



# World Service Conference Report

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June 1992

## WSC CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Conference "week" was definitely different this year! The nine days in Dallas, Texas marked the second year of what appears to be a transition to a new way of doing business at the World Service Conference. Our format was generally successful in providing more opportunity for conference participants to focus on both discussion issues and business items.

The fellowship in Dallas was most gracious and helpful to everyone during the annual meeting. Volunteers gave freely of themselves by helping us get to meetings, find restaurants and other services, and by sharing their time. They really made a difference and I feel that I can safely speak for the entire conference in sending a heartfelt "thank you" to all of them. I also want to thank WSO staff for their dedication and performance under difficult circumstances. We were all in a new environment while the LA chaos was unfolding. Actually, lots of life happened for everyone while away in Dallas. My hope is that WSC '93 can be at least one day shorter.

All conference participants will receive the draft 1992 WSC minutes as soon as they are finished and verified. The draft minutes and conference tapes can also be bought from WSO at that time. Contact WSO or your RSR for more information.

Approximately forty-eight main motions were passed. Another thirty-two motions were committed to boards and committees, to be studied, worked on, and reported on during the year. Four motions were committed to the WSC Administrative Committee.

- 1) "That the WSC Admin. Committee complete work on the Treasurer's Handbook as was stated at WSC 1990."
- 2) "That the WSC adopt guidelines stating that the members of the WSC Administrative Committee have one (1) vote collectively at the WSC expressed through their chairperson or, in the absence thereof, their vice chairpersons. All other conference participation privileges will continue to be granted."
- 3) "That the WSC direct the WSO to add the three paragraphs that follow the traditions in our Basic Text, (That are on pg. 58 of the Fifth Edition) to the traditions group reading card." (This motion to be placed in the 1993 *Conference Agenda Report*.)
- 4) "That the World Service Conference meets once every two years rather than annually." We will report on the status of these motions in future issues of the *Conference Report*.

The following pages contain pertinent information from each WSC board and committee chair. In this report, I would like to share my perspective on WSC '92.

The two regions with letters of intent in the CAR, Northern New England and North East Atlantic, and nine MDF participants (Brazil, Colombia, France, India, Le Nordet, Peru, Portugal, Spain, and Argentina) requested voting participation status. The conference accepted them all with overwhelming enthusiasm. These eleven new WSC

participants brought the total number of participants in attendance to ninety-six. Of these, seventy-seven were regions. The total number of seated WSC participants eligible to vote this year was ninety-nine.

The new RSRs spoke, with moving sincerity, of their region's spiritual need to be part of the whole, and of their own fellowship's capability to decide when the region was ready to do so. Later in the week, the 1992 CAR proposal for a regional seating procedure passed.

Two other conference postures were apparent throughout the week: RSRs want a mechanism to provide more involvement in world services; more outreach services from areas and regions can help carry our message. Twenty-seven RSRs volunteered to be on working groups. The WSC Administrative Committee will be discussing whether or not to form RSR working groups this year, and if so, how to provide assistance to them. An Outreach Ad Hoc Committee was formed by conference motion, with the following purpose:

"The WSC Outreach Ad Hoc Committee acts as a resource to outreach subcommittees in their efforts to develop and sustain NA groups and to encourage their involvement in NA service. WSC Outreach Ad Hoc Committee designs simplified summaries of existing service materials and provides guidance for NA communities to develop and help themselves. WSC Outreach works closely with the World Service Office to assist in the formation of new Outreach subcommittees. WSC Outreach tasks include:

- A. To gather information on outreach efforts in NA and pass along this information to areas and regions requesting it.
- B. To register area and region outreach subcommittees, providing a network for outreach communication.
- C. To develop and maintain an outreach handbook.
- D. To coordinate outreach subcommittees in their efforts to help NA communities develop."

Elections and the WSC budget seemed to me to be the two problem areas. I have witnessed and been part of these all-important conference sessions for seven years. We have continued to attempt to make them better and have made some improvements. Nevertheless, we have a long way to go. Election procedures definitely need to be improved upon and standardized so conference participants and nominees can know exactly what to expect during the elections process. I have asked the WSC Policy Committee to work on this. In addition, I have asked the WSB Internal Affairs Committee to look at the possibility of creating a WSC nominating committee because I remain convinced that the WSC must find a way to identify in advance the most qualified people available to fill the positions.

I believe that these two measures are a beginning, and I will encourage WSC committee and board leadership to assist wherever possible.

The spending priority lists (fixed and discretionary) were distributed, marked, and tallied in a continuation of last year's budget process. The goal was to obtain more direction from conference participants for the administration of WSC's budget. One problem seemed to be that some of the listed items ranked by participants were not specific enough to give clear direction. Consequently, some confusion arose. The Interim Committee report will elaborate on some of the difficulties with interpreting the lists, but I want to discuss one item here.

While two WSC workshops appeared on the Fixed Expenses List, I also heard strong sentiment that many of the discretionary items were very important to participants. For example: outreach, world service attendance at RSR or multiregional forums, and *Conference Agenda Report* workshops. My belief is that all the committee projects could get done with one WSC workshop, thereby allowing world services to fund many of the other items, and I have therefore recommended no workshop during the first quarter. This will leave the option of having two workshops during the remaining part of the conference year or simply going with one. Your comments, and more information as the year progresses, will allow all of us to make a decision in the coming months.

As chairperson this year, I intend to continue to chair the Ad Hoc NA Service Committee to completion of its work at the end of the year. I believe that frequent change in leadership of the committee in the past has hampered its work. The committee has discussed this on several occasions, including our most recent meeting, held on May 29th, and supports my decision. I will also be serving as a member of the Interim Committee, and working closely with the WSB and the WSC Policy Committee as liaison from the WSC Administrative Committee.

Your thoughts and comments on anything in this report are invited and welcome. Please send them to me by phone, mail, or FAX through the WSO.

My goal for the year is the same as it has been for the last seven years, to uphold the faith and trust placed in me by the fellowship that saved my life. Thank you for giving me this opportunity.

*Dave Tynes, Chairperson*

#### **WSC SECOND VICE CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

Hi everybody. I'm baaaack. I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to serve the World Service Conference for another year. This year's conference was better in many ways, but there is still room for improvement. The panel presentations were an excellent way to discuss issues without getting caught up in parliamentary procedure. However, there seemed to be too many issues to allow all of them to evolve and develop to resolution. The success of the Multinational Development Forum is an example of using small groups to develop ideas and then allowing larger groups the time to fully discuss

them. Other issues did not get enough discussion time after the work was done by RSR working groups. Further discussions and understanding of these resolutions would have enhanced our ability to make decisions.

I believe the conference spoke clearly that RSR involvement is important, not only at the conference but also during the year. I am confident the work being done by the WSC Administrative Committee, the WSC Ad Hoc Committee on NA Service, the World Service Board of Trustees Internal Affairs Committee, and the WSC Policy Committee will lead us in this direction.

As far as the election procedure goes, there seem to be some adjustments necessary. The elections were a very difficult time for me personally. I know others had similar experiences. I am hopeful that the work of the WSC Administrative Committee, the World Service Board of Trustees Internal Affairs Committee, and the WSC Policy Committee will help resolve this situation.

Dave T., (WSC Chairperson) has assigned me to work as the liaison to the WS Translation Committee, the WSC Literature Committee, and the WSC PI Committee. Also, it has been decided that I will participate in the Interim Committee as a nonvoting member and fill in for Dave if he is unavailable at any time. I am looking forward to these assignments as this conference year begins. As in years past, I am very grateful for this opportunity to serve NA.

*Mitchell Soodak, Second Vice Chairperson*

### **WSC TREASURER'S REPORT**

Thank you for the confidence you have shown me in electing me your treasurer. It is a privilege to serve.

The 1992 projected budget as given at the conference is \$296,000.00, a modest increase of approximately 7.5% over the 1991-1992 conference year. The reason Tom and I set the projected budget conservatively is because we believe the publishing of Just For Today and subsequent purchases by the fellowship will slightly impact donations in the second quarter. The Interim Committee will use the "A" and "B" priority lists completed and prioritized by participants at the conference and will fund projects according to your rankings. One area of priority concern to be considered is the ranking of the Interim Committee as eighth on the discretionary "B" list after dissolving the JAC. If there are questions about your intent, or if the intent seems unclear to the committee, your continued input may be needed.

The hiring of Bob McD. as the staff accountant at the WSO will greatly assist me in my duties. We have spent time together since the conference and we will begin a change of accounting procedures by computerizing the entire WSC system, a task which we anticipate to be completed by June 1, 1992, in time for the new accounting

year to begin. We are switching accounting procedures to more efficiently facilitate expenditure tracking throughout the committee system, giving the availability to report:

Total project expense both to the conference and the WSO including:

1. Travel;
2. Expense allowance;
3. Administrative expense such as copying, telephone, equipment maintenance, and staff allocation;
4. An accounts receivable notation for pre-paid or over-paid expenses; and
5. Institution of a purchase order system for use with all allocations to more accurately project approved expenses.

This new system will hopefully free my time to help address potential solutions to concerns you discussed with me at the conference. The problems you stressed were:

1. Facilitation of better cooperation between RSCs and their RSOs;
2. Assistance in defining appropriate prudent reserves and earmarked funds;
3. Loss of funds through theft or misappropriation;
4. Development of new or sharing of successful systems for the handling of funds at the group, area, and regional levels; and
5. The urgent need for the completion of a new Treasurer's Handbook.

I look forward to serving you throughout the next year. If I can be of assistance in any way or should there be any questions, feel free to contact me.

*Ron Sheppeard, WSC Treasurer*

### **INTERIM COMMITTEE REPORT**

The Interim Committee held its first meeting by conference call on May 7th. Our first order of business was to set some ground rules for operating. By consensus, we agreed to the following procedures:

- \* Becky M., WSB Chairperson, shall serve as the rotating chairperson for the first quarter.
- \* For all Interim Committee decisions, we shall strive for agreement between four of the five voting members. However, when necessary, three voting members in agreement will suffice, provided that each arm of world services is represented among the three.

- \* The WSC Second Vice Chairperson will be permitted to vote only in the absence of the WSC Chairperson.
- \* A weekly administrative call, consisting of the chairpersons of the three world service arms, will be conducted each Monday. Any decision made by the three chairpersons, as the Interim Committee, will be reported to the other members as soon as possible. The full Interim Committee will meet the last Thursday of each month by conference call.
- \* To continue to include WSO and WCC boards and staff travel approval under the Interim Committee.

Subsequently, we began discussions on the budget and the priority lists submitted by the WSC.

### WSC PRIORITIES

Interpreting the priority lists submitted by the conference has caused a great deal of uncertainty and confusion among the members of the Interim Committee. Perhaps the most confusing are those items the WSC actually made two decisions about; once during a committee/board business session and again in the budget priority session. Certain items required 2/3 approval of the WSC and received that during the committee/board business session, and then during the budget priority session was ranked very low on the list. These included actions such as the dissolution of the JAC and subsequent approval of WSB guidelines and dual membership, which then became items #14 (Exchange between boards and committees), #22 (Chairs and vice chairs to WSB mtgs), #25 (Additional exchange), and #26 (Dual membership WSB/BOD) on the discretionary list. For our purposes, all of those items have been considered under item #14. How do you interpret those decisions to get a sense of the conference's direction?

Adding to our uncertainty are the items that appeared on the fixed list last year and the discretionary list this year, such as conference committee newsletters (*Reaching Out*, *PI News*, and *NA Update*), non-NA events, and the steps and traditions projects. If, for instance, we were to take a strict approach to interpreting the lists, based on projected income for the year, we could commit to funding only the fixed list items and through item #6 on the discretionary list. This would prevent us from funding things like the Interim Committee meetings, the H&I stockpile of literature, attendance at agenda report workshops, committee newsletters, any attendance at each other's meetings, and the World Service Translations' Committee's Chairperson's attendance at WSC '93, etc. Did all the participants realize the possibility that these year-in-and-year-out activities could be eliminated? Was it the attached monetary values that influenced the WSC decisions on the budget? Would it be appropriate to fund something on the discretionary list by cutting down something on the fixed list? These are the types of questions that the Interim Committee must try and resolve.



Implementing the conference budget has never been easy because of the nature of our fund flow. Predicting WSC revenue is always a challenge from one year to the next. Now we have added to it a much more complicated than necessary priority ranking system, which we are already planning to revise for next year.

Our decisions for the first quarter were based on anticipating revenue of \$74,000, and a reserve of \$51,000, from last year. Since the first quarter is usually the busiest, we decided not to have a WSC workshop and put the money for that activity to use on more projects from the discretionary list. Each quarter, the WSC treasury will show an expense for funding WSC '93, and an expense for the WSC Development Forum. This money will go into a reserve created for those two categories. The following items have been approved for funding:

**Fixed:**

- WSC '93
- Conference Report/Digest & Translation*
- WSC '92 Minutes mailing
- Administrative Expenses
- WSB Meetings (June & August)

**Discretionary:**

- August Steps Meeting
- Traditions Meeting
- WSCLC Meeting (August)
- World Service Translations Comm. Meeting
- ECC Travel (July)
- Additional Needs Non-NA Event
- WSC Ad Hoc NAS Meetings (May & July)
- Interim Committee Meeting
- World Service Translation Comm. travel to ECC
- H&I literature stockpile
- PI Video Group Mtg. (June)
- WSC Committee Newsletters
- Additional Attendance at WSB meeting (June)
- Additional Attendance at WSO meeting (June)
- WSO/RSO workshop Orlando (August)

In addition, several conference calls were also approved for funding; these include: the WSC Administrative Committee, the WSB Steering Committee, the WS Translation Committee, and the NJ PI Survey.

Total first quarter anticipated expense: \$119,000.

Many other requests that we received to attend fellowship activities in the first quarter were denied, because the nature of the event was either not clear or did not fit the criteria for approval. During our second conference call, we established the following criteria, so everyone will know, beforehand, how we evaluate those types of requests:

- \* A written request containing all relevant information about the event is required so the request can be reviewed fairly.
- \* All requests will be evaluated in terms of priority, necessity, productivity, committee/board workplan, and any other factors relevant to the proposal. Requests that also include an offer to share funding the request will be considered differently.
- \* A high degree of accountability will be stressed as each request is reviewed and evaluated. Workshops at conventions will not be considered since they are usually limited to a few hours.
- \* It is desirable to send two people per event when reasonable.
- \* Regional problems and other circumstances will be taken into account.
- \* All requests for the second quarter (Sept.-Nov.) must be received by August 1.
- \* All requests for the third quarter (Dec.-Feb.) must be received by November 1.
- \* All requests for the fourth quarter (March-May.) must be received by February 1.
- \* All criteria is to be used as a guide only, to maintain flexibility to evaluate each request on its own merit.

The WSC Interim Committee will meet on Friday, June 19, 1992. At that time, we will plan a schedule for the year, review our criteria concerning requests, and discuss methods to communicate our decisions.

We have also assigned members to review and suggest modifications to the WSC Reimbursement Policy, WS Travel Policy and WS Budget Review and Utilization Policy. If any other WSC participant has input on these last two items, please send it to the office by August 1, 1992.

The majority of the members on this year's Interim Committee did not serve on last year's committee. With that in mind, you can understand why it has taken a while to actually get into gear. We would very much appreciate your help and assistance, especially about your understanding of the WSC priority list. If the confusion we have already experienced is any indication of the whole year, we will undoubtedly have to make some judgement calls based on our perception of WSC action. What makes it all seem a little easier is that we have the ability to change courses from quarter to quarter. And that makes your input that much more important.

*Becky Meyer, WSB Chairperson*



**TRANSLATION COMMITTEE REPORT**

In this report, I will do my best to condense the series of events at the WSC that had an impact in the area of translations. Our biggest boost of support during the conference came when the WSC gave translation efforts top priority, both financially and emotionally. The other event, involving all the conference participants, was the conference passing the motion we submitted with a friendly amendment that is noted in italics. It now reads as: "To approve the implementation of the 'World Services Translation Committee and Policy' for an additional year; and to direct the Translation Committee to bring its recommendations concerning both its status and its guidelines to WSC '93, taking into consideration all the input received from local translation committees."

In the spirit of Narcotics Anonymous, the World Services Translation Committee held two scheduled meetings for all the international participants. It was invaluable to the committee to meet the many international participants. This personal contact gave us the opportunity to hear, first hand, about local translation efforts and to learn how we could begin to meet their needs. Not only did we gain information, but we also experienced a certain NA exoticism of service via language, culture, and customs. The best part was hearing and learning that it works irrespective of any differences we may have.

Additionally, the translation committee had small meetings with several regions concerning their specific questions and issues concerning translations. In our meeting with the representatives from the Spanish-speaking South American regions, Colombia, Peru, and Argentina, we discussed ways to coordinate their efforts, and how they could use their shared experiences to meet their individual needs. Although the Brazilians are not Spanish-speaking, they attended this meeting as well. During this and other meetings with the representatives from Israel, South America, France, Canada, and the German Speaking region, we as a committee began to envision our direction for the 1992-1993 conference year.

One of the greatest challenges that many local translation committees have had to face is translation of our comprehensive service materials. True to form, with promptness, the WSC H&I Committee presented an abbreviated version of their handbook. The WSC Literature Committee responded with guidelines for use in writing personal stories for the basic text, and the WSC PI Committee already had plans to select appropriate portions of their handbook for translations as well. We thank you for your receptiveness and understanding.

Now that WSC '92 has come and gone, it's back to the translation drawing board. Having the opportunity to meet in the flexible manner that we did virtually established our agenda for the year. Our endeavors this year will be to maintain our focus on the work at hand and we invite all our translation committees to strive with us to meet our goals. We are scheduled for three meetings and look forward to a productive and exciting year.

Certainly, we hope for the continued collaborative and cooperative relationships that have been established with local translation committees.

Setting priorities, policy and financial matters, and determining the committee's future status are the main categories of our work for this work year. A small working group of the committee was given the task of gathering input and making recommendations for revisions to the translation policy. We invite input from local translation committees worldwide regarding our translation policy. For more information, please contact the World Service Office.

On behalf of the committee, I want to thank you for your patience and goodwill.

*Vivianne Ronneman, Chairperson*

<b>WSC HOSPITALS &amp; INSTITUTIONS COMMITTEE</b>
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Yo' Family,

This report comes to you somewhat after, and fresh from, WSC '92 held in Dallas, Texas. The WSC H&I Committee was hard at work all week and completed many of the tasks assigned for last year. However, due to financial constraints and limited meetings, some work was carried into the coming conference year. Not a problem, it will be done. The WSC H&I Committee is replenished, pumped, and ready to go.

I have been able to maintain my position as chairperson even though I got a rough start last year. I thank the committee and the conference for their continued support and I am willing to do whatever is necessary to complete the tasks that were begun last year, as well as new assignments for the coming year. Tim Sciore was elected vice chair of WSC H&I. I feel confident that he and I will work well together in serving the NA Fellowship.

One of the major requests put to the WSC H&I ad hoc subcommittees at this year's conference was to complete goals and objectives, along with activities and time lines, by the end of the conference week. This was done and accepted by the committee as a whole. (For more information as to objectives, activities, and time lines, please request such from the WSO H&I Project Coordinator). The following is a list of our subcommittees including each one's goals.

- \* WSC H&I Committee Goal: To carry the message of recovery to addicts who do not have full access to regularly scheduled NA meetings.
- \* Handbook/Guidelines Ad Hoc Subcommittee: To improve the Hospitals & Institutions Handbook and internal guidelines to meet the needs of the fellowship worldwide.

- \* **H&I Service Materials and Review Ad Hoc Subcommittee:** To review, initiate, and assist in the production of all literature and audio/video tapes which are connected to H&I efforts. To review and input assignments by other WSC H&I ad hoc subcommittees as second opinion.
- \* **External/Internal Ad Hoc Subcommittee:** To further our primary purpose by establishing all necessary contacts with nonaddict professionals through working with the WSB External Affairs Committee, the WSC PI Committee, and any other arm of our service structure the WSC H&I Committee directs us to work with.
- \* **Outreach Ad Hoc Subcommittee:** To ascertain the needs, establish procedures, and create the avenues by which isolated groups and addicts in correctional settings will be afforded all the aspects of recovery available to addicts in Narcotics Anonymous.
- \* **International Ad Hoc Subcommittee:** To further our primary purpose worldwide by improving H&I services available in countries outside the US wherever and whenever possible.

We know that some of these goals are long-range. We have established many short- and mid-range objectives to assist us in working together within our committee and other conference committees to begin the approach of reaching these goals in a compatible and appropriate manner.

There have been a few other issues brought to the committee's attention over the past year that we are presently addressing. When we have a clear understanding and consensus on these issues, we will present them to the fellowship with the full support of the committee.

We have continued to form our ad hoc subcommittees with committee members in proximate geographic locations so they may have the opportunity to meet more than once a year in order to increase the chances of completing their objectives in the allotted time frames.

I would like to share two incidents that happened during the conference week in Dallas. On Sunday evening, the WSC H&I Committee held an international open forum during which a lot was revealed. It became apparent that many countries are going through similar difficulties that many of the US regions and areas went through in the beginning of their H&I efforts. If we

#### **REACHING OUT Subscriptions**

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*Reaching Out* is a recovery-oriented newsletter made available by the WSC H&I Committee. It contains letters written by NA members who are either in hospitals and institutions or involved in H&I service. The newsletter is now available by subscription @ \$28.00 per year for 20 copies mailed each quarter.

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could simplify our *Hospitals and Institutions Handbook* to the bare basics, it could act as a starting point for emerging and new H&I subcommittees within international NA communities. The WSC H&I International Ad Hoc Subcommittee took on that assignment and, by the end of the week, had a four-page document approved by the committee and turned over to the WS Translation Committee to be translated and distributed upon completion of translation.

It became apparent there's a need for translation of "sunshine letters" from professionals. Those letters are typically a letter of recommendation from institutions and hospitals we have worked with. We are attempting to gather updated letters from resources worldwide. Any assistance from the fellowship would be greatly appreciated. If you have in your possession, or access to, any "sunshine letters," please forward them to the WSO H&I Project Coordinator in care of the World Service Office.

In Dallas, on Thursday nights, an H&I meeting is conducted in a county jail alternative treatment facility. This facility houses approximately 200 addicts, male and female. The committee thought it would be a good idea, rather than try to explain to our international family how to do a panel presentation, to take them to one and show them. Thanks to the cooperation of H&I members in the Dallas area, we believe that we presented the largest H&I panel ever. There were twenty-two members who shared that night. Collectively, those members had over 150 years clean in Narcotics Anonymous. We represented eighteen cities, eight states, six countries, and four continents. The countries represented were: Canada, Argentina, New Zealand, Australia, and the United States. There was a Spanish-speaking interpreter present. Everyone, the residents, staff, and all of us got off big-time on this event. We now know for sure there are no boundaries that the unconditional love we generate can't penetrate. Everyone stayed clean at least one day on that one.

It's times like that which let me know this program is working and I am proud and privileged to be a part of Narcotics Anonymous.

*Ivan Faske, Chairperson*

<b>WSC LITERATURE COMMITTEE</b>
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The 1992 World Service Conference should go down in the NA annals as one of our best. I would like to commend last year's Administrative Committee for providing a structure that allowed for both freedom of expression and for getting down to business. By presenting information in a written form, then addressing issues and questions from the floor during the panels, an atmosphere of more open and complete communication emerged.

## LITERATURE BUSINESS

All three literature committee motions were passed by the conference. We now have the booklet *In Times of Illness* and the book *Just for Today: Daily Meditations for Recovering Addicts* as approved Narcotics Anonymous literature. Our "A" work list, which establishes the priority projects for the WSCLC next year, was also approved. We plan to complete the approval-form of the steps portion of *It Works: How and Why* and work on the review-form of the Step Writing Guides.

Other literature-related motions that the conference passed follow:

- 1) The addition of "Recovery and Relapse" (IP #6) in the next printing of the Introductory Guide to Narcotics Anonymous.
- 2) The motion that "The conference shall not vote on any proposals to change already approved NA recovery literature unless those proposals have appeared in the *Conference Agenda Report*."
- 3) The confirmation that contract writers who are NA members and who work within our literature development process may draft and edit NA literature.

The following motions were committed to us:

- 1) Consideration of an IP proposal "Seniors in Recovery" in large print.
- 2) Consideration of inserting a definition of group conscience into The Group Booklet when the Guide to Service has been completed, or when this booklet comes up for revision.
- 3) Consideration of an IP proposal "What is a GSR?" after *A Guide to Service in Narcotics Anonymous* is completed.
- 4) Consideration of a motion to extend the moratorium on changes to the Basic Text by an additional five years with instructions that this motion appear in the 1993 CAR.

## LITERATURE PANELS

Our "A" panel dealt with the content of literature motions in the CAR. The issue that elicited the greatest interest concerned a motion to change the subtitle of *Just for Today* from "Daily Meditations for Recovering Addicts" to "Daily Reflections for Recovering Addicts." Some participants felt that the use of the word "meditations" would be a misnomer and possibly confuse the newcomer. Others believed that the same word has been generally applied to works of this sort and, since it was described as a daily meditation book all along, the fellowship would have objected if it were an issue. A working group was formed to come to some consensus on this and to report back to the conference when the amendment was on the floor. The full report of this group will be in the minutes of the conference. Their recommendation was that the word "Reflections" in the amendment be changed to "Readings." The conference decided to support the

original subtitle, but the use of RSR working groups in this way greatly facilitated conference business.

Our "B" panel gave an overview of the steps development process. Panel members shared their experience when asked about the development of regional literature committees. The development of original source material by regional and area literature committees was discussed and encouraged. The status of the "History of NA" project was questioned. We reiterated that we have no plans at the present time for developing this project. It will take a major effort to fill in the gaps and to discern a true and objective rendition of what our history has been.

### **FRIDAY LITERATURE COMMITTEE MEETING**

We were asked by the WS Translation Committee to make some recommendations that could be used by local translation committees for writing personal stories for the Basic Text. Working from the outline used during the writing of the English version of the text, we suggested some alterations but, on the whole, felt that the original outline was still valid.

Next, we revisited our recommendation to the board of directors regarding the application of consistent publication standards to all NA literature. While we proofed the bluelines for the Introductory Guide, both office staff and I noticed inconsistencies in features such as capitalization, italics, initials, and punctuation. It seemed important to the WSCLC and the BOD that standards do not vary from IP to IP, but rather that these features be consistent. In September of 1991, we recommended to the board that inaccuracies be corrected in subsequent printings of conference-approved literature. New material is already being written to conform with publication standards. As some IP's will soon be reprinted, we reaffirmed our recommendation that mechanical features be corrected. We wanted the fellowship to know that if you receive IPs that have capitalization or punctuation changes, it's because those pamphlets have been proofread for errors and now conform to publication standards.

We agreed on the following project statement for the Step Writing Guides:

"The Step Writing Guides will offer another way for sponsors and sponsees to work together on recovery through the steps. The guides will promote understanding of the spiritual principles inherent in our steps to encourage spiritual growth. Included will be invitational open-ended questions that might elicit thought-provoking discussion between a sponsor and a sponsee, and hopefully provide a more in-depth examination of the recovery process. The concept of the Step Writing Guides is based on fellowship source material. The development of this project was initiated after numerous requests from the fellowship, many of whom already have and are using these drafts."



With the participation of our dedicated general members, we discussed the format of the pamphlet/pamphlet series/sheets of questions/notebook/workbook. Our main focus was on getting a vision of what the piece will look like; we realize that the WSO board will have the dubious honor of settling on a format, but that our recommendation will be important to them. We came to no consensus, but we have a variety of interesting styles to consider. General and registered members assigned to this project will receive instructions soon. We hope to have a good start on this effort by the first quarterly workshop.

At that first quarterly, we will also form working groups to consider IP revisions and revisions to our literature handbook. This work will be shared with our general members and, in the case of the IP H&I and the NA member, with participants from the WSC H&I committee.

Our major event for this year will be drafting the approval form of *It Works*. We will be working with the Traditions Ad Hoc Committee to write an introduction or preface to the book and to pull it together into one piece. The review form of the steps has been completed. Input on Steps One through Six is due June 30, 1992, and on Steps Seven through Twelve on August 30th. It is important that those of you reviewing these drafts adhere to the deadlines. Around September 15, you will be sent the approval form of Steps One through Six. The approval form of Steps Seven through Twelve will be mailed by November 24th. The 1993 conference will be presented with a motion to adopt *It Works: How and Why* as conference-approved literature. This is incredibly exciting.

Friday evening, several of us attended the WS Translation Committee meeting as observers. Over the last several years, we have discussed how we can help address the needs of a multilingual fellowship. There are two bilingual members of the WSCLC, and they are very helpful in reviewing our works-in-progress for translatability and cultural ethnocentricity. The newly-formed WS Translation Committee may offer an even broader perspective on these parameters.

I hope that we can interface with the WS Translation Committee in mutually-supportive ways. It is very spiritually uplifting to hear the list of translation projects commencing in all corners of the world. It is also encouraging that the conference decided to support this committee's efforts for another year; they are facilitating carrying the message in a greater variety of words than we can imagine.

### FINAL THOUGHTS

I'd like to welcome India Weber (Upper Midwest Region), Michael McDermott (Northern California) and Daniel Keirns (Southern Idaho) to the literature committee. Jane Nickels, Jeri Sarracino, Omer Gillham, Mike Cooley, Gretchen Deckard, and our vice chairperson, Alden Irish, were reelected to the committee. Jim Buerer and J.W. Hayes rotated off the committee. Thanks for all the hard work, Jim and J.W. And a special thank you to Bryce Sullivan for chairing the Steps Ad Hoc Committee last year and for joining us in Dallas to participate in our panel. We will not be using the ad hoc

process to complete the approval-form of the steps, but we are grateful to the ad hoc committee for the review-form of the work.

We look forward to working with you this year. Keep the input flowing and we'll do our part in keeping you informed about our progress. Thank you for allowing me to serve one more year as your literature chairperson.

*Mary Jensen, Chairperson*

### WSC POLICY COMMITTEE

The WSC Policy Committee is grateful that our procedure for seating regions/service bodies, which we submitted to the conference this year, was adopted. We hope the procedure offers a uniform method to provide and verify information for conference participants, ahead of the conference, to aid in making the decision to seat regions/service bodies in the future. The "Admissions Panel" which was in *Conference Agenda Report Motion #16* (Addendum 11), was amended to be called the "Regional Assistance Panel." We hope this panel will be able to assist those requesting to be seated at the conference in their efforts. *Conference Agenda Report Motion #17*, removing language in WSC Policy Committee guidelines concerning the compiling of information on the addition of new regions, also passed.

The WSC Policy Committee was instrumental in bringing an issue to the conference this year. The idea of national/zonal/continental representation at the WSC came out of our committee discussions at the Tulsa workshop in August '91. We offered a "B" panel forum on this topic in conjunction with World Service Board of Trustees Internal Affairs Committee and WSC Ad Hoc Committee on NA Service. An RSR working group was assigned to develop the ideas shared at that panel forum into a position paper. That paper was read at the end of WSC '92 and will be included in the Conference Summary Report. The ideas coming out of that panel discussion will be evident in the evolution of our fellowship's service structure.

The WSC Policy Committee has three items on its work list this year. We have one working group addressing the WSC election procedures. We do not believe our procedures served us well this year. We will offer some immediate suggestions about how we can improve our procedures at WSC '93. We will also be looking into the primary cause of the dysfunction, which we believe is the way we nominate people at the conference. The WSC Administrative Committee has also asked World Service Board of Trustees Internal Affairs Committee to address the issue of nominations at the conference, and we will be working in conjunction with them on this long-range issue. We have another working group addressing RSR participation in world services. We will look at how best we can utilize our RSRs at the conference itself and during the time

between conferences. We have surveys which were sent out last year about RSR participation, and we hope to utilize the information they contain. We will also work with the WSC Ad Hoc Committee on NA Service, providing input to the national and world service sections of the Guide to Service with special focus on delegate review panels. We intend to utilize those RSRs/RSR-Alts who attend our committee meetings as members of our work groups, and invite input from any interested member on our work.

Our vice chair this year is Jon Thompson. Congratulations Jon! We have, in addition to Jon, four members remaining on the committee with two to four years experience with the WSC Policy Committee. Four new members were elected by the conference this year. They are: Mike P. from Greater Philadelphia, Lib E. from Australia, Jim E. from Chicago, and Ted L. from Region of the Virginians. I also have appointed Tom McK. from Pacific Cascade to the committee. The two members of the policy committee who will serve as members of the Regional Assistance Panel are Lib E. and Jim E.

A special thanks to Mitchell Soodak our '91-'92 chairperson, who somehow kept us focused after last year's conference when we were unsure of the direction we needed to take to be of service.

We believe we have that direction this year. Give us a hand with your input.

*Bud Kenney, Chairperson*

#### **WSC PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE**

We are entering an exciting new era in world services public information. The WSC PI Committee took a very difficult and challenging look at itself at this year's World Service Conference, and has shown itself capable of rising to a new level. I am very excited about the new direction of the committee, and applaud the members who took to the task. We have a wealth of experience and a fresh enthusiasm, which I expect to translate into a great contribution towards both, public information in world services and to the fellowship as a whole.

We received conference approval to reduce our voting membership from sixteen members to ten. The number of pool members was also reduced to ten. Our goal in reducing the size of the committee was to maintain a strong, focused group of members dedicated to addressing the needs of public information.

Although we had no motions in the *Conference Agenda Report*, we did present *A Guide to Phoneline Service*, Revised, for approval. The conference, even though it was aware of the confusion surrounding the approval process, was not willing to suspend the rules in order to consider the guide (all registered PI and phoneline committees should have received it in the December *PI News*). Hopefully, we will be prepared to consider it at the 1993 World Service Conference.

This year's projects have been divided into two categories; internal and external. Each category has three projects within it. The Internal projects include: 1) Internal survey, 2) Grassroots PI, and 3) Guides/Guidelines. The External projects include: 1) Worldwide PI development, 2) Publications, and 3) PI/H&I cooperative effort.

A theme for this year's work could be summed up as; How can we make "Narcotics Anonymous" a household word within the professional community? This includes professionals of all types, as well as the recipients of public information on local levels. We agreed that this refocus, of informing as many people as we could in our PI efforts, would help our primary purpose. Internally, we hope to get as many of our members as possible informed on how to do public information work. Externally, we are looking at informing professionals and enhancing the credibility of Narcotics Anonymous as a viable source of recovery.

Our guidelines working group will begin work on a rewrite of *A Guide to Public Information*, hopefully for inclusion in the 1994 *Conference Agenda Report*. This group will also take a good look at conference policy regarding PI and our internal committee guidelines. We hope this will more accurately reflect the committee's new direction.

The grassroots PI working group will be concentrating their efforts on inspiring local PI committees to become increasingly active with their local PI efforts. We have seen our credibility suffer from the lack of a sustained effort to inform the public at a local level. PSA's aren't seen near as much as they were two of three years ago. The number of presentations made and health fairs attended has also decreased. We need a revitalization of local public information and phoneline efforts in order to move into the next phase of NA development. Professionals and legislators everywhere are looking for innovative and inexpensive sources of recovery. We need to ask ourselves what we can do to make NA more visible in the local community.

Probably the most exciting project the committee will undertake is the internal survey for our fellowship. We believe a survey will enable NA to present more accurate data about our fellowship and its effectiveness. Many professionals such as physicians, psychiatrists, social workers, law enforcement officials, and others who work in the field of addiction rely on statistical information in order to make informed decisions regarding referrals, traditional support (i.e., associations, non-NA conferences, legislative acts), and influence in their education systems. We can also provide ourselves with more information about how we can more effectively carry the message. The initial investigation into the survey will be to solicit the experience of Alcoholics Anonymous and look at how they have conducted their triennial survey. This survey has been done every three years since 1968. It's interesting to mention that conference participants were supportive of this project and the future talks we planned to have with Alcoholics Anonymous.

One of the most intriguing aspects of this year's conference was the participation of the worldwide fellowship. We truly got a more expanded view of the NA Fellowship, and the concerns and needs of these newly emerging regions. The conference expressed a real interest in reaching out to these representatives and sharing our experience, hope, and resources with them. They have asked us for our assistance in establishing their

national PI efforts. We are looking at condensing parts of *A Guide to Phoneline Service* and *A Guide to Public Information* into a two- or three-page translatable synopsis to help them get started. Also, we will begin some correspondence with their countries' professionals in an effort to lend credibility to their work.

This worldwide effort represents a continuing effort on the part of our committee to inform the international community about Narcotics Anonymous. We hope to continue to participate in international non-NA events this year, and believe we will further the progress that has already begun.

Another project, mentioned in the last *Conference Report*, was the joint information-gathering effort between the PI and H&I committees. We have moved in a specific direction, targeting the following five states: New York, Texas, Nebraska, California, and Ohio to obtain this information. We will be talking with correctional professionals about their relationships with Narcotics Anonymous noting that: If they have a relationship with us how can we improve it? If they don't, how can we start one? So much of this communication depends on delivering a clear and concise message about NA to the uninformed, and we are being careful in who we choose to participate in the project.

The final project we will pursue comes under the category of publications. This encompasses the writing we wish to accomplish this year. *NA Update*, a newsletter for professionals, will hopefully be completed by July. This is our second issue, and the articles will focus on our involvement with treatment, correctional, and prison facilities. We have high hopes of attracting more contact with professionals through this publication. Following completion of this newsletter, we will begin to write a series of articles about NA and seek to get them published in various national and international periodicals. Being that these would be translated for us, we could think of no better way of bringing the NA organization into an international focus.

As you can see we have big plans for the WSC PI Committee this year. There is a direction and focus to each project with clearly defined and attainable goals. There has been a shift away from costly projects to ones that we can complete with a minimum of resources.

There is one thing that disturbs me about the priorities our conference established; that is the emphasis that was placed on internal development (i.e., supplying services and materials solely to our fellowship). Personally, I believe that the growth of NA rests, in large part, on our public information efforts. If we continue to close ourselves off from the public and professional communities, we can't expect to see many newcomers in the future. Some statistics (data about NA's ongoing relationships with professionals who refer addicts and consistent presentations about our fellowship) are needed. This year's conference clearly supported nations outside of the US in their efforts to grow into stronger NA communities. They failed, however, in giving clear direction to the financial decision makers in developing a better image for NA to the general public and the professional community. We have seen in the past, numerous projects started that

would give NA more credibility only to die from lack of fiscal support. I have faith that a loving God as we understand Him will direct us in the appropriate way. I just hope that we will be responsive when that direction comes our way.

*Rogan Allen, Chairperson*

### **WSC AD HOC COMMITTEE ON NA SERVICE**

Greetings. This report is to serve two purposes: first as a summary of what occurred at WSC '92 relating to our work, and second, to provide a brief outline of our plans for this next conference year.

I am happy to report that the motion regarding the Twelve Concepts for NA Service passed by a significant margin. The result of the roll-call vote ended up being: yes-71; no-15; absentions-6. One of the significant aspects of discussion regarding the concepts centered around how they were to be applied at the various levels of service throughout the fellowship. It has been, and continues to be, our hope that the concepts will be used to clarify how to do service in Narcotics Anonymous. We believe strongly that the Twelve Concepts for NA Service ought to be used as "guides" rather than "laws." We think that the sayings, "function over form," and "principles over personalities" describe how the concepts should be applied.

The other motion we presented to the conference, regarding continuing our committee for another year to allow us to finish our work on the Guide to Service in Narcotics Anonymous, also passed by a notable margin. A part of the discussion concerning this second action centered around expanding the size of the committee and being allowed to bring in members with specific experience to help us with our work. As a result of the motion being passed, Stu T. (WSB), Mary C. (WSC Policy Committee), Dawn F. (RSR-Carolina Region), and a member to be designated by the WSO Board, were appointed to serve on the committee this year alongside Becky M. (WSB Chairperson), Jon T. (WSC Policy Committee Vice Chairperson), Walter J. (WSO Board), Debbie O (Virginia), and me. This brings the membership of the committee to ten. At our first meeting, scheduled for the end of May, we will invite Floyd B. (Michigan) and Marjorie K. (RSR-Greater New York) to help us with our work on local services. We believe that their experience in metro services will help us immensely.

One item that, I believe, also needs to be mentioned in this summary deals with the issue of leadership of our committee. Some of the discussion we have had within our committee meetings during this past couple of years focused on the necessity for stable leadership, if we were ever going to be able to finish the project in a reasonable amount of time. During the history of our committee, each time the leadership changed, it took a considerable amount of time for the new chairperson and the committee to become accustomed to each other and their respective roles, and the project suffered as a result.



When the committee asked me to serve as chairperson last year, they asked me if I was willing to serve for three years, or to the completion of the project. One other aspect of these discussions was the motion we brought to the conference about completing the Guide within this next year. It was our belief that, in order to accomplish that task, we needed to expand the committee membership, but keep the committee leadership intact. As a result of these discussions and the elections at the conference, I informed the conference participants of my intention to serve as both chairperson of the conference as well as chairperson of this committee and asked how many participants would have concerns about that decision. Approximately ten to fifteen participants raised their hands in response to my question. I raised the issue at our first meeting and, after thorough discussion by the committee, it was the committee's consensus that I should continue to serve in this dual capacity.

In looking at our workload for this next year, we have tentatively scheduled five meetings to complete our work on *A Guide to Service in Narcotics Anonymous*. We plan to finish the group, area, and regional chapters during our first two meetings, scheduled for the end of May and the middle of July. During those meetings, we will also finish our work on the metro services issue and look at the other sections of the material dealing with local services. The next two meetings, tentatively scheduled for September and November, will focus on developing the sections on national and world services. We plan to have an additional meeting during the beginning of next year to finalize the Guide in its entirety.

To assist us in our work on the national and world service sections, we have enlisted the aid of the WSC Policy Committee and the Internal Affairs Committee of the WSB. We hope that their review of the existing materials in the Guide will facilitate their ability to provide us with input that will answer some of the more difficult questions we faced within our committee during the past three to four years. We mailed out the pertinent material to those committees, requesting their input by September 1, thus allowing us to consider and factor in their input at our September meeting. Following our November meeting, we plan to mail out the resulting drafts on national and world services for a thirty- to sixty-day general fellowship review.

Once again, we would like to thank the conference and the fellowship for approving the Twelve Concepts, and for allowing us to finish our work on the Guide during this next year. For further information regarding our work, please look for our reports following our committee meetings, and future issues of the *Conference Report*. Thank you for allowing us to serve.

*Dave Tynes, Chairperson*

**WORLD SERVICE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Even though this year's conference was the longest ever, it seemed less stressful than past years. The conference format, with more discussion time than ever before, the RSR working groups, and regular breaks seemed to keep productivity up and frustration down to a minimum. We applaud the Administrative Committee for a job well done.

As mentioned in our last report, we had two trustees completing their terms at this year's conference. We would like to thank Jack Bernstein and Greg Pierce again for their many, many years of time, experience, and service to our board and the fellowship. We would also like to formally welcome our two new members, Barbara Jorgensen, last year's WSC Chairperson, and Bob Smith, who was the RSR from Ontario, Canada.

The primary reason for the increased length of the conference was the Multinational Development Forum (now known as the Development Forum of the WSC) which occupied two full days of the agenda. Due to the length and scope of this event, a separate report on the MDF follows this report. The participation of members from twenty-one countries, including the US, had a tremendous impact on the entire conference. It was a privilege to be a part of this exciting change. Planning for next year's event has already begun, and we welcome any and all input to the agenda.

During our panel presentation of the Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust Document, the primary concern we heard was the length of review time for this document. Many RSRs commented that, while they carried a "yes" vote on the motion, they had not had time to become comfortable with the document because the necessary "legalese" made the 120-day review period inadequate. The trustees and the WSO Board of Directors both felt this document needed substantial fellowship acceptance and support, so, in response to the panel discussions, we presented a motion to commit. The motion we presented committed this document back to the WSB and an RSR working group appointed by the WSC chairperson "to solicit, review, and factor in, where appropriate, additional input on the Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust for presentation to the fellowship in the 1993 *Conference Agenda Report*." The working group appointed includes the incoming RSRs from Mid-Atlantic, Southern Nevada, Michigan, Ontario, and South Florida. October 1, 1992 will be the deadline for any input to be received. It would be helpful if input is sent in as early as possible to the WSB, c/o Hollie Arnold at the WSO.

The proposed WSB Operational Procedures, Internal Guidelines, and the dual membership proposal with the WSO Board of Directors all were adopted at the conference. To finally have a section in the *Temporary Working Guide to our Service Structure* which more realistically describes our board, the trustee committees, how we function, and what we do is a relief to us all. Thank you for your support on this project.

A motion was brought to the floor of the conference asking that the trustees write a history of the Basic Text. Although this motion did not pass, it was obvious that this is an issue which still causes pain and concern among many of our members. We would like to remind everyone that a detailed paper, outlining the evolution from the actual writing of

the book through to our present fifth edition text, has already been written. It is available to anyone upon request from the WSO.

This past year, progress has been made in the area of Additional Needs. Darwyn L., one of our panel members, was at the WSC and brought with him a copy of the Little White Booklet interpreted into American Sign Language on video tape. The conference assigned a high priority to Additional Needs so we will be able to give increased support to this work. We will be working in conjunction with the WS Translation Committee to develop a review process for ASL and International Sign video tapes to assure consistency and conceptual fidelity. The WSO is compiling a list of ASL and International Sign interpreters who are also comfortable in the language of recovery. If you know of anyone fitting this description, please let us know. Additionally, we are investigating the options available for production of braille literature. We will be reporting on our progress throughout the year, and welcome communication on all aspects of additional needs from the fellowship.

Our first full board meeting will be in Van Nuys, June 18-21. The major focus of this meeting will be planning projects for the year with the participation of the Administrative Committee, the conference committee leadership, and the WSO. As seems to be the case each year, there is more work to be done than there are resources to complete it. However, I have faith that we will accomplish what we set out to do, and more, with your support and input.

One of the discussions at the WSC was the use of RSR working groups. I have always believed that the reason we send out reports and minutes to all conference participants was so any participant could input work in progress. A complete discussion of our year's work will be contained in the June minutes. We are asking for feedback on any item on our agenda from any member, not just those RSRs assigned to a working group. We can only be as effective as the information we receive.

We will also be factoring the input on Traditions One through Six at our June meeting, and will have the approval copy available by sometime in late July. The deadline for input on Traditions Six through Twelve is July 15, 1992. The input, we have received, indicates there will only be minor changes between the review and input drafts, and the approval drafts. Since this book will be up for approval at WSC '93, we encourage members to become familiar with the work as soon as possible. As the approval drafts of both the steps and traditions are completed and available, this information will be published in the *Conference Report*, the *Conference Digest*, and the *Newsline*.

If you have any questions or comments about this report, or any of our work, please feel free to contact any of us through the WSO. Best wishes for a recovery-filled summer.

*Becky Meyer, Chairperson*

**1992 MULTINATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FORUM  
SUMMARY**

This year, NA's World Service Conference dedicated one-fourth of its annual meeting to a Multinational Development Forum coordinated by the World Service Board of Trustees. We believe the MDF brought our conference another step closer to becoming a fully functioning World Service Conference. But to appreciate how far we've come, we need to take a brief look at where we've been.

**BACKGROUND**

Though our World Service Conference has always been interested in helping NA carry its message worldwide, only recently has it been able to directly involve itself in the fellowship's international development. The WSC, started in the mid-Seventies, began as a California conference. In the late Seventies and early Eighties, more representatives from other parts of United States began attending the WSC annual meeting. The first conference delegate from outside the USA, the RSR from Ireland, was seated in 1984. By 1990, RSRs from Australia, five Canadian provinces, the Germanspeaking Region, Ireland, Japan, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom had begun attending. However, many of these RSRs felt that the business-oriented conference format, along with the USA focus of conference business, didn't provide them with what they needed. To remedy this, the trustees planned an International Development Forum, held in April 1991. The IDF was conceived as a way to help expand the conference focus to encompass world service, rather than national, and to help shift the conference's agenda itself away from motions and onto issues.

Held the day before WSC'91 opened, the International Development Forum was the first opportunity for the entire world service community--RSRs, WSC officers, committee chairs, trustees, WSO directors and staff--to sit down together and talk about ways of making NA more effective in reaching out to developing NA communities worldwide. In addition to specific issues and programs for follow-up, two

**MDF '92 TAPES AVAILABLE**

Sessions One (reports) and Four (wrap-up) were recorded. The collection of five tapes costs \$15.00. Add \$2.50 in North America, \$6.50 outside North America for shipping and handling. Please pay by check in US dollars. To order, fill in this coupon and send it to:

MDF '92 Tapes  
World Service Office  
PO Box 9999  
Van Nuys, California 91409  
USA

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

conference decisions arose from IDF '91:

1. The world focus and issue-oriented agenda of the IDF, offered in 1991 as an event separate from the WSC annual meeting, must be made a regular part of the conference itself.
2. If it is truly in the entire fellowship's interest to develop a worldwide group conscience at our World Service Conference, then the whole world of NA must be represented there. NA communities that cannot afford to send representatives must be given assistance by the fellowship as a whole, one way or another, to do so.

### **THIS YEAR'S FORUM**

Agenda development for this year's Multinational Development Forum began at last October's World Service Board meeting. By the time we arrived in Dallas, all was ready.

Delegates from most of the world's organized NA communities, representing twenty countries on five continents, took part in WSC '92 and this year's development forum. For the first time, the NA communities in Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, France, India, Israel, Peru, the Philippines, Portugal, Spain, and Sweden were represented at our fellowship's World Service Conference. They brought with them a broader, more inclusive perspective on world services than we've ever had, often reminding us of the conference's true purpose. Their participation, greatly appreciated by all, was possible only because conference travel funds had been made available. The Filipino and Swedish representatives were recognized as non-voting delegates at their own request; the other nine were seated as voting participants. With their seating, RSRs from countries other than the USA composed nearly one-third of the body of WSC representatives.

MDF Session One, held the afternoon of the first day of WSC '92, consisted of reports from NA communities worldwide—including North America—providing conference participants with basic development information and orienting them to the issues they would be addressing in the coming days.

The morning and afternoon of the following day, Sunday, were devoted to MDF Sessions Two and Three. The entire conference divided into seven discussion groups. In the morning, they addressed the two services highlighted at last year's IDF as being most critical to the support of young NA communities: development of basic recovery and service materials, and coordination of regular contact with more fully developed NA communities. Representatives of the seven groups gathered in the afternoon to pool their ideas, develop specific suggestions, and prepare reports to be delivered to the conference later in the week during MDF Session Four.

While the group representatives worked on Sunday afternoon, the seven groups themselves continued their discussions, expanding their scope to examine the entire conference agenda from an international development perspective.

MDF Session Four was held the afternoon of Thursday, April 30. During that session, wrap-up reports were given by the MDF management team and the two working groups,

followed by an open forum. Per the request of various conference participants, the working group reports appear in their entirety immediately following this report. Interested members can also order tapes of MDF Sessions One and Four by using the clip-out order form on page 24.

### **1992 NEW BUSINESS**

The following motions related to the 1992 Multinational Development Forum were approved by the conference on Saturday, May 2:

Resolved that, as Narcotics Anonymous is a worldwide fellowship whose primary purpose transcends national boundaries, cultural barriers, and linguistic differences:

1. For both the general purposes of NA world services and the specific purposes of the World Service Conference of Narcotics Anonymous, there are neither "foreign" languages nor "foreign" countries.
2. The World Service Conference has elected to use English as the working language of its plenary and committee meetings, records, and primary reports.

Resolved that the portion of the World Service Conference annual meeting known as the Multinational Development Forum shall be referred to in the future as [the] WSC Development Forum.

The World Service Conference affirms that zonal forums, as service-oriented sharing sessions that provide the means by which NA communities can communicate, cooperate, and grow with one another, are valuable components of NA. We support the continued work of the zonal forums that exist today worldwide and encourage any further efforts NA communities may take to support one another.

### **MDF '92 FOLLOW-UP**

The Internal Affairs Committee of the World Service Board of Trustees is committed to developing and publishing a detailed network resource study in the coming year for use by those who are or who wish to be engaged in intercommunity cooperative efforts. The committee will use the Network Programs Working Group report as a resource in this project. In addition, though WSO finances do not presently allow it, we recommend that additional staff members be assigned to international support as soon as possible, in part to facilitate development communications.

Then there are the urgings of many conference participants that new recovery materials and adapted basic service materials be created by world services for use by developing NA communities. These assignments will require substantial support from WSO staff, support not currently available due to the office's financial condition. However, the WSB is determined to pursue the development of basic recovery and service materials as soon as staff support is available--in fact, the sooner, the better.



The outline report prepared by the Support Materials Working Group will be used as a resource in this project.

Finally, the World Service Board wants to assure you that the planning process for next year's two-day conference development forum has already begun. At its meeting at the conference on Friday, May 1, the board conducted a first review of the effectiveness of this year's MDF and received input on next year's agenda. In June, the board will begin developing plans in earnest for the 1993 forum. We will keep you updated throughout the coming year on the progress of those plans. We encourage you to tell your NA communities what this year's forum was like and to share with us their ideas on how to make the WSC Development Forum in 1993 as productive as possible.

**1992 WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE  
MULTINATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FORUM, SESSION  
FOUR**

**REPORT FROM THE SUPPORT MATERIALS WORKING GROUP**

**I. Questions**

- A. Who needs what and how do we deliver what is needed?
- B. How can we help NA communities to grow?
- C. Translations--whose job is it? What do we translate? How do we prioritize?
- D. How do we deal with professionals in countries other than the USA?

**II. Suggestions**

- A. Modified group starter kit contents to be:
  - 1. Letter of welcome in local language with some basic information.
    - a) Guide to the WSO (modified/simplified)
    - b) itemization of materials enclosed
  - 2. Start-up literature and supplies (in local language, if possible). Note: As much of this material as possible should be provided by local or neighboring members with particular focus on newly created NA communities.
    - a) White Booklet
    - b) readings
    - c) posters
    - d) The Group IP
    - e) other publications (e.g., *The NA Way*, *Meeting by Mail*)
  - 3. Sample meeting format (basics for conducting meeting)
  - 4. Explanation of group purpose, message, and trusted servants, including job descriptions and how to conduct a business meeting

5. Statement of basics of PI, H&I, area service, and others--minutes from like areas and regions
6. Suggestions for how to find members
  - a) meeting directory of the geographic district
  - b) service committee listings in the geographic district
  - c) other resources, e.g., fliers announcing meeting locations
- B. Personal visits, shared experience
  1. Copy of group registration to be forwarded to RSR, RSR, or neighboring groups, areas, regions for contact with group representative
  2. Keep ongoing written, or verbal contact with those who are almost totally isolated
  3. Traveling workshops whenever possible
- C. Clearinghouse of information (probably WSO)--like examples for like communities
  1. Development and distribution of simplified service materials, including business meeting formats and area and regional minutes--also including material that is not conference-approved by:
    - a) Conference committees
    - b) WSO
  2. Personal letters for support
- D. Translations developed both by the World Service Translation Committee and local translation committees
  1. Written, audio, or video materials--recovery, service, non-conference-approved, simplified service items. Service: Might PI develop something for professionals in a variety of countries, including those in government health ministries? Include the Resource pamphlet. Tremendous emphasis on communication, developing more advanced literature for the long-term member (intellectually stimulating). Mention addressing ongoing recovery needs, e.g., literacy, long-term addicts--tapes. Translations, priorities. Suggest work closely with other committees. Keep a balance.

Committees have to work together. Translations involved every step of the way; must balance between recovery and service materials. Ongoing recovery material--lit committee? Tapes--additional needs--alternative means of communication--what's happening to the addicts with five or more years who are leaving NA--writing a piece at a higher literacy level.

**1992 WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE  
MULTINATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FORUM, SESSION  
FOUR**

**REPORT FROM THE NETWORK PROGRAMS WORKING GROUP**

This is a report from the group of WSC '92 participants selected during the Multinational Development Forum to examine and prepare recommendations about network programs. The group was composed of Scott Allen (RSR, San Diego-Imperial), Christian Guerree (RSR, France), Lucie Gelinas (RSR, Alsask), David Jones (RSR, Tri-State), Michael McDermott (Alternate RSR, Northern California), Mike Polin (RSR, Mid-Atlantic), Vivianne Ronneman (Chair, World Service Translations Committee), and Paul Tanner (RSR, Spain), group spokesperson. Also participating in the group's discussions were Becky Meyer (Chair, World Service Board) and Mary Banner, a local NA member.

Networks occur at every level of service in Narcotics Anonymous. Whenever we gather representatives of our groups, areas, regions, or national communities together to share with one another their experience, strength, and hope, we have created a network. We use these networks to communicate with one another about what has worked for us, find solutions to what hasn't worked, and come up with new ideas about how to serve better.

In facilitating the international development of our fellowship, one comparatively new kind of network has proven particularly valuable: the zonal forum. Zonal forums are service-oriented sharing sessions that provide the means by which NA communities can communicate, support, and grow with one another. Their formats vary according to the needs of their communities. Today, the list of established zonal forums includes:

Canada - The Canadian Assembly.

Europe - The European Conference and Convention and its current steering committee, the European Resources Group.

NW South America - A mutual support network between Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Venezuela.

Scandinavia - A network between Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden.

USA - The Western States Forum and the Midwestern Caucus.

Some of the Pacific regions have also voiced interest over the last couple of years in creating a zonal forum. Additionally, Argentina and Brazil in Southeast South America have explored ways to better communicate with and support one another.

Zonal forums periodically bring representatives of nearby NA communities together to discuss common concerns and develop means of addressing common needs. Because they involve NA communities relatively close to one another, the travel costs for participating in zonal forums are small when compared with those for participation in the World Service Conference.

One of the major problems such forums face today is that they appear to exist outside the NA service structure. These forums provide opportunities for communication, cooperation, and a variety of other NA services for their communities. Yet nothing in our service literature talks about zonal forums, leading some to believe that they're somehow unnecessary, duplicating the work of existing service bodies.

During the Multinational Development Forum, a wide array of subjects related to the topic of networking was examined. Of all those subjects, our group felt that the most important was the recognition of zonal forums in Narcotics Anonymous. They do exist in a number of places, taking a variety of forms and fulfilling various responsibilities. They provide services that are not being provided by any other element of our service structure, services critical to the development of NA communities worldwide. To encourage the continuation of existing zonal forums and the creation of additional forums, we ask the World Service Conference to concur with the following affirmation:

Zonal forums, as service-oriented sharing sessions that provide the means by which NA communities can communicate, cooperate, and grow with one another, are valuable components of NA. We support the continued work of the zonal forums that exist today worldwide and encourage any further efforts NA communities may take to support one another.

We also ask the conference to include consideration of zonal forums in its budget and travel planning. The members of our group encourage the conference to fund travel for world service personnel to meetings of zonal forums upon request of the forums themselves. Our group also encourages the WSC to fund the inclusion of spokespersons from zonal forums in future worldwide development discussions when travel assistance is required. Toward that end, we ask that the following two items be added to the 1992-93 conference budget priority list:

1. World service travel to meetings of zonal forums.
2. Zonal forum delegate travel to WSC'93.

<b>WSO BOARD OF DIRECTORS</b>
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Even though this year's WSC was longer than previous years, I left it feeling not burned out and tired, but renewed and encouraged. The Multinational Development Forum at the start of the conference set a unifying tone for the entire week. The WSC Administrative Committee did a great job providing much needed breaks and more

discussion time for issues. Even though the WSO Board did not present any motions to the 1992 WSC, we did listen carefully to many hours of debate and discussion.

We welcome new members, Tom Logan and Tom Rush, who were elected to one-year terms at the conference. At our conference meeting, we pulled John Burnett from the existing pool and also decided to invite Bob Feneran to our June meeting where we expect to pull him from the pool. We said goodbye at the conference to two of our members, Bob McDonough and Oliver Stanley, and at the June meeting, we will lose an additional two members, Martin Chess and Bill Winterfeld. We will greatly miss the four longstanding members and we wish them the best.

### **WSO Lawsuit Update**

On April 22, 1992, papers were filed in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania alleging that the WSO should be held in contempt for breaching the settlement agreement entered into on January 4, 1991. A letter to the WSC participants was presented by the WSO board chairperson on Wednesday, April 28, which stated that the WSO planned to respond, contending that the pending suit was utterly groundless.

After the conference, a response from the WSO was filed with the court and we are now awaiting further notice. Since the court is not now being asked to immediately respond, by either party, we do not expect any further notice on the case until later this year. We will certainly keep you updated as information becomes available.

### **Panel Discussions at WSC '92**

The WSO panel discussions gave us the opportunity to seek input from WSC participants on many issues that have been around for a long time. Most of the panels were quite lively and provided a good bit of information on each subject. Our discussions did not necessarily resolve the issues, but, nevertheless, gave us a sense of the fellowship's opinion on them. Here is a summary:

### **WSO Use of Contract Writers**

The consensus of this discussion was that contract writers were appropriate, as long as they were members of the fellowship and functioned within the literature development process. During the WSO business session, the WSC assisted us by providing clear direction in the form of the following motion: "That the WSC confirms the use of contract writers who are NA members and who work within our literature development process to draft and edit NA literature." This motion carried by a roll call vote of 63-yes, 8-no, and 8-abstentions.

### **Tax Issues**

Substantial input was received on all the options presented. Unfortunately, no easy answers were apparent. While there certainly remains widespread interest on this topic, there is not an easy way to evaluate all the information. Each attorney, each committee,

and each NA member has a different perspective. More in-depth work by the Tax Options Committee will be required to formulate an appropriate recommendation.

### **WSO Sales Policy**

This area is another example of a question without an easy or simple answer. Credit terms, discounts, distribution practices, pricing, and service offices are all part and parcel to the discussion, with each one potentially affecting some element of the fellowship for better or worse. Add the differences of cost of living from state to state and country to country and you begin to see how complex it is. We are, however, dutifully approaching it from the perspective of how best to serve the fellowship as a whole and we received valuable input from a variety of different viewpoints. The input will be helpful in formulating a final recommendation but, to date, no single direction has emerged. We plan to continue the discussion at an RSO workshop in August in Orlando and then finalize our recommendations in November.

### **Just For Today**

The WSO hopes to have the meditation book, which was approved at the conference, available for sale by August 1. One of the decisions made by the board was to print 2,000 copies of the meditation book as a special, commemorative edition. These will be different in appearance and will be individually numbered. You will be receiving specific information on this in the near future.

The board of directors also had motions committed for further study including the following:

### **Move WSO or Establish Branch Offices**

This question is currently being considered by WSO's Business Plan Ad Hoc Committee for development into a report back to the WSC.

### **WSO Electronic Bulletin Board**

Our ad hoc business plan committee is also reviewing the most appropriate uses of available communication technology. If this approach proves to be a cost-effective way to communicate with a significant number of members or customers, without increasing the risk of computer viruses, we will give it a try.

### **One Standard Price for All Literature**

The elimination of bulk discounts is one option being considered in the formation of a new sales policy. There are many other options also under consideration which will be taken into account in formulating a sales policy for adoption at our November meeting.

**Direct Election of BOD Chairperson and BOD Vice Chairperson by the WSC**

This approach may be possible, but will require a legal review before we can make a recommendation. Such a legal review may be necessary to find out if there would be any legal implications in tying the WSO and the WSC together by such an election process. For example, would such a process make the conference participants legally liable for the actions of the WSO? This is the type of question we need to have answers to before any recommendations can be made by the board.

**Low Cost Basic Text**

Our previous review of this question resulted in the creation of An Introductory Guide to Narcotics Anonymous. We can now update that decision by factoring recent developments into a report to the WSC.

**Provide Input to WSC Attendance Requirement as Part of WSO and WCC Election Procedures**

Input will be provided as a result of study and consideration.

Anyone desiring to submit input on these motions for consideration by the WSO board, should send their input as soon as possible to the WSO. The board welcomes all comments and/or input at any time. Feel free to contact myself or any member of the board in care of the WSO, PO Box 9999, Van Nuys, CA 91409.

*Mary Kay Berger, Chairperson*

**WORLD CONVENTION CORPORATION**

The conference was an arduous experience for the convention corporation this year. Prior to the WSC, the board wrote a letter to the WSC chairperson asking how to obtain permission from the conference to present the nomination of a member of the board who was not going to be present. At that time, it was our understanding that our question would be addressed during the discussion of rules at the beginning of the WSC. When it was not addressed on Saturday morning, the board was forced to raise the issue during our business session. At that time, we again asked how to present this issue to the WSC. We were informed that, since the conference was in a business session, we would need to present a motion.

Since the WCC board chair does not have a voice on the conference floor, the WSO board chair presented the motion. The RSR from Southern California and one from the Northeast questioned the way the motion was presented, suggesting that it was a maneuver to keep a board member. That was true. Unfortunately, no one asked, and I

was too intimidated to explain the innocence of our request. Our motion was defeated and the body seated Ron D. for the conference-elected three-year term. Given the overall tone of the elections process to that point, the conference's reaction should have been foreseen. We merely wanted to ask if the conference had a problem with accepting the nomination of a member who was not present. Clearly, if the answer to that question had been "no," we would have presented the nomination.

I would like to take this opportunity to express our apologies to the conference for any confusion our actions may have caused. If there was anything that I would recommend to the WSC leadership about the conference format, it would be that a provision needs to be created allowing a question to be asked of the conference during a business session.

This report is a summary of the activity of the WSC relative to the World Convention Corporation. It reflects the events which affected the WCC and the days when those actions occurred.

#### **MONDAY, APRIL 27**

A workshop was scheduled to allow participants an opportunity to discuss the motion we presented to remove the portion of our guidelines that outlines a position on special interest meetings. The "talk in the hall" suggested that this was going to be one of the more heated discussions. A member of the World Convention Corporation Board of Directors moderated, the board vice chair and myself presented the board's opinion, and former WCC board members and a current member of the World Service Board of Trustees presented pros and cons. That was about the extent of the panel interaction. The conference participants lined up to give their opinions on the subject, some of which were extremely emotional. I counted ten pros and eleven cons to the motion when the time allotted to the WCC expired.

#### **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29**

The WSO/WCC business was scheduled to take place between 7:30 and 10:00 that evening. The body decided to wrap up the evening's activities with the WCC, so we started about 9:30 p.m. The only business we had was the "special interest" motion. The chair allowed three pros and three cons. An attempt was made to amend the motion, but it failed. The conference did not want to soften the motion's language, but to vote on it in the same form as it had been reviewed by the fellowship. Considering the tremendous diversity of opinion on this issue, a roll call vote was requested. The vote ended up almost evenly divided, while the proposed change required a two-thirds vote. The motion to remove the restriction barring special-interest meetings at world conventions failed.

After I answered a few general questions, the conference seemed anxious to move into elections and call it a night. Earlier in the week, the conference chair had told me that the decision whether or not to allow the nomination of a member who was not present was a conference decision, not hers.



**THURSDAY, APRIL 30**

As I left the WSC, I was upset with myself for not butting in and explaining the intent of the motion that we tried to present. I felt that a motion "to suspend the rules" would have been a better choice. I felt I had let the member and the board down and left us in a lurch with the liaisons to Chicago. My only consolation was knowing that a good member had been elected to the board. I had the opportunity to work with Ron during WCNA-18 and believe he will make an excellent board member.

In hindsight, I realized that, with the changes to the WCC bylaws adopted by the board in March, it will be possible to maintain the current assignment in Chicago. That was the fundamental reason why we were trying to nominate the member currently assigned. Our ability to use individual members on WCC board committees will allow us to maintain continuity with the facilities in Chicago and the host committee.

**SELF-SUPPORTING PERPETUATING CONVENTION**

This past year, as you know, has been a rough one for our parent corporation, the WSO. Because of the financial restraints imposed by the office's poor cash-flow position, all aspects of services provided by the WSO are being considered much more carefully. At no time in our history has better financial information been presented to the fellowship. One of the reports given at WSC '93 showed the expenses incurred by the WSO for the administration of services for each NA entity. This spreadsheet showed that some \$80,000 worth of WSO labor, facilities, and materials were allocated last year to the WCC.

The WCC has been scrutinized more this past year than I can ever remember. The losses we took in Portland and Sydney have cast a dark shadow over the WCC. Last year, we were forced to borrow funds from the shallow WSO coffers to cover our up-front expenses in Sydney. This made several WSO board members and trustees very uneasy. It seemed that it was difficult for them to remember the warnings the previous executive director, and previous board chairpersons, and others gave years ago concerning our financial future.

No one notices how much water is being drunk until the canteen is almost empty! The world convention has always been perceived as being self-supporting and, especially given the current financial position the fellowship finds itself in, we are expected to pay our own way. The way in which the WCC Board of Directors has been required to conduct its business may have been our legacy; however, it is our responsibility to change the future.

How we can become completely self-sufficient in the future will be the first topic of discussion at the June WCC board meeting. I would hope that, even if we cannot set some specific goals, we can at least become more aware of our situation and responsibility. We are going to have to change the way we do business. In the real world, this means increase revenues and/or decrease costs.

**INCREASED SALES**

For us, "increased sales" would mean larger conventions and increased registration and merchandise sales. This seems to have been our goal over the years, but now it's more important. How can we publicize or promote the event better or more efficiently? What other merchandise items can we sell, and should we increase our efforts to sell merchandise year round? How can we encourage more registration? Do we need to stop having conventions in cities or where people are less likely to attend?

**DECREASE COST**

Do we need to examine the way, or how often, we are holding our conventions? The largest portion of our administrative expenses goes to the servicing of the local host committees. Do we need to change the system and solely utilize event planners? The board has created working groups to evaluate these questions as well as the questions about complete self-sufficiency. Any input on this or any other topic is welcomed. On behalf of the World Convention Corporation Board of Directors, I would like to thank the fellowship for allowing us to be of service.

*William Winterfeld, Chairperson*

<b>RSR WORKING GROUP REPORTS (FROM WSC 1992, DALLAS, TEXAS)</b>
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**WORKING GROUP ON FUNDING OF NA SERVICES**

With the fellowship growing rapidly across barriers of language, culture, and geography, it has become necessary for expenditures to be prioritized each year by the conference as donations fall below what is needed to complete all projects. For many years, the issue of how services are funded in Narcotics Anonymous has been the topic of discussion for individual members and service committees all over the world.

In examining the issues, our working group discussed tagged or earmarked funds, theft, direct contributions, and fund flow. We also discussed conventions, merchandising, and other fundraising activities that exist within the fellowship today. Rather than attempting to change the latter practices, we believe a solution to increasing fellowship contributions is to communicate to the fellowship how our Seventh Tradition works and how NA services are funded. Our objective is to raise awareness of this process among our members and communicate how their contributions assist us in reaching the addict who still suffers.

To accomplish these objectives, we propose the following plan:

- \* Create a chart outlining the flow of money from the individual member through all channels of service. This would be mailed to all conference participants, registered literature committees, etc., by piggybacking it into other mailings.
- \* Working with the WSC Ad Hoc Committee on NA Service, develop a specific chapter in the Guide to Service devoted to the funding of NA services. The flow chart created above could be included in this chapter.
- \* Author a four-part feature story on how NA services are funded, our contribution history, and case studies to be published in the *NA Way*. These four stories could be included in a mailing to conference participants.
- \* With the assistance of the WSC treasurer, develop a "Contribution Progress Report" to be published quarterly in the *Conference Digest*. This report will provide an update to the fellowship on which projects have been completed in the previous quarter with their contributions (e.g., funded attendance to WSC '92 for representatives from Colombia, Spain, etc.)

Accountable to the Interim Committee, the members of this working group are willing to assist in implementing any portion, or all, of this plan over the next conference year, and ask that this report become part of the Conference minutes.

*(Jon S., Show-Me Region; Tom Rush, WSC Treasurer;  
Dawn F., Carolinas Region; Uli G., German Speaking Region;  
Lib E., Australia; Jim E., Chicagoland;  
Dan B., Arizona; and Lucie G., Alsask)*

### **WSC 1992 RSR WORK GROUP ON OUTREACH REPORT**

Outreach is happening around our fellowship. Sometimes, these outreach efforts take the shape of one or two members, though, increasingly, outreach subcommittees are forming in our areas and regions. This week, many of you have read a discussion paper on outreach. This is not a new topic. Some NA communities have had outreach efforts for ten years. Whether in an emerging community or an established urban setting, we are finding fellowship development to be a process. Often, our development is a process of spurts and then complacent plateaus. Our outreach efforts are serving needs not currently being filled by existing committees. We can describe outreach as service committee group services. Consistently, our outreach efforts are geared to a basic philosophy of helping groups, areas, and regions to help themselves.

We are grateful for the assignment of this RSR work group on outreach. Two of our members had been associated with the WSC Isolated Groups Ad Hoc Committee last year. Many of our members had been in the MDF "B" session on networking. In the networking session we made a conscious decision to focus on one topic and to walk it through to fruition. This RSR work group was focused on the "other" main form of network identified in our "B" session. The members of this RSR work group on outreach

were: Adam C. (RSR Alt., New Mexico), Billy E. (RSR, Region of the Virginians), David J. (RSR, Tri-State), Eduardo M. (RSR, Brazil), John N. (RSR Alt., Mid-Atlantic), Lucy G. (RSR Alt., Alsask), Pat M. (RSR, Mid-America), and Scott A. (RSR, San Diego/Imperial). We also received extensive guidance from former members of the previous WSC International Committee, and current members of the current WSC H&I Committee, the World Service Board of Trustees, and the WSO.

From the beginning, there was consensus that we wanted the WSC to take a leadership position in the realm of outreach. We were clear that outreach was its own functional area, and need not overlap the activities of any existing WSC committees, boards, or the WSO. Our discussions focused on how to narrowly define the role of outreach and where coordination of outreach at the world level would best fit. First of all, we left alone functions currently being performed by the WSO and the WSB. The WSO is already doing a capable job of initial contact and liason to new members and groups. The WSB is serving our fellowship well in efforts to identify need and assist international development. Again, while the term is used with many similiar meanings, we see outreach as its own functional area which can be described as service committee group services. We feel a committee of the WSC, with its own pool of regional nominees like the H&I and PI committees, is the best place for outreach. As a panel of the WSB, we were told outreach would never become a committee. While a standing committee is an option for the future, none of us, nor do we believe do you, wish to get into a floor debate on voting, budgets, elections, etc., etc.

Therefore, we propose an ad hoc committee of the WSC named "outreach." Our motion is number 129. On your worksheets, you'll notice the first sentence was inadvertently omitted. Looking at the viewgraph you'll see the first sentence reads: "To create an ad hoc committee of the conference called the WSC Outreach Ad Hoc Committee with the following description." We've also discovered that in our efforts to compose this motion, we inadvertently omitted our motion's "intent" statement. The intent is simple: To create an outreach committee at the world level. We thank you for letting us be of service and we hope you will pass motion number 129.

#### **FROM THE RSR WORKING GROUP ON CONTRACT WRITERS**

The following is a consensus of the RSR working group on the use of contract writers in the literature development process:

1. It is necessary that the source material for our literature must come from our fellowship, preferably through the current committee system in our service structure. As always, individually-developed pieces would be accepted for consideration for development.
2. It is acceptable to hire/contract/employ members, commonly referred to as special workers, to participate in the "clerical tasks, editing, and drafting responsibilities" of developing our literature.

3. It is assured that, with the practicing of the spiritual principles contained in our steps and traditions in our personal recovery programs as well as our service structure, members hired/contracted/employed will remain spiritually motivated.

### **REPORT FROM RSR ZONAL WORKING GROUP**

RSRs attending were: Jon T. (RSR, New Jersey), Dawn F. (RSR, Carolina), Mike P. (RSR, Mid-Atlantic), Ricardo S. (RSR, Peru), Paul T. (RSR, Spain), Tony W. (RSR, Australia), Mike B. (RSR, Upper Midwest), Eduardo M. (RSR, Brazil), Larry R. (RSR-A, Hawaii), and Tony L. (RSR, Northern California).

General agreement within the working group exists regarding the following points:

1. There are problems within the WSC:
  - a. Some US issues are overloading the WSC and could be dealt with elsewhere.
  - b. There is a difference between services provided in the US and services provided in emerging communities.
  - c. WSC is more focused on national issues.
  - d. Parliamentary politics bog us down.
2. Process to change this needs to go slow, but we need to start now.
3. There was consensus to zonal formation. US is open to change.
4. Zones may change the nature of our world service structure, helping it become less focused on decision-making and more focused on sharing.
5. We don't want zones dictated, directed, or formed by WSC. The zones will develop based on common needs, language, economics, geography, and external politics.
6. Zonal forums will be in addition to WSC workshops.
7. There will probably be no consistent pattern to zonal formation; we need loose definitions of zones.
8. There are major differences between zonal forums and zonal representation.
  - a. Zonal forums focus on communication, sharing experience, and networking.
  - b. Zonal representation at WSC would be more political in nature.
9. Experience from those areas with functioning zonal forums needs to be available to emerging zones.
10. Fears:
  - a. Don't redefine WSC which would exclude regions.
  - b. Loss of US experience by decreasing US representatives too quickly.<sup>1</sup>
  - c. Another level of service may slow the fund flow.
11. Agreement within the group exists that the fellowship as a whole direct allocation of fellowship resources.
12. Keep the WSC at this point in time.

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<sup>1</sup> This and the preceding point are applicable only to 8 (b).

13. Long-range goal is to develop equitable representation and participation at the WSC, thus more effectively carrying the message to the addict who still suffers.

*Dawn Foran*

### **Solutions**

1. Schedule meeting of US regions between this WSC and next year.
2. Schedule multiregional meetings between WSC and next year. The agenda for both Items 1 and 2 to include sessions on:
  - a. What business, discussion, and sharing of experience which normally takes place at WSC and is essentially of interest to US regions only could be offloaded to US forums?
  - b. What other exchanges will be possible at these smaller forums?
  - c. Study of forums already emerging in US.
  - d. Study of what options are available to create less political format at these forums.
  - e. Consider how these forums will interface with WSC.
  - f. Who is responsible for coordination of these forums?
3. Create small working group to facilitate communication between forums in US and outside US (multiforum session at or before WSC).

### **Definition of "zone"**

**Zone:** A collection of regions which aggregate based on common needs. The development of a zone is based on the desire of regions within a geographic unit to participate in a forum focused on discussing issues of mutual concern. Development of zones will occur at differing and varying rates, based upon the needs of the regions within a geographic unit. Factors to consider in the formation of a zone include, but are not limited to: language, economics, geographic factors, etc. A zonal forum is focused on supporting the exchange of ideas, sharing of experience, and a networking philosophy.