

To: The Fellowship

From: Jack Bernstein, Chairperson
World Service Board of Trustees

The Trustees are continuing to use the committee system that was initiated during the '87-'88 conference year. As was the case last year, there have been some slight problems in utilizing this system, as there are still vacancies on the Board which were not filled at the past conference. We hope that this situation can be rectified during this year's WSC. There will be further discussion of this matter later in this report.

Discussions have been held during the Trustee meetings regarding the two motions committed to the Board by WSC '89. The motion which, if adopted, would require printing the N.A. logo on flyers will not be recommended for adoption by the Board. The Board felt that the proposed change in wording could be perceived as threatening to the local N.A. fellowship autonomy. The motion regarding the use of the word "prayer" in service committee agendas is felt to be only a small part of a much larger issue. Accordingly, this motion will not be recommended for conference action either. The members of the Board hope that there will be discussion of this matter during the open forum at WSC '90. This issue includes aspects such as the use of prayer in opening and/or closing our recovery meetings, as well as translation issues concerning the use of the word "God." This also will relate to the translation of the principles and concepts on which our fellowship is based. There are some concepts and principles which do not have corresponding words in some of the languages into which our literature will be translated in the future.

This brings up another issue that the Board would like to see discussed in some depth during the open forum at this year's WSC. Our growth as a worldwide fellowship is becoming more and more apparent. The guidance and direction which can be provided by the Trustees is of utmost importance in the development of the fellowship in countries outside the United States. Several members of the Board have been involved this year in international travel to lend their support, experience, and hope in these small, but growing, areas of the world. We would encourage all conference participants to discuss the growth of the fellowship worldwide to ascertain whether there is support to continue these efforts of the Trustees.

As stated earlier, the Board has more work to do than there are Trustees to accomplish this work. One member's term of office expires this year, which will leave the Board with five openings. Next year there will be two members whose terms expire. Accordingly, the Board is asking that three members be elected to the Board of Trustees for five-year terms, and two members elected for one-year terms at this year's conference. We also are requesting that there not be any non-addicts elected at this year's conference, as discussions are continuing within the Board regarding the best manner in which to utilize non-addicts in the existing Trustee committee system.

The primary focus of the Board's Literature Review Committee this year has been the Traditions portion of *It Works: How and Why*. The Traditions Ad Hoc group has been meeting on an almost monthly basis. From the first meeting in August, this group recognized a possible problem with the deadline for draft development that was specified in the WSC '89 motion giving this project to the Trustees. As the need for extensive pre-writing planning became evident, the ad hoc group realized that the October 1990 date was

probably not realistic and that it would be several more months before a target date could be set. Discussion also highlighted the fact that once the annual meeting of WSC was over in April, there would be no mechanism for proposing alternate timeframes for approval. After more thought and discussion, the ad hoc group made a suggestion to the Board which called for some way of removing the complications imposed by a specific date for presenting review form drafts. The Board of Trustees agrees with the ad hoc group and sees removing the date as one step towards more efficient management of the project.

The discussion above led to extensive re-examination of the original motion from WSC '89. Original language called for following the World Service Conference Literature Committee guidelines (substituting BOT for WSCLC) for review-form literature. This section specifies different minimum time periods for books (12 months) and pamphlets (6 months). There is strong sentiment for sending the review material out one chapter at a time, and opinions differ about how this fits in the WSC Literature Committee guidelines. Also, according to WSCLC guidelines, review-form literature can only be distributed to area and regional literature committees. The ad hoc group feels strongly that when review form drafts of the traditions are ready, they should be made available to any interested N.A. member. For these reasons, the ad hoc group has also suggested that the Board propose something to WSC which would remove complicating restrictions and better serve the needs of this project. Again, the Board agrees with this suggestion.

The Board of Trustees has, as a primary concern, the prudent management of all resources in producing review-form material which serves the fellowship's needs. In considering the ad hoc group's discussions and suggestions, the Board has developed the motion included here. Rather than amending the original motion, we are asking WSC to adopt a new motion which replaces it. The new motion is simple, straightforward, and unambiguous. It is less limiting and opens the door for more fellowship involvement. We believe it preserves the original desire and trust expressed at WSC '89 when the Board of Trustees was asked to manage this project.

#6. "To continue the Traditions portion of *It Works: How and Why* under the management of the Board of Trustees without any of the requirements of the World Literature Committee guidelines. The adoption of this motion will supercede any previous motions regarding the Traditions portion of *It Works: How and Why*."

Intent: To allow the Board of Trustees to complete this project using all of the resources available to manage the project, until such time as it is decided differently by the fellowship through the WSC.

The Board itself will be responsible to approve all decisions relating to the development and production of this project. The deadline of October 1990 for completion of a review-form draft, adopted at WSC '89, will not be applicable. Rather, a detailed content outline of the entire document may be developed and distributed prior to the release of draft review material. The Board will then submit review-form drafts of chapters to a wide cross section of the N.A. fellowship for periods of time sufficient to allow input, revisions and a second review, if necessary, prior to their completion of the entire document. Sending out the review-form draft of each tradition as it is completed would give the fellowship the opportunity to indicate their satisfaction or dissatisfaction with each draft. This process would allow for any needed change in direction prior to the development of a complete draft of all 12 Traditions. Additionally, this would be a more efficient use of the resources of the fellowship. An approval-form draft of the entire

document will be subsequently completed and submitted to the fellowship as a whole for not less than one year. The Board, or its appointed committee, will regularly communicate the progress of this project to all participants of the WSC, as well as regional literature committees.