



WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE FELLOWSHIP REPORT

*CONFERENCE SUMMARY REPORT
June, 1990*

To: The Fellowship
From: Ed Duquette, Chairperson
World Service Conference

Greetings! I hope this report finds you all in good spirits and health. I would like to thank you all for this opportunity to serve you as WSC Chairperson. In this report, the chairs of each committee and board will be informing you of the significant events that occurred at our annual meeting from their own perspectives. My report will focus on some aspects which are broader in scope. In some respects that will be easy, in others, very difficult. This was a rather unusual conference.

As I prepared for this year's conference, I envisioned an event with opportunity for broad-based discussion. Discussion of issues that would attempt to address concerns we all face as a fellowship. The WSC Administrative Committee had been consistently encouraging all the conference committees to plan fewer agenda items in hopes of making time for these kinds of discussion. Unfortunately, there were other agendas present at this conference.

We have for the past few years asked RSRs who have brought business (motions, amendments, etc.) with them to submit these items prior to the opening of the conference. This is to allow the WSO staff the time to compile a master list, which makes it easier for the participants to know exactly where we are at any given time during the conference. In turn, this process also provided some type of prior notice to conference participants for items brought to the annual meeting. This year we received over 150 items of business through this mechanism. Any hopes for broad-based discussions were swiftly swept aside.

The truly troubling aspect of this occurrence was that 90% of these items came from a small number of regions, perhaps six out of 61 regions present. The "conference procedures" forced the conference to deal with these items. In essence, a minority of the conference had set the week's agenda, thus eliminating most of the open time to discuss issues pertinent to us all.

One result was that the participants from outside the United States, now numbering some ten regions, held their own meeting to discuss their frustration. For the most part, they were appalled at how a fraction of the conference could set siege on its events. Their view was that the concerns of this minority were focused on amending language and imposing restrictions by which the committees and boards of world services operate. The non-U.S. participants wanted to address the translation of literature and fundamental philosophies for service with respect to their cultures. These are things the American fellowship often takes for granted. To sum it up, they felt that for one more year their needs will go unmet because of power struggles within the American fellowship.

It would appear that the way we have conducted the conference in past years may not serve us as well today. The issues are more complex and demand greater understanding if we are ever going to make substantial gains in reaching the addicts who still suffer, wherever they are. I have often said to the men I sponsor: "There is no wrong or right, simply differing degrees of

excellence. Everything happens for a reason. It is our job to find the value in it, because it is there that we find the courage to change the things we can." There is a loving God who is ultimately in control. The things we have done in the past offer us great opportunity to grow today. As I believe it is for the conference now.

The WSC 1991 could be laid out in a fashion that facilitates more discussion and less parliamentary business. I believe that the customary approach of presenting motions offers only limited perspective. What is needed is well organized presentations of broad-based topics that stimulate discussion and encourage understanding. The committees and boards of world services need to be especially receptive to these challenges and demonstrate their skills by taking action.

There are some things that the WSC Administrative Committee could do in the future to lessen similar burdens put upon the conference majority, while still ensuring a vehicle for the minority voice. We could enforce more strictly the allotted time each participant has to debate, thus allowing more time for other discussions. We could better delineate items of new business from those offering modifications to old business. We could require that all new business be taken up during its appropriate time at the end of the week. We could also rule these items of new business out of order due to lack of prior notice. Another avenue is to examine the conference procedures for possible improvements.

As part of my responsibility, I will be presenting these ideas to world service trusted servants for discussion and consideration in the coming months. I firmly believe that the World Service Conference should have some way to deal with issues facing our world-wide fellowship. I also believe the conference chairperson has an obligation to assure that these issues be attended to first and foremost.

The first WSC workshop is scheduled to take place July 13-15, 1990, in Arlington, VA. An announcement with details about the site has recently been mailed. In addition to conducting committee business, the world service boards and committees have planned a variety of learning events, as well as discussions of issues affecting world, national, and local services. On Saturday afternoon, there will be a schedule of consecutive panel presentations, each followed by open discussion time, covering topics of interest to the fellowship as a whole. The agenda for this workshop is being designed especially to provide the opportunity for members to take part in these forums. A detailed agenda is enclosed with this report. Please pass this information along so that all interested N.A. members can plan accordingly.

There is really only one other thing I would like to discuss in this report and it has to do with the 1990/1991 WSC budget. This was a high point, no pun intended. I was very impressed with the type of discussions the participants brought out. Part of the discussion included a number of questions about improving long-term priority planning as it relates to budget development. This would require the determination of overall priorities in terms of specific projects, and then setting up a plan of how to accomplish these goals over a period of years. A budget could then be developed based on the number of meetings and/or workshops for each year of each project. I believe this type of approach would allow us to accomplish much more than we presently do. The work would be better thought out and arrangements could be made far in advance.

In my opinion, one of the inherent problems in our system is the difficulty of making plans for more than one year at a time. Plans made by the WSC leadership, boards, and committees do not necessarily stay in place when the leadership changes. In other words, development plans are not maintained from year to year, so priority planning and budget development suffer. To some degree, this may always be the case, but I sensed that the conference leadership was very receptive to this discussion. In fact, during the JAC meeting held this past month, there was considerable discussion concerning priority planning and management. The JAC has decided to pursue a plan that may offer some resolutions to all of this. Personally, I believe we need to do something different. All is not well with our present system of budget development. We have come to rely too much on a process of planning projects with hopes of receiving donations that will match our expenses.

The conference overwhelmingly passed a 1990/1991 budget of \$424,900.00 (including \$15,000 for funding translation services at the annual meeting, if required). The RSRs made commitments to do what was necessary to raise the funds needed to meet the budget. In the past

five years that I have been involved in the WSC, I have yet to see an optimal budget work. I'm optimistic, but not convinced, that this year's budget will be met. The conference committees and the BOT plan to move forward with their plans. Should the reserves dry up, though, the Administrative Committee will need to set some spending priorities. This is something I am not looking forward to. We stand to make some marked improvements this year with respect to priority planning resolutions, but we need the regions to supply the resources. Please do what you can. We will all gain from the experience.

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To: The Fellowship
 From: Reuben Farris
 WSC Vice Chairperson

Looking back on the week of WSC '90, I find myself with mixed thoughts and feelings. It was certainly a long week, both frustrating and rewarding for many of us. Despite every effort by the '89-90 conference administration to make this a dialogue/discussion conference, it seemed to be pretty much "business as usual." On the bright side, "business as usual" seemed painful enough for enough of us that maybe we're ready to think about trying something a little different.

Most of the actions taken by WSC '90 affecting specific boards and committees are the subject of other reports within this conference summary. I'd like to highlight just a few specific areas of personal observation and concern.

Format: I share the WSC Chairperson's perception that the current format of the conference, particularly with regard to the open forum and new business/old business, appears to no longer serve us very well. The format seems to tie our hands more than facilitate our discussions and decisions. This year's Administrative Committee will be taking a hard look at the conference format, with an eye toward arranging a format to facilitate the expression of the concerns of conference participants, to encourage dialogue and the exchange of ideas.

Money: WSC '90 participants approved the optimal budget totalling \$424,900 (including \$15,000 for translations) for the 1990/91 conference year, despite the fact that last year's income was just under \$232,000. The implication of this action by the conference is that regional donations to the World Service Conference will nearly *double* this year. Let's hope we are not, as one participant put it, "long on talk and short of pocket." Or in less diplomatic terms--time to put our money where our mouth is.

Seriously, the adoption of a \$424,900 budget puts significant responsibility on the fellowship for support of continuing services. The Administrative Committee must keep a watchful eye on fellowship contributions in the next few months. If contributions are not in line with the optimal budget, we will be forced to halt some projects or services.

Perhaps we should all consider our Twelfth Step when the "Seventh Tradition" is passed. As the basket goes by, just how willing is each of us going to be to help carry our message to those who have yet to hear? Are we willing to put in more than a single dollar each time, in an effort to provide more resources to the service structure we have created to help carry our message?

Are area and regional (and world) service committees willing to closely examine how they are spending their money? Are our service committees willing to release excessive reserves to be used to help expand our message to a truly worldwide audience? The next few months will certainly tell.

Literature: Much discussion at this year's conference, both on the floor of the conference and in the halls, centered around our literature development process. Conference action with regard to the WSC Literature Committee loosened some of the restrictions on WSCLC by approving the requested revisions in their guidelines.

While no concerted examination of our literature process and possible alternatives was attempted, the conference did take several actions, which taken together are quite promising:

1. The conference-approved motion number six in the *Conference Agenda Report* from the Board of Trustees, which was "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 WSC Literature Committee guidelines." This action frees the BOT to complete the project through whatever process and resources they deem appropriate, then to present their product for conference evaluation. In other words, the WSC expressed a willingness to judge the final product, not the process.
2. The booklet from H&I, *Behind the Walls*, was approved by the conference without the language on the cover that would limit its distribution. In other words, this is a piece of conference-approved literature via an alternate route of development.
3. The WSC approved *The Group Booklet* as a replacement for the *Group Starter Kit*. Although edited slightly by the WSCLC, this piece was essentially the product of the Ad Hoc Committee on N.A. Service, and was written utilizing the staff team approach. Once again, the conference was willing to judge the product, not the process, and found the product acceptable.

As mentioned before, more specific actions by WSC '90 will be covered in the following reports. While it was a frustrating conference, I think it heralds the beginning of a growth process that is necessary for world services. Like much of my personal growth in the program, it is likely to be painful, but well worth the process. May we all be patient and tolerant of each other as we struggle through the process. May the Higher Power guide us all as we strive to become all that we can be.

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To: The Fellowship

From: Barbara Jorgensen
WSC Second Vice Chairperson

For most of the 1990 WSC, I was participating as H&I Chairperson and had those concerns uppermost in mind. The summary of events or impressions in terms of H&I will be presented later on in this report more than adequately by the new chairperson of that committee. Leaving H&I meant some emotional moments for me throughout the conference week. It helps to know that the work will continue as it always has, with devoted members and committed leadership.

This was the sixth WSC I have been privileged to attend and I did form some overall impressions. Hopefully, these may lead to continued improvement in our ability to function more efficiently to meet the fellowship's needs. I am sure other members of the Administrative Committee and the Joint Administrative Committee share at least a portion of my concerns.

My overall impression was one of struggle. I do not see us as being in conflict, but rather in a struggle as to how best to further the primary purpose of N.A. Sometimes the struggle was right out there in front, but many times it was more something sensed as we wrestled with the motions and ideas on the conference floor.

There seems to be an appreciation of the existence of broad, basic issues which truly have worldwide implications, although I'm not so sure there is any degree of certainty or agreement as to what these issues are or how we are going to address them. While we gave lip service to getting on to some really important things, we continued to fall back into lengthy discussions of minor points or issues with relevance only to the United States fellowship. I think it is fair to say that most of the decisions made at the conference will have little or no meaning outside this country. Many RSRs from outside the United States expressed their growing frustration at what they see as our narrow and parochial view.

When RSRs from other countries first began to attend the WSC, they accused us (and quite justifiably) of making decisions without seeking input from those affected, or of never considering the potential impact of decisions on other parts of the fellowship. I see our current conference as wanting to be responsive to the needs of a worldwide fellowship, but not being sure of how to do so or of our ability to do so. I do wonder if we are truly being any more responsible by listening to representatives from a handful of countries and being willing to accept that they speak for the entire non-U.S. fellowship, which now includes more than 50 countries.

I wonder how we are to reconcile the needs of the worldwide fellowship while still meeting the needs of the United States fellowship. Is what we do each year in Van Nuys a World Service Conference or is it a North American or national service conference? Can it or should it be a World Service Conference?

To what extent can or should the United States fellowship be expected to finance the majority of costs of a World Service Conference?

I believe the day is fast approaching when we will need to separate a United States national service conference from the WSC in order to adequately address the needs and concerns of both.

Other areas of struggle I observed or sensed involved our continuing strife over rules of procedure. Time and time again we had motions on the floor for long periods of time while we dealt with numerous amendments and series of motions to commit, to refer, to table, to refuse to consider, to divide the question, ad infinitum, only to find that when we worked our way back to the original motion, it either passed or was rejected by a wide margin. The time consumed by such proceedings deters us from more substantive discussions. I almost began to wonder if there exists some subtle resistance to trying to discuss issues we do not believe we will be able to resolve, or about which we do not feel adequately informed.

There also existed a struggle to allow "minority opinions" to be heard without derailing the ability of the conference to conduct necessary business. I believe there is a right to be heard, but not at the expense of the conduct of all business. I hope we will be able to initiate a communication medium for service issues which will help alleviate some of these problems.

I continue to believe that a major underlying difficulty with N.A. service at all levels is poor communications. World services has made progress in the past in communicating with the fellowship, although there is still room for improvement. Often we hear that we need to do a better job with getting information to areas and groups. Is this really our job? Does our task stop with getting information to regions? Are we to pick up the slack if an RSR or RSC does not communicate adequately with its areas? Personally, I have no problem with disseminating any and all information as widely as possible. The only difficulty with widespread information is one of cost. Curiously, while there is support for WSC directly serving groups through providing information, there is resistance to groups directly supporting WSC through donations. I can't help but be fascinated by the idea that \$1.00 per meeting per week would generate far more than our yearly budget calls for, with no other donations from any other level of service or reliance on conventions and fundraisers.

Another aspect of communication difficulties lies in WSC's acceptance of information with little or no verification. Once again this year we listened to RSRs present information as regional positions, only to discover through later reading of regional minutes or through information from other regional officers that the positions advanced represented a small segment of members in the region, at best. It's a two-way problem.

It was an exhausting conference, but certainly not without bright spots. Several actions demonstrated the fellowship's increasing willingness to trust its servants at all levels. Above all, I always trust the process and feel sure we ended the week being exactly where we're supposed to be. I neither understand nor agree with everything that happened, but fortunately that's not at all necessary. I am looking forward to being a part of the Administrative Committee. I'm enthusiastic about our commitment to try to promote discussion of a variety of issues throughout the fellowship and at next year's conference. Thank you for the opportunity to be of service.

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To: The Fellowship
From: Tom Rush
WSC Treasurer

We have a challenge before us this 1990-91 conference year. At the WSC '90 a budget allocating \$409,900 to the various boards and committees was approved. An additional \$15,000 was added to the administrative budget for provision of non-written translation services to facilitate the participation of non-English-speaking regions at WSC '91. The conference-adopted budget, totaling \$424,900, was approved by over 75% of the regions.

There are basically two viewpoints of what a "budget" is: 1) a budget is a plan adjusting expenses to income; or 2) a budget is an itemized, estimated cost of operating for a given period of time. When the "budget" is presented to the conference for approval it is considered more as defined by definition number two--the cost of operating for the next year. After it is approved then it is considered more as defined by definition number one--trying to adjust expenses and income. I'm not really sure what the conference approved (or thought it approved). Was the total amount of money (and the commitment to provide the necessary revenues) accepted? Were the individual committee and board projects approved? Was the percentage allocation of expenditures, based on available revenues, approved? All of the above? None of the above?

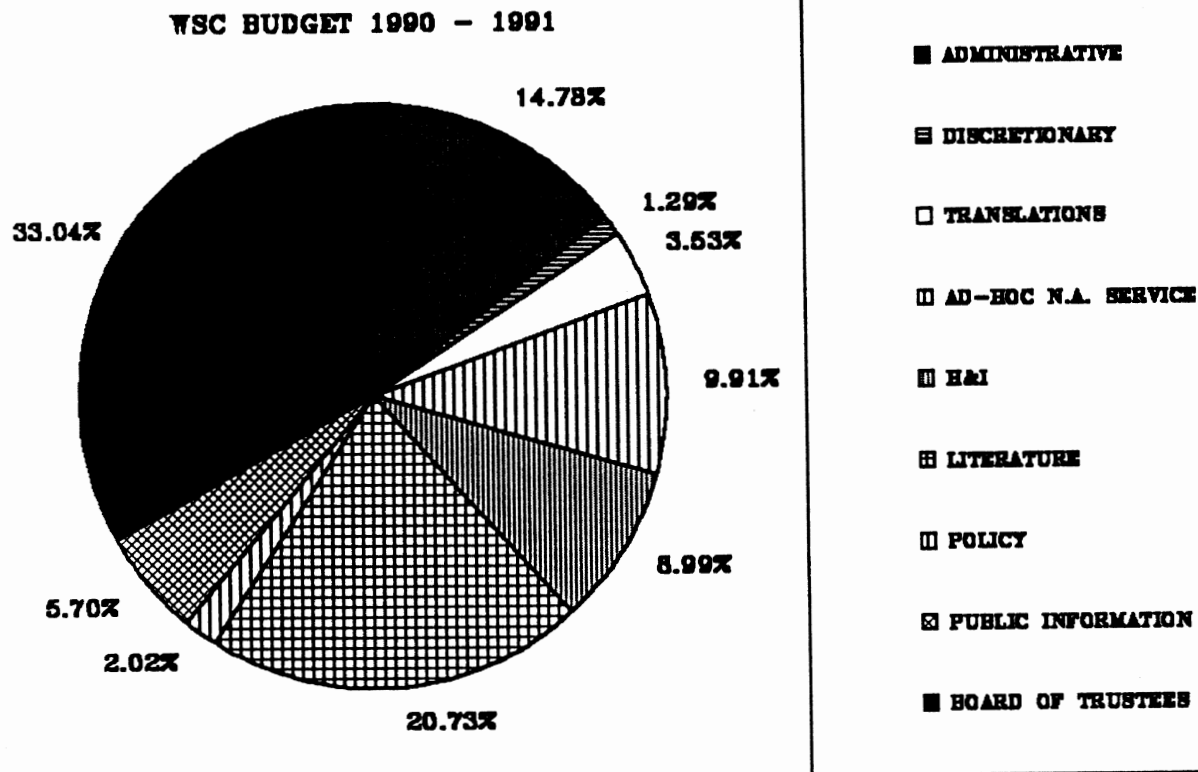
It is obvious if we don't have the money we can't spend it. Priorities would have to be established in this case. As I recall, WSC '86 dissolved the WSC Finance Committee at the committee's request and created the Joint Administrative Committee to perform this task. Although some participants expressed the opinion that it was asking "the foxes to guard the hen house," the procedure has been used for the last four years. At WSC '90 there were at least two motions that may have altered this procedure. One to reestablish a WSC Finance Committee was committed to the Board of Trustees, WSO Board of Directors, and the Joint Administrative Committee. The other to give a portion of this responsibility to the Board of Trustees was tabled and not removed from the table. There were also related motions proposed to change the WSO Board and/or by laws which also may have affected financial procedures. At least for the current conference year, this responsibility remains with the Joint Administrative Committee. Someday the three arms of world service, the WSO, the WSB, and the WSC, may become one head with helping hands.

When I first reviewed the approved budget total, \$424,900, I thought that it was impossible for donations to match that amount. On closer examination, I do not think it is impossible, although maybe improbable. I have included two graphs and a table for evaluation. Both the line graph and the table are based on the historical precedent of the last two conference years. The line graph has been adjusted to reflect the adopted budget. The table indicates the "middle" annual donation per region is about \$1,500. That is, half of the regions donated less and half of the regions donated more than \$1,500 per year.

As with our own recovery, changes occur. For example, there was a region during the last conference year that donated several thousand dollars. Relying on my memory, it seems that the local circumstances were such that this region could only donate one-tenth of that amount two or three years ago. If the 30 regions which are below the \$1,500 experience changed conditions and were able to increase the mean to \$4,000, we would realize an approximate \$105,000 increase in donations.

I am considering some changes in reporting to you. I will try not to confuse the reports by referring to "fiscal year" (June 1 through May 31) or a "budget year." The reports will be actual income and expenditures June through May. I will track the year on a graph. Of course, the other accounting methods will be recorded and available upon request. Actual board and committee expenditures will be reported to the individual committees. We are also exploring a way to include more useful information about the overall financial condition in all or some of these reports.

I think our Seventh Tradition is being described and practiced as an event (placing money in a can or a basket), not as an expression of the spiritual principles that the tradition embodies, such as gratitude and selflessness. This can change if we talk about it and then "walk our talk." We do need to make all of our members aware of our Seventh Tradition and our primary purpose. Please start at your next RSC/ASC meeting. Also mention this need to those you sponsor and any other member of N.A. We need not be embarrassed to be mindful nor remindful of our tradition of self-support. However, this should only be done with love, care and unity, never with vanity, arrogance, shame or guilt.

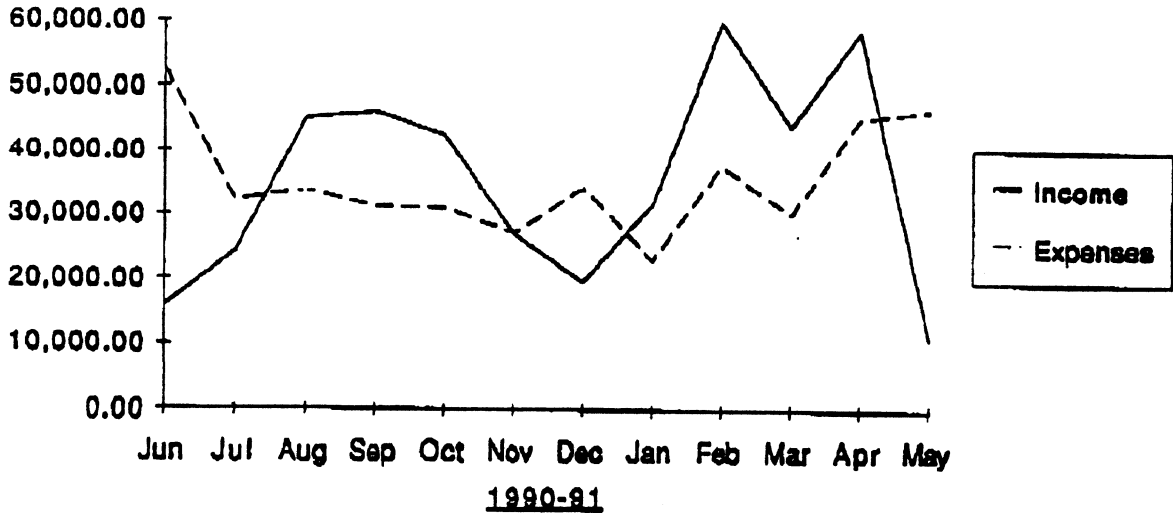


WSC 89-90

<i>Donations Category</i>	<i>Percent of \$\$ Total</i>	<i>% of Regions In Category</i>	<i>Annual Donations in U.S. Dollars</i>
\$0.00	0.00%	13.33%	\$0.0
\$1-\$499	1.68%	16.67%	\$4,473.86
\$500-\$1,999	10.12%	25.00%	\$22,994.43
\$2,000-\$5,999	21.77%	25.00%	\$53,524.95
\$6,000-\$9,999	20.99%	11.67%	\$48,711.62
<u>\$10,000 and over</u>	<u>45.44%</u>	<u>8.33%</u>	<u>\$105,058.56</u>
TOTALS	100.00%	100.00%	\$234,763.42

Income/Expense (\$424,900)

Budget Income/Expense Projected by Month



To: The Fellowship
 From: Pete Cole, Chairperson
 WSC H&I Committee

Greetings, my name is Pete Cole, and I am your newly elected WSC H&I Chairperson. I hope to continue in the tradition of those who served in this capacity before me. I would like to take this opportunity to inform you of what transpired at WSC '90 in relation to WSC H&I.

First, our committee has experienced a major turnover in membership. We welcomed six new voting members and ten new members to our nominee pool. We thank the members leaving our committee for their years of service and dedication to the WSC H&I Committee; they will be missed by all.

Our committee hopes that the main thrust of activity this year will be in educating the fellowship about H&I, via regional and multi-regional learning days and workshops. In keeping with this priority, we will be holding a learning day at the WSC workshop, July 14th, in Arlington, VA. Please attend if at all possible.

Our other ongoing projects are: review of our internal guidelines; support of our newsletter, *Reaching Out*; preparing two taped mock panel presentations, one on correctional panels, the other on treatment panels; and providing input to the work of the WSC Ad Hoc Committee on Isolated Groups. Also, we are researching a subscription plan for *Reaching Out*. We will have more information in upcoming fellowship publications regarding this project.

Due to our aforementioned turnover in membership, we will be holding an internal learning day for ourselves, prior to the fellowship learning day at the quarterly meeting.

On a final note, we would like to give our heartfelt thanks to the fellowship for approving the booklet, *Behind The Walls*. It is our hope that this piece will encourage addicts attempting to find recovery that it is possible to do so, no matter what their physical surroundings are.

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To: The Fellowship

From: Bryce Sullivan, Chairperson
WSC Literature Committee

The 1990 World Service Conference was an extremely productive event for the WSC Literature Committee (WSCLC). Each of the WSCLC motions from the *Conference Agenda Report* passed, some with minor modifications. *The Group Booklet* was approved and will be available sometime in July. The committee is excited about the broadened resources and flexibility provided to us by the conference. We look forward with renewed enthusiasm to productively serving the fellowship during the 1990-91 conference year.

The WSC approved priorities for the literature committee are: 1) The Steps portions of *It Works: How and Why*, 2) *For Those in Treatment*, and 3) *In Times of Illness*. Our next highest priority is the daily book, and we will continue to work on it. The matter of translations was discussed in length and is clearly a priority item for the conference. We will be working closely with our international literature committees to assist them in any way we can. Although the WSCLC is not directly involved in developing translations, our work does impact translation committees. We plan to include multi-lingual advisory members on our committee to help broaden our perspective in this area. Anyone who has multi-lingual skills and is interested in participating with the WSC Literature Committee, please contact us in care of the WSO.

An open forum was held at our Monday committee meeting at which any interested member could participate. The forum was attended by approximately 43 people, mostly RSRs, RSR alternates, and several regional literature chairpeople. WSCLC members responded to questions, comments and suggestions from the participants. Among the topics covered were: the Steps project, the daily book, literature guidelines, and communication. While there was some concern expressed about current and future literature development plans, the majority of participants and the WSC overwhelmingly supported our motions and proposed work schedule.

The WSCLC experienced one dilemma at the WSC. At least four hours of the committee's time was used for discussion and recommendations on 36 proposed regional motions. Very few of these motions were introduced onto the floor of the conference, yet the committee had to spend valuable time on these motions. The WSCLC is open to input all year long. Hopefully, regional representatives will consider submitting input throughout the course of the year instead of waiting until Sunday at the 1991 World Service Conference.

Many regional representatives at the WSC asked what could be done to help the literature committee finish the steps book. What we need is your continued support, suggestions and comments. Both the WSCLC and the Steps Ad Hoc Committee greatly value all the input they receive on this project. Financial support is also needed to ensure the completion of this book. Participants at the conference approved a \$424,900 budget for the WSC this year. What this means is that the literature committee, as well as all the other WSC committees, is relying upon the fellowship to follow up this generous action with the funding for our work. The budget for the WSCLC is \$81,000. With this amount of money we can get extensive work done on the steps project. It will also allow us to finish the two I.P.'s this year. This level of funding cannot occur without your help. Please encourage your groups, areas, and region to consider increasing their Seventh Tradition support of the World Service Conference.

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To: The Fellowship
From: Debbie Ott, Chairperson
WSC Policy Committee

Greetings from the new revitalized, innovative WSC Policy Committee.

This year's WSC was a time of major learning for me. As typically happens, the message came in a different form than I was expecting, but I got the message. It became apparent that there are three topics which the fellowship wants the Policy Committee to tackle this year.

The first topic is the seating of new regions. This has been an ongoing project of the committee, and the members of the committee have been unable to support a direction for this project. This year we have new ideas and will most likely have a proposal for 1991.

The second topic concerns WSC Policy Committee guidelines. It has become apparent that the Policy Committee needs to examine its guidelines, with particular attention to committee make-up, clean time requirements, and funding of members to committee meetings.

The third topic is rotation and continuity. Each year, the conference struggles at election time with the principles of rotation and continuity of leadership and participation at the World Service level. The WSC Policy Committee will try to develop some suggestions on this topic, according to position at the conference.

Three work groups composed of Policy Committee members will be working on these three projects this year. Any input should be sent to the WSC Policy Committee in care of the World Service Office.

If time permits, we have two other projects which we would like to work on this year. First is the format of the annual meeting of the WSC. This year's WSC was a learning experience. A majority of conference participants shared their frustration at not having a method of dialoguing, rather than dealing with a lot of formal motions. It also became apparent to the Policy Committee that the fellowship has grown to a point where it needs a nominations committee to seek and/or research nominations. We hope that as a committee we will be able at least to begin work on these two projects.

And now a word to our sponsor! In order for the WSC Policy Committee to work on and complete the aforementioned projects, we must have our sponsor's (the N.A. Fellowship's) financial support. We need your financial support to do the work you have asked us to complete.

Stay tuned for further information and requests from the new, revitalized, innovative WSC Policy Committee.

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To: The Fellowship
From: Steven Ringer, Chairperson
WSC Public Information Committee

I hope this report finds you all enjoying your recovery as I am enjoying mine here in the beautiful state of Maryland.

This conference was a truly rewarding experience as we, once again, have come together in the spirit of our common welfare. It is always gratifying to watch and participate in the letting go of our own personal wishes and becoming a part of this great spiritual fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous.

Your WSC P.I. Committee continues this year, as in the past two years, to have a full compliment of participants from all over the world of N.A. We look forward to completion of the two pieces in progress: 1) P.I. and the N.A. Member, and 2) N.A. A Resource in the Community. We also look forward to participating in several regional and multi-regional events.

This year marks the second year wherein we will continue to explore areas of interest in the national and international communities. Your committee members will be asked to participate as exhibitors and presenters at some seminars which we have chosen to be appropriate for our purposes.

We also look forward to the upcoming WSC workshop meeting in Arlington, Virginia in July. This will be the first of a new kind of workshop, and we will be demonstrating how to give a presentation to non-addicts to any and all of our fellowship who wish to attend.

The evolution of Narcotics Anonymous continues to open up new and exciting doors for us in the realm of P.I. and the professional community. We have established an ad hoc committee to further explore our involvement with those members of the general public who come in daily contact with addicts who have not found recovery in N.A.

We are also considering the production of a video about Narcotics Anonymous.

Our ad hoc committee on phonelines continues to assimilate information prior to beginning work on a new *Guide to Phonenumber Service*.

The conference moved that your WSC P.I. Committee and the WSO investigate the cost of producing our television PSAs in closed or open captions and/or with an inset sign language interpreter.

We look forward to our continued growth and hope to hear from all of you in the near future.

I will end this report on a more personal note. Every year I watch a few of our members leave our world fellowship meeting without having accepted the love and warmth so much in evidence at our World Service Conference. Instead of joining our brothers and sisters in helping complete our tasks both financially and spiritually, we begin to hear the drums of disunity and the "Us and Them" attacks. We all try to work together, for therein lies our strength. Disagreement has never been a problem. The problem stems from the inability for some of us to admit we were wrong and surrender to the greater good.

May the road rise to meet you and may life place a newcomer in your path.

To: The Fellowship

From: Reuben Farris, Chairperson
WSC Ad Hoc Committee on N.A. Service

This report will serve as a summary of actions at WSC '90, affecting the WSC Ad Hoc Committee on N.A. Service, and its work on the Twelve Concepts of Service and *A Guide to Service in N.A.* It should also give you an idea of where we're headed in this conference year.

Motion #1 in the *Conference Agenda Report* was approved by an overwhelming majority of conference participants. This motion read, "That the Ad Hoc Committee on N.A. Service continue work on *A Guide to Service* until it is completed, and a final draft is distributed." The committee takes that as a vote of confidence to continue our work in the general direction in which we have been proceeding.

A draft of *A Guide to Service in N.A.* was distributed to conference participants approximately 30 days prior to the conference, and some limited discussion/input on that draft was received at WSC '90. We are well aware that distribution of the draft so soon before the conference made for limited examination. It is hoped this draft of *A Guide to Service in N.A.* will receive widespread circulation in the coming months. It is currently available for purchase from the World Service Office.

Our report to the conference outlined a three-year plan for approval of the Twelve Concepts and the *Guide*. An approval form of the Twelve Concepts would be presented at WSC '91, with a vote for approval at WSC '92. WSC '92 would also include a "straw poll" on the *Guide*

to Service and an approval form of a transition plan. Approval for *A Guide to Service in N.A.* and the transition plan would be sought at WSC '93.

The WSC Ad Hoc Committee on N.A. Service will be conducting several workshops in the upcoming months to discuss our work. If your region would be interested in hosting such a workshop, let us know soon. Primary consideration will be given to multiregional events, but the committee will make every effort to accommodate as many requests as possible. Contact Steve Lantos, our Project Coordinator, at the WSO to inquire about workshop scheduling.

The WSC Ad Hoc Committee on N.A. Service definitely has another year of hard work in front of it. Our work has the potential to have tremendous impact on the fellowship and our service structure. We sincerely hope our work will receive widespread fellowship attention in the coming months. We look forward to your input, and hope you'll keep us in your prayers.

To: The Fellowship
From: Dave Tynes, Chairperson
Ad Hoc Committee on Isolated Groups

Greetings from the Ad Hoc Committee on Isolated Meetings/Groups. The conference has decided to continue our ad hoc committee for another year. We received overwhelming support from the conference for the direction our committee is taking in dealing with the issue of meetings or groups isolated from the rest of our fellowship.

The ad hoc committee will be finalizing our work on isolated meetings/groups in institutions and widening our scope to discuss meetings/groups isolated from the service structure due to distance or where they meet, such as schools, military bases, job sights, treatment facilities, etc., etc.

We will also discuss meetings/groups run by employee assistance programs and other meetings/groups in existence for a specific group of addicts only, due to outside regulations, not by choice of the membership.

We will ask for fellowship assistance by sending out another questionnaire to all regional and area committees. The deadline for responses to the questionnaire is September 14, 1990. We would like to encourage members and/or committees to send as much information as possible about these kinds of meetings/groups to assist the committee in completing its work.

The committee members this year are: Eddie Atkinson; Susan Blau, WSC P.I. Voting Member; Mariasha Perman-Weisman, WSC Policy Committee; Andy Siegel, WSC P.I. Voting Member; Dale Spencer, WSC H&I Voting Member; Rudy Stewart, WSC H&I Voting Member; and David Tynes, WSC Ad Hoc on N.A. Service.

Advisory members are: Pete Cole, WSC H&I Chairperson; Barbara Jorgensen, WSC Second Vice Chairperson; and Becky Meyer, Trustee Vice Chairperson.

To: The Fellowship

From: Jack Bernstein, Chairperson
World Service Board of Trustees

This year's World Service Conference was exciting, sometimes boring, long but not long enough, enlightening and extremely frustrating. The trustees held four meetings during conference week, both before and after the conference as well as twice during the week.

At the regular pre-conference meeting on Sunday, we discussed several issues, the first of which was the election of a chairperson and a vice chairperson. After considering many options, a decision was reached to follow the timetable from the *Temporary Working Guide to Our Service Structure*. As a result, the election of a new trustee chairperson and vice chairperson will take place at our October meeting. Until that time, the officers of the board will remain the same.

A great deal of discussion took place concerning the elections process adopted last year to increase the number of trustees to a maximum of fifteen. That motion also implemented a rotating system of elections by electing some trustee positions, during certain years, for less than five-year terms. Several trustees were concerned about the shorter terms and/or confused about the procedure itself. As it turned out, many of our concerns were unfounded for this year as the conference elected only one new trustee, Steve Bice from Northern California, for a five-year term. This now leaves us with only ten trustees, with Tom McCall completing his five-year term and Mario Tesoriero resigning due to personal and family commitments. The board will continue to request additional trustees from the conference, and in the meantime we will serve the fellowship with our present members.

The board met on Monday afternoon to discuss the motions which had been presented by regions. It was very disheartening and somewhat overwhelming to discover that we had a total of 22 motions to discuss and develop a recommendation to give the conference participants. Since these motions seemed to deal with only a few subjects, we divided them up and discussed them in that manner. We found that the conference participants had made several motions to amend, commit, or otherwise change the trustee motion that was sent out in the *Conference Agenda Report*. Our decision was to recommend that the WSC allow the motion as it was proposed in the *Conference Agenda Report* to stand on its own merit before considering any alternative motion.

During the Board of Trustees' report to the conference on Wednesday, our motion from the *Conference Agenda Report* was passed. This occurred after considerable discussion, during which the entire conference dissolved into a committee of the whole. At our recommendation the conference committed the following motions to the Board: 1) having the copyright of all N.A. literature taken from the WSO and placed in trust to the BOT, 2) to give the BOT the ability to stop action of the WSC, WSO, or WCC, 3) that the WSO Board of Directors elected by the conference be a trustee subcommittee, and 4) that the WSC elect all the directors of the WSO.

It was apparent to the board members during the conference that conference participants from the U.S. have difficulty in allowing the conference to be an open discussion of worldwide issues. The frustration felt by the regional representatives from countries outside of the U.S. was very evident, especially when all of these members held a meeting on Thursday afternoon to discuss the issues they felt most pertinent to worldwide fellowship development. They had been sitting patiently all week, listening to the representatives from the U.S. airing their concerns with minimal regard to the needs of the non-U.S. members. A procedure must be developed that encourages participation by these members in the development of our worldwide fellowship allowing representation of all our members, not just those in the U.S. During our two meetings on Friday, several members of the international community expressed their desire to be involved in the continuing growth and development of our worldwide fellowship. Preliminary discussions were held on the feasibility of including some of the non-U.S. members on trustee subcommittees. No final decisions were made on this issue and further discussions will be held.

A major concern of the board members during this conference was the amount of time spent trying to alter motions as a means of expressing regional opinions. We feel that if less time had been spent amending motions, there would have been plenty of time for regions to express

their opinions and concerns directly. Can't we, as members of a worldwide fellowship, better spend our time and efforts to assure that the message of recovery is available to the still-suffering addicts around the world?

But enough of that. All in all, the conference was, as always, an incredible experience in the power of recovery in action. If you were there, you were part of it. If not, then maybe we will see you next year. God bless and take care.

To: The Fellowship
From: Stu Tooredman, Chairperson
World Convention Corporation

The conference adopted the motion from WCC to permit changing the date of the World Convention. As explained in prior reports, the issue arose with respect to the 1991 convention in Australia. During the discussion of the motion at the conference, it was clear that strong support existed for the motion and to grant this authority to the convention board.

Throughout the discussion within the board, the possibility of changing the date was focused on having the convention on the three-day weekend holiday in Australia that falls on the first weekend of October each year. The WCC Board meeting took place in early June and voted to change the date for the WCNA-21 in Australia. The 1991 convention date is September 28th through October 1st. Please write this date down for future reference and tell others who may want to attend this convention.

Regions in World Convention Zone Three, as described in the Convention Guidelines, are reminded that bids for hosting the 1993 World Convention are due at the WSO not later than July 1, 1990.

In the recent *Newsline*, the entire information booklet for the 1990 convention was included which advised members planning to attend to register early and order their special event tickets as soon as possible. Facilities in Portland are not as spacious as those at past conventions and some events will have a limited capacity, so don't delay, register now.

To: The Fellowship
From: Stu Tooredman, Chairperson
World Service Office Board of Directors

Although the WSO did not propose any motions at this conference, many of the conference decisions affect the WSO. In fact, few of the conference actions can be effectuated without support provided by WSO. Those that affect publications were the immediate concern.

The literature committee motions to remove the existing *Group Starter Kit* pamphlet (IP #18) and replace it with *The Group Booklet* (as part of a comprehensive starter kit) was adopted. It will take a while to accomplish all of this. The first item is to produce *The Group Booklet*.

Fortunately, *The Group Booklet* is already near production. The minor changes made at the conference prior to adoption made it easy to prepare for printing. A catalog number and price will be published in the next *Newsline*, expected in late June. As for the new starter kit, a folder containing a number of items is also expected to be announced in the June *Newsline*.

Actions at the conference that affect the *Temporary Working Guide to Our Service Structure* will be reflected in the 1990 edition, which will be available from the WSO on August 30, 1990.

Perhaps the most far-reaching action of this WSC that impacts the WSO was approval of authority to use staff in a more direct way with work on the Steps and Traditions projects. Both the trustees and the literature committee are permitted to use staff in helping compile the input for their projects. Unfortunately, WSO does not, at this time, have a staff member with the skills and abilities to fulfill the project needs. WSO is looking for someone with the skills to assist with these projects and interested members should contact the office.

The reports presented by the WSO at this conference both contain important information that should get to every group. Perhaps the most important element of those reports was the part about banking and taxes. This information was presented in a two-page summary. Hopefully, every group in the United States will obtain copies of this report and discuss how its information is or may be applicable to their financial activities.

There were a number of motions brought from regions that related to the WSO. Some of them focused on the by-laws, election of directors, and who should manage the WSO. To address some of these motions, an ad hoc committee was appointed and met during the conference week. A report was presented that offered recommendations which were adopted. The immediate change this made was in the election of people by the conference to be in the "pool" for future board membership. In prior years, all nominees to the board who were not elected to one-year terms were elected, as a group, into the pool. Some felt this was not appropriate, as the conference might not have voted to elect some of those if offered the opportunity to elect them to the pool individually. The ad hoc committee recommended a process to require election to the pool requiring at least a majority support of the conference on an individual basis. This was done and those elected to the pool at this conference were added by this process.

One motion was proposed that would have transferred management of the WSO to the Board of Trustees. Another would have required the direct election of all directors by the conference. These and other motions pertaining to the WSO were given to the WSO or BOT for consideration during this year. As these matters are discussed, reports will be published. The specific motions are presented for your input.

1. "That the WSC elect all directors of the WSO."
2. "To recommend that the BOD amend Article 13 of the WSO by-laws by adding the language after [meeting..] "with prior WSC approval."

Another series of motions related to the price charged by the WSO for literature. This issue arose because of two factors: the general financial condition of the WSO and the proposed WSC budget. In the reports from WSO to the conference, it was disclosed that the WSO financial condition was not as positive as reported in prior years.

While it is true that the current prices were set in 1983 and have not basically changed, the WSO Board has been reluctant to increase the price of literature. During these seven years, the general cost of living has decreased the real value of the 1983 price structure by approximately thirty percent. What this means is that as WSO costs were increased by inflation (increases in production costs for printing, key tags, rent, equipment, and of course cost for employee compensation), the price charged by WSO remained the same.

Despite an increase in the number of each item sold each year, the rise in inflation over the years has reduced the value of the increased income to about where WSO was in 1986. Consequently, WSO is not able to increase its services to the fellowship generally or the WSC.

The motions that recommended WSO increase its prices were referred to WSO for consideration and reporting back at the 1991 WSC. The motions on this subject are:

3. "That the WSO increase the price of all inventory items by the same rate as the annual Consumer Price Index of the United States, as released by the U.S. Government in February of each year. The increase would come into effect as soon as practical. The increased

revenue would in turn be pledged by the BOD toward maintaining existing and increasing services to the developing international N.A. communities."

4. "To have the WSO increase prices of literature."

There were several motions proposed that related to specific inventory items. One motion would have requested the WSO produce a commemorative item (key tag and/or medallion) that signaled recovery at 18 months. This matter has been raised at nearly every WSC for the past few years and the WSO has been reluctant to support the idea. However, the board continued to consider the issue each year. Earlier this year, the WSO Board decided to support the idea and instructed staff to begin work on such an item.

When the motion was proposed this year at the conference, the WSO response was to announce that work has already begun on producing such an item. A sample medallion has been produced and is being considered by the board at its next meeting. However, the sample is not as simple and attractive as the medallions commemorating year increments. More will be reported on this after the board meeting.

Another motion about inventory items was to suggest that the public service announcements be altered to include sign language or closed captioning. This will be investigated and reported on later. That motion reads:

5. "To recommend that the WSO translate and produce for sale our existing conference-approved PSAs to American Sign Language and/or closed captioning."

Another motion that was referred to the WSO was also referred to the JAC and trustees. This will be considered by the directors and the other boards and reported to the fellowship. The motion reads:

6. "To reestablish a WSC finance committee to consist of the WSC Chairperson, WSC Treasurer, WSO BOD Chairperson, BOT Chairperson, and three RSRs, with the WSC Treasurer chairing the committee."

Anyone desiring to submit input on these motions for consideration by the Board of Directors should send their input as soon as possible to the WSO.