

ITEM C.208
FOR INFORMATION

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN IN THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.), INC. –
PRESBYTERIAN MISSION AGENCY RELATIONSHIP

Presbyterian Women in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Inc. (PW) is an integrated auxiliary of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). As a part of its covenant (now known as an Institutional Relationship Agreement) with the Presbyterian Mission Agency (PMA) as approved by the 221st General Assembly (2014)¹, the PW Moderator serves as a member, with voice and vote, of the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board (PMAB), and a PMAB member is appointed to serve as a member, with voice and vote, of the PW board. PW's purpose commits PW to work for the mission of the church worldwide and to support the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) (see below for the complete purpose).

Susan Jackson Dowd was named PW executive director and elected president in March, 2014. She leads the PW staff team and reports to the PW board (also referred to as the Churchwide Coordinating Team). On August 1, all staff dedicated to PW work became employees of PW and ceased being employees of Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), A Corporation (PCUSA). This shift in employment will result in changes to the Administrative Services Agreement between PW and PCUSA. PW will continue to contract with PCUSA for an array of services and office space at 100 Witherspoon Street.

As is outlined in the Institutional Relationship Agreement approved by the General Assembly, PW and PMA will continue to work in missional partnership based upon shared beliefs, complementary visions and commitments, common history, and a relationship of mutual respect and cooperation. PMA, through Rhashell Hunter, Director of Racial Ethnic and Women's Ministries, will maintain close connections with PW and the PW staff and be responsive to changes, new developments, and program options.

Purpose of Presbyterian Women

Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study; support the mission of the church worldwide; work for justice and peace; and build an inclusive, caring community of women that supports the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and witnesses to the promise of God's kingdom.

¹ The Institutional Relationship Agreement, as approved by the General Assembly, can be found using the following link. [http://www.pc-biz.org/PC-Biz.WebApp_deploy/\(S\(geh01wl5ddhlfmrsluloaymq\)\)/IOBView.aspx?m=ro&id=4729](http://www.pc-biz.org/PC-Biz.WebApp_deploy/(S(geh01wl5ddhlfmrsluloaymq))/IOBView.aspx?m=ro&id=4729)