

*Approved September 15, 2010*

**Minutes of the Executive Committee of the  
General Assembly Mission Council (GAMC)  
Of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)  
Retreat  
Wooded Glen, Indiana  
July 28-29, 2010**

**Wednesday, July 28, 2010**

**CALL TO ORDER AND  
OPENING WORSHIP**

The meeting of the Executive Committee of the General Assembly Mission Council (GAMC) was called to order at 9 a.m. by the chair, Mr. Michael Kruse. Mr. Kruse called upon Mr. Roger Gench who led the Executive Committee in worship.

**ATTENDANCE**

The following persons were in attendance for all or part of the meeting:

*Executive Committee  
Members*

Michael Kruse - GAMC Chair  
Clark Cowden - Chair, Vocation Mission Committee  
Alan Ford - Chair, Stewardship Mission Committee  
Roger Gench - Chair, Justice Mission Committee  
Carolyn McLarnan, GAMC Vice-Chair  
Mathew Schramm, Chair, Evangelism Mission Committee  
Joyce Smith, Member-at-large  
Linda Valentine – GAMC Executive Director, ex-officio

*Executive Leadership Team*

Joey Bailey – Deputy Executive Director for Shared Services  
Roger Dermody – Deputy Executive Director for Mission  
Jill Hudson – GAMC/OGA Middle Governing Body Relations  
Curtis Kearns – Executive Administrator  
Karen Schmidt – Deputy Executive Director for Communications and Funds  
Development

*Members Excused*

Aleida Jernigan – Member-at-large  
Tom Gillespie – Chair, Discipleship Committee

*Recorder*

Susan Abraham - GAMC Staff, Office of the Executive Director

*Others*

Terri Bate – GAMC Staff, Communications and Funds Development  
Jon Brown – GAMC Staff, Communications and Funds Development  
Tim Cargal – GAMC Staff, Vocation  
Hunter Farrell – GAMC Staff, World Mission  
Eric Hoey – GAMC Staff, Evangelism and Church Growth  
Rhashell Hunter – GAMC Staff, Racial Ethnic and Women's  
Ministry/Presbyterian Women  
Sara Lisherness – GAMC Staff, Compassion, Peace and Justice  
Samuel Locke – GAMC Staff, Communications and Funds Development  
Joseph Small – GAMC Staff, Theology, Worship and Education

**REVIEW OF RETREAT**

Mr. Michael Kruse welcomed the Executive Committee members and reviewed the proposed meeting agenda (**Appendix 1**).

Mr. Kruse invited Ms. Linda Valentine to provide an outline of the agenda for the New Member Orientation to be held in Louisville from Friday, July 30<sup>th</sup> – Saturday, July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010. Ms. Valentine reported that the goal of the

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orientation is to educate new members about their role as Council members and the work of the ministries.

Mr. Kruse reminded the Executive Committee of the importance of seeking out new members and developing a relationship with them in order to make them feel welcome and to help them build relationships prior to the October meeting of the GAMC.

**REVIEW AND DISCUSSION  
OF GOVERNANCE AS  
LEADERSHIP**

In preparation for this meeting, the Executive Committee members were asked to read *Governance as Leadership: Reframing the Work of Non-Profit Boards* by Richard P. Chiat, William P. Ryan and Barbara E. Taylor.

Mr. Kruse presented an overview of the book and provided a personal reflection on how the concepts apply to the work of the council. He and Ms. Jill Hudson led the members in a discussion on the three modes of governance, fiduciary, strategic, and generative, and how they apply to the work of the GAMC.

**ROLES AND  
RESPONSIBILITIES OF  
COUNCIL MEMBERS**  
*Spiritual Leadership*

Mr. Kruse led the committee in a discussion on “What does it mean to be a spiritual leader?” Members of the committee were asked to share how their spiritual life had been affected by serving on the GAMC.

The committee broke into two groups to discuss, “How do you understand yourself as a spiritual leader?” Members of each group were asked to pray for each other following the discussion.

*Who is at the Table?*

Mr. Kruse reviewed chart “Who is at the Table?” The chart (**Appendix 2**) depicted the composition of the council and the roles and responsibilities of:

- Elected voting members
- Corresponding members
- At-large members
- Advocacy and advisory committee members

The Executive Committee noted that some entities/committees were not included on the chart. Members were asked to email Ms. Susan Abraham names of entities that should be included on the chart.

**ROLE OF THE EXECUTIVE  
COMMITTEE**  
*Nature of Meetings*

Mr. Kruse led the Executive Committee in a discussion of the nature of the GAMC meetings, how they are conducted, and ways to create an environment for dialogue and discernment.

**RECESSED**

Mr. Michael Kruse called upon Ms. Joyce Smith who closed the meeting with prayer. Mr. Kruse adjourned the meeting at approximately 5:45 p.m.

**Thursday, July 29, 2010**

**RECONVENED**

Mr. Kruse led the group in bible study and prayer.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Kruse called the meeting of the Executive Committee to order at approximately 9 a.m. The directors for the six ministry areas, Mr. Hunter Farrell, World Mission; Mr. Eric Hoey, Evangelism and Church Growth; Ms. Rhaskell Hunter, Racial Ethnic and Women’s Ministries/Presbyterian Women; Ms. Sara Lisherness, Compassion, Peace and Justice; Mr. Joseph Small,

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Theology, Worship and Education; and Mr. Tim Cargal, who represented Ms. Marcia Myers for Vocation, joined the Executive Committee for a portion of the meeting on Thursday.

**REVIEW OF STRATEGY**

*Strategy and Role of the  
GAMC Executive Committee*

Ms. Linda Valentine gave a PowerPoint presentation which included elements of our Vision, Growing Christ's Church Deep and Wide, C.A.R.E. (Collaborative, Accountable, Responsive, Excellence), GAMC strategic directions and guiding principles, and how the elements fit together.

Mr. Roger Dermody, Deputy Executive Director for Mission, followed Ms. Valentine's presentation with an overview of the GAMC ministry areas.

Each of the ministry directors to presented the vision and strategic directions for their areas and engaged the group in discussion.

**FUNDS DEVELOPMENT  
STRATEGY**

Ms. Karen Schmidt, Deputy Executive Director for Communications and Funds Development (CFD), introduced her staff: Ms. Terri Bate, Director for Funds Development; Mr. Samuel Locke, Manager for Funds Development Services; and Mr. Jon Brown, Director for Mission Interpretation.

Ms. Schmidt presented a PowerPoint presentation on the funds development strategy for the GAMC. She also talked about *Funding Christ's Mission*, a report prepared by a task force commissioned by the General Assembly Council (GAC) in 2008 to replace the *Comprehensive Mission Funding Task Force Report (1998)*. Three key observations made in the report are:

1. Designated giving, theologically, is as good as undesignated giving.
2. The importance of communications and funds development at the General Assembly Mission Council level.
3. Simplification of the funding system.

Ms. Terri Bate reviewed *The Spirituality of Fund Raising*, a pamphlet by Henri J.M. Nouwen, which provides the framework for the work being done by CFD.

Ms. Karen Schmidt reviewed *Funding Trends (1996-2009) of the General Assembly Mission Council*. The resource gives the entire picture of funding in the PC(USA).

Mr. Sam Locke gave a presentation on philanthropy and the trends of giving in 2009.

Mr. Jon Brown gave a presentation on Churchwide Special Offerings.

**REFLECTIONS**

*Our Vision as the GAMC  
Executive Committee*

Mr. Michael Kruse posed the question, "Going forward as elected members what do we hope to accomplish in the next couple of years?"

Mr. Kruse initiated the discussion with an analogy from the book *The Star Fish and the Spider*. The book compares centrally controlled organizations ("spiders"), and decentralized, regenerative organizations ("starfish"). Hybrid organizations combine features of each. He observed that we are moving from

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being spider organizations to more star fish - like organizations, yet many of our institutions are set up as spider institutions in that they are hierarchical. The GAMC needs to think about becoming an entity that nurtures the life of the church as opposed to trying to control what happens in the life of the church. That will come partly from how we function as a Council and how we interact with staff of the GAMC.

Ms. Jill Hudson helped focus the discussion into three distinctive categories:

- Work Structure
- Work Content
- Work Flow

**GHOST RANCH**

**ACTION 1-EC-72910**

*Resolution to Authorize  
Extension of Lease with  
Water Utility Authority*

Mr. Joey Bailey provided background information on a request from Ghost Ranch Conference Center to authorize the extension of a lease during negotiations with the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority. Ghost Ranch is negotiating for ability to receive the water and sell it. In order to have flexibility during negotiations, Ghost Ranch would like to have the authority to extend the lease.

The Executive Committee **VOTED to approve** the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Ghost Ranch Governing Board subcommittee, be and it here by is authorized to agree to renew the lease with the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority, successor to the City of Albuquerque on a month-to-month basis for up to six months from the date of expiration, that being January 12, 2011, and that Debra Hepler, Executive Director and/or Peter Shoenfeld be and they hereby are authorized to sign such lease extension and related amendments to the lease on behalf of Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), A Corporation, attorney-in-fact for the Board of Christian Education of the United Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, a Pennsylvania Corporation.

**ACTION 2-EC 72910**

*Dissolution of Ghost Ranch  
Study Group*

Mr. Kruse reported that he had received a request from Mr. Frank Adams, chair of the Ghost Ranch Study Group to dissolve the study group as the work that had been entrusted to them by the GAMC had been completed. The study group had been formed in response to some concerns raised by Ghost Ranch in a proposal for incorporation.

The Executive Committee **VOTED to approve** the dismissal of the Ghost Ranch Study Group.

Ms. Valentine shared for information that appropriate GAMC staff and Ghost Ranch representatives will meet in the fall to discuss revision of the covenant agreement with Ghost Ranch governing board. Significant revisions would be brought to the GAMC for approval.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

*Controversial Issues*

Mr. Kruse requested the Executive Committee to forward emails or letters sent by outside persons concerned about particular issues and questioning decisions made by the GAMC to leadership of the Executive Committee or the Executive Director first, rather than, or before, answering them directly. This provides opportunity for clarification and orderly response.

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*The Independent Abuse  
Review Panel (IARP)*

Ms. Linda Valentine reported that the IARP was created in response to a recommendation from the Independent Committee of Inquiry (ICI) to investigate allegations of sexual abuse in the mission field. The IARP has been providing annual reports to the Executive Committee and will be making a final report to the October meeting of the GAMC Executive Committee. In order to prepare the Executive Committee to receive the report, there will be a conference call to educate the committee on the background of the IARP prior to the October GAMC meeting. Ms. Valentine advised the Executive Committee of the strictly confidential nature of the report.

*Employee Survey*

Ms. Valentine informed the Executive Committee of an Employee Survey that was held at beginning of the year. She reported that the results of the survey will be posted on Center Net for staff information. Ms. Valentine commented that the overall results were good and that improvements are still pending in a number of areas.

*Executive Administrator  
Position*

Ms. Valentine reminded the Executive Committee of Mr. Curtis Kearns' retirement in a few weeks. She expressed her appreciation for the outstanding support that Mr. Kearns had provided as the Executive Administrator. Ms. Valentine commented that the search process has not been easy given that 92% of the denomination is white. She encouraged the Executive Committee to help identify racial ethnic candidates for the position.

**MEETING ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was closed with prayer and Mr. Kruse adjourned the meeting at approximately 4:45 p.m. The Executive Committee returned to Louisville for dinner with new GAMC members and mission co-workers.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Mr. Michael Kruse  
Chair, General Assembly Mission Council

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Ms. Linda Valentine  
Executive Director, General Assembly Mission Council

GAMC Executive Committee Retreat – July 28 & 29, 2010  
Wooded Glen, Indiana

(to be followed by GAMC New Member Orientation – July 30 & 31 – Presbyterian Center)

Objectives:

- Develop a common sense of the roles and responsibilities of GAMC elected members, and how the GAMCX intends to function
- Consider committee structures, agendas, meeting formats; service on other boards and committees; open and closed meetings
- Align on strategy and directions

**Wednesday, July 28** *GAMCX members, including ELT*

Breakfast

*Morning session – Governance as Leadership*

- 9:00 – 9:20 Opening worship - Roger Gench  
9:20 – 9:30 Review of retreat – Mike Kruse  
9:30-9:45 Break  
9:45-10:45 Review and discussion of Governance as Leadership – Mike Kruse  
10:45-12 Discussion – How does Governance as Leadership apply to Council and Members? (facilitated by Jill Hudson)  
12:00 – 1:00 Lunch

*Afternoon session – Roles and Responsibilities and GAMC*

- 1:00- 3:00 Roles and responsibilities of Council members – Mike  
1:00 – 2:00 Spiritual Leadership  
2:00 – 3:00
- Who is at the table?
  - Role of the executive committee
  - Nature of meetings
  - Elected members and staff roles
- 3:00 – 3:30 Break  
3:30 – 5:30 Conducting our work – meetings, committees and support  
Committee size and composition. Mike

Are committees dealing with the right issues?  
Plenary meetings – agenda/design/content  
Bi-monthly GAMCX calls  
Board development

6:00-7:30 Dinner

7:30 Hospitality

**Thursday, July 29**

Joined by ministry directors

**Breakfast**

Morning session – Strategy and Plans (Strategic mode: boards create strategic partnership with management)

**9:00 – 9:30** Morning devotion – Mike Kruse

**9:30 – 12** Strategy and direction – and strategic partnership of GAMCX and staff leadership

9:30 – 9:45 Review of strategy – Linda

9:45 – 9:55 Overview of ministries – Roger Dermody

9:55 – 11:30 Six Ministry Directors present vision, strategic directions for their areas, followed by questions for discussion

11:30 – 12 Open discussion on strategy and GAMCX role in it

**12:00 – 1:00 Lunch**

1:00 – 2:00 Funds Development Strategy Presentation and Discussion – Karen Schmidt

2:00- 3:30 Reflections  
Our vision as a GAMCX – What will mark our term as an Executive Committee over the next two years?

3:30 – 3:45 Wrap up

4:00 Return to Louisville

Dinner with new GAMC members, ELT, ministry directors

## Where we are from:

### Elected Members (46):

#### Voting (40 members):

- 21 recommended by presbyteries
- 2 Ordained synod staff
- 3 Ordained presbytery staff
- 4 Young Adults
- 2 Commissioners from current GA
- 2 Commissioners from immediately previous GA
- 2 Commissioners from GA before immediately previous GA
- 1 Current GA Moderator
- 1 Immediately previous GA Moderator
- 1 Presbyterian Women Moderator
- 1 Representative from Presbyterian Men

#### Non-voting (6 members):

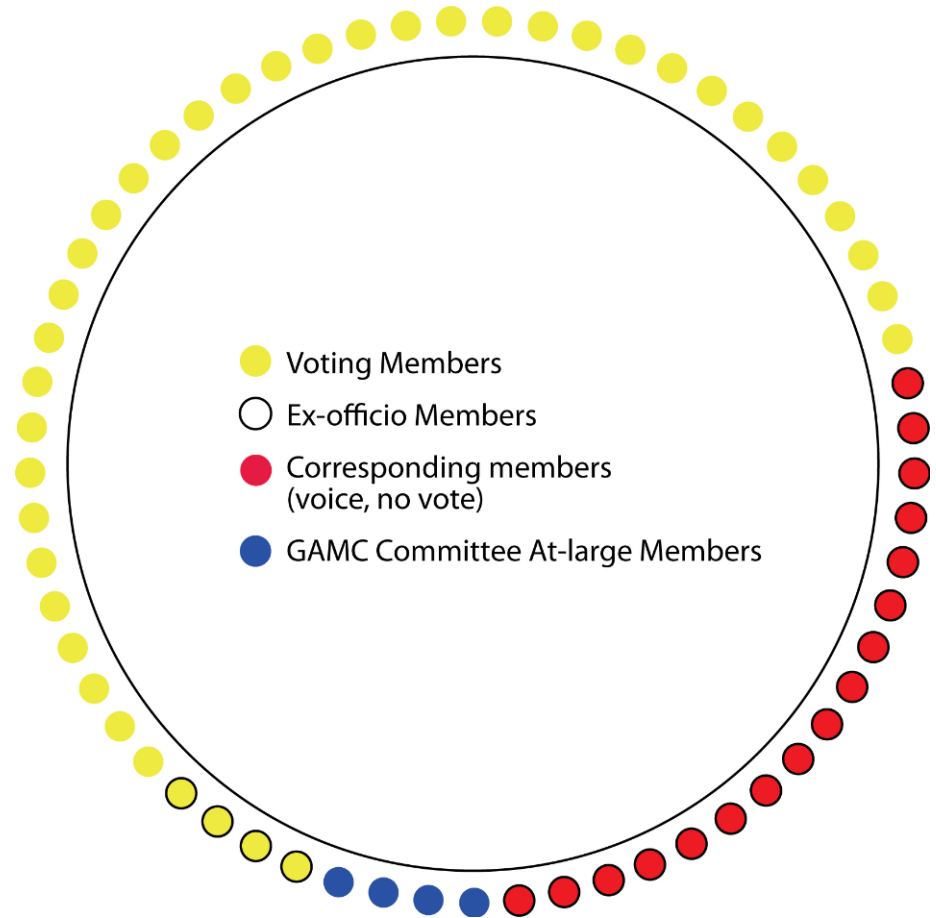
- 2 Ecumenical Advisory Members
- 2 At-Large members (Audit)
- 2 At-Large members (Stewardship)

### Corresponding (non-voting) Members (15):

- 2 Board of Pensions (staff and elected)
- 2 Committee on the Office of the General Assembly (staff and elected)
- 2 Foundation (staff and elected)
- 2 Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program (staff and elected)
- 2 Presbyterian Publishing Company (staff and elected)
- 1 GAMC Executive Director
- 1 ACSWP chair
- 1 ACWC chair
- 1 ACREC chair
- 1 COTE representative

**TOTAL: 61 members**

## Who is at the table?





**Interconnected Responsibilities**

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Corresponding Members to GAMC</b>	<b>GAMC members serving organization (V if voting, C if corresponding)</b>
<b>BOP</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1C</b>
<b>COGA</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1C + Executive Director (C)</b>
<b>FDN</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1C + Executive Director (V)</b>
<b>PILP</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2V</b>
<b>PPC</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1C + Executive Director (C)</b>
<b>ACSWP</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3V</b>
<b>ACWC</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1V</b>
<b>ACREC</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1V</b>
<b>COTE</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2V</b>
<b>GACER</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1V + Executive Director (V)</b>

## Where we serve:

### GAMC Elected Leadership (2 voting members):

- Chairperson
- Vice chairperson

### GAMC Mission Committees (36 voting members):

- Evangelism Committee: 7 voting members + 1 Ecumenical Advisory Member
- Vocation Committee: 7 voting members
- Justice Committee: 7 voting members + 1 Ecumenical Advisory Member
- Stewardship Committee: 8 voting members + 2 at-large members
- Discipleship Committee: 7 voting members

### GAMC Administration Committees (17 voting members):

- GAMC Executive Committee: 2 voting members + 7 GAMC ex-officio
  - Procedures Sub-committee: 3 voting members + 2 GAMC Executive Committee members
  - Restricted Funds Oversight Sub-committee: 4 voting members
- GAMC Nominating Committee: 5 voting members
- GAMC Audit Committee: 3 voting members + 2 at-large members

### Additional Service (27 voting members):

- 3 voting members – ACSWP
- 1 voting member –ACREC
- 1 voting member – ACWC
- 1 voting member – COGA corresponding member
- 1 voting member – FDN
- 1 voting member – PPC
- 2 voting members – PILP
- 1 voting member – BOP
- 1 voting member – Presbyterian Council for Chaplains and Military Personnel
- 2 voting members – COTE

- 1 voting member – GACER
- 1 voting member – Montreat Board of Directors
- 1 voting member – Stony Point Board of Directors
- 1 voting member – Ghost Ranch Board of Directors
- 1 voting member – Presbyterian Women Board of Directors
- 2 voting members – MRTI
- 2 voting members – Jinishian Memorial Program
- 1 voting members – Mission Development Resources Committee
- 2 voting members – PDA Advisory Committee
- 1 voting member – Presbyterian Hunger Program Advisory Committee

**Total: 80 slots for elected GAMC voting members to serve**