on the application form. These updates were not added to the application form, so we are just asking to update the form according to what was decided at the 2013 WSC.

Q: How do we decide what is a motion and what is a recommendation?

A: Answer from the Parliamentarian: There is a history in D.A. about the difference between Motions and Recommendation being a time issue. Motions are for those issues that are within the power of the conference to adopt on their own. Adopted motions will take immediate effect. Those issues that are within the power of the GSB to execute come from the committees as recommendations to the GSB. The WSC has responsibility for overall policy, how to run the WSC itself, and on spiritual issues for the overall governance of the Fellowship. There is a procedural exception that the WSC body can, with approval of 2/3 vote, put its spiritual imprimatur on a specific action they want the GSB to take. But this is not usually done unless it was a recommendation one year and nothing was done; then it can be carried over from previous WSC year. The second year, if the committee feels strongly about the issue, it can bring it up as a motion for the GSB. Even if it is adopted by the WSC, it is a spiritual recommendation to the GSB and is not binding, as the GSB has the legal power. It is not a mandate. But the committee can make a spiritually binding recommendation to GSB.

CC Recommendation #3: The Conference Committee recommends that the GSB use the services of the conference organizer, Book My Group, for future World Service Conferences.

Discussion: This is the professional event planning organization that the entire CC spoke to on a conference call yesterday. There was another call between the GSB and the representative of the organization on Friday. This organization was identified by the GSB to help find a city for the WSC to take place 3 years in a row. The representative of this group, who is the contact with the CC, has a broad background and long history working with 12-Step groups. She is currently working with the Portland Host Committee and has already gotten better hotel rates than we had been able to negotiate. The CC and the Portland team will continue to work with her.

Diversity Caucus (DIV)

Caucus Officers

- Chair: Jill
- Co-Chair: Michael G
- Secretary: Priscilla M.
- Treasurer: Patricia S.
- Scribe: Andrew D.

Caucus Members: Sarah H., and (GSB Liaison) Sue F.

The Caucus Chair Report:

No issues and concerns were assigned to the Caucus this year.

Last year's Diversity Caucus had three recommendations that we agreed to continue working on. They are:

1. The mapping project
2. Continue to discuss how to best conduct outreach in underserved communities.
3. Continue to support new meetings in areas of underrepresentation.

In addition, our agenda for this year will include, in order of priority:

1. Ask the Tech Committee about Google Analytics with an emphasis on phone meetings.
2. Diversify the composition of this caucus, as we're not particularly diverse.

3. Collect and publish stories of D.A. relevant to diversity and/or how underserved communities are now being served.
4. Discuss recommending a Diversity Committee or joining an existing committee such as HIP or PI.

And we wanted to Note: because we are the Diversity Caucus, we want to become more diverse. We invite you to join us, especially if you are part of an underserved population.

Literature Committee (LIT)

The Committee Chair introduced committee members and then gave the Literature Committee Report to the Convocation.

Committee Officers

- Chair: Tom K.
- Vice Chair: Bill D.
- Secretary: Suzanne M.
- Treasurer: Krzysztof K.

Committee Members: Gisella S., Tom B., Marilyn Sue W., Sharon S., Kathryn B., Jeanne F. and (GSB Liaison) Allen T.

Our Agenda for the year 2014–15 includes:

1. We will respond to Issue and Concern 14-06 regarding sponsorship and literature.
2. We have formed two subcommittees:
 - a) One to gather stories from members of underrepresented demographic groups.
 - b) Another to document recovery stories of longtime members.We thought it was very important, as some specific demographic groups are very underrepresented in literature. We need more stories of recovery from a broad perspective.
3. We will create an outline for the basic text of Debtors Anonymous, our primary text. This is an awesome undertaking and will likely be many years in the process.
4. We will review and provide feedback on the final draft of the 12 Traditions portion of the *12 Steps & 12 Traditions* book when completed by the writer.

5. We will communicate with the Tech Committee, FCC and BDA regarding potential literature revisions.
6. We will review the Debtors Anonymous Pamphlet for potential revision.

Two (2) Motions were proposed by the Literature Committee:

LIT COM Motion #1: That the final draft of the 12 Steps portion of the *D.A. 12 Steps and 12 Traditions* book be approved as print ready.

Motion passed with substantial unanimity.
Discussion Summary: The 3rd edition be print ready.

Background: This has been a long process, after three long years and much scrutiny and review by multiple members of the Lit Com following review by GSB; the 12 Steps portion does appear to be print ready. Last year's committee thoroughly reviewed and scrutinized the copy (65 pages of text) that compose the long form of the 12 steps of D.A. We passed our comments on to the GSB Literature Pub Committee, and the writer incorporated almost all of our recommendations.

Point of Information: Because of the literature approval process, the two committees that folded in all the recommended changes were the Lit Services and Literature Publications committees.

Friendly Amendment: To take out "print ready," because we don't want to print it as is. It needs to go through copy editing. There are some editorial changes, commas and things, and it needs to be gone over with the D.A. style guide. It just needs approval by the WSC.

The change was accepted by the Lit Committee. The motion reflects the final version of the motion, including the Friendly Amendment change.

Pro: This is a historic moment. The GSB members were able to read this, and it's like a D.A. step study. It's in our language. I'm thrilled to be part of this. It's our own literature.

Con: How can we approve what we haven't read?

Answer: Not everyone can read the pages. It is the responsibility of the Literature Committee to review and approve the pages for the entire delegation. They are our Trusted Servants and are following process that was approved by WSC, which was approved by the Conference.

Pro: We need to trust the Lit Com. We can't each do everything, that's why we trust each other. Let's just approve it.

Pro: I think it's great news. We should go ahead. Any corrections will be addressed by GSB. So please do it.

Pro: I am sensitive to the concern about the WSC approving something that they haven't read. One more piece of the process is that this draft was written by a professional writer, a member of D.A. gotten thru an RFP; the draft has been reviewed by the Lit Committee for two years with comments, and approved. Then the full GSB read and approved it. Many trusted servants have looked at it and approved it. The process has been followed.

Vote: One opposed. Motion passes

LIT COM Motion #2: That the Steps portion of the *D.A. 12 Steps and 12 Traditions* be printed in the same format as the *D.A. Manual for Service (DAMS)*.

Discussion Summary:

Pro: So this will be a temporary book for sale for 6-7 years until entire book is approved with Traditions, and the full book is published. Correct?

A: Yes.

Q: Then what will be the price for this book?

A: That would be impossible to know at this time.

Pro: This is very exciting. When I consider the value of bringing this document back to our groups, and the response of the Fellowship to our producing this document for general use, it will enhance the Fellowship in significant ways and will enhance our esteem as a body, and the likelihood that more groups will send GSRs to the WSC in the future.

Pro: I'm phenomenally excited about the actual text, excited about D.A. growing up as a child of A.A. to adulthood. Can we hear the short form of the steps? Are they replacing these steps? Can you explain what we just voted on?

A: These long forms are detailed elaborations of the steps. The steps are not changed. The steps are same. These are just deeper descriptions with elaborated, detailed discussion of meaning.

Pro: This is basically our own 12 by 12? Now I can work the steps with a sponsee without using A.A. literature. It's about time.

Vote: Motion passes unanimously

One (1) recommendation:

LIT Recommendation #1: That D.A. publish the inaugural hard copy of the *12 Steps and 12 Traditions* in time for the 40th anniversary in 2016.

Comment: The GSB says this is doable.

Q: Is it possible to add the Twelve Concepts to the book?

A: This is under discussion but no decision has been made.

**Hospitals, Institutions, and Prisons
Committee (HIP)**

Committee Officers

- Chair: Doug
- Vice Chair:
- Secretary: Andrew D.
- Treasurer: Bev S.

Committee Members: Kellie L., Rona Z., Marianne G. (GSB Liaison) Michael A.

The Chair stated that the Committee has no motions and no recommendations at this time. He introduced the Committee.

Motions

No motions were proposed by the HIP Committee.

Recommendations

No recommendations were proposed by the HIP Committee.

While we have no issues or concerns to address, the HIP Committee understands that the CC is addressing a concern to merge the HIP and PI Committees. We would be sad to see this happen as we feel we can do this work and address our concerns as a stand-alone committee. We wish to address our concerns about that with the CC this fall.

We are excited about our plan of action for the upcoming year. We are all committed to carrying the message of recovery to suffering debtors confined or at risk of confinement in prisons, mental health facilities, homeless shelters or support communities.

Our projects this year are:

1. This is a carryover from last year; it includes producing a working draft HIP Manual for D.A. members to use that will help them do HIP work in their communities. It would be through gathering information from our footwork and prison work. This would be a more expansive goal and a longer range project.
2. Prison work that will include research, pilot projects, a field trip and education activities in San Francisco, Seattle, Chicago, Los Angeles and Oregon, which is where our members are based. We feel that's all doable, and we divided up territories for member field trips by geography.
3. Educating the staff at the At-Risk of Confinement locations, which will include outpatient, suicide hotlines, shelters and graduate programs. The list doesn't seem long, but it's pretty ambitious, and it says there is a lot of work to be done.

Public Information Committee (PI)

The Committee Chair report: We had a great committee and even developed sign language we used to communicate with each other.

Committee Officers

- Chair: Siobhan K.
- Vice Chair: Diane C.
- Secretary: Carol A.
- Treasurer: Patricia S.

Committee Members: Diane C., Carol A., Jerry B., Patrick C., Ellen S., Ron T., Esmerelda K., Patricia S., Chris A., Maureen F., Jill W. and Bevin D., and (GSB Liaison) Lawanda C.

We did a lot of work, thrilling to watch. The group took old recommendations and new ideas, and it was like HP moving through the room watching them develop into subcommittees and get incredible clarity about the work we want to do this year.

We divided into 3 subcommittees:

1. PI Representative Support: We're going to continue to support PI representatives in individual groups internationally through a variety of initiatives.

2. PIPE (Public Information for Professional Events): Specifically for training and supplying local PI reps so they can go to professional events around the country, such as health fairs and bankruptcy lawyer conventions, and set up a booth to get the word out. This has been effective in the past, but to send PI reps or GSB members is expensive, so we will work with the GSB as satellite PI media reps.
3. Media: Continue to try to find ways to get the word out about Debtors Anonymous in any inexpensive way we can, through social media and more.

One (1) motion was proposed by the PI Committee:

PI Motion #1: Moves that the PI Committee's revised Statement of Purpose be adopted.

Background: The existing statement does not mention that it reached PI representatives or the D.A. Fellowship. It mentions some of the accomplishments of the Committee but not how these accomplishments are put into practice.

This is the revised statement: The Public Information Committee works to carry the message of D.A. to the still suffering debtor by interfacing with the media, helping professionals, the general public and the D.A. Fellowship at large, in person, on the telephone and through written information. The Public Information Committee utilizes the Debtors Anonymous Public Information Manual and other D.A. Service Literature available to the entire D.A. Fellowship as a tool for outreach efforts, and supports and trains PI representatives as guided by the 12 Traditions of Debtors Anonymous.

We believe that this revised statement better reflects the action and vision of the WSC PI Committee.

Discussion Summary:

Point of Information: All committee statements of purpose are in the DAMS.

Background from member of the committee: This has been thoroughly thought through and gone through a long process, and we feel good about it.

Vote: Motion passes unanimously.

Recommendations

Three (3) recommendations were made by the PI Committee:

PI Recommendation #1: That the PI tab on the D.A. website be changed from “Public Information” to “Carrying the Message.”

Background: We believe that PI work is about the 12th step work and that calling it “Carrying the Message” makes it more accessible to our Fellowship. And we are literally not changing any content, only replacing “Public Information” with “Carrying the Message.” Only the headline changes.

PI RECOMMENDATION #2: That a pamphlet on Public Information “Carrying the Message” be developed.

Background: The work that we did was (we hope) to make the work of carrying the message clearer, easier and more accessible to the members of the Fellowship, and we think developing a pamphlet with this theme will make the PI work more integrated with the D.A. Fellowship at large, meaning everyone is doing PI work. A pamphlet can call out the basics of PI and help create a culture of carrying the message through PI work.

PI RECOMMENDATION #3: That D.A.’s existing audio messages, the PSAs (Public Service Announcements), be amended to reflect current information and prepared for distribution through social media and radio.

Background: There are 3 PSAs that have been created through PI Committees in the past. I don’t know the whole history. They are terrific and only have a couple flaws; they would need to be dubbed over to fix the audio. And these are audio only.

To wrap up, I want to discuss just one of our many initiatives. One initiative is to develop an initial concept design for a visual component to be added to these existing audio PSAs, so they can be edited and used as a powerful tool on social media and possibly TV sometime in the future. We were able to work with another GSR at the WSC, not on our committee, but we coordinated with him and he drew up a couple of images that could go with these PSAs. These images go with the PSAs that feature person dying under the weight of their debt; it’s about 30 seconds, and by the end the message it says “D.A. can help.”

On slide: animation images of man with weight of dollar bills on his back. Second image shown. (Much clapping and enthusiasm for the images.)

We wanted to share this with you because we are super-excited about it.

Fellowship Communications Committee (FCC)

Committee Officers

- Chair: Susan B.
- Vice Chair: Lolly A.
- Secretary: Tammy F.
- Treasurer: Diana D.

Committee Members: Carolyn A., Kathryn G., Ellie H. and (GSB Liaison) Jeff Y.

Committee Chair introduced the committee members, then gave their report:

The first thing we did as a committee this year was review last year’s FCC recommendations to see what to focus on this year, and all were still robust and ongoing. Therefore, we concluded there was no need to present anything as a motion or a recommendation to this year’s delegation.

The nature of the FCC is to facilitate communication within the D.A. Fellowship. The ongoing conversation put in place by last year’s committee was spectacular and will carry on.

The first order of business we adopted was to continue to publicize the group sponsorship service and to monitor and respond to all inquiries sent to gsponsorship@gmail.com, the email address for groups that are interested in getting a sponsor group or a sponsee group. When this came up for review, we had the delightful experience of hearing one of our members, Tammy, who said, “Oh, is that what put my Woodstock group in touch with the Rio de Janeiro group?” And so on the FCC we have an active group member actively sponsoring a group overseas.

When we went into the Committee Chairs meeting, we found out that the Intergroups were concerned about the short shelf-life of a lot of new intergroups. We discussed this, and in response to that concern, the FCC decided to respond immediately, and Ellie, Diana and Kathryn created an informational flyer to be made

immediately available to the delegation, specifically in response to the concerns of the Intergroup Caucus, and which is available for you outside right now. G-Sponsorship is a concept in keeping with the theme of this WSC.

We went on to discuss how we would self-identify, and the consensus in the group was that our commitment is to be a bridge, a global bridge and a joyful global bridge. We are committed to bringing the entire world of D.A. together as the Fellowship grows from one nation to another. We have some good tools in place. G-Sponsorship is only one of them. But we want to be here as a resource for the entire Fellowship, for individuals, groups, intergroups, and the Fellowship at large. The FCC will be working this year to build a ready list of D.A. groups or intergroups that are willing to sponsor newer, less experienced groups or intergroups. We will reach out to create that list, and this will facilitate an easier marriage between groups that need sponsorship and groups willing to sponsor.

We will look for ways to increase attendance on Fellowship-wide teleconference calls to bring the Fellowship-level experience down to the debtor who still suffers. The FCC is looking into the efficacy of the eNews and emails that are sent out at the GSB level to determine whether we can make them more effective, more fun to read, and more welcome.

The FCC will continue to work with the LRP committee and the WSC CC to plan the 40th anniversary celebration, and this will probably include working with the Technology Committee to create a 40th Anniversary Blog and/or hosting teleconference calls around topics related to our 40th birthday. The FCC will also continue to organize and facilitate WSC Committee/Caucus chair calls to promote collaboration and to help avoid duplication of efforts. The inter-committee communication that was put in place by last year's FCC boldly served to break down the walls between the committees and to start to undo the silo-ing effect of committees working in isolation. Basically, if you feel that you as a fellow or a committee or a group are on an island, we would like to offer that you reach out to FCC and allow us to hook you up. Sponsorship and Fellowship work will be made stronger and bolder by the work of the FCC from 2014–2015. It is our honor to serve here.

Motions

No motions were proposed by the FCC Committee.

Resource Development Committee (RDC)

Committee Officers

- Chair: Chris S.
- Vice Chair: Sara H.
- Secretary: Janet S.
- Treasurer: Jeannine W.

Committee Members: Molly L., Kieran K., and (Board Liaison) Maureen C.

Committee Chair Report:

The chair asked all the committee members to stand as she introduced them.

The RDC Statement of Purpose was read out loud by the Chair, Chris:

The RDC Statement of Purpose: Revenue for D.A. is the focus of the Resource Development Committee, including increasing 7th Tradition contributions and clarifying the use of 7th Tradition funds, encouraging member participation in service at all levels, and increasing the awareness within the D.A. Fellowship about the importance of self-support.

The General Session on Thursday and the Forum gave us something to start with. I was so inspired—and this is something we talked about in our group a lot—by Allen T.'s talk about what came out of his 30-minute meditation that particular day, and how he so well conveyed that message to us about the "Every member, every month."

We also talked about Marietta's share in the Forum about getting here, and her group taking 5 years, so she just assumed she wasn't coming, and then, you know, how some John H. Scholarship funds helped her be here; and some other inspiring things.

And then Sue, the Trustee, sharing about how stimulating the D.A. Service Manual is. These three things led us to create our action plan for the year.

Motions

There were no motions proposed by the RDC Committee.

Recommendations: One (1) recommendation was made by the RDC Committee.

RDC Recommendation #1: We, the Resource Development Committee, recommend that every General Service Representative and Intergroup Service Representative consider contributing monthly to the General Service Office in the spirit of “Every Member, Every Month.”

Our Action Plan for the year (one being a carryover from last year) includes:

Actions:

1. Finish 2013 projects

Sending postcards to all 43 online and telephone meetings, encouraging bill payment contributions sent to the General Service Office.

2) Making Tent Cards for group meetings that say “Thrive with \$5” or “Double Your Dollar,” and another stating D.A.’s 3-fold purpose.

3) And then our yearly tasks of a) revising the John H. Scholarship Letter and getting that out, and b) the 39th Annual Birthday Party Appeals Letter.

4) Each RDC committee member is going to write their own personal service-related story for the *Ways & Means* newsletter.

5) Develop an “Every member, Every Month” campaign to increase monetary as well as service contributions from D.A. members.

6) Participate in the debit card only e-check rollout.

7) Produce a worldwide conference call in April during World Service Month, where the topic will be “Service Sponsorship.”

8) Reading and discussing the D.A. Service Manual (DAMS) as part of our RDC monthly calls.

Also, Maureen reminded me that there are contribution envelopes in the back of the room for everybody as well.

Issues and Concerns: None received.



Technology Committee (TECH)

Committee Officers were not introduced but are listed here:

- Chair: Robert M. (Bob)
- Vice Chair: Jean Camille B.
- Secretary: Mary Lea S.
- Treasurer: Clayton D.

Committee Members: Matthew E., Ellen B., Naomi S., Arthur G., and Tom W., and (GSB liaison) Pat B.

Committee Chair Report:

Hi! My name is Bob and I’m the chair of the Technology Committee.

We’re the Technology Committee, and, we’re basically the underpinning for all the rest of you, it seems. You will notice that we have been mentioned by or we support the PI Committee, the FCC, the CC, the LIT Committee, the International Caucus and now the RDC. And that’s our job.

Our mission last year, which was reapproved by the WSC, is to focus on harnessing technology to improve access to resources, to facilitate communication and to reach out to the debtor who still suffers.

And we have ongoing efforts—the debit card effort that was just mentioned started in our committee, and we are going to continue to work with various committees on that; and the new website that is being developed and which we will continue to work on. Our plan for this year is just to continue to support new efforts, and we are available at any time to help with anything that needs to be done. For example, when the new website is ready for testing, we’ll be part of that process.

We have three recommendations which show what we will be working on:

Three (3) recommendations were proposed by the Technology Committee:

One of our major efforts over the past year was e-literature. So, the first recommendation, which is in fact already being worked on by various committees like Lit Pub, is:

Recommendation #1: To the Literature Publications Committee to make the *Currency of Hope*, Second

Edition, available for sale on the Debtors Anonymous website in PDF format.

We support offering this e-literature in PDF format, as it would be the most cost-effective method for getting it out, and will be accessible to the largest number of types of devices. Eventually we're going to work on producing e-literature in true e-book format, so that it will look like a book that you can read on Kindles and Nooks and so forth. We have to start somewhere, so we decided to start with a PDF because we have the PDF—it was used for publishing the printed copy, and it would cost us very little to produce PDF formats. Research indicated that more people than not were interested in buying not only the hard copy, but also an online copy, so we wouldn't be cutting into literature sales. In terms of the pricing it's very economical to produce electronic literature, so we wouldn't be cutting into the income that we get from literature. And perhaps more importantly, this would facilitate distribution of *Currency of Hope* to international groups, online meetings and underserved meetings in areas where it's difficult to obtain and sell the written literature. We will work this year with various committees about the pricing and so forth, and actually making this happen. That's our first recommendation. And I doubt that there are a lot of people who think we shouldn't be doing this, as this is 2014. It is, isn't it? When we're buried in our room with our computers, we lose track of these things, don't we?

By the way, losing track, I didn't introduce the members of the group. They asked me not to introduce them now, but perhaps the members of the group could stand up and you could applaud them. I think most of you know who they are. And thanks to Pat B., who was thrown into the deep end, and she's our new liaison, as well as being on the GSB InfoTech Committee.

Recommendation #2: We recommend that the Conference Committee cut the cost of the 2015 WSC binder by providing a paperless option.

We suggest that the binder be made available in PDF format in the Tech Room the morning of registration for download by those members who choose to adopt the paperless method. In the registration form we send out to people, we will ask, "Do you want a paper book or will you come ready to accept an online book?" And we will have it ready here in the room because if we try to make it ready ahead of time, on some sort of a cloud format, that won't allow for last-

minute changes, and there are changes right up to the minute before we all arrive here. The traditional binder will be available for anybody who opts out this year, and each delegate would decide ahead of time if they want a download or not. We could have volunteers available to help with the downloading for those who need it. So that's our suggestion to the CC and we will work with the CC on that.

Recommendation #3: We recommend that the 2015 WSC include video conferencing to enable the six registered International Intergroups to participate in the Conference.

This was a request that was submitted by the International Caucus in your books, "Tab 1, page 11, Additional Ideas #3," because the international groups find it extremely difficult to attend the WSC, as you can see here. Two of those groups are in Canada, and the Canadians manage to make it across the border, but there are three other intergroups right there, four other registered intergroups right now, one in Australia, one in England, one in France and one in Spain. And none of them could afford to make it to this year's Conference.

Video conferencing would let them participate. We suggest setting up a system, a series of six laptops, each with a Skype connection to one of the ISRs/GSRs overseas, and we would have volunteers making sure that it's all working right. We would have the laptops connected to a large screen so we could see them when they're asking questions and talking. We would have a webcam so they could see us during the rest of the process. We chose this setup because it's not too expensive. We figured it would cost about \$3,000. We've talked to the group who rented us the technology for this WSC about the details for what we would need.

And then what we would suggest is that these delegates would have to agree to be on committees and work all year like the rest of us, and to pay a registration fee. The fee would be determined, as they would not actually be here eating the food or drinking the coffee and so on. What we would do is, after we're in WSC, we would take the six laptops, one to each committee room. We would probably assign them their committees so we would know where they were going, and then they would participate in the committee meetings via Skype. We would bring the laptops back here for the Convocation because they would be voting members and they would vote by holding up their card on camera and we would count those votes in with the rest of our votes. There are

other logistics involved, but those are the details. So that's our recommendation. This is the one that has the most stretch, but I love it! I hope you do too.

The idea is that this could happen this year, but the question that immediately comes up is, what about all the groups in the US who can't afford to come here? This would be the pilot, and eventually we might make it available nationally. We'd need better technology, but if we also make it available to US groups who couldn't afford to come, we may make this a double-the-size Conference.

Chair Allen A. stated we have gone through all our committees today, and after announcements adjourned the Convocation without objection at 11:35 a.m., followed by the Serenity Prayer.

CONVOCATION ADJOURNED at 11:35 a.m. UNTIL SUNDAY MORNING.

CONVOCATION DAY TWO

Convocation Day Two began at 8:30 a.m. on August 10, 2014

Chair Allen A. opened by leading the group in the Serenity Prayer followed by announcements. Volunteers were asked to read The Twelve Steps, The Twelve Traditions, and The Twelve Concepts for D.A. World Service.

Chair Allen A. confirmed a quorum was present: We have 89 credentialed delegates in the room and a quorum is 60.

Allen A. spoke to clear up some confusion about the allotments to the committees. The \$3,000 spending plan that's available to the committees been divided up, with \$250 for each committee. If a committee has a project they want to do that will require more than \$250 in funds, the procedure is to make a proposal to the GSB through their liaison, and the GSB will determine whether or not the funds are available and, if so, approve or reject the proposal. This is the process through which to receive additional committee funds, so you're not necessarily limited to \$250.

GENERAL SERVICE BOARD

Eileen presented the motion.

GSB Motion #1: That the WSC approve the following amendment to the Literature Approval Process: (In Stage One, section 1, add the *highlighted text*)

At the World Service Conference, the WSC Literature Committee proposes a concept for new or revised literature, along with suggested mediums, and makes a motion for approval of that concept at Convocation.
“Should the Board or the WSC Literature Committee vote by substantial unanimity to alter or rescind the concept, the WSC must be informed of the action and the reasoning for their decision.”

Background: Part of the reason for this change is that in the past, before we actually had this literature approval process, if a committee voted to not continue with a pamphlet or an idea, it was never really brought to the floor. We were discussing this in Literature Publications and we thought there ought to be some accountability of the WSC, now that everything is approved in concept by the WSC, and we thought this would cover that.

Suppose a future WSC Literature Committee decided they didn't want to do the [D.A.] Big Book, which would be in their rights. They would have to come and explain their reasoning to the WSC and then, if the WSC wanted to, they could vote on it, too. Since it's always in the purview of the WSC to vote on things, it would have to be part of this change; it's just implied.

Discussion:

Point of Information: Because the Literature Committee presents their agenda each year, I'm wondering, does that mean every project that includes, I think, Daily Meditations, a bunch of brochures, does that just mean that every year as part of the agenda, its incumbent on the Literature Committee to announce those projects as being on the agenda?

A: Only if you're going to change the concept that was approved by the WSC. For example, if you're working on the Big Book, you don't have to make that announcement, it's within the Literature Committee's purview to do that. Only if you were going to change the Big Book in any way, or any of the other

pamphlets, or if you were going to say, “you know what, we reconsidered this, we think there is no need for this pamphlet,” or something along those lines. But to do what is already approved, no, you don’t have to do this; the committee doesn’t have to do any of that.

Pro: I think this is a good motion. I think there’s a lot that goes through this committee. I know there was a body of work, in my past incarnation as a GSR, on a Meditations Book that went on for years—6 years of hard work and it simply fell off the radar screen. I don’t know that this motion would attend to all of that, but certainly this level of transparency is needed and it prevents minority agendas, people who have a particular opinion in a particular direction, from using this as a way to disappear things. Thank you.

Eileen, GSB Trustee with a Point of Information regarding the Meditation Book: The Meditation Book hasn’t fallen off the radar, but one of the things is we ran into a big road block and it’s all in your report from Literature Publications that I didn’t get a chance to announce because there’s a lot of non-Conference-Approved Literature and we also don’t have all the releases, so we’ll probably have to start from Phase I, so in answer to that, one of the things that was discussed briefly in Literature Publications, and we decided not to take any action on it, was that instead of having members write a meditation, they should be just be pulled from different books. That was discussed in one committee and we decided we were going to stick with the original, but if we had changed it, we would probably have to come and explain that to you, according to this motion.

Point of Information: I don’t know who I should be addressing this to, but if the Literature Committee makes a motion that’s approved by the Convocation, are we, as the Literature Committee, charged or obligated to follow through with that?

Allen A. GSB Chair: Is the Literature Committee obligated to follow through with that, is that what you are asking?

A: Yes, Literature Committee.

Eileen GSB Trustee: If a future Literature Committee decided that this got passed by a previous one and we think that this is an outside issue, or if the GSB decided that something wasn’t cost effective, would be more expensive, wouldn’t be a good sale item, or wouldn’t be worth producing, we just have to come back and explain that. You can revoke by substantial unanimity to rescind that idea or to change it; you just have to be accountable to the Literature Committee and the GSB.

This isn’t just the Literature Committee, it’s also the GSB. Also, if they decide not to do something, we need to be accountable to the WSC to let the WSC know what’s going on. So there’s no question about what happened to the Meditation Book, what happened to this, what happened to that; we let them know what’s going on.

Allen A: What this amendment does, is it takes care of a conscious decision to not do something. Once something has been approved by the WSC it’s approved by the WSC. This is rescinding that decision, or how to deal with it if someone wants to rescind that decision. Any other discussion?

Alexandra, GSB Trustee: Yes, I just wanted to speak to the matter of disappearing, something I thought I heard. This doesn’t have anything to do with how a committee, either Literature Publications or Literature Committee, prioritizes their work. So, this in answer to the disappearing thing.

The GSB moves that the WSC approve the following amendment to the Literature Approval Process, adding the line, “***Should the Board or the WSC Literature Committee vote by substantial unanimity to alter or rescind the concept, the WSC must be informed of the action and the reasoning for their decision.***”

Motion passed unanimously.

Business Debtors Anonymous Committee (BDA)

Committee Officers

- Chair: Steve K.
- Vice Chair: Julia Anne G.
- Secretary: Dan A.
- Treasurer: Pat T.

Committee Members: Jerome S., Amy S., Susan H., Helena K., Connie N., Jackie D., Kate T., Bill B., Juan A., Eric M., Candace H., and Shelley T., (GSB Liaison) Bill J.

Committee Chair Report:

Hi, I’m Steve, GSR from LA, the chair of the BDA Committee. We have a lot of exciting things we are

working on this year. I just want to introduce the Committee members.

One of the big pushes we're trying to do this year is to get some BDA pamphlets actually published or at least approved for publication by the next WSC. So we are going to continue working on our Spiritual Business Plan pamphlet, a Spiritual Marketing Plan pamphlet; we have a card with the Signposts of Business Debting on it that I think is almost done, it just needs to get handed off to the right place. We want to liaison with the Literature Committee to work on a possible Tool 10 pamphlet.

We're also going to explore ways with the Tech Committee on how to have these pamphlets disseminated on the website, if that is even possible. And to see if there are other alternative ways to disseminate BDA literature.

And that's one of our four Subcommittees,

1. Pamphlet Subcommittee.
2. Taking our Pulse: Proven Practices in Step Work. They're going to talk to other BDA groups and intergroups and BDA groups as a whole to learn how they do the steps, and then see if there's a way to disseminate that information in order to publicize how people around the country do the steps. For example, in California, we have the famous Yellow Book, and a lot of people don't know about that. It may or may not be appropriate for the Fellowship as a whole, but just that kind of thing—letting people in the Fellowship know the different ways people are working the Steps. They also intend to survey members worldwide and share those results.
3. Accountability Subcommittee: They are working on a BDA Spiritual Accountability pamphlet. They want to use the context of different D.A. tools, action plans, BDA tools, bookending—various methods used by the Fellowship at large to implement the steps and tools to bring our HP into our program and into our lives, and find our HP's vision for us. We get stuck off and on with the different actions we have to take to achieve our vision, and this is to promote the use of these tools to keep us on track, those tools that we can almost mechanically use when we get in those dark places where it's difficult for us to market or work or just stay focused on our

vision. It's a way to get support from other members of our Fellowship to keep us on track.

4. Visions and Vocations Subcommittee is continuing our work from last year interviewing different members of the Fellowship. They are preparing a two-page questionnaire and the idea is to find out how people achieve their visions, or how they're working on their visions, to see if we can collect enough stories to find patterns and to be able to share that with the Fellowship. What works? How do we get our vision?

Motions

No motions were proposed by the BDA Committee.

Recommendations

Three (3) recommendations were made by the BDA Committee:

BDA Recommendation #1: We recommend to the Tech Committee, that future phases of the new D.A. website include functionality for a forum(s) to allow D.A. groups and/or BDA groups and members to submit questions to the Fellowship as a whole that could be answered by others in the Fellowship.

We've been informed by Bill that it's probably not going to happen in this first phase, but we wanted to get on record that down the road we're hoping this is something we'll be able to do, where you can have a forum, and a BDA Group in Philadelphia can say, "Hey, how do you guys work Tool 10?" and you can get some answers from people all over the country, and the world. This is just to share information on BDA, but helpful for D.A. as a whole.

BDA Recommendation 2: That the Board prepare and submit to the Fellowship a new 5-Year Plan, as well as a procedure for an ongoing annual renewable 5-Year Plan.

In other words, just to recommend that we do have a continuing, ongoing 5-Year Plan that we're following.

And, **BDA Recommendation 3:** The BDA Committee recommends to the Tech Committee that the new D.A. website include functionality to sort for BDA and other categories of meetings on the site meeting list.

So, if you're someone in Dallas looking for a BDA meeting, you can just search by BDA. It would include other appropriate categories too.

Thank you very much.

International Caucus (INTL)

Caucus Officers

- Chair: Kieran K.
- Vice Chair: Helena K.
- Secretary: Kaila Y.
- Treasurer: Jeanne F.

Caucus Members: Jean Camille B., Tom B. and (GSB Liaison) George M.

Caucus Chair Report: Kiernan, the Chair, introduced the members of the Caucus.

The International Caucus was formed relatively recently. The Caucus met for the first time at the World Service Conference in 2012. The stated purpose of the International Caucus is to exchange information and develop initiatives to support the growth of Debtors Anonymous internationally.

Our work for the coming year includes:

- 1) Sending a letter of connection and encouragement to international meetings;
- 2) Supporting the formation of a European Intergroup; and
- 3) Co-sponsoring of conference calls coordinated with the international fellowship in mind.

The 2013–14 Caucus drafted a letter to the registered meetings outside of the U.S. The letter expresses support of the groups and a willingness to share experience, strength, and hope with them. It also inquires about their local intergroups. In it, we respectfully request that they encourage all meetings in their area to register with the D.A. General Service Office.

The reason for this is that there are quite a few groups both domestically and internationally who are just not registered with the D.A. GSO or aren't updating their registration annually, which effectively ends up being the same thing. They are not currently registered with the GSO. The General Service Board (GSB) has

approved this letter. It was worked on by the previous caucus. It was sent to the GSB, which approved it. It came back to us to rubberstamp it. It will now be sent out from the General Service Office forthwith. And it's going to include the registration form, so that the local meetings can then, if they are not currently registered, re-register or provide it to a local meeting that they know of. Let's say you're in London, and you know there is a functioning meeting two miles away that isn't registered but is in the district, etc., this can help get that meeting registered with the GSO.

There are currently six intergroups outside of the United States: two in Canada (Toronto and Vancouver; both have representatives here at the WSC), London, Sydney, Northern Spain, and New Zealand. And European and Austral-Asia intergroups are also currently forming. We will offer to support the formation of the European Intergroup in whatever way we can. The European Intergroup is scheduled to have their first meeting at The First European Debtors Anonymous Convention, and flyers for this are available in the Hospitality Room. It will be held the second weekend in June, 2015, in Cannes, France.

We'll continue to work with the WSC committees to explore how we can make it easier for international intergroups and groups to participate more actively in the WSC, both in person and via video-conference. In May 2014, the International Caucus co-hosted the Fellowship-wide conference call titled, "D.A. Stories and Hope from Around the World." Over 75 members from around the world attended and the outgoing chair of this International Caucus noted that this was a great moment of D.A. unity and fellowship. We are humbled and grateful for the opportunity to be of service at this time of exciting growth of D.A.

Intergroup Caucus (IG)

Caucus Members:

Chair: Ellen B.
Vice Chair: Dayton L.
Secretary: Diana D.
Treasurer: Dan A.

Members: Jeannine W., Maureen F., and (GSB Liaison) Eileen N.

Caucus Chair Report:
Ellen B. introduced the Caucus members.

We have a very ambitious to-do list for the year. We are of course going to continue updating our list of intergroups; we have about 39 now, we'll add the 6 international ones, and we're sure there are some out there that are not registered.

We are going to begin setting up a program of mentoring intergroups to start new intergroups. There's been a request on some phone meetings for us to provide a program where you can sponsor or mentor a new group starting out. It would probably help to build up the intergroups we have. Sometimes they diminish and fade pretty fast.

We're going to be seeking out the best practices, the ones that keep the intergroups actively running and vital. And we're going to be checking things that are published on the intergroups in the DAMS and the pamphlets to be sure those are still accurate.

We always have suggestions on ways to celebrate the 40th Anniversary. Somehow the Committee keeps dropping my favorite of going on a cruise. But the other ones we have are being folded into the recommendations.

Intergroup Caucus Recommendation #1:

Recommend that the Intergroup Caucus introduce the position of Meeting Coordinator for each Intergroup to keep track of meetings, contacts and disbanded meetings. In addition, work with the GSO to remind groups to re-register their meetings annually.

Background: A lot of intergroups don't remember to re-register or register at all. We will work with the General Service Office (GSO) to remind groups to re-register their groups annually.

Intergroup Caucus Recommendation #2:

Recommend adding an easier to find link/button to the Debtors Anonymous website for members who want to find an Intergroup.

Background: It's not real clear how to find an Intergroup if you are looking for one.

Thank you for all your service.

Allen A., GSB Chair: Our next committee would be the **Internal Operations Committee**, and one thing I get to do as Chair, is I get to talk about things. So, I'm going to share some historical information with you about this.

In the time I've been on the GSB, one of the things that has been interesting from the perspective of the GSB, is this: Sometimes there will be 30 members on one committee and 2 or 3 on another. It's always been somewhat of a concern to us as to the operation of those committees. This is the first time I haven't seen a committee exist, with zero members, which is really quite startling. It may not sound that important, but if you think about the upside-down triangle, the office reports to the GSB, and the GSB is responsible for legal issues and management of the GSO. But the IOC serves as the voice of the Fellowship, the voice of the WSC, and we don't have that voice. So basically, the GSB can do whatever they want now. I'm exaggerating, but that's kind of the position we've now been put in.

Several years back, in one of the GSB's more pompous moments, the GSB made a motion to the WSC to assign delegates to committees rather than have it be voluntary. And we got smacked down bigtime. The WSC was overwhelmingly against it.

I only mention this because all of you are on the WSC. You are all delegates and this is something to think about. The Conference Committee has taken this up, which I thank them for doing, and we'll be considering it and hopefully bringing something to the next WSC's recommendations, or maybe making a recommendation for a motion. But it's something to think about, as the process is not quite working in terms of how committees are formed.

CONVOCATION CLOSING

Allen A. had a few closing remarks:

I'd like to make a few acknowledgments before we completely run out of time. First, I want to thank Michael Malamut for coming back after so many years, helping us run this smoothly. We'd have a very difficult time without him.

I'd like to thank Mary, for filling in as secretary for this WSC. It's very interesting, the last two years are the only two years we've actually had D.A. members as secretaries and it's been really fantastic. They really know what's going on.

I'd like to thank Jeff and Pat for liaising with the Host Committee and the hotel. And I'd like to thank Maureen and Michael for being timekeepers, and Michael for staffing the 7th Tradition in the back there.

I'd like to thank Allen T. for running the technology here with the motions.

And I'd like to thank Joan for staffing the door and very gently reminding everybody to take their cards with them. And also for her help with the 7th Tradition.

And I'd like to thank all of you for your service. You've done a great service for the Fellowship.

And last, I'd like to thank the Host Committee for their fantastic job! They were really great. We've had nothing but smiles and it's been really terrific. I'd like to invite Pat B. and Jan J. up to speak a little and then we will turn it over to our new host committee.

Pat, Co-Chair of the Chicago Host Committee: Hi everyone, we are so happy all of you are here because without you there wouldn't be any WSC. It's been so much fun. The big thing I have to start with is to say what a gift it's been for me to be a co-host with Jan. I don't know what's good for me. Last year, when it was asked of me to take this position, I thought, "Oh, my God, what are you asking me to do? I can't do that." And it has turned out to be just a whole lot of fun and I have been able to work with so many good people that it's just been a whole lot of good pluses. And, here's Jan. Jan, what would you like to say?

Jan, Co-Chair of the Host Committee: Thank you! And Pat is terrific.

Pat: And now we would like Michael M. to come up, and since honesty is such a big part of our program, I have to tell you is that this is traditionally the time when I turn the gavel over to Michael, but guess what? I put the gavel in a very special place at home and it got lost! I got ready to come here and couldn't find it. So when the gavel appears, it will go in the mail to Portland. So Jan and I are definitely very happy and it is a thrill to give the gift to Michael.

Michael: So here's how you ended up in Portland. I listen for God and I watch for God. And God shows up in the strangest ways. On the morning we were going to have the intergroup meeting to decide if we were going to put in a bid, I had made up my mind, this was too much work, I didn't have a sufficient etc., etc., etc. I stuck the key in my car and turned the ignition on and I heard a little warning light. I looked over at the light, and it said, and I'm quoting now, "Perform service." *(Laughter and applause)*

Ratification of New Trustee

George M., newly-elected Class B Trustee, was introduced and sworn in. The motion was made and seconded to ratify him as a trustee. Vote was unanimous.

Renewal of Trustees to Second Term

Class A, Allen T. and Class B, Patricia B. were renewed for a second three-year term.

Chair Allen A. invited them to say a few words:

I'm Allen T., I'm a debtor in recovery. So here's the one thing I want to share, and I want to say the one thing I said when we were at the lunch table on Friday where people could come talk to trustees about possibly becoming a trustee, and that was, so we're in August right now, and in January or February of this year, I was like 80%:20% that I would not do a second term. And, I'm not sure what shifted. It's a lot of work and I have another project I want to get onto, and something shifted, or I shifted or God shifted me over the last three or four months and it became absolutely sure that doing a second term is an absolute privilege. And it's not this piece of paper; this agenda; that is not the way to do this. For me as a human being, for me to serve on the board of anything, but to serve on the GSB of Debtors Anonymous is an incredible privilege and I started

seeing how lucky I am to be a trustee rather than seeing how much work it is, so I said, I absolutely want to come back, so I'm looking forward to the next three years. Thank you all.

Pat B.: I was like Allen, because of some circumstances, I wasn't sure I would renew and wanted to make sure I was available. And through prayer, through a little bit of meditation, and through work with my sponsor, I offered to serve another three years. And I love your Fellowship. I love the debtor. I've learned so much since I've been on your Board, and all I need to say is thank you for allowing me the privilege of serving you because this is a group of people I've never been exposed to, so thank you.

Allen A.: We are so lucky. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you and the Fellowship. It's been seven years and it's really been amazing. I want to tell you a true story of something that went on in a meeting. You're not supposed to say what goes on in the rooms but my sponsor told me this story. So, a newcomer raised his hand toward the end of the meeting and he said, "I'm sitting in this meeting and I've never been to a D.A. meeting before, but what I'm hearing it's so clear I belong here and I didn't come here looking for a D.A. meeting. I just happened to come here by accident." And he had heard there was a big AA meeting at this same address, this same church and he had come looking for it. And the sign on the door said "DA meeting"! I guess this is the place! HP works in strange ways. It reminded me of what Michael was saying the other day. When Michael was giving the PI report he was saying "Wouldn't it be great to have a time when everyone knew what D.A. is the same way they all know what AA is?" How many mothers and fathers turn to sisters and brothers and say, "You need to go to AA"? They know. It would be great to have D.A. get that recognition and we're moving in that direction. I think over the seven years, step by step I've seen this fellowship mature in its ability to reach out to those still suffering debtors and get the word out.

One of the things that is so powerful in this particular conference is the passing of the 12 Steps from the Literature Committee. It's just unbelievable. I don't want to get into the full story, but I was involved in the Literature Committee when we found the writer and started working with the writer at the beginning. So you can imagine how good it is to be leaving the WSC service and seeing this get passed. I just think it's going to be amazing for our Fellowship. And I was against it at the beginning because my recovery was based on the AA 12 and 12 and Big Book and it was so powerful and

it helped me so much. I thought what do we need steps and traditions for D.A.? But as soon as I read the first draft, I got it. All of sudden it made sense to me. This is about us! We can really reach the newcomer. So this is great.

We say goodbyes on the GSB on Fridays and it's usually a very weepy session. I've seen chair after chair fall apart in tears, and for me it was the opposite. I fell apart in tears when they told me I was going to be chair! It's really true. But that's how I operated. I had a tremendous amount of fear about something like this. But I look back at it now and I think Wow! I was chair for just two years and I survived. It worked. It's been an amazing experience to me and I just want to pitch service. I did service on the intergroup level and what I always learned was to say yes to service. And first thing I did in Intergroup was the Bottomline, the newsletter for New York. They needed an editor and I thought, maybe I can do that, so I said Yes. And then after two years of doing that, they needed someone to do special events and I said, hum, maybe I could do that. And I didn't intend to join the GSB. I didn't go looking for it. Someone referred me and they contacted me and said would you consider being a trustee? And I said, yes. Then they said, would you like to be chair, and I said yes. So, think about it. Any one of you can do that service. And it's an amazing life-changing service. Every time I've stepped up my service, things have happened in my life that are unbelievable. I quit my job two years ago. I don't know if that would have happened if I wasn't on the GSB doing service. I'm self-employed now and doing what I love and it's unbelievable. So thank you so much. This Fellowship is in great hands so thank you for your service.

The Board had their officer elections and the following officers were approved by the GSB earlier in the week:

Sue F. is secretary
Lawanda C. is assistant secretary
Maureen C. is treasurer
Jeff Y. is assistant treasurer
Bill J. is vice chair
Eileen N. is chair

Chair Allen A. asked if there were any objections to this slate of officers. Not hearing any objections, the slate of officers were approved. Each officer was given the chance to say a few words.

Sue F.: It is an honor and a privilege to serve your fellowship. Please say yes to service. Take it to your next meeting or group, talk to your sponsor, talk to your HP and say yes to service. Thank you.

Lawanda C.: *I'm a debtor. I never expected to be called but it's an honor and privilege to serve. Thank you.*

Jeff Y.: *This is my 6th WSC and I'm starting my last year. I was kind of hoping it would be a quiet one, where I could sit back and relax, but God had other plans, so I'll be serving you as assistant treasurer and I'll need a lot of coaching from Allen and Maureen and all of you. Thank you for your support.*

Maureen C.: *I'm a compulsive debtor and I'm thrilled to be the treasurer for D.A. I have a couple of recommendations; I will serve on the Finance Committee with Allen. And we didn't talk much about our theme of the WSC, which is sponsorship and "Together We Can." And now that we have the Twelve Steps coming out, I recommend you read it, go through the steps with your sponsor and then you take as many people as you can through the steps. So that will be fulfilling the promise of this conference. The second is "Every member, every month" and I'm one of those thirty-seven people who does that every month, so join me and make it 500 next year. Fulfill your committee work, show up for every call. We are all a resource.*

Bill J.: *I'm still a debtor and I'm another one of the 37. This fellowship saved my life and there isn't anything I could do to repay that. Thank you.*

Eileen: *Thank you very much. When I agreed to represent my group at the WSC in 2005 I was blown away. I thought I was shy and scared, but it would have been impossible then. But I kept saying yes. And I have a great team, I have you, and together we can!*

Corporate Officers - The following slate of elected officers of D.A. GSB, Inc. for the 2014–2015 conference year were sworn in. The officers are:

President: Eileen N.
Vice President: Bill J.
Second Vice President: Jeff Y.
Treasurer: Maureen C.
Secretary: Sue F.

Adjournment

The 2014 World Service Conference of Debtors Anonymous was adjourned at 10:45 a.m., Sunday, August 10, 2014.

*** End of Section***

SECTION 4: REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

For the past seven years it's been my privilege to serve as a trustee on the General Service Board, the last two of those years serving both as Board chair and as President of the not-for-profit corporation Debtors Anonymous, Inc.

As you know, most corporations follow a top-down organizational structure with an executive directing and governing from the top of the pyramid. But our Twelve Step Fellowship organizational structure turns that image on its head with an upside-down triangle. At the top of the upside-down triangle are the individual members and groups. In the middle is the Conference, where all of you represent those groups. And at the bottom, near the point, is the General Service Board. We are your trusted servants; we do not govern.

According to the Twelve Concepts, the Conference gives the Board legal, fiduciary, and administrative responsibility to run the day-to-day business of Debtors Anonymous, Inc. And it authorizes Board to make the necessary decisions to fulfill those responsibilities. But in all things, the Board answers to the Fellowship. So this morning you will hear, in addition to my report, the report of the Treasurer, those of each of our Board Committees, and that of our Office Manager, as we detail the actions taken by the Board over the last year.

Much of what we do is the week-to-week grunt work that keeps the wheels of the Fellowship oiled and running. However, there are some specific accomplishments worth highlighting in this report:

Online registration: For the first time, Conference delegates were able to register for this conference completely online. And the great news is most of you used it!

A Currency of Hope: A brand new edition with twenty-one new stories. All the stories in the new edition are about living in D.A. recovery: not incurring new unsecured debt one day at a time, working the Steps, and carrying the message.

Key steps toward a new D.A. website: The Board's Info Tech Committee and the Conference's Tech Committee worked together throughout the year to develop a concept for a website that will be easier to use by members, newcomers, helping professionals, and the media. Earlier this week, the Board approved a bid to begin its design.

Future conferences: Last year's Conference Committee asked the Board to explore some of the options available to us in order to regularize the location of our Conference. The goal would be to lower the costs of attending so that more delegates could participate. The Board will present its findings to the committee.

Improved accounting: For the first time, the Board's Audit Committee became a full-time committee with a focus on getting the Board up to speed in compliance with New York State not-for-profit law. As you'll hear from both the Audit and the Finance Committee, we have greatly improved our accounting practices.

The Internet and Social Media: In response to frequent requests from the Fellowship for guidance on the use of the Internet and Social Media to reach the debtor who still suffers, the Board created an ad hoc committee last January, to research D.A.'s current presence on the Internet, and consider the impact of

any potential future presence, in keeping with the Twelve Traditions.

Progress toward online payments: The Finance Committee and Information Technology Committee are currently working with a vendor to test its debit card and eCheck payment system for online literature sales and contributions.

You'll hear a lot more about the Board's work in the committee reports that follow. I'd like to shift attention now to the state of the Fellowship.

Today we have approximately 510 registered groups worldwide. We don't really know the exact number because groups sometimes don't register, or know that they can, and few groups that fold inform the General Service Office about it. That's more or less the same

*Higher quality may very well be
the pre-condition to the growth of
our Fellowship in numbers—in
other words, in our ability to most
effectively reach out to the still
suffering debtor with our own
proven message of recovery.*

number of registered groups we had in 2010, 2005, 2000, and 1995. Yet in the first fifteen years since the founding of D.A. in the late 1970's, there was lots of growth. In that time period, D.A. took a huge leap from a mere handful of meetings in New York to 500 meetings worldwide—and then it flattened out. It makes you wonder: what happened after that? Did we lose our way? Is this just something unique to the disease of compulsive debting? I could share a personal theory or two, but we may never know why. I think it best not to get too focused on quantity when it comes to reaching the still suffering debtor. It's still about reaching out to one debtor at a time, one day at a time.

But while it may continue to be tricky to get a handle on quantity, we can clearly see a lot of growth in D.A. in the area of quality—how we function as a Fellowship and how we function as a not-for-profit corporation. And in the end, higher quality may very well be the pre-condition to the growth of our Fellowship in numbers—in other words, in our ability to most effectively reach out to the still suffering debtor with our own proven message of recovery.

Over the last few years, you know that the Board has called attention to instances in which our literature has included material without legal citation or permission. If there's ever a fellowship that should not be engaged in borrowing anything from others without permission, we are definitely it. As you know, the Board removed the D.A. Preamble, and non-permissioned passages have been removed from our pamphlets and our website, because it is the right, and legal, thing to do. Since then we have heard from numerous groups and individuals asking for support as they try to find their way on this issue in their own groups. As guardians of the Fellowship's content, the Board can directly address plagiarism in our world service website and literature. But at the group and Internet level, we can only lead by example. It's up to you to speak up. For our own recoveries, and for the highest good of our beloved Fellowship, we need to keep our side of the fence clean.

There is one area of growth that I am particularly excited about. A lot has been going on among our friends in D.A. outside the U.S. The Board's International Committee and the Conference's International Caucus have been actively in touch with

members and groups in the U.K, Spain, Italy, Germany, Brazil, France, Denmark, Russia, Japan, Colombia, and Australia. Some of those members have been participating in translations of D.A. content into other languages than English. European groups have been in touch with each other to explore the option of forming a European Intergroup. Australia has considered expanding its Intergroup to include parts of Asia. In May, the International Caucus sponsored the first conference call dedicated specifically to hearing from international D.A. members and groups.

On a personal level, in connection with a business trip I took to the U.K. last October, I attended an Intergroup meeting in London as a representative of the Board. It was a great opportunity to share information and answer questions about D.A. world service. The year before, on another business trip, I attended a D.A. meeting in Tokyo, informally representing the Board, and met with members afterward for dinner and fellowship and sharing information. One interesting tidbit I learned was that a D.A. member from Italy who was living in Japan was instrumental in helping them get started. Over this last year, I've picked up a sponsee in London and receive program calls from a member in Germany, both of which I still find astonishing. This level of international communication in D.A. is unprecedented for us and can only bode well for the future of our beloved Fellowship.

This level of international communication in D.A. is unprecedented for us and can only bode well for the future of our beloved Fellowship.

If you read the latest D.A. Focus posted on the D.A. website, there's a wonderful story about the development and publication of the first edition of *A Currency of Hope*. Sales of the first edition allowed D.A. to hire a full-time employee for its office for the first time, as well as pay for a few other projects.

Over the last year, D.A.'s own Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, long anticipated by our Fellowship, have been working their way through the literature approval process. As we do in an ideal spending plan, we're close enough to it becoming a reality that it is worth considering the possibilities: Will we be able to move our General Service Office out of its basement into the sunshine? Will we be able to hire and pay for a part-time or full-time editor?

For the last two years, the Conference's Resource Development Committee has been helping us view our resources as not only financial, but also human. In fact,

financial contributions have been steadily increasing in D.A.—something we should feel very good about. There have also been inspiring acts of service demonstrated by the Conference. Board committee liaisons in general have reported an increased dedication on the part of committee members to continuing their work throughout the conference year. Chairs from all the Conference committees shared ideas in a mid-year call. And phone meetings hosted by WSC's Public Information Committee, International Caucus, and Resource Development Committee attracted impressive turnouts and were both informative and well-received.

A few years back, the Conference's Public Information Committee recommended that groups add a service position for a Public Information Rep to liaison with the media and helping professionals in order to reach out to the still suffering debtor locally. It's still a great idea, and you might want to consider whether or not the groups in your area offer such a position, and whether anyone is stepping up to fill it.

Speaking of service, I'll take this opportunity to remind you that there are still openings for six ACM positions on Board committees: in Communications, Finance, International, Literature Services, Legal Affairs, and Public Information. At the end of this conference, there will also be openings for three Class A trustees

on the General Service Board. You can check out these open service positions at <http://www.debtorsanonymous.org>

So in two years, in 2016, we'll be celebrating D.A.'s 40th anniversary—with plenty to celebrate. *A Currency of Hope* second edition will have been inspiring members

and reaching newcomers for two years. The Fellowship will most probably have its own Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions book by then. Newcomers and current members will be visiting a brand new D.A. website. And they will most likely have been ordering literature and making contributions online with

their debit cards or eChecks. I think it will be a significant anniversary. I hope your committees and caucuses will generate your own ideas for how to make it a memorable one.

I am grateful and honored to have served this Fellowship at what I believe to be a very exciting—and significant—time for D.A. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you.

Allen A.
August 7, 2014

In fact, financial contributions have been steadily increasing in D.A.—something we should feel very good about.

*** End of Section***

SECTION 5: GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE REPORT

The General Service Office (GSO) serves the Fellowship of Debtors Anonymous and the newcomer by the timely fulfillment of literature orders, by processing and acknowledging Seventh Tradition contributions from groups and individuals; by registering new groups and updating information on existing groups in our database and on the website; and by providing information to groups, newcomers, helping professionals, and the media.

There are many highlights to report from the past year:

In October we hired our third employee, an office assistant and experienced D.A. member who now works three days totaling 22 hours a week. She brings many administrative skills into the office including experience in publishing and web site design and maintenance. Our other part-time employee has been with us since 2010 and continues to work between 4 to 6 hours a week; her focus is on literature fulfillment.

In January, the D.A. General Service Board held its annual mid-year face-to-face meeting in a city next to Needham. On the board this year were three new Class A Trustees and one Class B Trustee. They came to the office for a tour and to see the day-to-day operations of the office.

In May, we received delivery of the long awaited second edition of *A Currency of Hope*. With a lot of work and planning by the office staff, we were able to open sufficient space so that we could receive and store all 4,096 copies of the book (that's 103 cases at 31 pounds each) in the

General Service Office. I am pleased to report that as of the 18th of July this year, we have sold 1,414 books.

In late June, the GSB Assistant Treasurer Maureen C. came to Needham to assist with the end-of-year physical count of our inventory of literature. It was a great help to have a second set of eyes to verify the actual counts and to make adjustments and corrections as needed. Maureen also created some templates and processes to account for certain products that we sell that are unique to D.A. and had been causing some miscounts and vagueness in the literature inventory.

Finally, the office continues to be very involved with the World Service Conference registration, and we are quite pleased that the vision of offering online registration has been realized. Thank you Sue F. and Peri S. for your service. Approximately 85% of the delegates used the online registration form. There were no major glitches, but we are seeing ways the process can be improved and will review and suggest upgrades for next year's conference.

Thank you, and have a great conference.

Sincerely,

Howard S., Office Manager

*** End of Section***

SECTION 6: GENERAL SERVICE BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

2013–2014 General Service Board Members

Alexandra B.-W., Allen A., Allen T., Bill J., Eileen N., George M., Jeff Y., Joan R., Lawanda C., Marci W., Maureen C., Michael A., Patricia B., Susan F.

Audit Committee

Audits or reviews are a factor in providing financial management oversight for an organization. The Audit Committee acts as a liaison to the organization's independent external auditor or reviewer, who is a certified public accountant (CPA) or firm of CPAs.

The Audit Committee of the D.A. General Service Board has been created. Bill J. is our Chair; Sue F. and Jeff Y. served in the 2013–2014 Conference Year (CY). Our committee also included Marcy W. (who brought great insights from the Finance Committee perspective, having been a past Treasurer) and George M.

A compliance report was prepared by the Legal Affairs Committee in 2012 that was based on a Sarbanes-Oxley checklist created by BoardSource and Independent Sector and covered seven areas. The audit revealed that the D.A. General Service Board is meeting all requirements in these seven areas:

1. Independent and Competent Audit Committee

"No other members of the Audit Committee were simultaneously members of the Finance Committee." This is now true, as of CY 2013-2014.

2. Responsibilities of Auditors

"This was our first year of using this accounting firm, thus partner/principal rotation did not apply. The firm provided no services to the organization other than the financial statement review and tax return preparation services." In CY 2014–2015, Finance has turned over the responsibility for selecting and engaging the outside auditor.

3. Certified Financial Statements

"Both our Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer communicated with the accounting firm during the completion of the organization's Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 financial statement review and tax returns. The financial statements and tax returns were reviewed carefully by the organization, including review by our CEO prior to signing the tax returns. The returns were filed in a timely manner, under automatic extensions." New processes were initiated, CY 2013–2014 had a complete timeline with all actions, and CY 2014–2015 will have these details updated and enhanced.

4. Insider Transactions and Conflicts of Interest

"D.A. GSB circulates a Conflict of Interest Policy and Disclosure form at the board's annual meeting in August. Every trustee signing verifies that they have disclosed any conflicts of interest." This practice has been continued to the present. No conflicts of interest have been identified or otherwise reported to date.

5. Disclosure

"The organization did not investigate electronic filing for FY11, but can and will for FY15. The organization did file automatic extensions for filing Form 990 and the related form for New York State. Given the organization's fiscal year end of June 30, the returns were both originally due on November 15, 2011. At that time, we were still in the process of selecting a CPA firm, thus we filed an extension to February 15, 2012. Both tax returns were filed prior to the extension deadline." FY2012–2013 was filed on time with a review completed; FY2013–2014 will be further accelerated.

6. Whistle-Blower Protection

"D.A. GSB adopted a Whistle-Blower Protection Policy on January 22, 2012, and referred the policy to the GSB Office Committee for final revision and implementation."

7. Document Destruction

"D.A. GSB adopted the following document retention policy on December 11, 2011: 'The document retention policy of the D.A. GSB is that we shall retain all documents in perpetuity.' D.A. GSB gave conceptual

approval to a Document Management Policy on April 1, 2012 and referred the draft policy to the GSB Office Committee for final revision and implementation.”

Other tasks carried out by the Audit Committee were:

- RECOMMENDATION: That Finance Committee develops and publishes a process for evaluating the level of our prudent reserve.
- RECOMMENDATION: That Finance Committee determines a basis for allocating specific office expenses, as well as other expenditures, to accurately reflect our ratio of Program costs to Management costs.
- Presented a Composition, Scope, and Procedure manual to the GSB for approval.
- Reviewed financial reports and made suggestions for improved clarity and transparency.

The Audit Committee looks forward to participation in the financial processes as the D.A. GSB and D.A. move forward.

Communications Committee

The Communications Committee was re-formed this year with all new members. Lawanda C. joined the board in May 2013, assigned to this committee, and carried over this year. Bill J., Michael A., and Jeff Y. are new to the committee this year. Consequently, much institutional committee memory was lost. The committee has had some successes, and made some mistakes along the way, too. The Communications Committee chair, Jeff Y., is the liaison to the WSC Fellowship Communication Committee and appreciates its hard work. An update on the work of the GSB is provided to the committee on every call. They have been a real joy to work alongside. Since the conference, the committee has

- Compiled the *Conference Final Report* and published it for delegates earlier than ever. ComCom has taken over responsibility for the timely publication of this report for this year.
- Four issues of the *D.A. Focus* have been published.
- Four issues of *Ways & Means* have been published.

- 100+ eNews blasts have kept over 5,500 subscribers up to date on events in the Fellowship this year. By comparison, 43 eNews blasts went out last year.
- Developed a committee handbook with procedures and policies in the hope of securing committee continuity.
- Numerous updates to the D.A. website have been recommended and carried out. The new Promises, updated Tools, the new responsibility statement, and a statement of purpose were loaded onto the website shortly after our return from Phoenix, as were several Spanish-language translations to the page ‘En Español.’
- Created a new page on the website featuring News for Members. We reworked the “Start a Meeting” page into “Resources for Groups.” We appreciate the ready cooperation of Infotech in getting all the uploads done in a timely fashion.
- Reviewed and welcomed the RDC writing project headed by Sheffra W.
- Identified new recovery stories, which will be headed to the website soon.
- Updated the D.A. Style Guide used in all our communications and literature.
- Issued numerous Calls for Stories:
 - for GSRs and ISRs to submit stories about their experience in attending the WSC.
 - on BDA, HIP, RDC committee work.
 - from any and all WSC committees.
 - about solvent holidays, taxes, solvent vacations, and going back to school in recovery without incurring unsecured debt.
- Requested an Appointed Committee Member for editorial support, which remains unfilled.
- Considered a recommendation from WSC BDA committee concerning request to change the name of *Ways & Means*. The question has been referred to a WSC committee for consideration this year as an Issue & Concern.

We remain committed to improving the exchange of information and ideas within the fellowship and welcome your loving appraisal.

In service,
Jeff Y., Chair

Conference Support Committee

The Trustees on the Conference Support Committee (CSC) for the 2013–2014 Conference Year were George M., Jeff Y., Chair Marci W., Secretary Marcy E. (ACM), and Maureen C. Trustee Pat B. (WSC 2014 Liaison) joined our monthly calls to discuss the details of the 2014 conference planning. Allen T. has been named the WSC 2015 Liaison. We are saddened by the departure of Marci W. from the board. She was a font of institutional memory. Marci served as Liaison to the WSC Conference Committee; Maureen completed Marci's term as Liaison.

CSC is primarily concerned with the planning and implementation of D.A.'s annual World Service Conferences. CSC works closely with the WSC Conference Committee, the local Host Committee, and the Board's Legal Affairs and Finance Committees to ensure all the behind-the-scenes work happens so that the conference can run smoothly each year.

The items CSC reviewed, discussed, and took action on during this conference year include:

- The feedback received from the WSC 2013 attendees as submitted in the post-conference survey.
- The feedback received from the WSC 2013 Host Committee in their post-conference "lessons learned" report.
- The 2013 WSC Issues and Concerns and committee recommendations that were assigned to CSC.
- Developing a national hotel request-for-proposal for future WSCs.
- Identifying a professional meeting planner and coordinating the search for the 2015 site.

CSC also reviewed, updated, and created several internal documents related to the annual WSC, including:

- The WSC post-conference survey
- The WSC Committee Starter Kit
- The WSC Host Committee Handbook
- An instructional document for WSC Committee/Caucus Chairs and Treasurers

Other action CSC conducted throughout the year included:

- Organized the mid-year WSC Update conference call
- Hosted two Pre-WSC 2014 GSR/ISR Orientation Telephone Trainings

- Led the development of the WSC 2014 registration packet, with input from the Chicago Host Committee
- Worked with Information Technology to bring WSC registration online

We have been honored to serve the Debtors Anonymous Fellowship during this conference year and we look forward to the possibilities ahead.

In service,
Jeff Y., interim Chair

Information Technology Committee

The members of the General Service Board Information Technology Committee this past year included three Trustee members and two Appointed Committee Members (ACM): Sue F., Chairperson; Bill J., Secretary; Jeff Y.; Chris R. of Arizona (ACM); Jon L. of California (ACM).

Info Tech oversees the daily operation and long-range development of the Debtors Anonymous World Service website www.debtorsanonymous.org. We work closely with the GSB Communications Committee on updating content for the website. We investigate the uses of existing and new technology to carry the D.A. message, and consider the application of the Twelve Traditions to uses of technology in such areas as anonymity and information security. We also work closely with the World Service Conference Technology Committee in these areas.

Over the course of this last conference year, we have overseen approximately 100 edits, fixes, changes, and additions to our current website. Additionally, we have made great strides toward development of a new site. Due to an outstanding collaborative effort between our GSB Information Technology Committee and the WSC Technology Committee, we developed and published a request for proposal (RFP), and are very close to selecting a vendor to build our new virtual home. We will keep the Fellowship informed as a timeline for the enhanced site is developed.

At the 2013 WSC Conference, Technology Committee submitted a recommendation that D.A. begin accepting

16-digit payments through our website. This proposal has recently gained momentum with the development of Debit Card Only (DCO) services. This DCO payment alternative, along with eCheck options, has appropriately moved from the purview of Info Tech Committee to our Finance Committee.

A more user-friendly, searchable database of meetings is a project in progress. We would expect it to be rolled out with the new website, if not before. A wide variety of search options will be added. This will mean revisions to the group registration and re-registration forms. When you see the expanded forms, you'll know we are close to offering broader search options.

We wish to thank the members of our WSC Technology Committee for their concentrated efforts on behalf of the Fellowship, and in support of a number of GSB committees. We thank you for the open communication, cooperative attitude, and continuing focus on service.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Felgenauer
GSB Information Technology Chairperson

International Committee

The International Committee was established by the General Service Board (GSB) at the 2012 World Service Conference, following a recommendation from the GSB's Ad Hoc Committee on the Service Structure. The International Caucus was established at the same Conference.

The members of the 2013–14 International Committee are Michael A., secretary; Eileen N.; and me, Alexandra BW, chair of the committee and liaison to the International Caucus.

The Committee's two main areas of activity are coordinating translations and providing support for the service structures of Debtors Anonymous outside the U.S. The committee worked closely with International Caucus, as well as with other General Service Board (GSB) and World Service Conference (WSC) committees and the General Service Office (GSO).

1. Two related situations—money and the availability of literature—are currently being

addressed by the Committee and other committees and caucuses.

- a. Several GSB and WSC committees and caucuses have been studying how the GSO can receive payment for literature and Seventh Tradition contributions in non-U.S.-dollar currencies without fees to the Office or to members outside the U.S. Technology has recently become available that can distinguish debit cards from credit and charge cards. Discussions are taking place about the costs to the GSO and, should the GSB approve taking debit cards, the best timing for a transition to their use, that is, on the present website or the new one.
 - b. Concerning literature, members and groups outside the U.S. are affected by the cost of transferring money and the cost of shipping. The debit-card solution would address the first. For the cost of shipping here, too, GSB and WSC committees and caucuses are looking into alternatives. For example, the outgoing Literature Publications committee is recommending to the 2014–15 Lit Pub to continue exploring the possibility of eBooks, or even PDFs, which could be accessed on all platforms. Purchases could be made with a debit card.
2. The Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, and a number of other texts used in D.A. are available in Spanish on the website under the "En Español" tab. They include the "Statement of Purpose" and the "Responsibility Pledge," which many groups are using in place of the adapted A.A. "preamble," and the updated Promises and Tools. The Committee recognizes that D.A.'s primary communication and outreach tool, the website, is at present available only in English.

The Committee follows a two-stage translation process that follows the A.A.W.S.'s model, with a translation stage followed by a review stage. We've included translation and reviewing costs in its 2014–2015 spending

plan. In terms of the translation program, the Committee has reached out to members in French-speaking Canada (Québec), Denmark, France, Germany, Israel, Italy, Japan, Russia, Spain, and the U.K. Thanks to the members and groups in and outside the U.S. who have been so generous in their translation and reviewing service to the Fellowship.

Our permission from A.A.W.S. to adapt the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions in translation is conditional on our adapting A.A.W.S.'s approved translations of their Steps and Traditions. This rather mechanical first translation stage gives us the opportunity to make contact with members and groups outside the U.S. and to respectfully introduce matters of copyright and of Conference-approved material, in the spirit of Tradition One, unity.

The GSB has in hand a Spanish translation of the first edition of *A Currency of Hope*, so almost half the stories in the second edition.

3. The Committee has sent the new stories to be translated to the Northeast Spain Intergroup, which has been very active in translating D.A. materials.
4. There have been D.A. conventions held outside the U.S. in the past, by language, French, German, and English. A convention currently being organized for spring 2015 will include a planning session for a European Intergroup. The U.K. Intergroup and members in Cannes, France, have been active, and the International Committee has supported them by putting European members in touch with the organizers.
5. "Internationalizing" D.A. communications: Some styles of dates are ambiguous outside the US. The Committee recommends that the names of months, rather than numbers, be used to avoid this ambiguity.
6. D.A.'s 40th anniversary: The Committee recommends finding stories about how D.A. was established outside the US.

And finally, the International Committee is seeking two Appointed Committee Members (ACMs), to traffic translations and reviews of translations. Please see under the "Open Service Positions" tab on the home

page at debtorsanonymous.org. You don't have to have a second language. Thank you for the opportunity to be of service.

Alexandra BW, Chair

Legal Affairs Committee

The Legal Affairs committee is involved in the registration, maintenance, and defense of D.A.'s intellectual property, copyrights, and trademarks. This includes all D.A. logos, literature, and service materials. It has also come to include preparation of work-for-hire agreements, translation licensures and other contract issues for D.A.

This year's committee members were: Bill J., Chair; Sue F.; and Maureen C., Secretary.

Specific actions:

- We retained an employment lawyer.
- As the "BODA" trademark appears to have expired, we are in the process of having a lawyer execute a search to explore the status of the name and evaluate our next steps.
- We have worked steadily to organize all legal documents in our cloud-based storage system.
- We obtained all copyrights for the new *A Currency of Hope* Second Edition, including copyrights for the new literature that was included in the book (*Promises and Tools*).
- We filed an updated copyright for the *Promises and Tools* with the Library of Congress, and are in the process of submitting a copy of these documents to the Library of Congress.
- We sent a cease and desist letter to an individual who was listing themselves as a debt counselor for D.A. in their promotional materials. They have complied with our request.
- We are in the process of contacting local D.A. bodies who are using the old D.A. Preamble, sending them a copy of the A.A. letter that asks all fellowships to stop substituting the wording of the particular addiction into the AA Preamble.
- We responded to a request from a local group to use content from the D.A. website on their own site. We said yes, and also referred the

person to the D.A. Manual for Service pages on Trademarks and Registrations and Intergroup and specifically asked that they give credit to D.A. and that they do not use the Preamble.

- We reviewed the contract with the hotel for WSC 2015 in Portland, Oregon.
- We are working with Literature Publications to verify whether we have a signed release from the Spanish translator who worked on *A Currency of Hope*, so that we may re-use those translations for the stories that re-appear in the second edition.
- We answered questions from the Fellowship and the Board regarding legal issues, such as:
 - Use of D.A. literature
 - Social media references to D.A.
 - By-law interpretations
 - Traditions interpretations

Literature Publications Committee

The Literature Publications Committee of the General Service Board (known as Lit Pub) oversees publication and revision of D.A. literature as directed by the World Service Conference. Following the Conference-approved literature publication procedure, Lit Pub oversees the editorial work of Literature Services, approves and recommends writers for new literature, and reviews and approves final drafts of new literature before they are turned over to the full General Service Board, the WSC Literature Committee, and the Conference for their approval. In addition, the committee works with the General Service Office to manage inventory and reprints of current D.A. literature. A member of Lit Pub serves as liaison to the WSC Literature Committee.

The 2013–2014 Lit Pub members are Eileen N., Chair, Alexandra BW., Secretary; Joan R.; and our Appointed Committee Members (ACM) Tom F. and Caroline O. Marci W. also worked with us on the committee.

The committee continues to work hard on the pamphlets and books approved by the WSC. In addition to this, Lit Pub had a joint meeting with Finance at the General Service Board’s winter face-to-face. The main topic of this discussion was the price of the newly approved Newcomers Packet and how we can make it cost effective for the groups to give to newcomers. We also discussed the amount of funds on hold in the *Twelve and Twelve* reserve. Mainly, is this

amount too high? As a result of this discussion, Lit Pub asked the Board to approve a motion to redistribute these funds. This motion was approved and we now have reserves for designing and printing the *Twelve and Twelve*, a D.A. “big book,” and the Step Study guide.

Additional projects we have focused on this year:

- The second edition of *A Currency of Hope* is printed and available for sale. This is the first book published by this Board, and the first since *A Currency of Hope*, first edition. With no institutional memory to guide us, we ran into several roadblocks. To prevent this from happening in the future, Lit Pub has created, and the Board approved, publishing procedures for books and pamphlets and a reprint procedure for future Boards to follow and update. We have also included in the *Twelve and Twelve* reserve funds to hire a professional editor to speed up the design process of that book, since the use of volunteers slowed the process for *ACOH2*.
- It has been brought to our attention that the mention of the “San Diego Statement” was not removed from the foreword as was approved by the 2012 WSC. We apologize for this oversight. This will be corrected in the next printing.
- We have been talking with the WSC Tech Committee about creating a PDF version of *ACOH2* that can be sold for electronic devices. This will also require having a “shopping cart” and accepting debit cards online. The shopping cart cannot be done on our present site, but can be easily added to the new website.
- The Newcomers Packet is available for sale.
- We were given information from a member that there is a section in the “Debtors Anonymous” pamphlet that was possibly plagiarized from Gamblers Anonymous. We have removed this section from both the English and Spanish version. We are asking the 2014 Literature Committee to bring a motion to the WSC to revise the pamphlet.
- A final draft of the Twelve Steps has been approved by the GSB and we are asking the 2014 Literature Committee to bring a motion to the WSC for approval.
- The Twelve Traditions are still being reviewed. A final draft was not ready for approval. We will recommend that the 2014–

2015 Lit Pub consider printing the Twelve Steps in the same format as the *Debtors Anonymous Manual for Service* (DAMS) if they are approved by this Conference.

- We brought a motion to the Board asking that the Twelve Concepts as written in the DAMS be added to the *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*. This motion passed. And we are asking the 2014 Literature Committee to bring this to Conference this year for approval.
- The final version of the set of 12 bookmarks that was approved in concept by the 2011 World Service Conference was not approved by the Board. The main concern: is there enough interest in them to make producing them cost effective? We will be enlisting the Literature Committee's help in determining this once some of the larger projects are cleared.
- The Statement of Purpose that was approved by the 2013 WSC has been added to the pamphlets when they were reprinted and has also been added to *ACOH2*. This has been done in response to a recommendation made by the WSC Literature Committee.
- The Responsibility Pledge and the Statement of Purpose have been posted on the website under the "Resources for Meetings" tab so groups can consider using them in their meetings.
- Since the motion to create a reserve for the D.A. book and the Step Study guide has passed, we have started the process of creating Request for Proposals so the next Lit Pub can begin the process of looking for writers.
- We will also be asking the 2014–2015 Lit Pub to research what steps can be taken as far as the D.A. meditation book.

Here is a brief summary of the Literature in process that I did not already mention:

- We are working on incorporating the comments received into the B.D.A. Numbers Booklet before sending to Literature Committee and the BDA committee for review.
- We have a first draft of the B.D.A. "Clarity in Business" pamphlet. It is being reviewed by Literature Services.

- We have received the second draft of the Underearners pamphlet. It is being reviewed by Lit Serve before being sent to Lit Com.
- We received input from WSC Lit Com on the B.D.A. Annual Business Plan. These notes have been sent to B.D.A. so they can create an outline.
- We are awaiting input from Literature Committee and B.D.A. on the B.D.A. "Tools" pamphlet.
- We have forwarded an outline for the "Health Issue" pamphlet to the writer. The outline also suggests a change in title to "Health and Financial Recovery" or "Health: A Cornerstone of Financial Recovery."

We have received outlines from Literature Committee for the following projects:

- "Twelve Promises" pamphlet
- "Symptoms of Debting" pamphlet

We are awaiting outlines from the B.D.A. Committee and Literature Committee on:

- "Anonymity" revision
- "Compulsive Spending" revision
- B.D.A. "Tool Ten" pamphlet
- B.D.A. "Business Plan" pamphlet

We are honored to serve the Fellowship at this level. We do have two ACM positions available and invite all eligible delegates to apply. The requirements can be found in the *Debtors Anonymous Manual for Service* (DAMS) and on Debtorsanonymous.org under the "Open Service Position" tab.

Eileen N., Chair



Long-Range Planning Committee

Committee members included [chair] Eileen N., [secretary] Allen A., Sue F, and Appointed Committee Member Bill B.

The Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) focuses on the General Service Board's (GSB) long-term efforts to carry the message of recovery to the still suffering compulsive debtors around the world. It develops strategies and action plans so that D.A. as a whole can fulfill its primary purpose. It works through the GSB to help all levels of D.A.—the GSB, the GSO, the World Service Conference, and the Fellowship—plan and work to establish a strong foundation for the future of D.A.

The committee meets monthly via conference call and in person at the two annual face-to-face meetings. It provides quarterly reports for the *D.A. Focus*.

The Committee:

- Addressed two Issues and Concerns (I&C) from the 2013 WSC in Phoenix.
- Reviewed its Committee Composition, Scope, and Procedure.
- Hosted a modified forum in Needham, MA in January 2014.
- Hosted four “Ask the GSB” phone forums: October 6th, Recap of the WSC; January 19th, D.A.'s Finances; March 16th, D.A. Literature, Copyrights, and Website; and June 15th, D.A.'s Traditions and Concepts.
- Created recordings of the presenters from the last three calls, which were made available for those who could not attend the call.
- Had a joint meeting with the GSB Office Committee at our winter GSB face-to-face to discuss the future of the office in Needham, MA.
- Invited D.A.'s archivist to give a quarterly report to the committee on our calls. We are also hoping to send him to an A.A. archives workshop in October.
- Developed a plan of action for celebrating D.A.'s 40th anniversary in 2016. If anyone here has any suggestions please email the committee at DA40@debtorsanonymous.org
- An updated version of the Debtors Anonymous Manual for Service (DAMS) has been given to each delegate, and additional copies will be available for sale. In this version we have the updated *Treasurer's*

Manual, the Literature Approval Process, and updated Mission Statements from Tech Committee and RDC. There was also a minor clarification added to Concept One. In addition, the committee added the Statement of Purpose, as recommended by the WSC Literature Committee. We also voted to add the Responsibility Pledge and the Twelve Promises.

Thank you for allowing us to serve you.

Eileen N., Chair

Nominations Committee

Members: Allen A. (Chair), Pat B. (Secretary), Allen T.

The Nominations Committee is responsible for recruiting, revising, selecting, and recommending nominations for both debtor (Class A) and non-debtor (Class B) trustees. The committee maintains a record of current and potential trustees. It also handles the election of GSB officers by receiving candidates' letters of intent and resumes, and conducting officer elections at the GSB's face-to-face meeting before the World Service Conference. The Committee maintains the GSB Trustee Manual, updating it as necessary and distributing it to incoming trustees, and maintains the GSB Bylaws, including making minor housekeeping revisions as well as substantive revisions that require full Board approval.

Over the last year, the Committee recommended one Class B candidate to the full GSB, who the Board approved and whose name will be brought to convocation for ratification at this year's conference. The Board now has five Class B trustees filling all five available positions.

One Class A trustee resigned in May for personal reasons and, after this Conference, one Class A trustee will rotate off the Board, leaving three openings in total for Class A trustees out of ten available positions. At the beginning of the next Conference year, the total number of trustees will then be twelve. The Nominations Committee has been in touch with several potential Class A candidates.

As a year-long project, the committee continued to revise the GSB Bylaws in accordance with recommendations from a counsel hired last year by the Legal Affairs Committee, in order to make the Bylaws adhere more clearly to New York State not-for-profit corporate law and to implement numerous other refinements. The committee made recommendations to the Board in July.

The committee discussed and recommended GSB trustee training topics for both of the board's face-to-face meetings this year—one session on the D.A. Archives, and another on long-term financial planning.

Allen A., Chair

Office Committee

The 2013/2014 General Service Board (GSB) Office Committee members are Pat B., Class B, Chair; Alex BW, Class A; Lawanda C., Class A.; Joan R., Class B, Secretary.

Due to leave of absence of Pat B., Joan R. was appointed Interim Chair, and Lawanda C. was appointed Secretary. We are grateful for her return.

The GSB Office Committee oversees the operation of the General Service Office (GSO) in Needham, MA, and works with the GSO staff to ensure that the Fellowship is served in an efficient and effective manner. The Committee, acting in both a managerial and advisory capacity, oversees the smooth workings of the General Service Office.

The GSB Liaison to the World Service Conference Committee's Internal Operations Committee maintains regular communication and contact with this WSC committee throughout the conference year to offer support and guidance as requested or needed.

The Office Committee continues to include the GSO Office Manager, Howard S., on its regular teleconference calls. The Office Manager keeps the Committee informed of activities, issues and concerns at GSO. Discussion points and follow-up include new group registrations, Fellowship mailings, accounting software and training, media information requests, part-time employees' performance, office processes, technology, and equipment.

Other GSB Office Committee activities include:

- Providing a channel for the concerns of the Office Manager to the full Board for action.
- Setting standards for office operations in consultation with the Office Manager and GSB.
- Executing personnel decisions approved by the GSB.
- Preparing and executing an annual performance and salary review of the Office Manager.
- Cooperating with the Conference Support Committee in communicating the Issues and Concerns that come in from the Fellowship to the General Service Board.
- Continuing to identify ways to improve filling of international literature orders.
- Continuing to review future needs of office location, criteria, and other cost factors. Cooperating with the Long Range Planning Committee to develop certain goals, which will benefit the Fellowship worldwide.
- Continuing to improve response time to phone calls and emails received during business and non-business hours.
- Ongoing detailed auditing of all Conference-approved D.A. literature including revisions and re-order accounting.
- Making recommendations or reaching out to other GSB committees, and through them, to WSC committees in developing procedures that can improve methods to serve the Fellowship.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Joan R.
GSB Interim Office Committee Chair

Public Information Committee

Committee Members:
Michael A., Chair
Lawanda C., Secretary
Laura P., ACM
Allen T.

Statistics:

Google News Alerts to date: **80**

Media contacts: 1

Media Contact Trainings held: 1

Activities:

GSB PI focuses on public information (PI) outreach at national and international levels. The Committee also supports local PI activities by ensuring that D.A. members, groups, and Intergroups have access to the materials necessary for PI outreach (i.e., the PI Manual, PI media trainings, public service announcements, etc.) at the local and regional level.

GSB PI ensures that media requests for information about D.A. or for interviews with D.A. members are responded to in a timely manner. When media coverage on D.A. does occur, GSB PI sends an acknowledgement to the media source that mentions D.A.

Two to four times per conference year, GSB PI conducts Media Contact Training Workshops on how D.A. members can uphold the Twelve Traditions when contacted and/or interviewed by the media.

GSB PI reviews and requests updates to the PI content on the D.A. website as needed.

Our activities this conference year include:

- Reviewed the existing PI Manual.
- Updated the Committee's composition, scope, and procedure (CSP) document.
- Created a procedural guide for processing media requests, from start to finish.
- Created and used a standard "acknowledgement letter" to say thank you to writers who mention D.A. in their articles or blog postings.
- Co-hosted a Fellowship-wide conference call, "Carrying the Message, Growing our Groups, Using D.A.'s Public Information Tools."
- Held a Media Contact Training (MCT) on June 14, 2014.
- Maintained and updated Media Contact List; added **17** new names to the list.
- Lawanda C. served as GSB Liaison to the WSC PI Committee.
- Michael A. served as GSB Liaison the WSC HIP Committee.

Michael A., Chair

*** End of Section***

Annual Report from the Finance Committee

1. Introduction

My name is Allen T. and I'm a debtor in recovery. This past conference year I have served as the Treasurer of the General Service Board (GSB). In that capacity, I have also served as the Chair of the Board's Finance Committee and as the Chief Financial Officer of the GSB's not-for-profit corporation. The other trustees serving on the Finance Committee this year were Maureen C. (Assistant Treasurer), Allen A. (Secretary), and Marci W.

The Finance Committee's primary purpose is to see that the use of the Fellowship's funds by the GSB, the General Service Office (GSO), and the World Service Conference (WSC) committees and caucuses is conducted in a financially sound manner and in alignment with our spiritual purposes. To do this, the Finance Committee keeps a watchful eye on all aspects of D.A.'s financial health, including revenues, expenditures, and reserves, as well as the processes used to manage these and other elements of the Fellowship's finances.

In addition to the Finance Committee members, all board trustees work hard on your behalf to ensure that the Fellowship's finances are managed wisely and prudently. The Board understands that Twelfth Step work, not finances, is the primary focus of Debtors Anonymous. At the same time, however, we know that good financial management—particularly in Debtors Anonymous—is an integral part of good stewardship and is a fundamental Board responsibility.

2. Ongoing Finance Committee Activities

The ongoing actions undertaken by the Finance Committee during the past year included:

- Completing the monthly accounting cycle and creating monthly and year-end financial reports.
- Meeting monthly, and on an ad hoc basis as needed, to address a wide variety of financial issues and to review the financial reports.
- Meeting weekly with the GSO to review literature inventory levels and printing requirements, invoices, WSC issues, accounting processes, and various other financial topics.
- Reviewing motions, actions, and recommendations from GSB and WSC committees, assessing the financial impact of these actions.
- Reviewing and managing our banking relationships.
- Reviewing and providing input on all contracts.
- Providing guidance to the GSB trustees and to the WSC committees and caucuses regarding allowable expenses and reimbursement.
- Creating the proposed annual GSB spending plan, and facilitating the Board's review and approval of that plan.
- Leading the development of the spending plan for WSC 2014.
- Working with an outside accounting firm to support its review of our annual financial statements and the preparation of our annual federal and New York State tax returns.
- Reviewing, signing, and filing the tax returns.
- Finalizing and implementing projects initiated by the WSC Resource Development Committee, including the annual John H. and World Service Month appeal letters, and other projects.
- Improving D.A.'s accounting and financial management processes, and, when possible, documenting them.

3. Additional Actions and Projects Undertaken in FY14

In addition to the preceding actions, which could be considered the normal or standard actions for managing the Board's finances, the Finance Committee also undertook the following projects and initiatives during FY14:

- **New CPA firm.** We initiated a relationship with a new outside CPA firm for the annual review of our financial statements and preparation of our tax returns. This new relationship, while approximately double the cost of the previous one, is paying dividends in terms of the quality and timeliness of the services we're receiving. We believe it is money well spent.
- **Online accounting software.** We converted our bookkeeping and accounting processes from desktop versions of our accounting software to an online version of the same program. This is providing numerous benefits, the most important of which is decreasing the time required to generate our monthly financial reports. Since the change, the Finance Committee has been able to, on a consistent basis, create, review, finalize, and approve the GSB's monthly financial reports by the 20th of the following month.
- **New payroll processing vendor.** We switched our payroll processing from one vendor to another. This will simplify the process for providing payroll data to the processing firm and automate the process for entering the corresponding data into our accounting program.
- **New bank account.** We opened a bank account with a financial institution different from the bank that handles all our other funds. We did this to allow us to earn a higher rate of interest on our reserves, which total approximately \$150,000. Given the change, we are now earning approximately \$900 per year in interest. Previously, we had been earning less than \$100 per year.
- **Change in accounting method.** Based on a recommendation from our new CPA firm and with concurrence from the full GSB, we implemented a change in our accounting method. Specifically, we converted from using four classes in our transaction entries (Board, Office, Conference, and General Operating) to two classes (Program and Management). The change will simplify the completion of our annual tax returns, while providing the board and the Fellowship clearer insight into the fundamental breakdown of our spending between these two primary categories.
- **Travel to GSO for year-end close.** For the first time, a member of the Finance Committee traveled to the General Service Office at the end of June to participate in the year-end physical literature inventory count and to facilitate various year-end accounting processes. We believe the trip, conducted this year by Maureen C., our Assistant Treasurer, was highly beneficial. It provided the Finance Committee with first-hand knowledge of GSO processes, and strengthened the working relationship between the Finance Committee and the GSO. Based on these results, we added a similar trip to next year's spending plan.
- **Electronic literature purchases and contributions.** Working with the board's Information Technology Committee, we made true progress on technology options for online literature purchases and contributions. In this area, we are pursuing debit-card-only and e-check capabilities. In the next few months, we will conduct a trial with a specific vendor. Assuming positive results from the trial, we hope to provide this capability to the Fellowship in FY15.

4. Overall Financial Assessment

Turning to the numbers, the Fellowship's finances are healthy and in good order. Annual revenue, while not having grown appreciably, has been sufficient to cover all regular operating expenses. Expenses occur predictably, with few surprises. The Fellowship has adequate reserves and no debt. The annual World Service Conference generally breaks even. And finally, while we're always working to improve them, our accounting and financial management processes generally work.

Looking a layer deeper, income from contributions and literature is subject to variation from one month to the next, but there is no real seasonality; if one month ends up being light in terms of revenue, another month may be strong. The cost of our literature and our general and administrative expenses is also relatively stable, and we generally pay all invoices and bills shortly after receiving them.

Regarding savings, our reserve accounts include general prudent reserves, as well as specific-purpose accounts. The special accounts hold funds for the John H. Scholarship Fund, three different literature projects, and the development of the new D.A. website.

5. FY14 Analysis

FY14, which ended this past June 30, can be summarized by the following major points:

- Steady operating activities and expenses
- Good contributions, particularly individual contributions
- No book sales for 10½ months, followed by strong book sales starting in mid-May
- An extraordinary month of June

We basically soldiered along in breakeven fashion most of the year. Then, in the second half of May, when *A Currency of Hope, Second Edition* was released, the floodgates opened. June, in particular, was the highest revenue month in our Fellowship in the last ten years, and possibly ever. Not only did we have extraordinary book sales in June, but contributions and other literatures sales were also strong, resulting in a highly positive month and a good end to the fiscal year. The Board was planning that the year would end with a small deficit; however, June's results put us into positive territory for the year.

Figure 1 summarizes FY14. Overall Revenue was \$218,857.91. Cost of Goods Sold, which includes the printing and production costs for literature sold during the year, was \$24,246.57. Office, Administrative, and Board expenses totaled \$120,143.85. WSC and other expenses totaled \$66,893.57. The net result was a surplus of \$7,573.92.

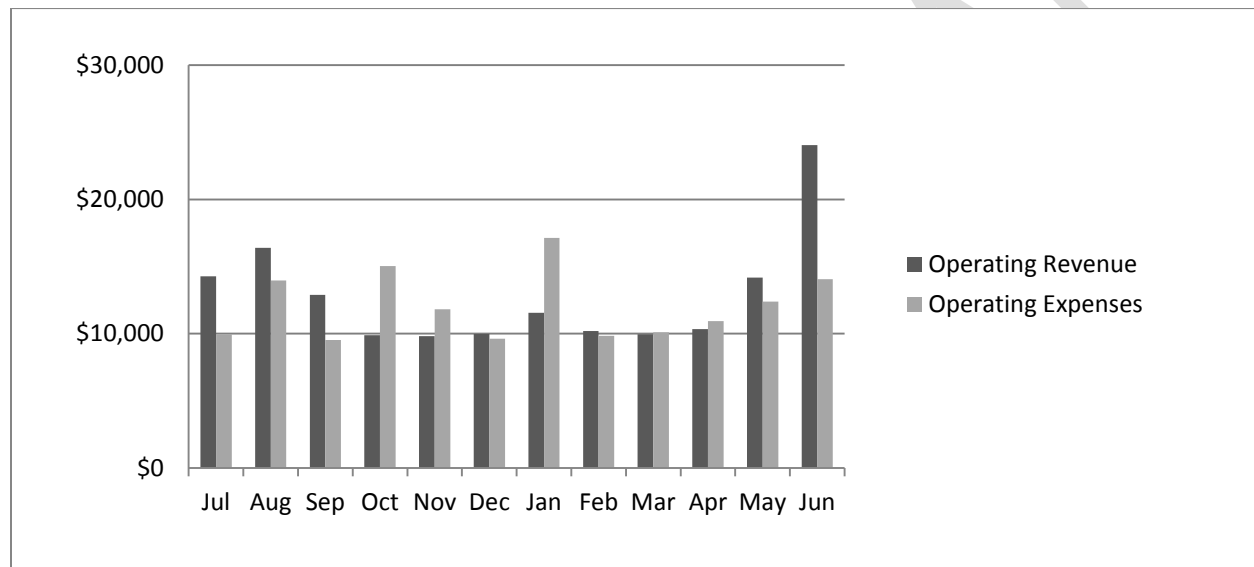
Figure 1: FY14 Profit and Loss Summary

Revenue		
Group Contributions	\$ 46,549.33	21%
Individual Contributions	50,705.39	23%
World Service Month Contributions	1,125.92	1%
Literature Sales	55,155.02	25%
WSC and Other	65,322.25	30%
Total Income	218,857.91	100%
Cost of Goods Sold and Expenses		
Cost of Goods Sold (literature)	24,246.57	11%
Operating and Administrative Expenses	120,143.85	57%
WSC and Other	66,893.57	32%
Total COGS and Expenses	211,283.99	100%
Net Income	\$ 7,573.92	

The plan for FY14, in terms of total revenue, was \$232,850.00, including \$33,000 of book sales. That the Fellowship came within \$14,000 of that total, while having no book sales for the majority of the year, was the result of higher-than-expected individual contributions and pamphlet sales.

Figure 2 shows the income and expense levels for FY14 by month, excluding the World Service Conference. The WSC is not included in this graph, because showing our results this way allows better visibility into regular ongoing operations. As stated earlier, while there is monthly variation in both income and expenses, over the course of any one fiscal year, including FY14, the variations generally even themselves out.

Figure 2: FY14 Operating Revenue and Expenses, by Month



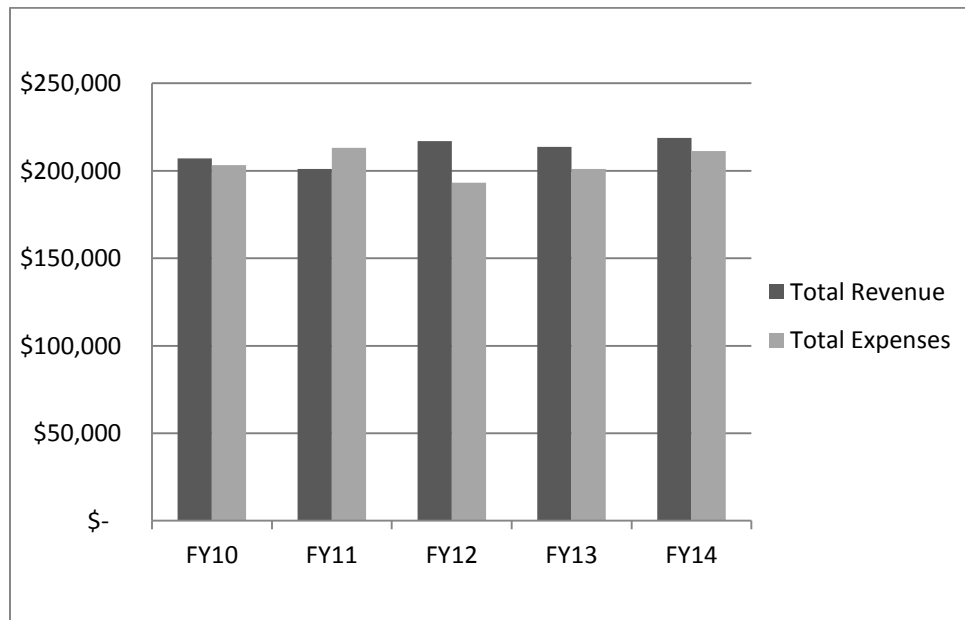
When looking at data for the last five fiscal years, FY14 can be seen to be basically in line with those years. It was neither particularly better nor worse, in terms of both revenue and expenses. Figure 3 provides summarized five-year data.

Figure 3: Profit and Loss Summary FY10–FY14

	FY10	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14
Total Revenue	\$ 207,128	\$ 201,137	\$ 216,934	\$ 213,614	\$ 218,858
Cost of Goods Sold	35,803	34,862	30,028	24,849	24,237
Office, Administrative, Board, and WSC Expenses	167,458	178,339	163,164	176,137	187,037
Net Income/Deficit	\$ 3,866	\$ (12,064)	\$ 23,742	\$ 12,628	\$ 7,584

Figure 4 provides another five-year view, showing total revenue and total expenses for FY10 through FY14. The obvious takeaway from this graph is, again, that there's been no appreciable growth (or decline) in the Fellowship's finances over the last five years.

Figure 4: Total Revenue and Expenses, FY10–FY14



6. FY15 Plan

The FY15 Spending Plan, which covers the twelve-month period from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015, was approved by the GSB last month. The plan is provided as Attachment 4.

Noteworthy and/or new items in the plan include:

- A forecasted 15% growth in revenue, based on having a full year of book sales, and on the assumption that contributions and pamphlet sales will remain healthy.
- A \$3,500 expenditure on legal fees for a trademark search and for consultation regarding various employment topics.
- A \$700 expenditure to send the Board's archivist to an archives workshop.
- A \$1,200 expenditure to again send a representative of the Finance Committee to the GSO for the year-end close.
- A \$1,000 spending provision for transaction fees associated with offering debit card and e-check transactions on the D.A. website.
- A \$2,500 spending provision for translation of existing literature into languages other than English.
- A \$4,000 spending provision for writing services for the Step Study Guide.
- A \$15,000 spending provision for development of the new D.A. website.

The forecasted total of all FY15 spending exceeds planned revenue by \$5,262. Should everything occur exactly on plan, we will draw on our savings and/or our reserves to provide these additional funds.

7. Future Initiatives

Topics that the Finance Committee will address in FY15 include these actions. We will:

- at the request of the Audit Committee, conduct an analysis of the last ten years of financial data, to support a Board discussion regarding our reserve levels.
- implement three projects from the outgoing WSC Resource Development Committee that were recently approved by the GSB.
- complete the trial for online literature payments and contributions, then select and introduce a solution.
- develop the standards and processes for posting D.A.'s financial reports on the D.A. website, then initiate the process.

Additional projects will most certainly be identified during the conference year.

8. Attached Financial Reports

The financial reports attached to this committee report are similar in format to the reports reviewed by the Finance Committee and the full Board. Some have been condensed to fit in this report format.

Included are the following:

1. Balance Sheet, June 30, 2014
2. FY14 Profit and Loss Statement
3. FY14 Profit and Loss Statement, Versus Plan
4. FY15 Approved Spending Plan
5. WSC 2013 Plan vs. Actual Report
6. WSC 2013 John H. Scholarship Report
7. Group Contributions Report

The Finance Committee and the full Board welcome your questions, feedback, and insights, both during and after the conference, regarding the Fellowship's finances.

Attachment 1

Balance Sheet
Debtors Anonymous General Service Board, Inc.
As of June 30, 2014

	As of Jun 30, 2014	As of Jun 30, 2013
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Bank Accounts		
Main Checking	30,289.50	13,091.05
WSC Checking	20,429.38	45,496.29
John H. Checking	5,696.72	8,783.25
Unrestricted Savings	25,703.45	163,692.78
Reserves Account		
5a. 12&12 Reserve	15,000.00	
5a. Big Book Reserve	20,000.00	
5c. Step Study Reserve	15,000.00	
5d. Website Reserve	15,000.00	
5e. Prudent Reserve	90,000.00	
5z. Interest Earned	485.28	
Total Reserves Account	155,485.28	0.00
Office Petty Cash	11.56	24.29
Total Bank Accounts	\$ 237,615.89	\$ 231,087.66
Other Current Assets		
Advances	2,000.00	2,000.00
Conference Pre-paid Expenses	3,498.37	4,887.95
GSO Pre-paid Postage Meter	201.63	104.03
Literature Inventory	25,985.53	18,546.73
NSF Checks Receivable	(24.00)	0.00
Prepaid Expense	2,270.00	3,559.38
Undeposited Funds	0.00	57.00
Total Other Current Assets	\$ 33,931.53	\$ 29,155.09
Total Current Assets	\$ 271,547.42	\$ 260,242.75
Fixed Assets		
Office Equipment	3,840.75	3,034.02
Accumulated Depreciation	(3,034.02)	(3,034.02)
Total Fixed Assets	\$ 806.73	\$ -
Other Assets (Copyrights, trademarks & deposits)	5,011.62	4,676.91
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 277,365.77	\$ 264,919.66
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		
Liabilities		
Accrued Salaries	1,617.49	0.00
Conference Registration	19,334.38	16,189.61
Payroll Liabilities	129.41	
Total Liabilities	\$ 21,081.28	\$ 16,189.61
Equity		
Fund Balance	137,666.37	137,666.37
Opening Balance Equity	(19.48)	0.00
Retained Earnings	111,063.68	98,435.37
Net Income	7,573.92	12,628.31
Total Equity	\$ 256,284.49	\$ 248,730.05
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$ 277,365.77	\$ 264,919.66

Attachment 2

Profit and Loss Statement
Debtors Anonymous General Service Board, Inc.
July 2013 – June 2014

		Account Descriptions, Where Needed
Income		
Group Contributions	46,549.33	
Individual Contributions	50,705.39	
World Service Month Contributions	1,125.92	
Audio Visual	88.00	CDs and DVDs
Books - ACOH 1 & 2	10,813.00	
Pamphlets	36,244.70	
Shipping	8,009.32	Postage and supplies for shipping literature
Total Income	153,535.66	
Cost of Goods Sold	24,246.57	Literature printing and production costs
Gross Profit	129,289.09	
Expenses		
Archival Expense	1,059.98	Rent for offsite storage locker, and other expenses
Bank Charges	37.50	
Board Expenses	18,049.39	Travel, lodging, and meals
Bookkeeping, Accounting & Legal	6,237.50	CPA firm, eResident Agent, legal fees, bookkeeping service.
Insurance	1,528.38	Directors and officers liability Ins., GSO fire ins., dishonesty bond
Internet	1,288.47	Website hosting and support; GSB online document archive
Licenses, Permits & Regulatory Fees	60.00	NY State tax filing fee
Office Expense	2,112.54	Paper, ink, labels, computer repair, online backup, supplies
Office Payroll, Taxes, Rent, and Utilities	80,514.81	
Outreach Expense	963.96	Constant Contact (eNews and WSC survey charges)
Postage	2,984.08	Mailings from GSO (other than literature orders)
Printing & Copying	2,147.05	<i>D.A. Focus</i> , GSO mailings, contribution envelopes
Telecommunications	2,551.06	GSO phone service; 800 number; calling cards for trustees
WSC Committee Expense	609.13	
Total Expenses	120,143.85	
Net Operating Income	9,145.24	
Other Income		
Interest	538.95	
John H. Scholarship Fund	2,856.77	
World Service Conference Income	61,926.53	
Total Other Income	65,322.25	
Other Expenses		
Depreciation & Amortization	598.97	Annual expensing of trademark and equipment
John H. Reimbursable and Reg. Expenses	6,200.88	
World Service Conference Expenses	60,093.72	
Total Other Expenses	66,893.57	
Net Other Income	(1,571.32)	
Net Income	7,573.92	

Attachment 3

Profit and Loss Statement, Versus Plan Debtors Anonymous General Service Board, Inc. July 2013 – June 2014

	Actual	Plan	over Plan	% of Plan
Income				
Group Contributions	46,549.33	48,000.00	(1,450.67)	97.0%
Individual Contributions	50,705.39	36,000.00	14,705.39	140.8%
World Service Month Contributions	1,125.92	900.00	225.92	125.1%
Audio Visual	88.00	175.00	(87.00)	50.3%
Books - ACOH 1 & 2	10,813.00	33,000.00	(22,187.00)	32.8%
Pamphlets	36,244.70	31,000.00	5,244.70	116.9%
Shipping	8,009.32	8,000.00	9.32	100.1%
Total Income	153,535.66	157,075.00	(3,539.34)	97.7%
Cost of Goods Sold	24,246.57	35,955.00	(11,708.43)	67.4%
Gross Profit	129,289.09	121,120.00	8,169.09	106.7%
Expenses				
Archival Expense	1,059.98	880.00	179.98	120.5%
Bank Charges	37.50	40.00	(2.50)	93.8%
Board Expenses	18,049.39	17,126.00	923.39	105.4%
Bookkeeping, Accounting & Legal	6,237.50	8,525.00	(2,287.50)	73.2%
Data Base Management	100.00	100.00	(100.00)	0.0%
Insurance	1,528.38	1,915.00	(386.62)	79.8%
Internet	1,288.47	1,230.00	58.47	104.8%
Licenses, Permits & Regulatory Fees	60.00	95.00	(35.00)	63.2%
Office Expense	2,112.54	2,275.00	(162.46)	92.9%
Office Payroll, Taxes, Rent, and Utilities	80,514.81	83,380.00	(2,865.19)	96.6%
Office Rent GSO	200.00	200.00	(200.00)	0.0%
Outreach Expense	963.96	900.00	63.96	107.1%
Postage	2,984.08	2,480.00	504.08	120.3%
Printing & Copying	2,147.05	2,850.00	(702.95)	75.3%
Telecommunications	2,551.06	3,475.00	(923.94)	73.4%
Trademark Registration & Renewal	100.00	100.00	(100.00)	0.0%
WSC Committee Expense	609.13	900.00	(290.87)	67.7%
Total Expenses	120,143.85	126,471.00	(6,327.15)	95.0%
Net Operating Income	9,145.24	(5,351.00)	14,496.24	-170.9%
Other Income				
Interest	538.95	500.00	38.95	107.8%
John H. Scholarship Fund {I}	2,856.77	4,500.00	(1,643.23)	63.5%
World Service Conference Income	61,926.53	70,775.00	(8,848.47)	87.5%
Total Other Income	65,322.25	75,775.00	(10,452.75)	86.2%
Other Expenses				
Depreciation & Amortization	598.97	150.00	448.97	399.3%
John H. Reimbursable and Reg. Expenses	6,200.88	4,500.00	1,700.88	137.8%
World Service Conference Expenses	60,093.72	70,775.00	(10,681.28)	84.9%
Total Other Expenses	66,893.57	75,425.00	(8,531.43)	88.7%
Net Other Income	(1,571.32)	350.00	(1,921.32)	-448.9%
Net Income	7,573.92	(5,001.00)	12,574.92	-151.4%

Attachment 4

**Approved FY15 GSB Spending Plan
For the Fiscal Year Starting July 1, 2014**

Income	FY15 Plan
Group Contributions	50,000
Individual Contributions	45,000
John H. Scholarship Fund	3,500
World Service Month	1,200
Pamphlet Sales	35,000
Book Sales	36,000
Audio Visual Sales	100
Shipping	10,650
Conference Income	74,000
Interest Income	900
Total Income	256,350
Cost of Goods Sold	32,835
Gross Profit	223,515
Expenses	
Salaries and Payroll Taxes	76,705
Contracted Payroll Service	1,200
Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Legal	10,907
Office Expense	2,150
Printing and Copying	2,650
Archival Expense	1,670
Postage	2,925
Telecommunications	2,800
Internet	1,825
Data Base Management	500
Office Rent, Real Estate Taxes, and Utilities	9,944
Space Rent	300
Insurance	1,939
Board Travel, Lodging, and Meals	23,628
Outreach Expense	900
Licenses/Permits/Regulatory Fees	95
Bank Charges	40
Bad Debt	75
Miscellaneous Expense	1,800
WSC Committee Expense	3,000
WSC Event Expense	74,000
John H. Scholarship Expense	3,500
Debit card only and e-checks fees	1,000
Event Planning software	139
Depreciation and Amortization	160
Total Expenses	223,852
P&L Net Income	-337
Additional Cash Expenditures	
Literature writing, design, and translation services	8,500
Development of new website	15,000
Desks, cabinet, and storage cabinet at GSO	425
Total Additional Cash Expenditures	23,925
Draws from Reserves and Savings	

Draw from Step Study Guide reserve	4,000
Draw from website development reserve	15,000
Draw from Unrestricted Savings or other reserves	5,262
Total Draws from Reserves and Savings	24,262
Net Cash After All Spending and Draws	0

Attachment 5

WSC 2013 — Phoenix, Arizona, USA Plan Versus Actual Report

<u>Income</u>	Spending Plan	Actual	Difference
Registration and Meal Package			
Early Registration	\$ 56,950	\$ 46,938	\$ (10,012)
Late Registration	3,850	7,180	3,330
John H. Scholarship		2,856	2,856
Total Registration and Meal Package	60,800	56,974	(3,826)
Fellowship Day			
Conference Delegates, Workshops	1,275	1,185	(90)
Local Attendees, Workshops	600	640	40
Local Attendees, Lunch	350	805	455
Gala			
Delegates	3,750	4,100	350
Local Attendees	1,000	1,000	0
Total Income	67,775	64,704	(3,071)
Expenses			
John H. Scholarship		6,201	6,201
Meals	37,070	37,143	73
Lodging	5,784	4,261	(1,523)
Travel	7,600	6,768	(832)
GSB Liaison Visit	362	315	(47)
Parliamentarian	1,800	1,746	(54)
Recording Secretary	200	200	0
Debtors Anonymous Manuals for Service	345	384	39
Binders, Dividers, and Copies	1,279	1,264	(15)
PCs, Printers, and Copier	2,384	2,723	339
Hospitality Room Refreshments	1,135	884	(251)
Audio-Visual	4,000	3,460	(540)
Gala	850	425	(425)
Other	1,521	521	(1,000)
Total Expenses	64,330	66,295	1,965
10% Contingency Plan	6,433		
Total Expenses Including Contingency	70,763	66,295	(4,468)
Totals			
Surplus/Deficit Before Carryover	(2,988)	(1,591)	1,397
Carryover of WSC 2012 Surplus	3,000	3,000	
Final Surplus/Deficit	\$ 12	\$ 1,409	\$ 1,397

Attachment 6

John H. Scholarship Report for WSC 2013

Region	# of Applicants	Amount Requested	# of Awards	Amount Awarded
Region 1: Far West	7	\$3,300.72	6	\$2,402.72
Region 2: Pacific Northwest	1	739.45	0	
Region 3: Southwest	1	984.32	0	
Region 4: South	2	2,015.45	1	1,226.95
Region 5: Rocky Mountain/Intermountain West	2	1,078.19	1	408.19
Region 6: Midwest	3	2,289.50	1	600.75
Region 7: Mid-Atlantic	2	1,310.47	1	453.15
Region 8: Northeast	2	1,050.37	2	1,050.37
Region 9: New England	2	670.66	2	670.66
Region 10: South Pacific, Australia, New Zealand	2	2,519.08	1	256.63
Totals	24	\$15,958.21	15	\$7,069.42

Regions:

1. **Far West:** California, Hawaii, Pacific Trust Territories, Guam, Wake
2. **Pacific Northwest:** Alaska, Oregon, Washington, British Columbia, Yukon Territory
3. **Southwest:** Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas
4. **South:** Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands
5. **Rocky Mountain/Intermountain West:** Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming, Alberta, Manitoba, Northwest Territories, Saskatchewan
6. **Midwest:** Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, West Virginia, Wisconsin
7. **Mid-Atlantic:** Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia
8. **Northeast:** New Jersey, New York, Nunavut, Ontario
9. **New England:** Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, PEI, Quebec
10. **South Pacific, Australia, New Zealand**
11. **Europe**
12. **Asia**
13. **Africa**
14. **Latin America**

Attachment 7

**Group Contributions Report (by Group Number)
July 2013 – June 2014**

Note: This report has been updated since the 2014 World Service Conference, to correct data errors.

Group	# of Contributions	Total Contributed
147	1	106.00
508	1	423.69
764	2	40.00
770	1	93.00
802	1	100.00
833	2	20.00
853	1	25.00
920	3	177.65
934	2	30.00
968	5	277.65
999	2	71.66
1031	1	14.25
1049	1	10.00
1054	2	98.00
1056	2	126.00
1088	1	20.00
1103	1	14.40
1104	2	30.00
1111	6	108.75
1112	4	141.22
1133	1	169.00
1139	1	3.00
1143	3	164.36
1144	20	363.50
1153	3	144.00
1161	2	160.00
1169	4	185.65
1175	16	1126.00
1176	4	111.25
1177	3	70.00
1187	1	8.00
1193	1	10.00
1202	1	223.00
1205	1	25.00
1213	1	25.00
1226	1	3.55
1232	2	123.04
1236	2	60.00

Group	# of Contributions	Total Contributed
1244	2	130.00
1253	2	75.00
1258	1	38.00
1262	2	75.00
1268	1	40.00
1272	2	66.05
1282	3	60.00
1283	1	134.46
1297	2	167.31
1298	1	120.00
1301	2	90.00
1308	1	91.06
1318	1	35.64
1319	4	90.00
1328	1	36.90
1329	12	105.25
1330	4	105.00
1331	2	138.50
1340	1	40.00
1346	5	80.91
1349	1	100.00
1354	7	125.00
1372	1	110.74
1374	9	44.00
1375	2	30.00
1377	2	131.63
1382	1	20.00
1387	24	360.00
1389	1	16.00
1393	3	103.00
1414	1	48.00
1415	1	25.00
1423	1	313.00
1441	1	50.00
1446	2	24.00
1448	4	126.16
1451	4	39.33
1452	1	21.58

Group	# of Contributions	Total Contributed
1454	12	165.00
1456	1	120.31
1468	1	48.00
1469	6	296.80
1472	1	65.00
1474	11	104.00
1475	1	120.00
1485	13	152.20
1486	1	20.20
1488	2	20.00
1493	7	69.30
1499	1	57.73
1500	1	10.00
1504	1	76.88
1506	2	178.66
1510	1	25.00
1519	4	183.21
1520	1	5.00
1521	4	395.00
1527	1	43.73
1528	2	20.00
1532	1	50.00
1538	2	36.00
1539	4	370.00
1548	4	31.00
1549	1	120.00
1553	4	138.04
1554	4	202.03
1555	6	137.00
1559	4	285.00
1562	2	31.15
1563	1	100.00
1564	1	46.00
1581	1	45.00
1586	3	127.46
1587	3	35.00
1594	2	15.00
1601	2	303.90
1701	4	91.91
1889	1	20.50
0101 New England Intg. Brookline	2	620.00

Group	# of Contributions	Total Contributed
MA		
0102 12 Steps to Entre, Brookline MA	12	359.95
0106 Govans 10 th Promise Mtg Balt. MD	2	40.00
0108 Tuesday Annapolis Lit. Meeting	12	346.00
0109 Breaking Free Grp Annapolis MD	3	77.32
0120 Highland Park D.A. Highland Park IL	2	75.00
0123 Tuesday Night D.A. Chicago IL	4	332.56
0124 Monday Crossroads Group	1	200.00
0132 CADA Intergroup Washington DC	1	450.00
0137	1	249.44
0140 Open Visions Meeting	1	88.14
0141 Sat Morn Step Sty Santa Rosa CA	2	360.00
0143 D.A.-Time/Money Santa Monica CA	1	67.50
0146 Earn or Burn Santa Monica CA	1	415.80
0154 Saturday Visions San Diego CA	1	20.00
0155 Menlo Park D.A. Menlo Park CA	2	155.00
0156 Menlo Park BDA Menlo Park CA	4	500.23
0157 Serenity on Sunday Mt View CA	1	5.00
0159 D.A. Visions Meeting Orange CA	2	50.27
0160 D.A. Literature Study Pasadena CA	1	149.14
0165 Tuesday Night Reseda CA	2	410.00
0168 Monday Night BDA Los Angeles CA	4	108.13
0170 Miracle Mile Los Angeles CA	5	602.23
0176 Thu Noon BDA Corte Madera, CA	10	550.41
01760176 Thursday Noon BDA	2	197.03
0183 BDA 12 and 12 Burbank CA	4	70.24
0184 Brentwood BDA Brentwood CA	5	1708.25
0185 Visions West Brentwood CA	5	257.04
0192 Presence of God Phoenix AZ	1	25.63
0193 Monday Night Tucson D.A.	1	22.00
0212 Plainville D.A. Plainville CT	3	115.00
0227 Women's BDA, Prosperity	1	13.66

Group	# of Contributions	Total Contributed
Chicago IL		
0232 Prosperity Cyber Chat, Internet	4	192.03
0236	1	129.83
0240 Gratitude, Bloomfield, NJ	2	44.50
0241 Solvency List, Internet	1	20.00
0242 PotLatch, Vancouver, BC	1	361.05
0245 Nuts and Bolts Melrose MA	1	40.00
0246 Living Prosp. Bloomington IN	3	162.88
0255 Park Slope Tools, Brooklyn NY	2	144.33
0268 Keep it Simple Quincy MA	6	59.11
0271 Sunday Night Royal Oak MI	4	466.30
0273 Minnesota Intg. Minneapolis MN	15	362.55
0276 Sat Prosperity D.A. Eden Prairie MN	15	583.54
0277 St. Paul MN Promises	8	257.68
0282 Sunday D.A. Group St. Louis MO	1	67.23
0284 Courage-Change Basking Ridge NJ	13	188.63
0286 New Beginnings Metuchen NJ	4	122.99
0296 Brooklyn Tools, NY	3	152.45
0300 New Beginnings, Kingston, NY	3	220.00
0303 Creating Your Vision NYC	1	68.26
0306 Sat Morning Bethesda MD D.A.	1	228.00
0307 John H Prosperity Meeting NYC	1	39.15
0308 Follow Your Inner Voice NY, NY	4	332.50
0309 Morning Affirm, New York, NY	3	19.35
0313 Self Employed NYC	1	131.32
0317 New Vis. Grp of D.A. Woodstock NY	4	138.84
0319 Steps to Solvency, Chapel Hill, NC	2	83.00
0325 Prosper-Us, Philadelphia, PA	1	413.16
0338 Path to Prosperity, SLC, UT	1	15.00
0345 Puget Sound Intergroup	2	287.43
0347 Tue Noon Refresh D.A. Seattle WA	11	135.28
0348 Abundance in Action Seattle WA	2	59.71
0349 Higher Visions Seattle WA	10	300.00
0361 Friday Nt. Live, Austin, TX	1	25.00

Group	# of Contributions	Total Contributed
0362 Progress Grp, Houston, TX	1	39.57
0363 Prosperity Grp, Houston, TX	2	200.00
0364 Prosperity Dallas TX	5	125.00
0364	7	347.00
0366 Merrick Prosp, Long Island, NY	1	33.75
0368 BDA/Abun Walnut Creek CA	2	196.32
0372 Long Beach D.A. Lit Study Meeting	1	90.00
0380 Southern California Intg LA CA	1	5.00
0385 Intergrp of Greater NY, NYC	1	20.00
0386 Sunday Tools Toronto, ON	1	300.00
0387 Steps to Prosperity NYC	1	45.00
0404 Steps to Prosperity Ann Arbor, MI	5	123.34
0405 Mon. Nt. Madness, Arlington, VA	6	554.70
0406 Steps Traditions San Francisco CA	1	115.29
0410 Madison WI Saturday	2	74.11
0425 Clarity Abund Cockeysville MD	2	177.78
0426 Michigan Intg, Royal Oak, MI	1	108.00
0442 Solvent Solutions, Westport, CT	1	50.00
0445 St. Louis MO Thursday	1	21.11
0450 Spenders D.A. Online Group	12	195.00
0451	2	1057.19
0458 Upper Room Group Jacksonville FL	2	173.81
0466 Laguna Beach BDA	7	106.02
0475 Into Solvency Northampton MA	3	70.20
0481 Don't Debt Online Group	1	50.00
0487 Abundance, New York, NY	1	364.94
0494 Wed Visions Santa Cruz CA	1	10.00
0496 Simple Abundance Lima PA	2	40.00
0507 Wed Night 7 PM D.A. Chicago IL	2	144.00
0513 Omaha, NE Sunday	5	165.47
0529 Hope, Solutions... Greensboro, NC	2	141.80
0531 Steps/Speaker/ACOH Berkeley CA	2	101.00
0535 Chicago Streeterville BDA	4	446.24
0540 Orlando FL Prosperity Group	1	70.00

Group	# of Contributions	Total Contributed
0547 NJ-Eastern PA Intergroup	1	168.00
0548 BDA Pasadena Monday Night	3	298.91
0552 Taking Ownership Holyoke MA	11	155.00
0563 Intergroup, Sacramento, CA	2	243.29
0570 Saturday Morning D.A. Chicago IL	1	265.00
0577 Cash and Carry Portland OR	9	197.75
0578 Intergrp NW, Portland, OR	2	74.58
0583 Recov Undearn Santa Barbara CA	2	155.97
0584 St. John BDA NYC	6	457.84
0585 Taking Care, Vancouver BC	1	92.88
0604 BDA Wednesday Noon	2	200.00
0611 Steps and Traditions Oakland CA	6	75.00
0616 Unity Group Wauwatosa WI	1	140.69
0618 D.A. Cincinnati	1	40.00
0630 Ripples of Growth Missoula MT	3	43.22
0641 Sunday 4 PM D.A.	5	103.83
0642 Elmhurst Serenity in Solvency	1	80.00
0643 Greenwich D.A.	2	197.63
0668	1	7.50
0670 Bountiful D.A.	1	143.00
0673 Progress Not Perfection	4	464.59
0680 Willing To Grow, Olympia, WA	2	210.04
0681 Came to Believe, NYC	1	14.00
0693 ACOH Newtown Square PA	2	180.00
0706 Mon. Nt., Montreal, PQ	1	91.93
0707 BDA Wed Noon Scottsdale AZ	4	86.24
0708 Riveredge Forest Park IL D.A. Grp	1	172.80
0718 Huntington Valley PA	13	172.52
0734 Big Shots!!! Falls Church VA	2	62.94
0739 Relationships Money Portland OR	3	110.25
0741 Monday BDA Westport CT	1	164.33
0750 Visions At Noon	1	80.00
0752 Friday Noon BDA	1	39.60
0762 Together We Prosper	3	168.30
0788 Living in Recovery	6	91.69
0798 Tuesday D.A.	2	28.89
0808 Grace of God Washington DC	2	207.36

Group	# of Contributions	Total Contributed
0817 Friday Night Burlingame	1	25.75
0831 Temecula Valley Vis Wildomar CA	2	135.00
0838 Worcester MA Step Vision Mtg	1	15.00
0845 Visions	1	50.00
0864 D.A. Plus / Silverlake Los Angeles CA	10	344.36
0867 D.A. Crossroads Delray Beach	1	50.00
0891 Spenders in Recovery	1	83.10
0904 Hancock Park BDA Visions	2	100.00
0935 Living in Prosperity	2	84.16
0970 WW Mtg of Debtors Anonymous	2	20.00
0983 Time Debtors	1	5.00
1005 Colorado Springs Meeting	2	70.25
1010 Wake Up You Debtors	11	464.22
1014 Step Study Visions Portland OR	3	72.56
1018 D.A. Couples Issues Meeting	2	35.22
1022 Sacramento Saturday Morning	5	479.85
1023 Fallbrook Visions	1	120.00
1060 Compulsive Spending and Visions	1	10.00
1065 Overcoming Underearning	5	165.00
1066 Abstinence	2	111.87
1079 BDA In the Solution	3	621.50
1082 The Nut Free Zone	4	99.30
1084 Spiritually Prosperous BDA	3	310.00
1088 Abundance Flows	1	30.00
1091 Recov Underearning & Living Our Vision	3	264.26
1101 South Minneapolis D.A.	7	485.50
1134 Simply the Solutions	1	64.00
1139 Grateful Debt	1	19.35
1152 Annapolis BDA	1	135.00
1162 Long Beach Self Employed Group	1	5.73
1169 Building a Prosperous Business	2	217.98
1173 Solvent Serenity	2	195.00
1179 Numbers Group	1	100.00
1181 Living in the Solution	1	82.34
1194 Prosperity in Paradise	1	138.00
1201 Fear of Success NYC Sunday	2	597.55

Group	# of Contributions	Total Contributed
1289 Boulder Wednesday D.A.	6	85.73
1297 Stepping Into Hope and Prosp.	2	180.57
1303 Friday Night Steps and Traditions	5	354.14
1309 The Just For This Day Tool 8	1	25.00
1315 Sedona AZ BDA	3	177.11
1392 Topanga Toolkit	1	45.00
1427 Third Step Meeting	1	415.83
1451 D.A. Fast WA	1	13.25

Group	# of Contributions	Total Contributed
1578 Plano D.A.	1	46.23
1580 Voltaire	1	100.00
1583 DOHA D.A.	1	161.26
451 Tuesday Night Debtors Anonymous	1	262.10
834 Spirit of Service	1	60.00
BDA Saturday Mid-Wilshire	1	357.83
Saturday Speakers Meeting	1	50.00
Grand Total	895	46,549.33

*** End of Section***

CONFIDENTIAL

SECTION 7: WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORTS

On Wednesday evening, August 6, 2014, each WSC Committee and Caucus was afforded an opportunity to present a report on the work of its committee/caucus during the 2013–14 conference year.

Business Debtors Anonymous Committee Report to WSC 2014

In 2013–14 the BDA Committee had three subcommittees: the Spiritual Marketing Subcommittee, the Outreach Subcommittee, and the Vocations/Visions Subcommittee.

The Spiritual Marketing Subcommittee conducted two pilot step studies to apply the 12 Steps to marketing one's business. The goal was to use spiritual principles to become positively viable in one's business and actively grow that business. This is a carry forward from a project that began with the WSC 2011.

The Subcommittee gathered feedback from the participants, and will be writing an article explaining the process, what they learned, what they feel could potentially be improved upon, and how they benefited.

In addition, the Spiritual Marketing Subcommittee produced two draft pamphlets: the first, entitled "Signposts to Business Debting," examines the signs that a business owner may be debting in his or her business, and could find help in BDA. The second is a "Spiritual Marketing" pamphlet that discusses how to use spiritual principles to market one's business.

Finally, the Spiritual Marketing Subcommittee has established a BDA Action Buddy group to help members in their recovery. Any member can join this group to find other members willing to be an action buddy for mutual benefit.

The Outreach Subcommittee focused on the task of communicating the benefits that BDA brings to the Fellowship as a whole and how BDA can help individual debtors. To that end, they collected approximately 15 individual stories illustrating

how BDA principles have aided them in their recovery. The Subcommittee has facilitated the publication of four of these stories and has contacted additional D.A. publications to disseminate these stories to the Fellowship.

The Vocations/Visions Subcommittee has worked to revise and refine language of a pre-existing draft of a "Spiritual Business Plan" pamphlet. They have focused on editing the language of an original draft to make it more consistent with the language and principles of D.A.

They have also worked to create language that will help the reader orient their business plan to their vision. If we give thought and prayer to considering how we can best be of service to the world with our given talents and interests, we can then use that knowledge in our businesses to help them grow and create greater abundance.

Steve K., Chair

Conference Committee Report to WSC 2014

Conference Committee members this year included Alice K. (chair), Dan (Co-Chair), Ellen, Bob (Treasurer), Jerry B., Jan J., and Host Chair Pat B.

We had a changing of the guard. Our liaison Marci W. has resigned from the GSB. Now we have Maureen C., who has been a wonderful addition from the GSB.

We only lost two people this year and added Jan J., of the Host Committee. Even though she didn't

have a vote, she stepped right up to help with taking the minutes. Thank you all.

We did a lot of work on a survey. We were told to put two surveys into one, and we did. We presented it to the GSB Conference Support Committee (CSC); that didn't go too well. As you may know a survey was never sent.

We also made a recommendation to the Board for them to find a city for a three-year trial from 2016 to 2018. Now we have to work on results with the CSC.

For all who don't know, Philly took a recount and didn't pass, so with help from the intergroup caucus (lots of hard work for them) Portland, OR will be hosting the 2015 Conference.

We need to decide whether to keep the transparency act alive. We also need to see if it's necessary to change the set-up of days of future Conferences. We need you to come help us work things out. Do we want the D.A. Fellowship to be able to attend non-voting parts of the Conference? Do we want a say in hosting future Conferences?

Come join us - we need you!

Alice K.

Diversity Caucus Report to WSC 2014

This year's Diversity Caucus Members included:

Andrew D. – Chair
Linda G. – Secretary
Jeanne F.
Tom K.
Juan
Joan R. – Board Liaison

Caucus members participated in 11 monthly conference calls, September 2013 to July 2014. Participation remained steady throughout the year.

Actions:

Our Caucus focused on creating a map of D.A. meetings throughout the United States, in an effort to help us determine which areas were most underserved. We anticipate completing the mapping process during this year's conference. We also documented which areas were most successful in generating donations to the GSB over the course of the past year.

One of our caucus members, Andrew, made initiatives to begin two new D.A. meetings in Oakland, one at the Taylor United Methodist Church in West Oakland, which serves a primarily African American community, and one at the Fruitvale Community Center, which supports a diverse population including many Latinos and Asian Americans. Initial meetings happened in July, and our intention is to continue to support those meetings and future meetings in other underserved communities in the coming year.

We held many interesting discussions throughout the year, including topics of emotional safety for members of underrepresented groups in D.A. meetings, how to address issues of social and economic class more effectively in our program, and the best ways for us to conduct deeper outreach. We found that in order to complete truly successful outreach, our members need to become part of the communities we are trying to serve.

Recommendations:

We recommend that this year's caucus complete the mapping process that we began this year. We also recommend that further discussions take place about how to best conduct outreach to underserved communities, and that new meetings in areas of underrepresentation be supported to the degree that the organization is capable of doing so.

Fellowship Communication Committee Report to WSC 2014

Committee Officers and Members:

Chair: Don C.; Vice Chair: Susan B.; Secretary: Josie P.; Treasurer: Tracy F.; Curt P.; Lolly A.; Nancy H.; Steve S. (Asst. Secretary); Rick F.
Board Liaison: Jeff Y.

Accomplishments over the year:

The FCC continued to publicize the Group Sponsorship service, and to monitor/respond to all inquiries sent to the gsponsorship@gmail.com email address. Nancy H. was our key Group Sponsorship subcommittee member. We connected a D.A. Sponsee Group from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, with a Sponsor Group in Woodstock, NY. We are currently working to connect a D.A. group in Perth, Australia, with Sponsor Group. The FCC Chair, Don C., shared information about Group Sponsorship on a teleconference call sponsored by the International Caucus. Information on Group Sponsorship is now available on the **Resources for Groups** page of the debtorsanonymous.org website.

The FCC organized and facilitated two WSC Committee/Caucus Chair calls. The purpose of these calls was to foster collaboration between the various WSC Committees and Caucuses and to help avoid duplication of efforts among them.

Curt P. from the FCC wrote an article titled **"Finding a Meeting"** for publication in the *Ways & Means* newsletter. This article focuses on the importance of providing clear instructions for finding D.A. meetings. Curt P. also wrote the **Research and Survey Guidelines**. These guidelines encourage that the D.A. Traditions be honored when doing member and group research via surveys. The Research and Survey Guidelines have been approved for publication by the General Service Board and are included in this year's delegate binders. They have also been sent to the Long Range Planning Committee for inclusion in the 2015 DAMS.

The FCC allocated \$240 of its 2013–2014 Spending Plan toward providing a free copy of the D.A. Manual for Service for all newly registered D.A. groups.

The FCC offered support and guidance to the RDC and PI Committees as they planned their Fellowship-wide teleconference calls. The FCC provided technical support during several GSB-sponsored Fellowship-wide teleconference calls.

Lolly A. from the FCC's D.A. 40th Anniversary Celebration Subcommittee worked with both the Long Range Planning Committee and the WSC Conference Committee to gather and activate ideas for the planned year-long celebration of D.A.'s 40th Anniversary, scheduled to commence on April 15, 2015!

Susan B., Josie P. and Rick F. from the FCC Accessibility Subcommittee worked to resolve issues regarding electronic and international access to (a) D.A. information and (b) D.A. Literature. During our Service Year, this subcommittee connected with the WSC Technology Committee's Research Subcommittee on this initiative.

The FCC updated an old version of the *Ways & Means* flyer and sent the new version to the GSB for review.

Recommendations to the incoming committee:

1. Recommendation that the FCC continue to publicize the Group Sponsorship service, to monitor and respond to all inquiries sent to the gsponsorship@gmail.com email address, and to assist interested groups in finding a Sponsor Group or a Sponsee Group.
2. Recommendation that the FCC work to build a ready list of D.A. groups or intergroups that are willing to sponsor newer, less experienced groups or intergroups. Such a list could be used to quickly match Sponsor Groups with Sponsee Groups rather than doing one-off searches for a match each time we receive a new group sponsorship request.

3. Recommendation that the FCC look for ways to increase attendance on Fellowship-wide teleconference calls. Encourage D.A. GSRs and ISRs to personally take responsibility for increasing the attendance of D.A. members on Fellowship-wide teleconference calls. Idea: If each WSC delegate took responsibility to invite twenty D.A. members to each of our Fellowship-wide calls, our attendance would surely increase dramatically.
4. Recommendation that the FCC work to ensure that the language of instructions for D.A. 7th Tradition contributions (via online and phone meetings) is globally clear and not only in vernacular specific to one region (ex., the term “online payment” seems to be a U.S.-centric term).
5. Recommendation that the FCC consider sending some sort of Fellowship-wide communication reminding online and phone meetings to participate in D.A.’s 7th Tradition.
6. Recommendation that the FCC look into the effectiveness of the D.A. E-News emails that are sent out at the GSB level. Questions we discussed: How can eNews emails be more effective? Could the formats be improved? Do we receive too many of these emails, or too few?
7. Recommendation that the FCC continue to work with the Long Range Planning Committee and the WSC Conference Committee to plan for the celebration of D.A.’s 40th Anniversary. This could include working with the WSC Technology Committee to create a 40th Anniversary blog, and/or hosting a number of teleconference calls around topics related to our 40th Birthday.
8. Recommendation that the FCC continue working to resolve obstacles to easy electronic and international access to (a) D.A. information and (b) D.A. literature.
9. Recommendation that the FCC continue to organize and facilitate WSC Committee/Caucus Chair calls to promote

collaboration and to help avoid duplication of efforts. Suggestion: Possibly one call between this year’s Conference and the Mid-Year call, and a second between the Mid-Year call and the next Conference.

10. Recommendation that the FCC explore new ways of collecting useful D.A. information and disseminating that information to individual D.A. members or groups.

Don C., Chair

Hospitals, Institutions, and Prisons Committee Report to WSC 2014

Committee Members:

Andrew D. – Chair
Marianne G. – Treasurer
Carolyn L. – Secretary
Denise
Michael A. – Board Liaison

Our committee met for 11 monthly conference calls between September 2013 and July 2014. Participation among our small committee was fairly consistent throughout the year.

Actions:

We began our committee work with the intention of starting an HIP searchable database project, which would support D.A. members in contacting relevant support persons in hospitals, institutions, and prisons throughout the West Coast of the US. Due to a lack of person power and technical expertise, we did not make significant progress in this project. We realized also that the database would become obsolete almost immediately. We discovered that a more useful investment of our time and effort would be to create a manual which would include the procedure for contacting relevant support persons in HIPs.

We had intended to hold a committee field trip to the Pitchess County prison, where one of our committee members, Marianne G., has been facilitating and supporting a D.A. meeting for the past couple of years. Unfortunately, the program went on a five-month hiatus during the year. We have recently learned that the program will soon be reinstated, so we are intending to create a new committee field trip to the program sometime in the coming year. We have also learned that an Education Based Incarceration educator in San Francisco is interested in incorporating D.A. into their program in SF, and therefore we are looking to recruit Bay Area members for the coming year to support his initiative.

Marianne created and edited three excellent PowerPoint presentations, which she has used to communicate the program of D.A. in a prison context. Our committee has submitted these presentations to the GSB for possible approval for use organization-wide.

Recommendations:

1. Take on the more manageable project of writing an HIP manual to assist D.A. members in conducting outreach to debtors in hospitals, institutions, and prisons.
2. Organize a field trip once again to the Pitchess County Correctional Facility to experience a D.A. meeting in a prison setting.
3. Support the incorporation of currently existing D.A. curriculum within the program in San Francisco in coordination with their EBI educators.

Our original spending plan of \$250 included potential travel costs to the Pitchess County Facility, which did not occur this year. We did not spend any of our allocated funds.

Andrew D., Chair

Intergroup Caucus Report to WSC 2014

Officers & Members

Chair: Michael M.
Secretary: Audrey O.
Treasurer: Steve S.
Members: Ellen B., Dan A.
Board Liaison: Allen A.

Accomplishments over the year:

1. Attempts to contact registered Intergroups. As part of our goals for the year, we tried to contact each registered Intergroup. As a base for that information we started from the 2011 Intergroup Survey of Intergroup websites. We found a wide variety of ways in which Intergroups serve the still suffering debtor.
2. Our efforts at using the IC to generate interest in 2015 WSC bids. We had a great opportunity to put this evolving database to practical use when we were asked by the GSB to use our connections to various Intergroups to find a replacement venue for the 2015 WSC. We immediately discovered that the previous published information base was not sufficient based on the lack of an individual contact's name.
3. Gratitude for Howard's efforts to provide updated contact list for Intergroups. We contacted the WSO (Howard) to see if a list was available of all currently registered Intergroups and proceeded to contact as many as possible. Through this awareness the Portland Area Intergroup stepped up to place a bid for the 2015 WSC.
4. Our efforts to generate suggestions for D.A.'s 40th Anniversary Celebration. We did not produce any ideas for the Anniversary. We did put out the word!

Recommendations to the incoming committee

1. It seems like the idea of having an up-to-

date contact list of Intergroups would be helpful for the incoming caucus to have. There may be a way to keep this list current and find new ways of using this as a way to help the still suffering debtor. We also recognize the anonymity challenges surrounding publishing any Intergroup member’s contact information. Perhaps this could be addressed through limiting circulation to the IC. This is a concern expressed during our discussions about maintaining this list and respecting anonymity.

2. The wide variety of responses and vibrancy of Intergroups prompted us to consider the possibility of “best practices” suggestions to Intergroups. For example, some websites have an email and telephone contact. Others do not. We recognize that any of these would be in the form of suggestions only.
3. We briefly discussed adding a button to the D.A. website to assist members who were interested in “Finding an Intergroup.”
4. One of our goals that we did not address was revisiting the information published in the D.A. Service Manual on Intergroups. The idea of what exactly an Intergroup does, what works, and what hasn’t might be a continuing effort for consideration by the incoming IC.
5. We are humbled by the work on the previous ICs by those who have come before us, and recognize the importance of archiving the work of each Caucus to assist in creating a living memory of their service to D.A.

Michael M., Chair

Internal Operations Committee Report to WSC 2014

Members: Karen M., Vice-Chair and Secretary;
Candy H., Treasurer; Jane L., Chair

Board Liaisons: Pat B. and Lawanda C.

Mission: To support the continuing efficiency of the General Service Office and maintain communication with the GSO, the GSB Trustees and the GSB Office Committee.

2013 WSC Recommendations: That the GSB:

1. Continue to upgrade the office equipment and establish peer-to-peer networking.
2. Pursue outsourcing WSC registration.
3. Establish a designated fund as part of long-range planning for the expansion of the WSC in order to meet the needs of the growing Fellowship.

Meetings: Monthly meetings were held via conference call.

Financial: The IOC Spending Plan was \$352.00. Expenses were \$305.43, leaving a balance of \$46.57.

Activity	Action	Comments
1. Computer networking in the GSO is completed.		
2. Consider outsourcing WSC registration.	Researched several sources.	It was determined to be too expensive for a conference of our size.
3. Consider changing conference call service.	Researched other services.	The IOC agreed to retain current conference call

		arrangement
4. Maintain communication with International Caucus if requested.	There is a need to minimize the cost of converting currency to \$USD.	
5. Follow up on possibility of new staff member.	Follow up on IOC 2013 recommendation.	The GSB approved, & a part-time staff member has been employed.
6. Visit the WSC.	Visited June 18, 2014.	See comments below.

Visit to the GSO

1. Carol, the part-time employee, is working out very well.
2. There is potential for the IOC to work with the Long Range Planning Committee to review needs for future office space/location. Howard observed that although the space seems to be sufficient to meet the needs of the Fellowship, and the location next to the Post Office is convenient, there is no loading dock.
3. Chair observed an odor of mold/mildew in the office space. The landlord appears not to be interested in resolving this issue.
4. Is there a line item in the WSO spending plan for routine upkeep such as professional carpet cleaning, painting, etc.?
5. There were a few first-time glitches with online WSC registration, but most of the process went well.

Factors observed during discussion with Howard during the visit that might be the purview of other committees/caucuses:

1. Conference Committee: If a location is chosen for a 3-year contract, what are the resources/support for the Host Committee(s)?
2. John H. Scholarship Fund: Should this be a separate committee from the Host Committee?
3. International Caucus in conjunction with the Literature and the GSB Lit. Pub. Committees: Research the potential for “Print on Demand” for overseas publication.
4. Technology Committee: Explore how D.A. might utilize technology to assist in translating emails and office calls from non-English speaking individuals.

Jane L., Chair

International Caucus Report to WSC 2014

The International Caucus’ mission is “To exchange information and develop initiatives to support the growth of D.A. internationally.”

The 2013–2014 International Caucus would like to recognize its members for their spirit of service and contributions: Josie O.P., the caucus’ dedicated connection to groups in the U.K. and E.U; Linda Lee, our consistently concise Recording Secretary; Bob N. acting as Vice Chair; Marianne G., our trusted Treasurer; and Chris K., serving as Chair.

For giving generous amounts of guidance, support, enthusiasm, (international flair) and humor, the Caucus would like to thank Alexandra B.W., who serves as trustee and our liaison to the General Service Board.

International Caucus Initiatives and Accomplishments

The following is a summary of the Caucus’ initiatives and accomplishments. Several initiatives were adopted from the previous year’s

caucus (the year of the International Caucus' formation).

1. Research and recommend content and features for the new D.A. website, adding value for international users/members, i.e., currency and time converters, purchasing and downloading multi-lingual D.A. literature, etc.

Through listening and conversing with a number of non-U.S. members, it became apparent that the predominant concern with the D.A. website had to do with the ability to purchase literature. It was with great hope that we received word that this might soon become reality. After consulting with the WSC Tech Committee, the International Caucus ceased further discovery work regarding website content, assured that the Tech Committee's website redesign request-for-proposal would address the necessary features for users internationally.

2. Collaborate with the FCC Committee, the Intergroup Caucus and other relevant committees to foster connections with European D.A. groups and explore with them the possibility of forming a European Regional Intergroup.

This ambitious initiative led the Caucus to begin exploring the service structure of other 12-step associations in Europe. The Caucus helped support the GSB Chair's visit to the U.K. Intergroup, where they discussed ideas for unifying D.A. groups with a European Regional Intergroup (ERI). The GSB Chair's visit raised a set of questions that the U.K. Intergroup was able to work with. The U.K. Intergroup has asked their ISR to focus on research and viability of formation of the ERI over the next year. The first European Intergroup meeting is scheduled for June 7, 2015 at the first European convention in Cannes.

3. Upon its approval by the GSB, use and distribute the Outreach Letter to International groups.

This year's International Caucus made improvements to the previous Caucus' outreach letter to non-U.S. groups. This letter introduces

the International Caucus as a resource for international groups, inquires about the existence of regional groups/intergroups, and asks if area groups might consider hosting an international service conference or forum. The letter also encourages recipients to reach out to unregistered groups and in turn, encourage them to register with the General Service Office.

4. Follow up on the International Caucus' proposal—sent to the GSB—to hold a Regional forum at an international site.

This initiative eventually turned to the concept of phone or video-conference forums centered around either groups of a specific region, or groups sharing a specific language. No further action was taken.

5. Follow up on the International Caucus' proposal—sent to the GSB—to have a Fellowship-wide conference call with the topic "Growth and Support of D.A. Internationally," and propose video-conferencing wherever and whenever possible.

On Saturday, May 31, 2014, the International Caucus co-hosted a Fellowship-wide conference call titled "D.A. Stories and Hope from Around the World." This call featured three speakers—from Spain, Italy, and the U.K.—who spoke about their personal recovery and the development of D.A. and service bodies in their respective countries. This initiative was intended to further connect the greater Fellowship of D.A., to hear some of the concerns of non-U.S. groups, and to further the discussion of service groups (intergroups / regional groups) outside the U.S. Members of the Public Information, Fellowship Communications, and GSB International committees shared useful information about literature translation, and suggestions for group support. The call concluded with an open forum for members to ask questions and exchange contact information. This inspiring and informative call was attended by over 75 members around the world, and was noted by many of as a great moment of D.A. unity and fellowship.

Recommendations to the incoming International Caucus

After a year of thought and work, the Caucus respectfully submits the following recommendations to the incoming Caucus. Our hope is that you will be inspired by D.A. unity and help groups around the world carry the message to other suffering debtors.

1. Research the existence of phone/Internet meetings that center around specific languages—such as the Spanish-language phone meeting hosted by the Northeast Spain Intergroup, reaching members in at least three continents.
2. Continue using the Fellowship-wide conference call as a way to connect groups around the world, and host at least one conference call during the term.
3. Continue supporting the exploration of a European Regional Intergroup.
4. Collaborate with the FCC, Intergroup Caucus, and other relevant committees to foster connections with D.A. groups worldwide, and explore with them the possibility of forming regional intergroups.
5. Request that the LRPC conduct a phone forum that presents the D.A. service structure.

Additional ideas from WSC Caucus sessions

To honor the ideas and contributions of the Caucus' members, we'd like to include the following initiatives that the Caucus did not make time to address. These are presented as information for consideration rather than recommendations.

1. Explore international media/corporate outreach. (How do we go about outreach at the international level? — referencing a Saturday Evening Post story that had substantial impact for another fellowship in the past)
2. Advocate for and work with other committees to arrange for digital materials to

sell and make it simpler to purchase what currently exists.

3. Determine the value that the WSC adds to international groups globally (outside the U.S. and CN).
4. Explore the mechanism for contributing frequent flyer miles into a pool to allow for global representatives to come to the WSC.

Archive:

A Yahoo Group has been created for the International Caucus' documents. To become the administrator of this account, please email Chris K. ck@hideandshine.com

For information regarding the 2013–2014 International Caucus, please don't hesitate to contact the former Chair, Chris K ck@hideandshine.com

With respect and gratitude,

The members of the World Service Conference
International Caucus

Literature Committee Report to WSC 2014

Committee Roster: DonnaAnn W., Chair; Tom K., Co-Chair; Janet S., Secretary; Jeanne M., Treasurer; Bill D.; Cynthia K.; Krzysztof K. (Yahoo Angel); MarilynSue W.; Sharon S.; Eileen N., Board Liaison

Accomplishments over the year:

1. After three years of working with the motion to produce a pamphlet addressing D.A. and Health Issues, amassing a very large amount of data from the Fellowship, Lit Com was able to create a recommendation for the writer. It was sent to Literature Services, which sent it to the writer.
2. Completed an outline of the Symptoms of Debting, which was passed as a recommendation in 2012. We view this

piece of writing as a potential chapter in the D.A. Basic Text. Sent to Literature Services.

3. Wrote long-form outline recommendations for the *Twelve Promises* pamphlet, which was approved as a motion in 2012. Sent to Literature Services.
4. Wrote personal stories relating to symptoms of debting as templates for the pamphlet/Basic Text chapter. We defined symptoms of debting, as voted on in Seattle, as those actions and/or beliefs that, left untreated, lead us to debting. Sent to Literature Services.

Recommendations to the incoming Committee

1. We recommend presenting a motion to accept the final draft of the Steps portion of the D.A. 12 & 12 at the 2014 WSC in Skokie as print ready.
2. We strongly recommend keeping the Basic Text of Debtors Anonymous as the next literature publishing priority of the Fellowship, after the 12 & 12. The motion to do so in Detroit in 2011 passed by a huge majority and the feeling was very strong that D.A.s deserve to have our story told in our language by our own people. It is also felt by many members that a Basic Text will end much of the debate over what D.A. is and is not and will dovetail perfectly with the D.A. 12 & 12. Financially, the positive impact on our Fellowship of a Basic Text cannot be overstated.
3. We strongly recommend continuing to collect stories of the history of D.A. from continuously solvent long-timers, as well as solvent members of a more diverse membership that is woefully under-represented in D.A. meetings, which are largely middle class, college educated, English speaking and white. We suggest these stories be published on the DebtorsAnonymous.org website and be considered as part of the Basic Text of Debtors Anonymous. It has been difficult

to locate and get old timers and those outside the majority D.A. membership demographics to talk about their experiences. We suggest setting up a conference call/panel discussion for early founders; this conference could be recorded. We suggest Lit Com send out another email blast along the lines of what was sent out during the 2013/2014 Lit Com term.

4. We suggest any publication on which Lit Com works be read aloud, as that is how much of our literature is consumed. We have found this technique very useful for increasing fluidity and clarity.
5. We recommend the *Outside Issues* proposed draft be viewed not necessarily as a pamphlet but rather a chapter in the future D.A. Basic Text and be considered as an article in *Ways & Means*.
6. We recommend that Lit Com continue to reach out to Tech Com and FCC for input on the anonymity issues which now include social media and contact with the press.

We offer the following format as a guide to keeping the always wild and usually passionate Literature Committee moving forward. This is based purely on our collective experience over the past three years and is in no way meant to dictate how future Lit Coms should or could operate. We offer it out of love for you, our program and the Fellowship. (see below)

Introduction to the work of the Literature Committee

This is a compilation of ideas that helped make the work of the 2010/2011, 2011/2012 and 2013/2014 Lit Com effective, clear, and enjoyable. We pass on our experience, strength and hope to you out of love born through blood, sweat, and tears of joy. Please take what you like and improve the rest.

1. Use the DAMS

Lit Com is one of the busiest and most hotly contested committees of the World Service

Conference (WSC). As literature is written in stone, as it were, and has the potential to live forever and in many different formats and languages, most members have suggestions that are rooted in passion, experience, and a desire to “get it right.” Therefore, we encourage every member of Lit Com to begin with re-reading and referring to the following pages of DAMS (D.A. Manual of Service) before, during, and after the WSC.

The following pages are specific to WSC, GSRs, committee work and Lit Com:

Pg 12–13 (definitions)

Pg 66 or 67 (WSC structure flow chart: identical, one is B&W, one is color)

Pg 70–73 (what is a GSR and how do they function)

Pg 73–74 (who is at the Conference and what do they do)

Pg 75–76 (list of the WSC committees and caucuses: Lit Com’s work is defined here)

Pg 88–91 (D.A. literature and the process of creating it)

2. Day One of the WSC

Day One at the WSC is crucial to setting yourself up for success. Once a Chair, Co-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer (and for us, a Yahoo Group Angel to handle any and all technical questions and needs) are elected, it is time to tackle that big binder they give you.

We have found that going slowly is key: make sure the Chair or Secretary calls out the page and Issue and Concern numbers clearly and makes sure that everyone is together before moving forward. The goal here is to determine four (4) things for each Issue and Concern:

1. Is this an Issue and Concern for Lit Com? If not, to what committee should it be passed? Write that down in the binder, in the minutes, and on the board provided in your room (ex: I&C 12-06: referred to Tech Com). If yes, apply the one of following:

2. Is this Issue and Concern something Lit Com wants to address at the WSC? If yes, create a WSC

agenda and subcommittees to work on it during your time pre-Convocation (Saturday and Sunday presentations and voting).

3. Is this something Lit Com wants to address over the year, i.e., put it on the year-long agenda? If yes, make a list of what is on the year-long agenda and write that down in the binder, in the minutes, and on the board provided in your room. At some point well before the first phone meeting, email the year-long agenda to every committee member. Getting this work done will be the guideline for your monthly call agendas.

4. Is this something Lit Com cannot or is not going to address? (I.e., it’s beyond the scope of the committee, it’s been addressed in literature some other place, it is not comprehensible as written, etc.) ALL I&Cs must be responded to by December 1st the year of the WSC. Make a list of these I&Cs and ask for volunteers or subcommittees to respond to them. You can create the subcommittees on the first phone meeting if you have a heavy agenda for the WSC. I&C responses must be voted on by Lit Com; no one member can write a response from Lit Com and submit it as the voice of the Committee.

Once the I&Cs have been parsed, review them, make sure each one is “going to the right place,” and then name individuals or subcommittees to take on the WSC agenda items. These WSC subcommittees are NOT year-long subcommittees; they more than likely will be disbanded when the Conference ends. They can continue for as long as they are needed, but subcommittees are by their nature fluid.

You must have your WSC agenda work ready to be presented to and voted on by the Fellowship at the Convocation, either Saturday or Sunday, so use time wisely and be organized, clear, and mindful of the clock.

3. Set Your Phone Meeting Dates and Times at the WSC

With the committee present, get online and look at each meeting day (we picked second Sunday of the month at 6, 7, 8, 9 pm for each of the four

respective time zones) and see if there is a holiday or high number of committee member conflicts. If a date doesn't look good, decide right then and there if you are going to ignore the holiday and have the phone meeting at the regular date and time or move the meeting to another date for that month. Have the Secretary and Yahoo Group Angel make note of the dates and times so they can send out electronic notifications each meeting (we chose to have two notifications for each phone meeting: ten days, then two days prior to the meetings). Have the Secretary and Yahoo Group Angel make sure they have everyone's phone number and email address, and give every committee member a hard copy and an electronic copy before the WSC ends.

We have found www.freeconferencepro.com to be a great service, but there are many out there. Make sure everyone has the phone number and knows how to get on the group call. Yahoo Group Angel to the rescue!

4. Structure, Structure, Structure (Before, During and After the WSC)

Having the Chair send the agenda out days in advance, using the same agenda format each month and having a Secretary email the minutes within twenty-four hours has held Lit Com in very good stead the past two years. These tools made saving the documents in various Lit Com files very easy, and any questions or concerns could be addressed right away, rather than at the last minute. It also added credibility to the work done on the call: it was important and was treated as important.

The Chair needs to be organized: save documents in folders and sub-folders; label them in a consistent, logical manner; respond to inquiries, calls for help, and complaints (oh, yes, there will be complaining); and remain professional. It is principles before personalities, and the Chair must remain detached so as not to muddy the waters. Working closely with the Secretary was really crucial. She or he has your agendas, you have his or her minutes: this creates a check-list for the month's work and allows for great clarity.

Keeping track of what subcommittee work is in process, needs to be voted on, is in editing mode or completed is a must.

5. Updates From the Status Chart

We found that beginning our monthly meetings with updates from the Board Liaison really kept momentum going. The liaison let us know potential publishing dates, snafus that had arisen, and progress in approving and/or publishing our recommendations. She also helped us be clear on the literature process, which is inherently cautious and slow-paced. Lastly, regular input from the Board Liaison continually re-grounded us in the notion that our work was tied to something else, the greater good, and the Fellowship as a whole.

6. Subcommittees

We found that creating subcommittees immediately was a great way to get things checked off the list and make tasks that might otherwise seem daunting small enough to manage. Additionally, monthly reports from the subcommittees created a real feeling of inclusion. Subcommittees form and disband as needed. Periodically reviewing the tasks the committee has completed was a true morale booster. Subcommittee work was a big part of that. Of great importance, also, was the opportunity for those who are not comfortable working or speaking up in a large group to spread their wings and fly in a small subcommittee.

7. Contact and Work Between Monthly Meetings

We found that letting subcommittees know that they could use the monthly phone meeting line, and offering to have Chair and/or Co-Chair attendance on subcommittee calls, really gave a feeling of continuity, that the work didn't just happen once a month, and that no one had to do it all themselves. It's never too late to get on the phone and have some highly focused, productive minutes with a subcommittee.

8. Love, Tolerance and Humor

There is no substitute for a good laugh, a light heart and a joyful mind when doing committee work. If you have set yourself up with a clear agenda for the WSC and the year, understand what work will be attempted, send out the phone meeting agenda and minutes promptly, run the meetings with respect for all, and remain flexible, committee work can forge long-term friendships, a feeling of deep camaraderie, and a sense of accepting and accomplishing the work our Fellowship, and our Higher Powers, have asked us take on.

9. Sponsorship

A service sponsor can be invaluable to a committee worker. Whether you are the Chair or on a subcommittee, working the Steps around committee work can provide relief from worry and stress as well as insight to how others who have gone before you have worked their program while being on a committee. No one does committee work alone, nor should they. Having a sponsor to work one-on-one with can be a real blessing.

10. Outreach

If you are the Chair/Co-Chair and there are members who are not making the calls or seem to be struggling to participate, get subcommittee work done, or to be happy on the committee, don't be afraid to make a call. Committee work can be overwhelming for the best of us and a friendly, non-judgmental call offering an ear or a helping hand can make all the difference in the world to the esprit de corps of a committee. The telephone is one of D.A.'s easiest tools to use.

11. Commitment

Lit Com is always a big committee, a passionate committee, and the committee with the most I&Cs. While regular attendance and commitment to finishing the work we were sent to do and agreed to attempt is important, things happen. There are going to be members who can't do the work, change their mind about doing the work, or need to drop off the committee altogether. Love and tolerance is the creed of all

12-step programs. We found empowering members rather than shaming them, asking if there was anything we could do to help, and not being rigid in our requests for information, feedback, ideas, etc., made it easier for members to be on the committee. Not all D.A. members are techies; some folks really do best on the phone. Many members shine the brightest on small, intimate subcommittees and may not feel comfortable speaking up on a committee that usually runs close to twenty members. Letting people be who they are the best way they can has been helpful to us.

12. Faith

It was important that we remembered we were not the final voice of anything. Lit Com is one of three branches of literature production for D.A. and it interacts with the Fellowship, the GSB and God. When we began and ended our meetings with prayer, tried to remember that we were setting out to do what we thought God's will for the Fellowship was, and wore our recovery like a loose set of clothing (instead of a too tight tube top!), we lessened the stress inherent to trying to come to unity on important issues over the phone with twenty different voices needing to be heard. We loved one another and were as supportive, tolerant, and open-minded as we could be. We practiced these principles in all our affairs.

We wish you the very best in your endeavor. If our experience is any indication, Lit Com work can bring tremendous insight into our own recovery, increase the sense of being a part of something much bigger than ourselves, and give us the satisfaction of knowing we did our best to carry the message of recovery in the most successful method any 12-step program has ever embraced: literature.

The 2013/2014 Literature Committee of Debtors Anonymous

Public Information Committee Report to WSC 2014

Committee Members: Bevin D. (chair), Carol A., Chris K., Debbie L., Diana D. (secretary), Diane C., John L. (vice chair), Patricia S., Siobhan K. (treasurer). Board Liaison: Lawanda C.

ACTIONS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

The 2013 WSC Public Information Committee had an extensive agenda for the year 2013–2014.

1. **Public Information Survey Analysis:** This subcommittee analyzed the results of the 2012–2013 WSC PI Committee's Fellowship-wide survey. The subcommittee made suggestions to the entire Committee for directed PI work based on the results of this survey. We wrote an article for the D.A. Focus about the survey results.
2. **Revision of PI Manual – (Issues & Concerns #13-18):** We received an Issue and Concern regarding a suggested change to the PI Manual. The subcommittee brought two motions for revisions to the Manual to the entire Committee; the Committee voted both motions down. The PI Manual remains as is for the moment.
3. **PI Representative Outreach:** The Public Information Representative Outreach subcommittee was charged with reaching out to, training, and encouraging PI Representatives throughout the Fellowship. The review of the PI Survey conducted in 2012–2013 indicated that the majority of PI Reps serving across the fellowship felt 1) unsure of the duties of the position and 2) isolated. With these findings in mind, we organized a Fellowship-wide Informal Telephone Workshop for Public Information Representatives and all D.A. members in conjunction with the GSB PI Committee entitled, "Carrying the message, growing our groups, using D.A.'s Public Information tools." This took place on March 29th, 2014 and was a big success. Many PI Reps on the call expressed interest in additional connection and training. As part of a more "hands-on" approach adopted by this subcommittee, one member helped start a local PI committee with PI Reps from New York City and Long Island. Using the PI Manual as their guide, members of that committee are carrying out PI work locally and attest to the unique bolstering effect that their public information service has on their own recovery.
4. **PSA Distribution:** The subcommittee explored PSA distribution but this did not go very far. We lost one of our members who was active on this item. We had made a recommendation to the GSB at the 2013 Convocation that they try to allocate resources to distribute the PSAs. The GSB Public Information and the GSB Internet and Social Media Ad Hoc Committees are studying the possibility of posting D.A.'s PSAs on YouTube. In the meantime, they recommend the use of existing PI service material already available.
5. **Web Content:** The WSC PI Committee established a PI microsite (approval pending) that hosts a sign-up form to a subscription database, similar to the email list system that the GSB uses to send the "eNews," which would enable us to send PI alerts and PI-specific news to PI Reps and other D.A. members interested in Public Information. We are recommending to the incoming Committee that they consider continuing our efforts to make information on PI more available to PI Reps by having the link to either the microsite or to the sign-up form embedded in the PI page of the Debtors Anonymous website.
6. **Media Contact Training:** All of the committee members participated in Media Contact Training calls.
7. **Statement of Purpose:** The 2013–2014 WSC PI Committee undertook a thoughtful analysis of the WSC PI Committee's Statement of Purpose, feeling the existing Statement was in need of revision and updating. Our intention was to craft a Statement that was more reflective and inclusive of the Committee's goals and activities. We recommend to the incoming PI Committee that they adopt the revised Statement and bring a motion to the Convocation.

Current Statement: “The Public Information Committee interfaces with the media, helping professionals, and the general public in person, on the telephone, and through written information. The Public Information Committee has:

- Produced a Public Information Manual
- Created sample Public Service Announcements”

NOTE: The existing Statement does not include in-reach to PI Representatives or the D.A. Fellowship. It mentions the accomplishments of the Committee, but not how these accomplishments are practiced.

Revised Statement: “The Public Information Committee works to carry the message of D.A. to the still suffering debtor by interfacing with the media, helping professionals, the general public, and the D.A Fellowship at large, in person, on the telephone, and through written information. The Public Information Committee:

- Utilizes the Debtors Anonymous Public Information Manual and other D.A. service literature available to the entire Fellowship as a tool for outreach efforts
- Supports and trains P.I. Representatives
- Is guided by the Twelve Traditions of Debtors Anonymous”

NOTE: We feel that this revised Statement better reflects the action and vision of the WSC PI Committee.

8. DETROIT: The PI Committee chose Detroit as a testing ground for increasing and understanding the efficacy of PI efforts. A subcommittee was formed whose goals were: to create an action plan for concentrated regional efforts; to draw on and mobilize all available PI resources; and to assess the efficacy of our efforts with an audit of the strategies.

After the Detroit area GSR visited some D.A. meetings in the region to announce and discuss PI efforts and assess PI status, the PI

Committee determined that carrying the message of D.A. could be more efficiently done remotely by the PI Committee and other groups through mail, email, and phone campaigns to contact various professionals dealing with still suffering debtors (such as bankruptcy judges and attorneys, district attorneys with bad check writing programs, and mental health professionals), as well as carry the word to debtors currently in other 12-step programs. This would result in carrying the message to many more suffering debtors, possibly increasing D.A. membership in the Metro Detroit area, as well as the number of PI Representatives that would participate locally.

The subcommittee divided the list of activities found in the PI Manual (p.62) to create a Master List of resources for outreach. Due to the combined efforts of the subcommittee, our first two goals were completed. Our vision was to compile a starter kit for PI Representatives. We are recommending to the incoming Committee that they explore the option of becoming PI Representatives for underserved areas and for developing additional tools to make PI activities more accessible.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INCOMING COMMITTEE:

1. Statement of Purpose: We recommend to the incoming PI Committee that they adopt the revised Statement of Purpose, and that they move to officially revise it at the WSC 2014 Convocation.
2. Follow Up to Workshop: We recommend to incoming PI Committee that they follow up with the PI Representatives who attended the international PI Rep Informative Workshop conference call that was held on March 29th, 2014. These members are subscribers to our database (see #4 below). We also recommend that the incoming Committee explore making the recording of this workshop available as a PI training tool. This recording is on the Yahoo Groups: Files > 2013-2014

WSC PI Committee > PI Rep Outreach
Committee Folder:

[https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/d_a_PICommittee/files/2013-2014 WSC PI Committee/PR Rep Outreach Committee/](https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/d_a_PICommittee/files/2013-2014%20WSC%20PI%20Committee/PR%20Rep%20Outreach%20Committee/)

3. Continued Training: We recommend to the incoming PI Committee that they consider continued training of PI Representatives in the form of PI Training calls.
4. Database/Microsite: We recommend to the incoming PI Committee that they continue to work with the GSB Tech Committee to gain approval to add a link to the PI page of the Debtors Anonymous website that allows for sign-up for PI-specific information and creation of a database of PI Reps. We are recommending the inclusion of language that says something similar to "Sign up to become a Public Information Representative, or to receive periodic messages about Public Information." Some sort of privacy policy would be good as well. PI Reps will have the ability to unsubscribe at any time. Microsite: <http://www.wscpicommittee.org/> Sign-up form (through MailChimp): <http://eepurl.com/HVmUX> PI Page: http://www.debtorsanonymous.org/public_information.htm
5. PSAs: We recommend to the incoming PI Committee that they continue to explore avenues of distribution for the D.A. audio PSAs.
6. LESSONS FROM DETROIT: We recommend to the incoming PI Committee that they explore the creation of a PI Starter Packet to make PI tools and activities more accessible, and that members consider becoming PI Representatives for underserved areas.

GRATITUDE:

Thank you to our wonderful GSB Liaison, Lawanda, for guiding and supporting our Committee this year. Thanks to everyone on the

2013–2014 WSC PI Committee for your service. It was an honor to serve with you. Thank you to all the members of D.A. who undertake the service of Public Information. You are special and appreciated!

Respectfully submitted by Bevin D. on behalf of the entire 2013–2014 WSC PI Committee

Resource Development Committee Report to WSC 2014

Chair: John D.
Vice Chair: Linda G.
Secretary: Kathryn G.
Treasurer: Janet Lee S.
Members: Carol Ann P., Celeste L., Deb R., Marietta M., Michael M., Sheffra W.
Allen T. (Board Liaison)

The chair is grateful for the generous, ongoing participation of our committee members and the excellent, dedicated assistance of our liaison, Allen T. RDC's basic purpose is increasing contributions to the Fellowship and encouraging participation in service at all levels. RDC's major accomplishments during the 2013–14 conference year were:

1. We redesigned and modified the content for the John H. Scholarship Letter and the Letter of Appeal to celebrate D.A.'s 38th Anniversary, both of which were distributed to the Fellowship.
2. Our "Recovery Through Service in D.A." conference call event in April was attended by about 60 participants. We arranged a call-in number and code to allow members to listen to the recorded speaker portion of the call.
3. We recommended three new tent cards for in-person meetings to encourage member contributions and to bring attention to D.A.'s three-fold purpose.
4. We recommended a direct mailing to the contacts at approximately 43 online and

telephone meetings, suggesting the following wording for inclusion in their meeting formats: "Remember that you may make your 7th tradition contributions to D.A. with the online Bill Pay option through your bank."

5. We adopted the tagline, "More to Share, When Promises are Fulfilled," as the theme for a series of stories written by RDC members on service, recovery, and the promises. The stories are to be distributed to the Fellowship in the *Ways & Means* and other D.A. platforms.
6. We formed a subcommittee to brainstorm ideas for making a commemorative item available to the Fellowship to celebrate D.A.'s 40th birthday in April 2016, and the ideas will be passed on to next year's RDC.
7. We explored ways of inventorying (a) open service positions in the Fellowship and (b) projects that were approved by the WSC but remain unfunded.

We are grateful for the opportunity to serve this wonderful Fellowship!

Technology Committee Report to WSC 2014

The Technology Committee had four subcommittees this year, and these are their reports:

1. Tech Research: The Tech Research Subcommittee of the WSC Technology Committee devoted the 2013–2014 committee year to the subject of electronic literature (e-literature). The subcommittee researched the concept of publication of e-literature by Debtors Anonymous as an integral part of the literature sales program. The subcommittee studied the following aspects of this concept:
 - The e-literature marketplace in general
 - The need and the potential market for e-literature among the D.A. population
 - Previous efforts by Alcoholics Anonymous in this area

- The technical aspects of creating, producing, selling, and distributing e-literature
- E-commerce implications, including the use of electronic forms of payment
- The financial impact of the sale of e-literature on the sale of traditional literature

The subcommittee proposes that the D.A. WSC support the notion of the production and sale of e-literature to the membership of D.A., specifically:

- Begin with an e-book version of the second edition of *A Currency of Hope*
- Market and sell the e-book through a shopping cart module on the D.A. website
- Accept payment for the e-book by debit cards only (not credit cards)
- Charge a price that complements the sale of the hard copy edition and provides a comparable or better return to the Fellowship

Note: We do not need to wait for the new site to implement the possibility of using debit card payment on the D.A. site. We just need software for the shopping page or "basket." This software can be on D.A.'s own web server or hosted on the server of the vendor. The basket links to a debit card processing service, which deposits the money in our bank. Usually banks have a network that provides this service.

2. Paperless Conference:
 - Are we ready for digital delivery?
 - Not for the immediate foreseeable future: renting digital devices is cost-prohibitive, logistically and physically cumbersome, and creates exclusivity for those delegates not digitally inclined.
 - Future optional digital delivery methods include:
 - Software laptop, tablet, mobile phone
 - Memory sticks
 - Mobile app
 - Secure website

- Design and produce an online registration form - Mission accomplished! Thank you to Sue, our GSB liaison.
3. Usability: The major project of the subcommittee was to analyze the way the D.A. website is used, using Google Analytics statistics captured since 2008, and to submit monthly reports of current activity to the GSB Information Technology committee. We were able to identify: The number of visits and visitors, the countries and often the city that they live in, the pages that were most visited, how long the visits were, the devices and browsers used to access the website, and the search terms used to find D.A. or the other sites that referred them to D.A. (Note: this is all anonymous aggregate data. We cannot tell how any single user uses the website or who

they are.) Much of the use of the website is the same month to month and year to year with a small but steady increase of visitors. Notable trends were: An increase in non-USA based visits, increased use of cell phones and tablets, and more people looking for phone meetings.

4. RFP: The RFP Subcommittee is proud of our accomplishments for the year. We compiled research and experience from our various subcommittees and D.A. members into a comprehensive document outlining the desired goals of the website. And with the guidance and assistance of our board liaison, Sue F., and our ACM, Jon L., we researched and wrote an RFP (Request for Proposal) for a newly designed D.A. website. This was recently posted by the GSB in the search for a qualified design firm.

*** End of Section***

CONFIDENTIAL

SECTION 8: WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

(Listed alphabetically)

Business Debtors Anonymous Committee (BDA)

August 7, 2014

BDA Committee

The Committee elected the following to the offices of the Committee:

Chair: Steve K.
Vice Chair: JuliaAnne G.
Secretary: Dan A.
Treasurer: Pat T.

Members: Jerome S., Amy S., Susan H., Helena K.,
Connie N., Jackie D., Kate T., Bill B., Juan A., Eric M.,
Candace H., Shelley T.

BDA Committee meeting will be on the 2nd Sunday of the month. 10:30 Eastern/9:30 Central/7:30 Pacific. Call number to be disseminated by the chair.

The Committee determined by substantial unanimity that no motions would be presented to the Conference.

After much discussion concerning desired goals for the year, the following subcommittees were formed and the BDA Committee broke into four subcommittees (below) to discuss the topics that were assigned to them.

Subcommittees

Accountability

- Step Study handed down to BDA since 2011
- Action Buddy Groups
 - Small (5/6)
 - Tool pamphlet?
 - Once a week
 - Motivators
 - Bookending
 - Invoicing Fridays/Mondays
- PRGs before/after meetings
- SoCal PRG pamphlet

- Lit committee
- PRGs and Round Table
 - Bookending projects with timer
 - Bimonthly
 - Round robin, interchangeable roles within group
- YouTube video example of a PRG
- Weekly Action Plan

Pamphlets

- Spiritual Business Plan
- Spiritual Marketing
- Sign Posts
- BDA "Tool 10"

Taking Our Pulse

- Research BDA groups for unique tools that may be shared with the Fellowship
- BDA Step Study
- Competition to BDA groups to solicit ideas

Vocations/Visions

- Blueprint for Visions
- Stories/Interviews

August 8, 2014

The Committee convened to vote on the Recommendations to the Conference. The following Recommendations were voted on and passed:

1. The BDA Committee recommends to the Tech Committee that future phases of the new website include functionality for a forum(s) on the new D.A. website to allow D.A. groups and/or BDA groups and members to submit questions to the Fellowship as a whole that may be answered by others in the Fellowship.
2. The BDA Committee recommends that the Board prepare and submit to the Fellowship a new 5-Year Plan as well as a procedure for an ongoing annual renewable 5-Year Plan.
3. The BDA Committee recommends to the Tech Committee that the new D.A. website include functionality to sort for BDA and other categories of meetings on the site meeting list.

Conference Committee (CC)

The Committee elected the following to the offices of the Committee:

Chair: Don C.
Vice Chair: Alice K.
Secretary: Kaila Y.
Treasurer: Dayton L.

Members: Alice K, Carol Ann P, Carolyn L, Dayton L, Don C, Kaila Y, Marietta M, Michael G, Peg M, Priscilla M, Steve S, Tracy F, Sheffra W

Thursday August 7th 2014

Committee scribe Alice K. makes a motion to time the discussions. There is a major topic of site selection, Alexandra says. Tracy recommends starting with 15 minutes per topic and if it needs to be adjusted it can. Motion passes with 7 votes.

Alexandra would like to introduce and start with the site selection and has her 5 minutes. There are two opportunities to meet with the event planner. Last year's Conference Committee's recommendation was brought to hold the conference for 3 years in the same site. The board went and found a conference coordinator, Jeanne Stevenson. There is no cost, and she is extremely helpful and understood our specific requirements. She's made herself available 10-11 on Friday, Sunday morning. She has prepared a menu of eight sites, which Alice has, which has not been sent yet? The reason for choosing Midwest hotels is that the greatest cost savings is hosting the conference in the same venue for three years—these eight sites are the most cost effective, and she picked the Midwest since it's centrally located. It's possible that during the conference a city might make a bid to host a future conference. How strong is the D.A. presence in the city? It's possible that the work can be outsourced but we want to protect the organization's anonymity. What are the effects on the community to host a conference for 3 years? It could be a good or bad effect. It sounded like we may not need a committee if Jeanne is on board. Pat B. is concerned that Jeanne is an outside person taking over. There need to be D.A. people involved. Alexandra is leaving a folder with

photos of all the sites for the Conference Committee. She can handle meals but we might not want her to hire outsourced workers. Jeanne is going to be here on Sunday morning until 8AM. Sacramento is bidding for hosting, says Tracy. Alexandra suggests considering the long view. Steve, Carol and Pat entered and gave a brief introduction.

Tracy makes a motion that we prioritize the already posted list, which is passed unanimously. Sheffra asked if there are any time-sensitive items that we need to work on that are due tomorrow. Tracy suggests we look at last year's recommendations first, and we need to get information from the planner until we can effectively make decisions about site selection and presentation for a 2016 meeting. Conference committee is involved on how to plan and celebrate the 40th anniversary

It's been decided that in order of importance we are discussing 1) Last Year's Recommendations 2) Site Selection 3) 40th Anniversary. Alice K makes a motion to discuss the John H. Fund Distribution to make it #3. It's very important to have it ready for convocation because it is very controversial. Tracy has mentioned that delegates have brought up that it is inequitable, brought up 3 times in share. How do we get non-face-to-face meetings to get people here? It is passed by 6 votes and 2 abstentions.

There were two issues and concerns that were assigned; traditionally, we have turned in our issues and concerns at the end of the actual conference. Tracy suggests that we can address one; the other one will include a lot of work, and we have until Dec 1st.

Tracy makes a motion to discuss the issue regarding the John H. Fund, and that we address the other issue if we have time this year; otherwise we will address it as the service year continues. Alice says it would be beneficial to us to work on the John H. issue and create a subcommittee for the other issue.

Committee stops to read Issue 14-10 and Issue 14-11. Alice adds the point that we can work on just getting an answer by December 1st, in which case it will be brought up next year again if the Board moves it forward.

Carolyn makes a motion that the 40th anniversary is made #4. Alice says last year the conference committee partnered with FCC. She believes that this will be ongoing since there is another year to work on it.

Sheffra speaks against the motion that the 40th anniversary is not a priority. There are time-sensitive issues that she reads from the binder. Carolyn says that it's a big deal, so it should remain up there.

Alice says that the anniversary requires a year to plan, and all the committees are working on it, so it is not a priority to work on today.

2 for, 5 opposed

Don suggests that we start by looking at last year's recommendations. Section 1, Page #3 in the binder.

Questions about the recommendations: did the group vote that this be recommended to the next organization? The transparency is that is a non-GSR attend as a non-voting member on Wed and Thurs to observe. If we don't have a strong D.A. presence in the city we may not be able to have fellowship day, which is so dependent on volunteers, and \$15 for local members to come. Change of the conference setup was brought up two years ago, including how many people are jammed to get out on Sunday. If there was no fellowship day, convocation could be an entire Saturday.

3 years trial + site selection + change of con

In response to last year's committee's request to explore three years in the same site: Genie, the event planner, is going to make a bid tomorrow for Sacramento at 9 a.m.

Don C. says: Phone call with event planner tomorrow. Develop a list of questions for the planner. 7-7:45 meeting on Sunday, face to face.

Michael asks with so many members already is there enough work to be done for everyone? Alexandra says maybe the committee would like to work on subcommittee. Don C. says that we can ensure that all members have work; we can divvy up projects or

streamline. Alexandra adds an additional issue sheet, sent by the Board, originally sent to the HIP committee. 10-14, we already covered it in previous discussions.

1) Last year's recommendation (nothing further to be discussed, all topics have been folded into other discussions).

2) Site selection: We've got some moving pieces on this already. D.A. host committee or not, what gets subcontracted to the planner? This discussion is about the 2016 conference.

Before we finish tomorrow, we need to find a day or a meeting time that works for everyone; Michael is invited as a host on the call. Past committee has worked really closely already with Genie and can provide a download for an update on Portland. New Jersey decided they weren't going to host. Alan A., our Liaison, asked us to reach out to Intergroups across the country. We didn't come up with a group willing to make a bid; Michael brought it to his Intergroup and they did make a bid. Former trustee devised a process of 4-5 hours to help the intergroup make the decision about whether or not to host the bid. Came out with an executive committee with 4 officers. Pat is chairing the host committee for this conference. The only rough spot of working with Genie is that the last committee got too involved in the process and double work was being done, she took over 30-40% of the work and streamlined the whole procedure for the treasurer, and was really easy to work with. Pat asks what the planner does after she finds the conference site. Michael M. says that this is still to be determined—meals are up for discussion. Pat suggests clarifying and is concerned that Genie seemed to have taken over the entire project. Michael M. has no fear about this. Pat B. just notes to make sure to keep a watch on this. How many rooms, extra rooms' cost. Alice K. feels that we don't need her for Portland, but to let our host committee finish it off; concerned that Genie will overstep her bounds. Concerned that we did not vote her in, it was brought in by the board—brought on because Portland was such a last-minute situation. Alexandra adds only the Board can negotiate with outside contractors. Tracy mentioned that we are off topic from meals, hotel selection and room rates.

Do you feel a regional committee would help for these cities that don't have a strong D.A. presence? May says that this is about gathering our people together – let's not forget this and keep the human element, not just efficient business. Michael says that we have already put in a lot of effort. Suggests there's a lot of fear about the event planner, says that Michael is approaching this with humility and faith. He believes that God will make this a successful convention. Michael suggests we quickly liaison with some of the Chicago host committee to answer some of the proposed questions. Alexandra strongly endorses working with Genie, who made the process easy, streamlined and clean. Don suggests we can recommend that if we use an event planner for the WSC that the limitations of their activity fall into that box. Michael says that he thinks that the Board has described some of this work in writing. Pat says that this host committee could not bear the hosting of a 3 year convention, we probably have close to 100 people involved, volunteers and the committee people. The price is much less for 3 years; con is that if it's in NY or CA, airfare can be very high. Michael asked do you think it's important that the host committee is close so that they can have face-to-face meetings. Pat thinks that this is important. Sheffra W says that values can weigh heavily on decisions. Alexandra: host committee drew on host committee from Tucson; they weren't close together. Treasurer worked remotely; as a model this could be difficult. Pat says that the host committee was spread out in Chicago but we are fortunate to have a lot of meetings so we drew on a wide location of people. Michael says that a lot of this topic deals with personnel burnout.

Carolyn makes a motion that we put in the recommendation that we place the conference in one city 3 years in a row commencing in 2016 and we use an event planner for handling just meals, hotel selection and room rates, with the addition that we select the city. Michael asks if we should table the motion until after we speak to her tomorrow and if we should spend some time coming up with the questions for tomorrow's call.

Tracy has a friendly amendment: wants the hotel selection in the city the conference committee selects.

Michael suggests that we ask Genie if we are we missing anything that we should really have covered. Alexandra says that it would be good goal if the committee could have a specific structure and city and maybe an additional one. Alice suggests a subcommittee to create 10-20 questions for Genie. Steven S says we want to utilize your services, what can you do for us, with the 3 narrowed down topics; let's listen to the doctor and not tell her how to do her job. This is how you utilize a professional. Tracy calls to question for a vote of the motion on the floor. There's a 2nd to table the motion until after the call with the event planner. 4 in favor, 6 opposed. 2 abstentions, the motion is not tabled. Dayton and Tracy calls to question.

All in favor of calling to question and moving to a vote, 12 all in favor.

Alexandra has new information, the least expensive part of the country in August is the Midwest and she has not given all the members the RFP.

Motion is passed.

Event Planner questions

1. We think the services we need from you are these three things, but what else could we be missing?
2. What services do you have to do?
3. What is your emergency availability/response time, in case we need more services? What's your lead time?
4. Are these prices fixed already or is this a beginning negotiation?
5. Do you work with all the major hotel chains or are you limited to certain brands? What chains do you or don't you work with?
6. Has she done comparison on airfare from major hubs?

Alice K makes a motion that we have a subcommittee that is willing from 9:30-10:15 to come up with our questions for tomorrow. There is no second to the motion.

Michael says there is a host committee manual that is 100+ pages long. There's a 26-page Request for Proposal put out for this; a lot of this institutional memory already exists.

Don C asks how we want to proceed with the meeting tonight. Alice K. says that Tracy will present tomorrow before Genie. We are going to have the same kind of questions that we will have for Genie.

Sheffra says that she wouldn't even know what questions to ask as one who is working on a conference planning committee for the first time. She's not paid by the conference; she's paid by the hotels on a commission basis.

Carolyn made a motion to move forward to the next agenda item. 7 for, no one opposed.

Motion that Tracy reserves the last 10 minutes for a subcommittee to reformulate the questions for tomorrow and be wordsmithed for tomorrow. Michael's second is rescinded. Alice K 2nds. Friendly amendment that unnecessary items can be removed by the subcommittee. Tracy accepts.

Alice K. would like to be on the subcommittee. Don C is glad to be on the call.

The group is presented with the Request for Proposal document for review which does not go beyond the scope of the 3 items. The 2nd item is just the history of how many rooms we've used in the past, audio/visual and hotels we have held conferences in the past.

Don C adds that we are supposed to choose a city by the end of this conference.

Alabama has 0 groups in its hotel vicinity.

Louisville has 4 groups.

St Louis has 4 active groups.

The board did give Genie 3 random cities to research.

Alice K. clarifies that the city doesn't need to be decided right this moment. Sheffra suggests that we decide what factors of cost are most important to us.

Importantly is how many groups are nearby in the zip code of a suggested city.

Don C. doesn't like the idea of being given one day to make a city recommendation. Michael says that this is not the request for proposal. This is a high-pressure situation. Pat says that the Conference Committee here does not decide, the Board decides.

Michael says that we are responsible for coming up with a proposal for 2016; we don't have to make it for three years if we are not confident. Tracy will give his bid in absentia. Whether it's one or two years, we need to give a bid that at least includes a suggestion for 2016; that is our responsibility. Tracy has analyzed airfares for Sacramento.

Michaels brings up that registration fee options are available for those who live locally versus those who need to pay for airfare.

#3 John H: Alice K. has given us the John H. scholarship program description and instructions. This is not what the host committee looks at; this is what the delegate applying would look at. Howard suggests that we take it away from the host committee and form a subcommittee. The form doesn't give an opportunity to state that I'll take whatever you will give me. Request to add a line that states that you can accept less than the applied for amount. It's in conference registration packet. Guidelines used to say that you had to come up with 50% of the funding. Dayton says that this is untrue; he got a partial scholarship. Marietta got the final requested amount. Peg understood that the neediest person got the full amount. 30,000 in requests, \$5000 was available. Tracy suggests the question that was supposed to be added but wasn't added is, Have you received this scholarship before?

Alice K asks if you can have selection criteria in the host committee handbook.

Several people at the table assumed that the scholarship was for the last resort; if this is true, this should be in the instructions. Howard wanted to call to question whether this should be under the jurisdiction of the host committee.

Sheffra says that there is a real value to the group sending the GSR; it's a group's ability to coalesce. Alice K. says that she was unable to apply for her intergroup until it was seen if she received the John H. Tracy says that the intergroup has records of the past 10 years' rewards. Marietta says the host committee should do the rewarding as they might. Be less biased and more fair, definitely; thinks there should be a tracking of past scholarship rewards. Dayton says that the release of the form in April is prohibitive to take serious actions to try to raise money.

Don C suggests that everyone studies the John. H form before we reconvene tomorrow. The dates were changed and forwarded up to May 11th 75 days ahead of time, previously at the end of May. The host committee should have gotten the packet out in February; it was late. Think of ways where we can remedy these situations.

Tracy requests that the Chair find out from Jeff if they have historical data from the host committee about who has already received funds, at least starting from Chicago and possibly Phoenix.

Friday August 7th

Serenity Prayer, housekeeping, call is in the boardroom, we should leave here at 9:45. Please wear your badge, especially at mealtime. Read the Statement of purpose from the DAM page 80.

Should I retype everything in the Sacramento proposal?

Tracy presents the bid for Sacramento. 4 binders are distributed. In early 2014 it was decided that 2015 would not work. In March 2015 a subcommittee was put together to research for 2016. Reached out to 200 members, had support and volunteers to help. Multi-year proposals.

Mission Statement:

Provide 2014 committee with viable proposal for 2016, hotel meeting and transportation. Provide multi-year options.

DAIS Subcommittee consists of:

Why Sacramento?

Hotel rooms are competitively priced. Multiple attractions and tourists and within a 90-minute drive. Prudent track record of hosting with returning members from the 2003 conference.

Narrowed down to 2 very credible hotel offers and a lackluster university response.

Lions Gate: Campus setting, Mayberry-esque

-guaranteed a rate for 3 years with 2 contract extensions based on performance

-double and single room rate \$109

-run of house 75K, 10K plus tax, not charged for half day

-complimentary shuttle service to local attractions

-airport shuttle service, free to all airports, 90 min to SFO

-25K F/B minimum

-Hotel room and layout provided in packet

-AV pricing is separate

-Complimentary breakfast included

-Gala event can host 200-600

8% tax in SAC, 15% fees -- needs to be clarified.

Holiday Inn

-guarantee the rate for 2 years and a 1-year extension (can't guarantee last year because of the new arena going in)

-run of house; all rooms dedicated to the conference

-\$125 and \$105, double and single rates

-discounted shuttle service, reduced parking at \$6 a day

-F/B 35K

-\$11,250 for the facility, 21% setup fee. (extra 4K from previous quote)

-discounted shuttle fees to airports (\$80 average)

University

-no guarantee of rates for multi-year

-\$159 for both double and single

-free parking

-did not provide food and beverage minimum, all outside catering

Recommend moving forward with Lions Gate

Previous site was non-responsive (2014)

Pitched first and second weekend in August

Holiday Inn started \$139 and \$119 to \$125 to \$109

Don asked for a historical perspective on the F/B minimum. Jeff: It's a complicated equation. Low room rate, high food/beverage rate. You cannot beat them at their own game, balance what the delegates pay and what the conference pays.

Lions Gate would need to know within 60-90 days after the conference whether we are extending on multiyear rentals

Airplane fare pricing is comparable to Midwest cities.

Alan mentioned that if we decided not to renew with Sacramento it would be too late to plan for another city option.

Sheffra: Has there any been any hotel so bad that we decided not to return? Alan says no, there have been no disasters.

List of prepared questions is presented to the committee.

Motion for the Chair to make the call; if there are additional questions please raise your hand. 6 in favor, none opposed.

Jeff: Genie is anxious to do her work for this fellowship, she knows people who need this fellowship. She is fully prepared to give a presentation. She is not a travel agent. She previously gave comparison cities.

Alice K.: Will Genie get a commission? Does she have a working relationship with Holiday Inn or Lions Gate?

Don says that there is fear remaining about the outside contractor, Genie. New friend, practice listening, open-minded, clear information.

10am call with Genie: 35-year-old company, assisting clients in finding the right hotel at right location. Works with a large variety of clients. Site selection according to your criteria for anywhere in the US. because a close member of your team. Once hotel is selected, we will review the information, join Board Liaison on a site inspection. Review and negotiate the contracts, room rates, complimentary, meeting space, act as conference liaison. Review the contract, make sure the contract is in order and that you are protected. Instruct. After point of sale I do not go away, follow on site committee through the finalization process, make sure conference runs smoothly from start to finish.

Resume: Hilton for 10 years, Marriot 15 years. For both sold. 8-10 years with Marriott expertise was assoc. not for profit and 12 step - finding the right property at the best rate. Bookmygroup with 8 years. A true intermediary books all over US and Canada. 70-75% students and adults touring travel. 10-15 adult leisure travel. 3 large associations child syndrome defect groups - 500 people - very sophisticated need. Disaster relief for storm damage

Which stands out as a good fit from the list: St Louis, Kansas City. Birmingham was a great offer from a very big hotel. Look for markets that are not in their high-demand period.

Would the RFP apply to other cities in addition to original cities? Genie says absolutely, the same RFP is sent out to every city.

Are you able to get rates on all hotels or chains, indie or chain? Genie says she can do.

Are the hotel rates fixed or are they negotiable? Genie: Everything is negotiable.

Is there access to the downtown area; is that a factor to be considered? Genie: That's based on your criteria: do you want to be close to an airport or downtown? I will follow the lead that you give me. Higher rate for a downtown rate.

Michael G.: We received a proposal for this morning, is that something that you could step into? Genie: Absolutely. I would ask to forward all of that committee's work and research to me and I will review everything. She can jump in as the conference liaison. Michael G: Is the hotel going to pay the commission, and will that change our bargaining stance? Genie: Actually the rates quoted to BookMyGroup.com is usually lower, we have buying and bargaining power. The hotels do not mark rates up to compensate for 10% commission; we are buying for many groups into the same market.

Alice K.: Holiday Inn and Lions Gate hotels in Sacramento, are you familiar with them? Genie: Yes, very familiar with both those properties. Very familiar with the SAC market. Alice K: If we decided not to extend our contract, could you find us a hotel ASAP? Genie: We would not be in a good negotiating position, and flights are expensive from the east coast. A 3-year contract is beneficial financially but I would create an out after each year. I could definitely find a hotel on one year's notice.

Sheffra; Have you checked with the off season about the weather conditions? Genie: August isn't severely affected by that kind of weather -- Midwest is such a large area.

Based on the questions, do we have any blind spots? Genie: No, along the process I will be a good coach and mentor, I will never do anything without explaining

the reasoning. At this juncture we don't have any open-ended issues.

Jeff: Last year's Conference Committee which national RFP on making the conference more affordable on a 3-year basis, and this was done. Referred as a national meeting planner. Genie says that she wouldn't have recommended and let us sign the contract for the Chicago contract - if I work for you I will have much better contracts. Board is presenting this spreadsheet in addition to Tracy's presentation. Work with a national meeting planner to centrally located, moderately priced at no cost to us.

Alexandra BW: Cross-check with D.A. on the ground in the areas recommended.

In our end of the deliberations, Don asks: Do you make a motion about 2016? Yes.

Besides SAC, does the board know of any other proposals.?Oakland possibly, but no. Oakland is supporting the SAC bid.

Allen K.: Most importantly Genie is very flexible.

Tracy's comments: The west coast concern is valid but if we are looking at price point. Availability of D.A. membership. Birmingham was best price but 0 D.A. membership within 200 miles. St Louis has an intergroup and 4 meetings. Dallas has a strong D.A. presence but the Intergroup did not respond - 90% of those we reached out to did not respond, Michael said. Genie said I would have never picked this hotel, both SAC hotels have worked with Genie. Concerned about the comment because there's been a lot of legwork and a ton of work done already. Alexandra point of order: I wouldn't have let you sign the contract, not I wouldn't have let you choose that hotel.

Michael: We've been in this position since we had also done a lot of work, but our spiritual process was to have faith that this opportunity was presented and she was able to negotiate better rates. This is an opportunity to accept help.

Tracy leaves his vote in absentia.

Sheffra says as a professional you don't state: I would never have let you do that, most professionals will not say that kind of thing, that's a huge red flag for me.

Don: If we chose a Midwest city it would be the Conference Committee's responsibility to host the meeting. It's not realistic to approach an intergroup and ask if they are interested in hosting. We are deciding on a city.

Alexandra: \$300 more to fly roundtrip to SAC than to Indianapolis as a Midwest City from the east coast.

Michael: Is our value cheapest, vibrant D.A. support? Let's determine the important selection criteria.

Holly: There's a huge contradiction in cost of air flights based on Tracy's research and Genie's comment

Alice K.: Air flights, if you know 3 years it's at the same location, you can buy the cheapest significantly cheaper far in advance.

Don proposed an idea on how to move forward. 1) selection criteria; 2) Genie will be a secondary decision; 3) write out what the options are.

Sheffra: Motion: conference for not more than 5-10 minutes to discuss the values to use to make our decision. Seconded by Peg. Carol Ann mentioned driving principles. What are the most important things we need to consider? Motion passed.

Greg: Values local presence of strong support and monetary. Carolyn: Why go to the cheapest place? Prosperity is a value. Alexandra BW: Value is to get as many delegates to the conference as possible, not the cost *per se*. Sheffra: Point of order: she is a liaison, should she be adding values. Group says yes. Marietta: Whether we are going to do 1-3 years. Don: Do we want to separate these out? Michael says let's call it term commitment or suitability. Dayton: D.A.'s history of repeat performances - a region that's been used more than once year to year. Rotation of location. Alice K: Being true to ourselves, personal integrity.

Sheffra: Motion: We need to rate these values, ranking 1-5. Carolyn: Moment of silence. The group takes a

moment of silence. Don: Remember our tradition of Unity.

Friendly amendment: Michael asks for a discussion before the ranking. Additional amendment of one minute per discussion. Peg: D.A. Support locally - I don't consider this terribly important.

Motion: Priscilla to choose the top 4 and then see which ones have the most weight or the order of importance. Alice K. seconded. Michael: Call to question. Motion passed. Michael draws a chart for the votes.

2nd session of Friday

Summarizing vote, Don suggests that we write down the options for sites.

Motion by Carolyn to approve Sacramento or not, Priscilla seconds. Motions passed by a strong majority. Michael moves to discuss Sacramento and how to make that work in terms of our values. Sheffra seconds. Friendly amendment by Dayton to consider this only for 2016. Motion passes.

I. Maximize Attendance - take actions instead of depending on the site, marketing

II. A place that we can choose today

III. D.A. support locally

IV. Prosperity, not scarcity

Provide historical perspective

Seattle 2012, Phoenix, Chicago, Portland. Would have been on the west coast 3-5 years.

Tracy provides research for airfare rates between several different cities.

Alice K. makes a motion to choose Sacramento as the 2016 venue. Don reminds the group to honor last year's group's recommendation for 3 years.

Dayton makes a friendly amendment. Look at the Midwest for the 3-year-in-a-row commitment.

Alexandra point of information: Internal Operations is a completely unpopulated committee.

Don K. makes the motion to adopt this action item on our agenda about addressing that there is no IOC this year. Get clarification if we can take on some of the tasks as subcommittee tasks.

Motion passes to address absence of an IOC in the 2014 year.

Michael motions to put on our agenda for the year to consider whether any changes to the method of populating committees need to be made. Motion passed.

In order to get the pricing, the contract needs to have the option for an additional 2 years.

John H. Scholarship. One error was made in the mailing form.

There was a form that was approved at the 2013 conference, including the line "My group has/has not received John H. Scholarship Funds.

2015 use the correct John H. Scholarship Fund form.

Michael moves that instead of figuring out the form, that we submit to the convocation allowing us to make corrections to the form to represent current qualifications. Passed.

Update the form using the corrections to the application form to provide the necessary information for the current suggested qualifications that were adopted in the 2013 WSC.

Motion #3 last year included modifications that were made to the document.

Motions should be a complete

Don K. tried to do a recommendation to the FCC on an error in the DAMs. Jeff our Board Liaison: If it's an error, all we have to do is tell them; don't need to make a recommendation.

Item F: Is the GSR/ISR is returning? If so, what committee? It is recommended that s/he has attended 7 out of 11 meetings.

Do we want to take it out of the Host Committee's hands?

3rd Sunday in September, the 21st, 5-6PM

Central 605 715 4920 code: 3089400#

Motion that the awarding of John H. Scholarship Funds be done by Host Committee in collaboration with the Conference Committee designee.

Transferred to the WSC Conference Committee in conjunction with the Host Committee.

Member of the Conference Committee and the Host Committee. Host Committee in conjunction with the Conference Committee

The problem is the equitable distribution, because the Conference Committee has the historical data of the past distributions. There is no way to see if this is being adhered to, since the Host Committee does not need to make a report.

The designee of the CSC.

Host Committee does not answer to the Conference, while the Conference Committee does.

MOTION

The CSC moves that Sacramento, CA will be the conference site for the WSC for 2016.

The CSC moves that it is allowed to update the application form using the corrections to the form to provide the necessary information for the current suggested qualifications that were adopted in the 2013 WSC.

Motion that the awarding of John H Scholarship Funds be done by Host Committee in collaboration with the Conference Committee designee.

RECOMMENDATION

The CSC recommends that the GSB uses the service of the conference organizer Book My Group for the WSC 2016.

Fellowship Communications Committee (FCC)

The Committee elected the following to the offices of the Committee:

Chair: Susan B.
Vice Chair: Lolly A.
Secretary: Tammy F.
Treasurer: Diana D.

Members:

Carolyn A., Lolly A., Susan B., Diana D., Tammy F.,
Kathryn G., Ellie H., Jeff Y (GSB liaison)

The group created an agenda, and elected committee officers. A review was made of the prior year's recommendations. Institutional memory was provided by Lolly A. and Susan B., who sat on FCC in 2013–14. We are also fortunate enough to have Tammy F., who is a member of the Woodstock Group, currently providing group sponsorship to the Rio de Janeiro group, who contacted the gsponsorship@gmail.com.

A monthly call schedule was established, and FCC will be meeting via teleconference on the second Sunday of each month at 2:00 p.m. Eastern/1:00 p.m. Central/11:00 a.m. Pacific time.

There was an impromptu visit from one of the delegates in the Tech Committee, whose input was instrumental in allowing FCC to determine whether or not to retain three of the ten recommendations reviewed. Much of the conversation revealed the current committee members' commitment to facilitating communication within the Fellowship, both domestically and globally; to fostering inter-committee communications in the interest of

collaboration, efficiency, and fellowship; to being of service to D.A.

The Committee voted on standing recommendations to the 2014–15 Committee and came up with the following action plan for the coming year:

- The FCC will continue to publicize the Group Sponsorship service, to monitor and respond to all inquiries sent to the gsponsorship@gmail.com email address, and to assist interested groups in finding a Sponsor Group or a Sponsee group.
 - *To that end, Ellie H, Kathryn G, and Diana D created an informational flyer to be immediately available to the delegation.*
- The FCC will work to build a ready list of D.A. groups or intergroups that are willing to sponsor newer, less experienced groups or intergroups. Such a list could be used to quickly match Sponsor Groups with Sponsee Groups rather than doing one-off searches for a match each time we receive a new group sponsorship request.
- The FCC will look for ways to increase attendance on Fellowship-wide teleconference calls.
- The FCC will look into the effectiveness of the D.A. eNews emails that are sent out at the GSB level.
- The FCC will continue to work with the Long Range Planning Committee and the WSC Conference Committee to plan for the celebration of D.A.'s 40th Anniversary. This could include working with the WSC Technology Committee to create a 40th Anniversary blog and/or hosting a number of teleconference calls around topics related to our 40th Birthday.
- The FCC will continue to organize and facilitate WSC Committee/Caucus Chair calls to promote collaboration and to help avoid duplication of efforts.

The Committee reviewed Issue 14-14, regarding the renaming of the *Ways & Means*, and decided to defer action until further discussion after the conference.

Hospitals, Institutions, and Prisons Committee (HIP)

The Committee elected the following to the offices of the Committee:

Chair: Doug P.
Secretary: Andrew D.
Treasurer: Bev S.

Members: Doug P., Andrew D., Bev S., Kellie L., Rona Z., Marianne G.

Motion: The HIP Committee have input into the Issue and Concern 14-10.

Motion carries.

Time limit: 4 minutes (flexible) - agreed

Motion:

We adopt the listed guidelines with four exceptions:

1. Read the Tradition of the month at each call
2. State name when speaking
3. Strike "No more than two pro and two con," etc.
4. The Chair prepares an Action Plan for the Committee's work and revisits that plan in each call

Motion carries.

ITEM 13 List of Agenda Items

No Issues and Concerns YET

From the 2013–2014 HIP Committee:

1. HIP Manual
2. Field Trip To Pitchess County Facility
Education Based Incarceration
3. SF EBI Program

From this year's Committee members:

4. SEATAC Federal Detention Center
5. D.A. Material in Student Aid Offices in Colleges and Universities

6. Suicide Prevention Programs and Suicide Survivors
7. Letters to Wardens/Administrators of Prisons
8. Federal In-House Treatment Centers
9. Outpatient Psychiatric staff – education and awareness building
10. Graduate programs – Chemical Dependency

NOTE:

N.A. has a 90-page manual for HIPs (!)

Marianne has written some materials for County Jails in LA and others

Andrew has written some work for hospitals re: Kaiser Oakland

Doug – getting books into federal prison system

Doug: 4 – Bring D.A. to SEATAC

Zona: 10 – Graduate Programs – Chemical Dependency

Bev: 9 – Outpatient Staff Education - Research

6 – Suicide Prevention Hotlines – Chicago Area

Andrew: Pitchess County, SF EBI, SEATAC Federal Detention Center

Kellie: Speakers and Panels – Outpatient, Federal, Suicide Prevention, Homeless Shelters

Marianne: HIP Manual, EBI, LA 1, 2, 3, 11

HIP Monthly Call: 8:00-9:00 pm 2nd Monday of the month

Number: 1-712-432-1500

Code: 172199#

SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS:

1. Produce a HIP Manual – working draft document
2. Midwest to West Coast Prison Project directly helping the debtor who suffers in confinement
 - a. continue education/orientation/panels to prison programs underway
 - b. expand to Oakland, Seattle, Chicago, SF

- c. research SEATAC Federal Detention Center
 - d. LA Sheriff's Dept. – Pitchess County Detention Center
 - e. Field Trip to Pitchess County Detention Center
 - f. Chicago - Cook County Facility
 - g. Coordinate SF Education Based Incarceration Educators
 - h. Educate Educators at Sheridan FCI in Oregon
3. Research
Outreach/Panels/Education/Literature to Populations and Case Managers at Risk for Confinement: Homeless Shelters and Support Centers, Suicide Hotlines, and Mental Health Outpatient Services, targeted graduate programs for chemical dependency

Spending Plan

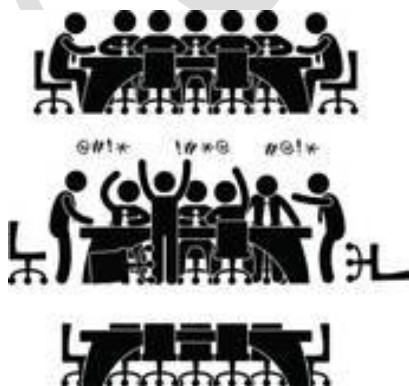
- 1. D.A. Literature for distribution \$700 – 300 D.A. pamphlets & biz cards
- 2. Pitchess Field Trip \$330
- 3. Phone Card - \$50

TOTAL: \$1,080 - \$250 = \$830 requested from GSB

RESOLVED by the HIP Committee.

Internal Operations Committee (IOC)

The IOC did not subscribe any members this year, and consequently did not meet or conduct any business.



Literature Committee (LIT)

The Committee elected the following to the offices of the Committee:

Chair: Tom K.
Vice Chair: Bill D.
Secretary: Suzanne M.
Treasurer: Krzysztof K.

Other Members: Gisela S., Tom B., Marilyn Sue W., Sharon S., Kathryn B., Jeanne F., Allen T. (GSB Liaison)

Motions:

- 1. The Literature Committee moves that the final draft of the Steps portion of the D.A. *12 Steps and 12 Traditions* book be approved as print-ready.
- 2. The Literature Committee moves that the Steps portion of the D.A. *12 Steps and 12 Traditions* be printed in the same format as the Debtors Anonymous Manual for Service (DAMS).

Recommendations

- 1. The Literature Committee recommends that D.A. publish the inaugural hard copy of the *12 Steps and 12 Traditions* in time for the 40th Anniversary of D.A. in April 2016.

WSC 2014 August 6th, 7th, 8th

Members present: Bill D., Tom K., Tom B., Jeanne F., Sharon S., Marilyn Sue W., Krzysztof K., Gisele, Kathryn B., Suzanne M., Allen T. (GSB Liaison)

Introductions made.

Document 'Literature Committee guide for success' (a handout from previous year's LitCom) given out and reviewed.

Discussed meeting via teleconference on a monthly basis to follow up on committee work. Schedule agreed on and set for 3rd Monday of the month (8-9 ET) Sept. 2014 to July 2015. Phone number and access code given out for call-in (218-548-7244; access code 123456#).

Reviewed Issue and Concern 14-06 re: D.A. sponsorship pamphlet and agreed this is an issue that belongs to LitCom. Jeanne F. printed this pamphlet out

for all the committee members; we reviewed and after some discussion and clarification all agreed we will respond by Dec 1st, 2014.

An outline for the primary text of Debtors Anonymous has been approved. Allen T. secured the outline, printed copies and gave to the committee. A motion was made to review the outline and modify it to be more concise.

Sharon S. made a motion that the D.A. 12 Steps be printed for use by the Fellowship in the same format as the DAMS; Krzysztof K. seconded; all agreed unanimously.

The Long Range Planning Committee assigned to LitCom two tasks for the 40th Anniversary planning: 1) brainstorm special anniversary literature packages, and 2) possibly design a cover for a commemorative 40th anniversary edition of *Currency of Hope*. We will consult LitPub to clarify the specific literature package they are requesting.

LitCom reviewed recommendations from last year's committee. It was decided to table this list of issues for action during the year, as time allows. The group agreed that we wanted to focus on our main priorities: *12 Steps and 12 Traditions*, and D.A. basic text.

Two subcommittees were formed to gather stories which would be incorporated in the Debtors Anonymous basic text: 1) stories from D.A. founders and longtimers and 2) stories from diverse and underserved populations in D.A. All agreed it would be a good idea to circle around with the D.A. archivist to tap into that wealth of knowledge. Subcommittee 1 members: Gisele, Bill D., Tom B.; Subcommittee 2 members: Marilyn Sue, Jeanne F., Tom B., Sharon S.

Allen T. brought in 2007 version of the Debtors Anonymous basic text and oriented the LitCom to the outline; he stated this was not set in stone. Our committee decided this would be a priority for us this year: to develop a solid outline which would be ready to be presented to the writer.

We have obtained a copy of LitCom motions passed from previous years that have not been acted upon. Our committee may address these issues during the year, time permitting.

LitCom will make the following motions:

- 1) We move that the Board-approved final draft of the Steps portion of the D.A. 12 steps and 12 traditions book be approved as print-ready.

- 2) We move that the Steps portion of the D.A. *12 Steps and 12 Traditions* be printed in the same format as the Debtors Anonymous Manual for Service (DAMS).

LitCom will make a recommendation that D.A. publish the inaugural hard copy of the *12 Steps and 12 Traditions* in time for the 40th Anniversary of D.A. in April 2016.

Additional LitCom 2014/2015 Agenda items:

LitCom will review and provide feedback on the final draft of the 12 Traditions of Debtors Anonymous when completed by the writer.

LitCom will communicate with the Technology Committee, FCC, and BDA committees regarding potential literature revisions.

LitCom will review the Debtors Anonymous pamphlet for potential revision.

Public Information Committee (PI)

The Committee elected the following to the offices of the Committee:

Chair: Siobhan K.
Vice Chair: Diane C.
Secretary: Carol A.
Treasurer: Patricia S.

Other members: Jerry B, Patrick C, Ellen S, Ron T, Bevin D, Esmerelda K, Chris A, Maureen F, Jill W

Motions:

1. The Public Information Committee moves that the WSC PI Committee's revised Statement of Purpose be adopted.

Recommendations

1. The Public Information Committee recommends that the PI tab on the Debtors Anonymous website be changed from 'Public Information' to 'Carrying the Message.'

2. The Public Information Committee recommends that a pamphlet on Public Information with the theme of 'Carrying the Message' be developed.
3. The Public Information Committee recommends that D.A.'s existing audio PSAs be amended to reflect current information and prepared for distribution through social media and radio.

The members of the 2014 Public Information Committee are Diane C, Carol A, Patricia, Jerry B, Patrick C, Ellen S, Ron T, Bevin D, Esmerelda K, Chris A, Maureen F, Jill W and Siobhan K.

The committee then selected from the 2013 recommendations, brainstormed and created 3 subcommittees to address our initiatives: the Public Information Representative Support subcommittee, the Public Information Professional Event subcommittee and the Media subcommittee

As all of our subcommittee's initiatives are in our report, we would like to highlight the work we have already done on one particular initiative: we are looking to inexpensively make the few minor changes needed to use the already existing Debtors Anonymous audio Public Service announcements and get them to the public, but also began work with one of the GSRs in this conference from the WSC Technology Committee to develop a visual element that enhances and helps spread these service announcements.

We brainstormed agenda items and reviewed last year's PI Committee recommendations.

"We recommend to incoming PI Committee that we adopt new statement of purpose so we can bring it as a motion to the convocation."

Bevin read the old and new statements.

"We recommend we do more PI Rep training calls – fellowship wide."

"We recommend that there be new exploration of distribution of D.A.'s PSAs."

New action idea for committee:

"Discover what other 12-step groups do for PI and find out what's worked for them."

We separated ourselves into subcommittees and reviewed what everyone would work on.

Media subcommittee has come up with the motion as following (at Lawanda's recommendation):

"PI moves that existing audio PSAs be amended to reflect current information and prepared for distribution through Social Media and Radio."

Bevin discovered plans for a video for the PSAs in the archives from 2012.

Vote: passed 7 to 4.

A second motion was proposed.

"PI moves that a pamphlet on Public Information with the theme of 'Carrying the Message' be developed."

Bevin clarified that this is not Service Literature. That it be Conference Approved literature.

Vote: motion passed unanimously.

Bevin read a recommendation:

"PI recommends that the PI tab on the website be changed from 'Public Information' to 'Carrying the Message.'"

Vote: motion passed unanimously.

A second motion was proposed:

"PI moves that WSC PI develop preliminary concept design for visual content to be added to the amended audio PSAs." (See attached images donated by a D.A. member with professional animation experience.)

Vote: motion passed 8 to 4.

Bevin read the Recommendation that the incoming PI Committee read the revised Statement of Purpose to be brought to convocation.

The motion for convocation is:

"PI moves that the WSC PI Committee's revised Statement of Purpose be adopted."

Vote: passed unanimously.

Subcommittees, Statements of Purpose, and Action Initiatives:

PI Rep Support Subcommittee

Statement of Purpose: “Supporting the People Who Carry the Message”

Four Areas of Focus:

Contact last year’s workshop participants

Organize at least two fellowship-wide phone conferences, including one in Dec. “Give the gift, Carry the Message.”

Create a PI Starter Kit

Communicate with the Fellowship through the *Ways & Means*

A motion to approve the PI Rep Support subcommittee Action Plan.

Vote: passed unanimously

Public Information for Professional Events Subcommittee (P.I.P.E.)

Statement of Purpose: “To create a system for establishing a D.A. PI presence at local events for helping professionals.”

Establish a database of helping professional associations and events.

Begin a contact list of existing PI Reps and other local contacts.

Assemble resources for PI Reps to use at events.

Test program through pilot projects.

A motion was made to approve the action list of the P.I. Professional Events subcommittee.

Vote: passed unanimously.

Media Subcommittee

Statement of Purpose: “To create and disseminate pertinent information to the Fellowship and general

public through the use of print, audio, and video materials to carry the message to the still suffering debtor.”

Amend audio PSAs.

Develop preliminary concept design for visual content to be added to the amended audio PSAs.

Engage intergroups and facilitate their contacting of local media outlets.

Explore the creation of a newsletter for PI Reps.

A motion was made that we approve the action list of the Media Subcommittee.

Vote: passed unanimously.

Resource Development Committee (RDC)

The Committee elected the following to the offices of the Committee:

Chair: Chris S.

Vice Chair: Sara H.

Secretary: Janet S.

Treasurer: Jeannine W.

Other Members: Molly L., Kieran K., and Maureen C. (GSB Liaison)

Recommendations

1. We, the Resource Development Committee, recommend that every General Service Representative and Intergroup Service Representative considers contributing monthly to the General Service Office in the spirit of “Every Member, Every Month.”

Resource Development Committee Minutes: Session 1 – August 7, 2014

Present: GSB Liaison Maureen C., Chris S., Sara H., Jeannine W., Janet S., Molly L., Kieran K.

The meeting was opened by the GSB Liaison Maureen C. The agenda from the WSC Committee Starter Kit was used.

1. The Serenity Prayer was followed by the reading of the 12 Steps and the 12 Traditions.
2. The GSB Liaison clarified her role.
3. How committees are formed was read from the DAMS.
4. Members of the committee introduced themselves.
5. The committee's Statement of Purpose was read.
6. Robert's Rules of Order was discussed.
7. Points a-g about expectations of the committee were explained.
8. The GSB Liaison explained the responsibilities of the position of Committee Chair, and Chris S. became the Chair. The meeting was then turned over to the Committee Chair.
9. The following committee positions were also filled:
Vice Chair: Sara H.
Recording Secretary: Janet S.
Treasurer: Jeannine W.
10. Molly L. volunteered to be the Committee Scribe.
11. A timekeeper was not selected.
12. The list under procedures and/or etiquette guidelines was discussed and accepted with the following exception: Instead of the reading of the full 12 Traditions, it was decided to read only the Tradition of the number of the present month, and the one related to our committee's purpose, which is the 7th Tradition.
13. Review of past RDC notes was begun from the binder supplied by the former Chair, John D. Began brainstorming about possible projects for the coming year.

The Serenity Prayer was recited, and the meeting adjourned.

Resource Development Committee Minutes: Session 2 – August 7, 2014

Present: GSB Liaison Maureen C., Chris S., Sara H., Jeannine W., Janet S., Molly L., Kieran K.

The Serenity Prayer was recited.
The binder created by Chair John D from last year's RDC was presented to the Chris S. the present Chair. The report from last year's committee was reviewed. Questions were raised on the status of certain projects.

- How are the Tent Cards being distributed? Understand they will be printed after the WSC. What is our *responsibility this year?* Maureen, GSB Liaison will check.
- The recommendation to send to online and telephone meetings the suggestion to add to their format the words "Remember that you may make your 7th tradition contributions to D.A. with the online Bill Pay option through your bank." Unknown status. Maureen will check with Allen T. Chris will follow up the wording of the 7am daily phone meeting and with John D.
- Item 7: Status of inventory of open service positions in the fellowship and what approved projects by the WSC are unfunded. Unknown.

Noted that the suggested Commemorative items to celebrate the 40th anniversary of D.A. are listed in the binder.

It was decided that the time and day of the monthly Conference call will be the 3rd Sunday of the month 6:30pm EST, 3:30pm PST. The meeting will last 1 hour. The John H. Scholarship letter and the Annual Letter of Appeal which is sent in the anniversary month of April, this year to celebrate the 39th anniversary of D.A., are 2 projects that must be done.

Brain stormed possible projects for the coming year with a list created to help further prioritize the projects.

The RDC members agreed to read the Spirituality Pamphlet and read and study Pages 31-43 & 49 in the Treasurer section of the DAMS before the next meeting. It was further agreed that we would become very familiar with the DAMS manual to strengthen our service to the fellowship.

The Serenity Prayer was recited, and the meeting adjourned.

Resource Development Committee Minutes: Session 3 – August 8, 2014

Present: GSB Liaison, Maureen C., Chris S., Sara H., Jeannine W., Janet S., Molly L., Kieran K.

The meeting was started by reciting the Serenity Prayer.

It was agreed that all our meetings will start on time. It was agreed to read the long version of Tradition 7 as

well as the Tradition of the number of the month. Tradition 8 was read as well as the long version of Tradition 7.

Minutes for Session 1 & 2 were read and accepted with minor adjustments for Session 2. Possible projects were listed with some discussion. A recommendation was formed and the wording was modified to present to the Convocation. A formal motion was made to accept the wording, and the motion passed.

1. We, the Resource Development Committee, recommend that every General Service Representative and Intergroup Service Representative considers contributing monthly to the General Service Office in the spirit of "Every Member, Every Month."

We agreed that the DAMS was our Spiritual Guide. The Chair, Chris S., needed to leave to attend a training meeting, and the Vice Chair, Sara H. led the rest of the meeting.

We discussed 3 categories that we would work on this coming year including:

- **Directives:**
Projects that were required to be done. Update the John H. Scholarship Letter and the Annual Letter of Appeal to celebrate D.A.'s anniversary month in April.
- **RDC Member's Homework:**
We agreed to read the Spirituality Pamphlet and pages 31-45 & 49 in the DAMS, the section focused on the Treasurer, before the next meeting. We discussed focusing on the DAMS as our Spiritual Manual throughout the year.
- **Projects:**
We brainstormed and created a list of possible projects to be discussed and clarified and used to make decisions on a final list for the coming year.

We were informed of the need to make a quarterly report of RDC activities to be published in the D.A. Focus. The following are dates for the reports to be submitted to Maureen, our Liaison. 10/1/14, 1/1/15, 4/1/15 and 7/1/15. It was suggested that if we would like to submit a story or article for the *Ways & Means*, the same dates be used.

A possible timeline was drawn up to complete the various projects including those that are required-to be further discussed at the next meeting.

The Serenity Prayer was recited, and the meeting adjourned.

Resource Development Committee Minutes: Session 4 - August 8, 2014

Present: GSB Liaison, Maureen C., Chris S., Sara H., Jeannine W., Janet S., Molly L., Kieran K.

The meeting was started by reciting the Serenity Prayer.

The Chair was updated on what transpired during her absence.

The timeline was reviewed.

Allan T., our former GSB Liaison, had been invited to attend our meeting to clarify past projects whose status was unclear. He mentioned and will send to us a document that had apparently not been carried through to a final level called "50 Ways to Do Service." Clarifications:

- There are no unfunded approved projects. However, there are other visions such as to have more money to cover extra professional staff, to support 1 or more International Trustees, to have the ability to lower the price of literature, lower the cost of going to the Conference, and have more funds for the John H. Scholarship. Soon there will be 3 open slots for Class A Trustees.
- A Postcard, which will recommend to online and phone meetings that they add to their format words to explain that the 7th Tradition could be sent through their own bank's Bill Pay, has been approved at all levels. It will be implemented by the GSO and sent to all 43 registered online/phone meetings. The postcard will be sent in an envelope to preserve anonymity.
- Two cards from the Tent Card project have been approved at all levels. The cards will be sent to around 500 meetings. It does need more work in the area of graphic design. RDC may be asked to help produce these cards.

Before he left, Allan clarified the possibility that more funds could be given to RDC for special projects. Sheffra, a former RDC member, could be contacted to answer any questions about the authoring of stories for the *Ways & Means*.

A brief break and a period of meditation was held. We discussed our personal homework around the DAMS and how to spread the word to the larger fellowship about this valuable piece of literature. Chris will do a logical breakdown of the DAMS into 12 parts which will be discussed during our monthly Conference call.

Committee Agenda/Projects for 2014-2015:

- Review and update the John H. Scholarship Letter and the annual Anniversary Appeals Letter.
- Contribute stories for the *Ways & Means* related to the 7th Tradition and Service.
- Develop an “Every Member, Every Month” campaign around money and service.
- Participate in the Debit Card Only-E-check roll out.
- Produce a worldwide Conference Call in April. The topic of Service-Sponsorship was discussed.
- Discussed the DAMS as a part of the RDC monthly Conference Call.
- Prepare a Committee Report for next year’s Conference.

The Serenity Prayer was recited, and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Janet S., Recording Secretary

Technology Committee (TECH)

The Committee elected the following to the offices of the Committee:

Chair: Robert M.
Vice Chair: Jean Camille B.
Secretary: Mary Lea S.
Treasurer: Clayton D.

Other Members: Matthew E., Ellen B., Naomi S., Arthur G., Tom W., and Pat B. (GSB Liaison)

Recommendations

1. Recommendation the Literature Publications Committee to make the *Currency of Hope*,

2. Second Edition, available for sale on the Debtors Anonymous website in PDF format.
2. Recommendation to the Conference Committee to cut the cost of the 2015 WSC binder by providing a paperless option.
3. Recommendation to the Conference Committee that the 2015 WSC include video conferencing to enable the six registered International Intergroups to participate.

Minutes – Thursday, August 7, 2014 and Friday, August 8, 2014

I. Introductions and interest in this committee

II. Brainstorming

Agenda items

- I. Tell them what we’re going to do next year
- II. What we choose to report out on what we did last year

Items from last year’s Tech conference

1. Website RFP – nothing to do.
2. eLiterature –
 - a. motion (binding) or recommendation (on record, no action) for proposal for eliterature.
 - b. timing is right to bring to the GSB now.
3. Usability Lab –
 - a. There will be a usability test when the new website is loaded to test.
4. Paperless conference
 - a. Online registration implemented
5. Video conferencing in support of 6 International Intergroups

Projects to consider for 2014-2015

1. Podcasts
2. Video conferencing – voted in
3. eLiterature – voted in
4. Paperless conference – voted in
5. D.A. app
6. Usability
7. Google Analytics
8. ecommerce
9. You Tube
10. Webinars

11. Website
12. IT support

One person needed to moderate the Fellowship Day.
Moderate timing, extra set of head phones. Chris A.
(Sedona, AZ) Clayton and Mary Lea

Members assigned to committees:

- Video conferencing – Jean Camille, Naomi
- eLiterature – Matthew, Clayton, Arthur, Bob.
- Paperless conference – Mary Lea, Ellen

Paperless Committee – Tom W., Ellen B, Mary Lea S.

Action item – Pat B.

- Send emails ongoing with updates on information to Tech Comm.
- Find out the contact info for the person and the committee that compiles the 3-ring binders.
- Find out the total cost to produce the binders
- Get the complete pdf file of the 2014 WSC 3-ring binder and email it to tomwink@me.com and mlsplanner12@yahoo.com

Committee research

- Cost of zip discs - committ
- In the future create an app
- Create Phase I, II and III in the final report
- Meet 1st Sun of every month at 4pm PST. Send conference call number.
- Mary Lea to send out contact information to Ellen and Tom, conference call #, and meeting date and time.
- Troubleshoot pdf issues. Figure out how to save pdf within an email to the ipad desktop
- Talk to webmaster of registration log in page to put in option for paperless option (let us know what device you're using)
- Contact on Host committee – Pat Butler (847-658-6581) and Jan J. to get pdf of 3-ring binder.

TECH COMMITTEE MOTION #1

Propose to make the Currency of Hope, Second Edition, available for sale on the Debtors Anonymous website in PDF format.

Supporting information -

We support offering eLiterature in PDF format as it is the most cost effective method available through the broadest number of mobile devices.

Our research identified that more people than not were interested in buying both PDF and paper copies of the Currency of Hope.

Literature in PDF format would facilitate distribution of the Currency of Hope to International groups, online meetings, and underserved meetings without access to literature.

The Committee is advising that the fellowship charge the full price for a PDF copy. The cost per copy of producing a PDF is considerably less than the cost of producing a paper copy.

TECH COMMITTEE MOTION #2

Move to cut the cost of the 2015 WSC binder by providing a paperless option.

Paperless Option

- Binder will be available in PDF format in the tech room for download on the Registration day.
- Traditional binders will be available for the delegates who opt not to go paperless.
- Each delegate decides when registering for the conference whether to go paperless or not.

TECH COMMITTEE MOTION #3

We move that the 2015 WSC include video conferencing to enable the six registered International Intergroups to participate.

Supporting Information -

In light of the request that has been submitted by the International Caucus (Tab 1, Page 11, Additional Ideas #3), we are proposing a solution to include Foreign participation at the 2015 WSC.

There are six Intergroups (Canada (2), Australia (1), England (1), France, and Spain (1)) known currently

outside of the U.S. Video conferencing would enable participation of International GSRs or ISRs at the 2015 World Service Conference.

In order to implement video conferencing the following costs and logistics are required:

1. AV cost - \$3,000 cost includes
 - a. 5 days of rental of the equipment
 - b. (1) large screen
 - c. (1) webcam
2. AV set-up - This AV set up was selected as it is the least expensive set-up for the technical requirements.
3. Funding: How do we pay for this?
 - a. Each delegate will pay the registration cost.
4. Logistics
 - a. (show a diagram of the General Session with the AV set-up)

Role of the Delegate

1. Must be a registered ISR

2. Assigned to a committee the first year
3. Participate in committee meetings at the WSC
4. Participate in monthly committee meetings
5. Pay a registration fee

Logistics

1. Six volunteers needed to carry each laptop from the General Session into the each of the assigned committee meeting rooms.
2. Laptops would be connected to SKYPE for the delegate to view the committee, and for the committee members to view the delegate.
3. A volunteer turns off the computer and stores it in the tech room. This room is locked for the night.
4. FCC committee is one option for securing volunteers in support of this transporting of laptops.

*** End of Section ***

CONFIDENTIAL

SECTION 9: WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE CAUCUS MINUTES

Diversity Caucus (DIV)

The Caucus elected the following to the offices of the Caucus:

Chair: Jill W.
Vice Chair: Michael G.
Secretary: Sara H.
Treasurer: Patricia S.

Other Members: Andrew D., Priscilla M., and Sue F.
(GSB Liaison)

August 6, 2014

Opened with Serenity Prayer
Read Service Manual
Members Introduced Selves
Read Statement of Purpose
Names and contact info of caucus members recorded

August 7, 2014

Andrew volunteered to be scribe.

Approved guidelines for phone agenda, which are as follows:

- Chair distributes agenda ahead of call.
- Everyone agrees to read previous meeting minutes, agenda for current meeting and any supporting documents before meeting.
- Let the chair lead the call.
- Start and end each meeting with the Serenity Prayer.
- Read aloud the committee's statement of purpose at the beginning of each call.
- Read the Third Tradition and the tradition of the month at the beginning of every call.
- Mute when not talking.
- State name before speaking.
- Don't repeat what's already been said.
- Chair is empowered to say "I'm ready to end discussion unless anyone has something to say that has not been said already."

No issues and concerns assigned to the caucus.

Caucus's report to Board from last year's WSC read, including recommendations.

Motion passed to continue to work on recommendations from last year.

Motion passed to ask Andrew to supply minutes from last year's caucus calls.

Agenda for coming year in order of priority:

1. Ask the Tech Committee about Google analytics - emphasis on phone meetings
2. Diversify composition of this caucus
3. Collect and publish stories of D.A. relevant to diversity and/or how underserved communities are now being served.
4. Discuss recommending a Diversity Committee or joining an existing committee (e.g., HIP or PI)
5. Mapping project.
6. Discuss how best to conduct outreach in underserved communities.
7. Support new meetings in areas of underrepresentation.

Adjourned

August 8, 2014

Present: Jill, Michael, Priscilla, Sara, Tom B, Sue

Meeting opened with Serenity Prayer.

Priscilla resigned as Secretary. Sara volunteered to serve in her place. It was moved, seconded and carried to accept Sara as secretary.

It was moved, seconded and carried to approve the August 6 minutes. It was moved, seconded and carried to approve the August 7 minutes as amended.

It was moved, seconded and carried to have the call on the first Sunday of each month at 5:00 p.m. EST. The first call is September 7, 2014.

Open items:

1. Call in number for monthly calls – to finalize before end of conference - Michael to talk to Andrew.
2. LitCom subcommittee to collect stories for the basic text and can collaborate with Diversity Caucus to get stories
3. Secretary to distribute committee roster.

It was moved, seconded and carried to adjourn at 5:45.

Intergroup Caucus (IG)

The Caucus elected the following to the offices of the Caucus:

Chair: Ellen B.
Vice Chair: Dayton L.
Secretary: Diana D.
Treasurer: Dan A.

Other Members: Jeannine W., Maureen F., Eileen N.
(GSB Liaison)

Recommendations

1. Recommend that the Intergroup Caucus introduce the position of Meeting Coordinator for each Intergroup to keep track of meetings, contacts and disbanded meetings. In addition, work with the GSO to remind groups to re-register their meetings annually.
2. Recommend adding an easier to find link/button to the Debtors Anonymous website for members who want to find an Intergroup.

The group opened with the serenity prayer. They then approved the procedures and guidelines as described on Page 3 Section 5 for our monthly phone calls.

Ellen agreed to be chair and we selected the rest of the officers. Dayton as Vice Chair, Diana as secretary, Dan A as Treasurer, and Maureen as Scribe.

Eileen N. our board liaison, let us know there is a flat fee of \$250 is allotted to this caucus and all committees now. No one will be asked to go to treasury training to keep continuity within the committee/caucuses.

Action Items we agreed to address during the year.

- Groups mentoring groups; intergroups mentoring intergroups – What is the contact process?
- Ways to assist intergroups to reach out to self-help clearing houses with information, phone numbers and websites.
- Updating the list of intergroups currently in existence (divide them up at our first phone call.) and obtain accurate information
- Seek out best practices for Intergroups;
- Revisit information published in D.A. Manual for Service regarding intergroups to make sure information is current/accurate.
- Make one suggestion for the 40th Anniversary of Debtors Anonymous

We agreed to meet on the 3rd Sunday of the month at 4 pm EST.

International Caucus (INTL)

The Caucus elected the following to the offices of the Caucus:

Chair: Kieran K.
Vice Chair: Helena K.
Secretary: Kaila Y.
Treasurer: Jeanne F.

Other members: Jean Camille B., (GSB Liaison)

The group met for the first time at 9:10-10:00PM on Wednesday, August 6th 2014.

Wednesday, August 6th:

The meeting was opened with the Serenity Prayer and reading of the Twelve Steps and the Twelve Traditions of Debtors Anonymous. The former GSB Liaison Alexandra BW let us know that George M would be our new GSB Liaison for this coming year. Members of the meeting then read the statement of purpose from the D.A. Manual for Service, page 76-77 followed by brief introductions of each member in attendance. Alexandra BW then referenced the Robert's Rules of Order booklet contained in the binder.

The first order of business was to elect a Chairman. Jeanne F. suggested Helena K. to be the Caucus chairman. Kieran K. stated that he would be interested in the position of Chairman. It was offered to both members that one of the two members could take the Vice Chair position. Helena K. said she would accept the Vice Chair position, Kieran K. was elected as Chairman. Jeanne F. then mentioned that she had previous experience as a Treasurer on other committees and became the new Treasurer and Kaila volunteered as the Recording Secretary. Kieran K. then took over conducting the meeting and Alexandra BW volunteered to be the Conference Scribe.

A roster was created and is included in the report. The group did not appoint an official time-keeper.

The Recommendations for the Previous Caucus was then read.

Thursday, August 7th:

Opened with the serenity prayer. Reviewed last meeting's notes which were then approved. Kieran K. then asked Sheffra to be time keeper and she agreed, Sheffra has stated that she is visiting. Discussion about the best time for a phone meeting considering all time zones. George then gives General Service Board call times for help referencing the best time for a phone call, perhaps Thursday would not be a good day for a meeting. Decided on setting the monthly meeting as the First Friday of the Month at 8:00AM PST, 11:00AM EST. Tom is observing the caucus. September 5th is the first date.

Discussion about etiquette and procedure. Helena K. suggested that she would prefer the notes in advance, a day or two ahead of time. Kieran K. has contacted the previous chair about getting the log-on information to the Yahoo group. Jeanne can be the administrator for the group.

George passes around the International Caucus Outreach Letter for the group's review. Kieran K has sent us a list of the current international meetings. Group reads the Intl Caucus Outreach Letter, Jeanne F. clarifies that the letter is already approved. Attachment of the registration form suggested by Helena K to be included. We are reaching out to the registered groups to reach out to the non registered groups. Jean Camille enters and gives a brief introduction

The literature and how many years it takes to get to a different country. Make it a priority. Caucus recommendations to support the intl intergroups, registering meetings that are not registered. Helena K suggested that the clergy might be a good place. Jeanne F. since we understand that a European intergroup may be forming in France around the International Conference that will take place in France next year, how can we support them, this could be a priority. Jean Camille brought up what was suggested 3 years ago. Try to make an online pdf for them to access there are many issues in Europe if they are allowed to copy it, etc. Sending literature and providing means for them to start a structure. Tom says that a big hurdle is shipping costs, others have had success with licensing literature to authorize printings overseas. Jean Camille says its only about 5 people. It might be difficult to authorize a pdf which can only be viewed by the purchaser.

Discussion of the language on the websites. Spain website, Jeanne mentions that it is a lot in Spanish. Kieran notes that there are only 6 international intergroups listed on the website. Suggests that each of the members takes one intergroup and does a report on what they find on the website so we can educate each other. Kaila Y UK, Phone Intergroup Kieran, Spain Jean Camille, New Zealand Skype Jeanne F., Sydney -- mailing address only-- Jeanne F. Jean Camille will check with the Canada intergroup delegates here at the convention.

Deciding which literature is the most important, how to start and form a meeting to get it going, print a flyer -- take it to the AA meetings, go where AA already has meetings. Jean Camille suggests that the DAMS would be a great resource as a pdf. Createspace -- sites like this where you can print books, one by one, on demand. Helena K. One step printing, kindle -- this wouldnt work because the affiliation is a problem. Jean Camille says that the best way is pdf because it is practically free. Tom says that in another fellowship the pdf is a huge issue because it can be so easily shared.

Reviewing the recommendations to the incoming caucus. Item 2: Consider using the fellowship wide conference call -- international conference call for the conference calls at a time that works for everyone. Recording it for sure. Last time, 3 people shared and there was then a question and answer. Jean Camille said it failed because it crashed. Get advice from others in the fellowship who are already successfully doing this. A committee is started for this including Jean

Camille, Jeanne F. and Helena K. . Read page 21 of the technology committee report

Friday August 8th 2014

Start with the serenity prayer. Motion to approve previous meeting notes

Kieran makes Motion to approve the letter to the Intl Fellowship that it be sent out with the inclusion of the group re-registration form.

It would be charged against our budget for the mailing of the letter.

Agenda #2

GSR was trying to get the Intergroup to have a Fellowship Wide Conference Call.

Agenda #3

Translation of literature - AA websites are independent websites for the translated versions. Suggest to the web/tech committee whether they have considered the intl audience. Helena will ask tech of another tech committee on how in Europe they implemented the smooth transition of different language sites. Tech says that they are focusing on the basics to get the site up and then add to it.

Agenda #4

Jean Camille asks to consider a Skype presence for GSRs outside of the US at the Portland WSC and they would pay a conference registration fee.

Helena suggests that in another group they have used Go to meetings is a way to use international groups, live stream

Helena will write a draft to the Spain Intergroup.

40th anniversary. Two suggestions

- 1) Help spread the word of the 40th anniversary internationally and also get suggestions from the intl groups for ideas on how to celebrate
- 2) Since intl intergroups are younger, brainstorm ways to gather stories for the 40th anniversaries and lessons learned

Helena makes a Motion to form an email list of the intl BDA groups and intergroups so that we can communicate with them and save money on postage. Motion passed.

*** End of Section ***

SECTION 10: RESPONSES TO 2013 WSC RECOMMENDATIONS

WSC Business Debtors Anonymous Committee

1. We recommend that conference-approved literature can be distributed and sold by electronic means.

Response: Thank you for your suggestion. Our long-term goal is to have our literature available in all formats. The Tech Committee is working with GSB InfoTech Committee on this issue.

2. We recommend that literature and service literature that is distributed at no cost be made available by electronic means. *Response: Service literature and discontinued pamphlets are available for download from our website.*

3. We recommend to the Board that it create a search and filter capability on the D.A. online meeting list to easily identify BDA meetings. *Response: see below*

4. We recommend to the Literature Committee that the concept of a BDA Step Study Guide be approved at the first stage of the literature approval process. *Response: At the 2007 WSC the concept of a Step Study Guide was approved. The guide is to include a section specific to BDA.*

WSC Conference Committee

1. The Conference Committee recommends adjusting the 2013 World Service Conference schedule to allow caucus meetings to be held from 2:15–3:15 p.m. on Thursday instead of 9:00–10:00 p.m. Thursday. This would adjust the committee meetings to 3:15–4:45 p.m. Thursday and 6:45–9:45 p.m. Thursday evening. *Response: Implemented for 2013 WSC*

WSC Diversity Caucus

1. We recommend to Literature Publications the creation of a D.A. pamphlet titled “Inclusiveness” to be printed as well as published in electronic form. This new pamphlet will focus on the 3rd Tradition of D.A., that the only requirement for membership is a desire to stop incurring unsecured debt. The pamphlet will

emphasize that all are welcome, that we all come together as debtors. *Response: All literature must first be approved by the Convocation. Since only the WSC Literature Committee can bring motions to the Convocation concerning any new literature, we recommend bringing this idea to the 2013–2014 WSC Literature Committee at conference.*

WSC Fellowship Communication Committee

1. Recommend that all WSC and GSB committee reports be included in the Conference binder. *Response: Implemented for 2013 WSC*

2. Recommend the GSO distribute the Treasurer’s Manual to newly registered and existing groups. *Response: Thank you for your recommendation. GSB Office Committee discussed it and has brought a motion to the GSB to include a Debtors Anonymous Manual for Service (DAMS) in newly registered groups’ packets. The DAMS not only includes the Treasures Manual, but additional information on group officers, business meetings, etc. We are continuing to discuss sending the Treasurer Manual to existing groups. (Motion failed)*

WSC Hospitals, Institutions, and Prisons Committee

1. We recommend that every intergroup have a HIP service position. *Response: As stated in Tradition Four, “Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or D.A. as a whole.” This applies to Intergroups as well. The World Service Conference (WSC) Hospitals, Institutions and Prisons Committee (HIP) may want to spread the word regarding this recommendation directly to the Fellowship.*

Some suggestions on how this might be accomplished could include:

- *So as not to duplicate efforts, work in cooperation with the WSC Public Information Committee (PI) to develop a clear description of what a HIP position might entail,*

and how this would be different from or an enhancement to a Public Information Representative.

- *Submit WSC HIP reports for publication in the D.A. Focus, to include this recommendation and detail suggested HIP activities that can be taken up at the Intergroup level.*
 - *Gather and submit HIP Intergroup activity stories for publication in Ways & Means.*
 - *Use WSC HIP committee funds to mail a letter to all Intergroups regarding the suggestion, along with the suggested activities of an Intergroup HIP Committee.*
2. We recommend that *Ways & Means* create a HIP special issue. *Response: Com Com welcomes submissions from all our members. We will issue a call for stories in an upcoming Ways & Means*
 3. We recommend that D.A. members contact HIP Committee with their stories. *Response: It is suggested that the WSC HIP Committee address the Fellowship directly regarding this request. This request could be disseminated to the Fellowship through the D.A. Focus, or with a direct mailing to all groups, coordinated through the General Service Board Public Information Committee and General Service Office.*
 4. We recommend that a handbook be created for HIP. *Response: Some HIP material is being added to the Public Information Handbook currently under revision. Enhancement of the PI handbook to include HIP material may fulfill this recommendation, without duplicating efforts. It might be suggested that the WSC HIP committee review the new PI Manual (when available) for appropriate places to add HIP specific material. If HIP believes a separate handbook is still warranted, the WSC HIP may wish to submit a Motion in this regard at the next WSC.*
 5. We recommend that the D.A. website include a list of HIP meetings and a separate search tool to find them. *Response: see below*



WSC Intergroup Caucus

1. We recommend that the Tech Committee create a website template for use by Intergroups. *Response: There is a website template in development for use by Intergroups. This project is in the hands of the WSC Technology Committee.*
2. We recommend that the GSB facilitate the connection of D.A. groups in underserved areas with new or existing Intergroups. *Response: The Group Sponsorship program is open to all groups. Information can be found by sending an email to gsponsorship@gmail.com.*

WSC Internal Operations Committee

1. We recommend that the board hire a half-time employee to work in the GSO to meet the growing needs of D.A.. *Response: Thanks you for your recommendation. The funds for a part-time employee have been approved by the GSB. The Office Committee has weighed the pros and cons of hiring an employee on our own or using a Temp Agency. It was decided that the latter would work best.*
2. We recommend that a functional database with retrievable fields be set up for the registration of groups by a qualified professional by the end of this 2012–13 conference year. *Response: See below*

WSC Literature Committee

1. Recommend that all new pamphlets and revisions of pamphlets include a statement of D.A.'s primary purpose. *Response: The GSB Literature Publications Committee will continue to work with WSC Literature Committee to make sure our literature reflects our primary purpose. Currently, since we have lost the use of our preamble, we cannot include this in any literature. Once the Fellowship creates our own preamble, Literature Publications will recommend it be included in every piece that we print.*
2. Recommends that the GSB issue a call for stories from members of the Fellowship with diverse world, cultural, economic and educational backgrounds, and

that meet the requirements suggested for the Recovery Stories on debtorsanonymous.org, which will be considered for inclusion on the website or in publications such as the as yet untitled D.A. basic text. *Response: A Call for Diverse Stories eNews was sent out on March 27, 2013.*

WSC Public Information Committee

1. Recommend that the International Caucus inform international groups of the process of applying to the John H. Fund for funding trips to the 2013 WSC and future conferences.
2. Recommend that the International Caucus inform international groups of the group sponsorship program.

Response: International Committee did not implement these two recommendations, because all registered groups have access to this information, through the D.A. Focus, the eNews, and mailings. The newly established International Committee elected to prioritize organizing translations and, with the International Caucus, continuing the study of possible structures for D.A. outside the US and Canada.

GSB Information Technology

Recommendations from above:

We recommend to the Board that it create a search and filter capability on the D.A. online meeting list to easily identify BDA meetings.

We recommend that the D.A. website include a list of HIP meetings and a separate search tool to find them

We recommend that a functional database with retrievable fields be set up for the registration of groups by a qualified professional by the end of this 2012–13 conference year.

Response: DAGSB Information Technology Committee [GSB-ITC] is pleased to report that all these recommendations from the convocation last year are being addressed right now by the WSC Technology Committee [WSC-TC]. WSC-TC developed a work plan

for the year, divided tasks into subcommittees and “took the bit in their teeth.”

A new website is being developed and tested by WSC-TC. The group database used by GSO is being remodeled, made more functional, and will have more searchable fields. Consequently, the group registration form will change to include all of the newly requested search fields. GSB-ITC is impressed by the hard work of the WSC Technology Committee, which includes several IT professionals as members. The chair has provided able leadership this year and has moved several projects along with measurable results. Without committing to time deadlines which might disappoint D.A. members should they not be met exactly, GSB-ITC is confident that the coming year will see many improvements to the website and group database, making it more functional to the GSO and more user-friendly to the membership of D.A.

*** End of Section ***

SECTION 11: GSB, COMMITTEE, and CAUCUS ROSTERS

(This information is provided for the use of Conference delegates. Please respect our anonymity. Under NO CIRCUMSTANCES should this list be used for solicitation or advertisement of goods and services.)

General Service Board

Class A Trustees

Alexandra B.-W
Allen A (rotating '14)
Allen T
Bill J
Eileen N
Lawanda C
Maureen C
Michael A

Class B Trustees

George M
Jeff Y
Joan R
Sue F
Pat B

BDA Committee

Amy S
Bill B
Bill J*
Candace H
Connie N
Dan A
Eric M
Helena K
Jackie D
Jerome S
Juan A
JuliaAnne G
Kate T
Pat T

Shelley T
Steve K**
Susan H

Conference Committee

Alexandra B-W*
Alice K
Carol Ann P
Carolyn L
Dayton L
Don C**
Kaila Y
Marietta M
Michael G
Peg M
Priscilla M
Steve S
Tracy F
Sheffra W

Fellowship Communications

Carolyn A
Diana D
Jeff Y*
Kathryn G
Lolly A
Mary Ellen H
Susan B**
Tammy F

Hospitals, Institutions, and Prisons Committee

Andrew D
Bev S
Doug P**
Kellie L
Marianne G
Michael A*
Rona Z

Internal Operations Committee

none

Literature Committee

Allen T*
Bill D
Gisela S
Jeanne F
Kathryn B
Krzysztof K
Marilyn Sue W
Sharon S
Suzanne M
Tom B
Tom K**

Public Information Committee

Bevin D
Carol A
Chris A

Diane C
Ellen S
Esmerelda K
Jerry B
Jill W
Lawanda C*
Maureen F
Patricia S
Patrick C
Ron T
Siobhan K**

Resource Development Committee

Chris S**
Janet S
Jeannine W
Kieran K
Molly L
Maureen C*
Sara H

Technology Committee

Arthur G
Clayton D
Ellen B
Jean Camille B
Mary Lea S
Matthew E
Naomi S
Patricia B*
Robert M**
Tom W

Diversity Caucus

Andrew D
Jill W**
Michael G
Patricia S
Priscilla M
Sara H
Sue F*

Intergroup Caucus

Dan A
Dayton L
Diana D
Eileen N*
Ellen B**
Jeannine W
Maureen F

International Caucus

George M*
Helena K
Jean Camille B
Jeanne F
Kaila Y
Kieran K**
Tom B

* GSB Liaison
** Chairperson