

CONFERENCE BUSINESS COMMITTEE "E" Board of Ministry

CONVENER: John Hinchcliff and Brian Turner

QUESTION 29: What are the decisions of Conference on matters relating to the Board of Ministry?
Report pp E1-35

DECISIONS:

Organisational Restructuring – Dr John Hinchcliff, Commissioner:

1. The report is received.

Report from Brian Turner (Ex President):

2. The report is received.

3. It is recommended that Conference

(a) notes that:

- i. in examining governance structures for Mission Resourcing and Trinity Theological College, as supported by Conference 2007, the Commissioner Dr. John Hinchcliff, identified issues of governance and management across the various levels of the Church as a whole;
- ii. I, as President of Conference, invited the Commissioner to explore those issues and provide a Church-wide governance/management paper for Synods and 2008 Conference;
- iii. the Church-wide governance and management paper has been circulated to Synods and Boards with other committees accessing it through their regional Synods.

(b)

- i. agrees that the 2008 Commissioner's Report on governance and management be accepted as a document for further consultation and development;
- ii. notes that Recommendation 25a of the Stipends Review Group report to Conference 2007, received by Conference 2007, recommended that a Task Force be appointed to review the regional and national structure of Conference and Synods to reflect the diminishing resources of the Church;
- iii. Conference appoints a Task Group charged with further consideration and consultation on the Commissioners report to Conference 2008, and any other reports submitted by groups or individuals on the Governance and Management Structures of the church.
- iv. The Task Group to report to Synods and Hui Paori on a regular basis with a view to reporting to Conference 2009 and finally in 2010.
- v. In preparing to report to Conference the Task group will note the need to manage communications to employees of the church, Trusts, Boards, Synods and any agency with which a board or committee of the Church as a contractual relationship.
- vi. Noting this, Conference recommends that a budget allocation be approved by the Council of Conference in order that the Task Group may engage the expertise needed in order to implement any changes.

(c) agree that in respect of Mission Resourcing, a Board be established, until such time as any other church governance structures emerge; such a committee to consist of up to five people plus the Chairperson people reflective of Mission Resourcing responsibilities; with an Agreement developed to define the respective roles of the Board and the Management.

(d) agrees that in respect of Lay and Ministry Training through Trinity Theological College:

- (i) the appointment of Principal proceed for effect from 2009;
- (ii) the proposed Principal's Job Description be accepted;
- (iii) the Trinity College Council (already in existence) be the governing body from 2009 until such time as any other church governance structures emerge;
- (iv) the Trinity College Council consist of up to five people plus the Chairperson and that they be reflective of the functions of Trinity College;
- (v) the Trinity College Council be charged with developing an agreement between Council and Management on their respective roles.
- (vi) the Principal be charged with:
 - developing alternative models of Lay and Ordained Ministry Training together with costings and financial projections;
 - consulting with key stakeholders including relevant Conference Committees, staff and students;
 - reporting to conference 2009 on progress and specific recommendations where necessary, on the proposals re organisational and qualifications changes.

(e) agree that the Board of Ministry be disestablished.

(f) Conference 2008 recognises that the Commissioner be thanked.

- (g) that the membership of the Task Group be Ron Gibson (chairperson), John Murray, Dr Savae Latu, Lindsay Cumberpatch, David Bush, Lana Lazarus, Diana Tana, Fika Fucago and Laura Black.

QUESTION 29(a): What are the decisions of Conference on matters relating to Mission Resourcing?

Report pp E38-52

DECISIONS:

Mission Resourcing:

1. The report is received.
2. Conference notes that the Candidates Assessment Team convener for 2009 will be Chris Elphick.
3. Conference notes that the Ordinands Assessment Team convener for 2009 will be Norman Brookes.
4. Conference agrees that Parish reviews will be conducted on a 3 yearly cycle, as indicated in the report, with all parishes to have completed a first review before Conference 2011.
5. Conference agrees with the principle that all those in paid parish and Diaconal ministry in the Methodist Church of New Zealand are required to have a police vetting check.
 - a. That from January 2009 all new Candidates and all Lay Ministers listed on the stationing sheet are required to complete a police vetting check.
 - b. Recognising that Mission's have their own policies and procedures in place, from January 2009 all those paid by parishes to work with children, youth or the elderly are required to complete a police vetting check.
 - c. That from 2010 all Presbyters and Deacons are required to complete a police vetting check, with the first round of this process being completed by Conference 2011.
 - d. That all Police vetting checks are to be updated every 5 years.
 - e. That Mission Resourcing Board develop protocols to appropriately address matters that arise from police vetting reports.
6. Conference agrees that the following be included in the candidate process for all candidates wanting to candidate in for more than one language setting.
 - a. That Candidates are to have been actively involved for more than two years in worship and leadership in the life of the language settings they candidate for;
 - b. That Candidates are required to complete reports from a parish in each language setting as well as both ministerial synods.
7. That a group of up to 5 people, including the President and General Secretary, be formed to participate in discussions with the UCANZ Standing Committee and the five negotiating partners regarding questions and issues around Uniting Congregations. This group will report back to Conference 2009.
8. Conference congratulates Deacon Shirley Joy Barrow on her appointment as President of DANZA.
9. Conference notes the formation of a task group to work with the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand on updating the Mutuality of Ministry covenant and information leaflet. This task group will report to Tauwiwi Strategy in August and Conference in November 2009.
10. That the Board of Mission Resourcing for 2009 be Michael Greer (Chairperson), Tovia Aumua, Setaita Kinahoi Veikune, Soana Pamaka, Norman Johnston and one to be appointed by the President.

Local Shared Ministry:

11. In regards to the Guidelines for Local Shared Ministry:
 - a. Conference approves the Guidelines for Local Shared Ministry.
 - b. Conference asks Law Revision to work with the Local Shared Ministry Workgroup to implement appropriate changes to the Law Book.
 - c. Conference notes that the Local Shared Ministry Workgroup will initiate a review of the Guidelines in 2011.
12. Conference notes that the Local Shared Ministry Workgroup will continue to report to Conference through Mission Resourcing.
13. Conference notes the membership of the Local Shared Ministry Workgroup for 2009: Val Nicholls, Bonnie Heberton, Nigel Hanscamp, Terry Wall, Ngaire Southen.
14. Conference expresses its thanks to Alex Webster and Lynne Wall for the time, energy and skill they have brought to the establishment and encouragement of Local Shared Ministry in our Methodist context.

QUESTION 29(b): What are the decisions of Conference on matters relating to Ministry Education (Trinity College)? *Report pp E35-38*

DECISIONS:

1. The report is received.
2. That Conference, in acknowledging that Rev Dr Mary Caygill completes her term as Principal on 31 January 2009, places on record its deep appreciation of her outstanding service to the church in the field of Ministry education.
3. That Conference acknowledges with gratitude the work of Rev Dr Susan Adams as Director Trinity Ministry Training Unit and places on record its deep appreciation of her work in the area of theological education.
4. That Conference acknowledges with gratitude the work of Rev Dr Lynne Wall as Ranston Lecturer and places on record its deep appreciation of her work in the area of Biblical studies at Trinity Methodist Theological College.
5. That Conference acknowledges the difficult financial situation faced by Trinity College and the competent work and responsible stewardship of the Business Manager in returning a healthy financial statement.
6. That the Trinity College Council for 2009 be: Catherine Gibson (Chair), Susan Thompson, Melenaite Taumoefolau, Bella Ngaha (plus two to be appointed by the President).

QUESTION 29(c): What are the decisions of Conference on matters relating to The Churches Education Commission? *Report pp E57-58*

DECISION:

1. The report is received.

QUESTION 29(d): What are the decisions of Conference on matters relating to the Diaconate Task Group? *Report pp E54-56*

DECISIONS:

1. The report is received.
2. That a Task Group of President, Vice President, Past President and General Secretary be empowered to determine whether the budget of the Church is sufficiently robust or there can be some rearrangement of the budget to cover significant revitalization of the Diaconate; and
3. That it consider the determination of the Commissioner that the Diaconate is based on a philosophy and theology that is worthy of support.
4. That Diaconate Task Group continue to operate under the Functions and roles agreed to at Conference 2003. The National Coordinator for 2009 will be Shirley Joy Barrow and the Secretary/Treasurer will be Edna Evans.
5. Conference notes that the Diaconate will seek funding to enable five people to attend the four yearly World Diakonia Conference in Atlanta in July 2009.
6. That the Methodist Church of New Zealand, Te Hāhi Weteriana O Aotearoa support a bid for the Diakonia World Federation Conference in 2013 to be held in New Zealand.

QUESTION 29(e): What are the decisions of Conference on matters relating to The Methodist Lay Preacher's Network 2008? *Report pp E56-57*

DECISIONS:

1. The report is received.
2. Conference notes Dr Garth Cant will be replacing Rosalie Sugrue as a co-ordinator of the Network in 2009.

QUESTION 29(f): What are the decisions of Conference on matters relating to Taiwi Youth? *Report pp E52-E54*

DECISIONS:

1. The report is received.
2. That conference supports the commitment of Taiwi Youth Ministry to National Youth Workers Network Aotearoa Inc.

3. That conference supports the delegation of youth representatives from The Methodist Church of New Zealand, Te Hahi Weteriana o Aotearoa invited by the Uniting Church of Australia to attend the National Christian Youth Convention in Melbourne from 3rd-9th January 2009.

QUESTION 29(g): What are the decisions of Conference on matters relating to Uniting Congregations of Aotearoa New Zealand?
Report pp E63-64

DECISION:

1. The report is received.

QUESTION 29(h)(i): What are the decisions of Conference on matters relating to the Tertiary Chaplaincy?
Report pp E58-59

DECISIONS:

1. The report is received.
2. That Conference affirm the work of tertiary chaplaincy and those who serve in this sphere and commends this work to the ongoing support of the Church.
3. Conference expresses its sincere thanks to Rev Bruce Hansen for his work as Chairperson of Tertiary Chaplaincy Council.

QUESTION 29(h)(ii): What are the decisions of Conference on matters relating to the Hospital Chaplaincy?
Report pp E59-60

DECISIONS:

1. The report is received.
2. That the Conference note the Rev Nigel Hanscamp continues as the Methodist Trustee on the ICHC Trust Board.

QUESTION 29(i): What are the decisions of Conference on matters relating to the Wesley College Trust Board?
Report pp E60-63

DECISIONS:

1. The report is received.
2. That the following be the Wesley College Trust Board for 2008/2009.
John Murray, Norman Johnston, Kay Kendall, Barbara Lawrence, Gillian Laird, Lana Lazarus, Andre Le Roux, Jack McCoskrie, Wesley Mansell, Suliasi Naulivou, Harvey O'Loughlin, Patisepa Unasa-Samoa Saleupolu, Barry Shuker, Diana Tana, Colin Telford, Mara Tupaea, Rev Utumau'u Pupulu, and Meleane Nacagilevu.