

THE

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focus

The Quarterly World Service Newsletter for the Fellowship of Debtors Anonymous

Sept 2014 Post WSC

Recap of the 2014 World Service Conference on Oct 12, 2014 at 5 pm ET, 2 pm PT UTC -4 hours

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The 2014 World Service Conference

On Wednesday evening, August 6th, ninety-six (96) delegates to the 2014 Debtors Anonymous World Service Conference convened in the ballroom of the Skokie Holiday Inn and Conference Center. The 2013-14 WSC committees and caucuses were afforded an opportunity that evening to present their end of year reports to the delegates, along with recommendations to the 2014-15 committees. The General Service Board reported to the GSRs and ISRs on Thursday morning before committees broke out in separate sessions.

This year's Conference opened in celebration as the second edition of *A Currency of Hope* has been published and was available for sale during the week. The Host Committee's many volunteers worked tirelessly to support the Conference members from early in the morning (the first Conscious Contact sessions) until late at night (when the Tech and Hospitality Rooms closed). With the passing of the gavel from the Chicago host committee to the Portland, OR host, Michael M., rotating GSB chair Allen A. closed the convocation and the 2014 WSC at 10:45 am, Sunday morning.

This special issue of the *D.A. Focus* is an effort to get the important actions and information from this year's WSC into the hands of the fellowship as soon as possible. The complete *Final Report of the 2014 World Service Conference* will be published later this year.

Summary of 2014 WSC Motions Passed

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

1. Motion 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. Motion that Sacramento, CA, USA be the conference site for the 2016 World Service Conference. The motion passed with substantial unanimity.

GENERAL SERVICE BOARD

3. Motion to accept the 2014 WSC Convocation Agenda. Motion passed unanimously.
4. Motion to accept the 2013 World Service Conference Minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously.
5. Motion 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. Motion to ratify new General Service Board Class B Trustee George M. The motion passed unanimously.
7. Motion to renew General Service Board Class A Trustee Allen T. and General Service Board Class B Trustee Pat B. for another three-year term. The motions passed unanimously.

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World Service Conference Summary

LITERATURE COMMITTEE

8. Motion 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.
9. Motion 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

10. Motion that the WSC PI Committee's revised Statement of Purpose be adopted. The motion passed unanimously.

Summary of Recommendations

(Listed alphabetically, by committee, then by caucus)

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 the 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, 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.

The General Service Board (GSB) has received notice from our Office Manager, Howard S., that he will be retiring from the General Service Office (GSO) on September 26, 2014. Howard has worked for the Fellowship for thirteen years and we are saddened at the news of his departure.

The GSB is currently working with Howard on a transition plan to ensure that the GSO continues to provide the needed services for the Fellowship. The Board wishes Howard well in his future endeavors.