

EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
OF  
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ASSOCIATION

Pursuant to notice duly given, the Eighth General Assembly of Unitarian Universalist Association was held in Boston, Massachusetts, at the Statler Hilton Hotel, and was called to order on July 14, 1969, at 10:30 a.m., by Dr. Joseph L. Fisher.

**Summary of Business Transacted by the 1969 General Assembly**

Note: Because the General Assembly was held this year in July and because of intervening vacations, it was not possible to obtain the stenographic report of the Assembly in time to prepare the formal minutes for this Directory. The following is a summary of the business transacted. The official minutes will be on file in the office of the Secretary.

The Eighth Annual General Assembly of Unitarian Universalist Association was attended by 1785 delegates (1392 lay and 358 ministerial), 1 Life Member, 10 Associate Members, 20 Board of Trustees and 4 Church of the Larger Fellowship, representing 448 churches and 93 fellowships, 44 States, the District of Columbia, 6 Provinces and 1 foreign country.

The opening session of the General Assembly heard reports of the President, Dr. Dana McLean Greeley, the Moderator, Dr. Joseph L. Fisher, the Secretary, Mrs. J. Robert Reynolds, the Treasurer, Bernard J. Mayer, Jr., Schroeder Boulton, the Special Financial Advisor.

The Assembly also heard a report from the Commission on Appraisal.

**Election**

The following were elected to office:

Rev. Robert Nelson West, *President\**

Dr. Joseph L. Fisher, *Moderator*  
Schroeder Boulton, *Special Financial Advisor*

*Trustees-at-Large for four years*  
John M. Hines  
Mrs. L. Charles Underwood

*Trustees-at-Large for two years*  
Phillip S. Hughes  
Mrs. Edna M. Griffin

*Commission on Appraisal*  
Joseph Samples  
Lawrence R. Ladd  
Mrs. Frank A. Buell  
Dr. Harry B. Scholefield  
Harold Wilson

*Business Committee*  
Gwendolyn Thomas  
Rod Stewart  
Mrs. Lionel J. French  
G. Clyde Dodder

The votes for the office of President were counted by the Preferential method as voted by the General Assembly, with Mr. West receiving a majority on the first counting.

*Program Committee*  
Alfred J. N. Henriksen  
Raymond L. Wilkins  
Dr. S. J. Williamson, Jr.  
Patricia Johns Fountain

*Nominating Committee*  
Mrs. Frederick G. Lahger  
Cornelius McDougald  
Jack O. LeFlore  
William M. Scott  
Henrietta McKee  
Dwight Brown  
Mrs. James H. Jackson

*Board of Review*  
Dr. Frank E. Coburn  
Richard Henry  
Charles A. Reinhardt  
John P. Conrad

**Awards**

The Clarence R. Skinner Award, named in honor of the beloved Dean of Tufts School of Religion, to be given to the preacher of the sermon best expressing the Association's social principles, was presented to the Reverend Robert S. Lehman.

The Holmes-Weatherly Award for outstanding contributions to the social action movements initiated by John Haynes Holmes and Arthur L. Weatherly was presented to the Reverend Stephen Fritchman in recognition of his contributions over the many years of his professional career.

The Association's Award for Distinguished Service to the Cause of Liberal Religion was presented to Dr. Dana McLean Greeley, the retiring President of the Association.

The Frederic G. Melcher Book Award was presented to the Beacon Press for **THE RELIGIOUS SITUATION**, adjudged to be the book which made the greatest contribution to religious liberalism during this calendar year.

**UUA Budget Recommendations**

Dr. Raymond C. Hopkins, Executive Vice President, reviewed for the Assembly the 1969-70 budget of the Association. The General Assembly recommended to the new Board of Trustees the following actions relative to the 1969-70 budget:

That this General Assembly goes on record as funding either Black and White Action (BAWA) or Black Affairs Council (BAC) but not both.  
(Adopted by a vote of 798 to 737.)

That the General Assembly accept the action of the Board of Trustees of the UUA on the refunding of the Black Affairs Council.

That the Eighth Annual Meeting of the Unitarian Universalist Association strongly recommends to the Board of Trustees of the UUA that; 1) The cuts in financial aid to theological schools reflected in the proposed budget for 1969-70 be restored and; 2) Scholarship funds for theological students be increased from \$25,000 to \$70,000, to reflect the increased number of students and the higher cost of living.

The General Assembly urges the Board of Trustees to appropriate \$50,000 for the empowerment of the Chicano community in the United States in their struggle for human dignity and economic security in both agricultural and urban pursuits.

That the General Assembly recommend to the Board of Trustees to reinstitute the budget cut in the United Nations office.

That the religious education of children be given a higher priority in the Association's budget so that it may move ahead vigorously and rapidly in religious education curriculum research, field services and personnel recruitment and training.

That this General Assembly recommends to the Board of Trustees of the UUA that a much higher priority be given to the work of the Canadian Unitarian Council in the annual budget allocation.

The General Assembly most strongly urges the Board of Trustees to move as rapidly as possible and in any event, not later than the fiscal year 1970-71, to a balanced budget for the Association based on realistic projections of expected income.

#### Action on Constitutional and By-Law Amendments and Items of Business

The Constitutional (with relative By-Law changes) amendment relative to *Mandatory Contributions* proposed for adoption under Step II for such Constitutional amendment, was overwhelmingly defeated.

The Constitutional amendment, *Extension of Absentee Balloting*, presented under Step I (with relative By-Law changes) was referred to study and that appropriate action be taken by the Board of Trustees and the administration to ensure a careful study of the question.

The resolution submitted by the Board of Trustees for a complete study of election procedures was carried as follows:

That the 1969 General Assembly request the Commission on Appraisal to undertake further *study of the whole electoral process*, including the method of nomination of the President, various systems of preferential balloting or run-off elections and voting by mail.

In order to simplify General Resolution procedures, the By-Laws were amended by striking out in Article VI, Section 6: Subparagraph (iv) of Subsection (6); and by deleting Subsection (7a) and Subsection (9a). The By-Laws were also amended by rewriting Article V, Section 9, to provide for preferential voting in the election of Presidents of the Association. The new Section 9 was adopted in precisely the text set forth in the Final Agenda for the 1969 General Assembly.

#### Project Equality

BE IT RESOLVED: That the 1969 General Assembly:

1. Urges the Unitarian Universalist Association to continue and intensify its relation with the Project Equality Council, and further,

2. Urges its local societies to participate in Project Equality wherever it is operating in their local community.
3. Urges the UUA to join Project Equality.

#### Counteracting Institutional Racism

BE IT RESOLVED: That the 1969 General Assembly:

1. Instruct the UUA administration to conduct a careful investigation of the hiring practices of hotels proposed as sites for General Assemblies and other denomination-wide meetings; said investigations to include data on (a) comparative numbers of white and minority employees in each job category, (b) comparative numbers of white and minority employees in each salary level, (c) training and promotion opportunities offered minority employees by the hotel, and (d) human relations programs designed by the hotel to help employees relate to minority employees and hotel guests as people with human dignity; and that this information be made available to delegates 60 days in advance of General Assemblies.
2. Request the UUA administration to schedule General Assemblies only in hotels where, in its judgment, based on the above investigation, equal employment practices prevail; or, if such hotels are not available, to proceed with negotiations to obtain from a hotel a firm commitment to an affirmative action plan of its own, specifying short and long-range goals in the areas of (a) recruitment, training, and upgrading of minority employees; (b) human relations training for all employees; and (c) an ongoing evaluation program for assessing how well the plan is implemented; and that the results of this negotiation be made available to delegates 60 days in advance of the General Assemblies.
3. Urge that the UUA administration similarly look carefully at our other corporate practices to identify and develop methods of counteracting other instances of compliance with institutional racism.

#### Topics for Study

As a result of four years of experience and the budgetary situation of the Association, the Board of Trustees recommended that the procedure of selecting study topics be discontinued and the General Assembly concurred.

#### Youth Liberation

It was reported to the General Assembly that the following statement was jointly presented to the Board of Trustees by the LRY Executive Committee and the UUA administration and adopted by the Board at its May meeting.

1. That LRY, an Associate Member of the UUA, become an independent, autonomous organization.
2. That the LRY endowment funds held by the UUA under the terms of an agreement dated February 1, 1961, continue to be invested in accordance with the terms of the "Plan Governing Participation in the Association's General Investment Fund" and under the terms of the above-mentioned agreement, except that the provisions relating to the approval of the Joint Youth Activities Committee shall be eliminated.
3. That the Joint Youth Activities Committee, commonly known as LYRAC, shall be abolished.
4. That the formal relation of LRY to the Division of Education and Program be eliminated and that LRY in the future shall relate directly to the administration and the Board of Trustees of the Association as other Associate Members relate.

5. That an allocation of \$45,500, including income from LRY funds held by the Association, be made to LRY in the fiscal year 1969-70, said allocation to be completely under the control of the LRY Board of Trustees.
6. That LRY reimburse the UUA for all services rendered to LRY by UUA (i.e., printing, postage, telephone, supplies, staff benefits, etc.) and that the UUA income budget reflect an additional \$10,000 in reimbursements.
7. That the UUA make youth participation in the Association a high priority and that members of LRY and SRL be appointed and elected to serve on Board committees, Division advisory committees and committees of the General Assembly and the Board of Trustees.

The Assembly passed the following commendation:  
 The General Assembly endorses and commends the movement towards reconciliation between the Boards of LRY, SRL and the Board of Trustees of the UUA and expresses the hope that communication will continue.

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The General Assembly passed the following recommendation:  
 That no funds be expended or distributed by the Unitarian Universalist Association from its budget to any organization funded by the UUA unless an annual audit by an independent, Certified Public Accountant is supplied by said funded organization for the prior year's funds.

**Statement of Consensus on the United Nations**

The Statement of Consensus on the United Nations was passed with virtual unanimity.

**GENERAL RESOLUTIONS**

**1969 GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**ENVIRONMENT**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** That the 1969 General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association promote environmental quality control by supporting at every level applicable, and encouraging members to support, programs and legislation that would:

Protect natural vegetative cover on land through government purchase of land and acquisition of easements on a greatly expanded scale, particularly in river basin watersheds; ensure effective soil conservation laws in areas already under development; require complete restoration of land that has been subjected to stripping for coal mining or any other purpose; establish a tax structure that would encourage the preservation of open space.

Implement recent Federal legislation by establishing stringent standards and enforceable regulations at State and Federal levels to prevent contamination of all water—-atmospheric, surface and subsurface (thermal pollution must be considered a contaminant in this context).

Amend the Air Pollution Act of 1967 to include effective Federal air shed standards; strengthen local and regional air pollution regulations; further the study and implementation of ways to circumvent mass use of the internal combustion engine.

Create standards for use of pesticides and defoliating chemicals, reducing their use to amounts deemed safe by latest scientific findings, banning their use entirely where ecological control methods can be established.

Create standards for disposal of useless bulk wastes.

Broaden and intensify studies of the effects of population congestion in terms of what noise, confusion and ugliness may do to the human spirit; prepare to act on the result of these studies in ways that could include rebuilding existing cities and creating new planned ones; planning highway and transportation systems with concern for beauty and utility; setting restrictions on airport locations and on the types of planes that may be flown. Stop the manufacture, transport and testing of chemical, biological and radiological weapons and their use against human beings.

**ANTI-BALLISTIC MISSILE PROGRAM**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** That the 1969 General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association opposes the development, construction, and deployment of any anti-ballistic missile system, and urges the United States Senate and House of Representatives to oppose the funding of the *Safeguard* program.

The 1968 General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association urged that the United States terminate its multi-billion dollar anti-ballistic missile program. The anti-ballistic missile program may continue, despite increasing opposition throughout the country and in the Congress. Such a program can intensify the arms race, provide a false sense of security since it is only marginally effective as a defensive weapon, and involves a large expenditure of funds which can better be employed elsewhere.

The General Assembly also opposes the further development, construction and deployment of multi-warhead offensive missiles, including the so-called MIRV.

**CAMPUS FREEDOM AND RESPONSIBILITY**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** That the 1969 General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association affirms its adherence to the following principles:

1. The unrestricted search for truth requires freedom to examine all questions, to seek ideas and evidence from all sources, to listen to any speaker for information or inspiration.
2. The university community has a responsibility and needs the freedom to function as a total social institution—including both itself and the world around it.
3. The University's prime function is the education of the students. Education is a mutual responsibility of students and faculty and should involve participation of both groups in the decision-making process.
4. Freedom to speak includes the right to express dissent in diverse ways, but does not encompass action to prevent full, open and orderly debate or to restrict or restrain the freedom of others to speak or to learn. On the contrary, such use of physical disruptions or force is destructive of the pursuit of learning and of a free society.
5. Use of oppression, repression or blind force by institutions, administrations, faculties, or students, is not the answer to any move by students to gain their place in the educational community.

## GENERAL RESOLUTIONS

### SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM

**BE IT RESOLVED:** That the 1969 General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association urges that the President and Congress take immediate steps to abolish the Selective Service System and establish a volunteer military service with the financial, educational and professional incentives necessary to attract personnel.

We do not believe that military service should not be interpreted as annulling such constitutionally guaranteed rights as freedom of the press, freedom of assembly, freedom of speech, freedom of association, freedom of religion, and the right to petition for redress of grievance, and whereas such actions as the court martials and administrative harassment of the eight organizers of GIs United Against the War in Vietnam at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, the pending court martial of Pvt. Joe Miles (organizer of the Fort Bragg GIs United, and the punishments meted out to the Presidio 27 are in contradiction to the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. . . .

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the 1969 UUA General Assembly calls upon the President of the United States to grant amnesty to all service men and women to who have been victimized for exercising their rights of free speech, assembly, association, etc.;

That the 1969 UUA General Assembly urges the President, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, and the Joint Chiefs of Staff to publicly affirm Adjutant General Wickham's letter of May 28, 1969, instructing all commanding Generals that ". . . The question of soldier's dissent is linked with the constitutional right of free speech . . ." and to make copies of this statement of GI liberties available to all military personnel in order that they may have knowledge of their rights.

### GRAPE BOYCOTT

**BE IT RESOLVED:** That the 1969 General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association:

1. Supports the rights of farm workers to organize and bargain collectively, without fear of discharge, intimidation or coercion for their involvement in union activity.
2. Urges Unitarian Universalists throughout the continent to boycott all American table grapes, and request their local store managers to remove them from their shelves.
3. Affirms the right of dignity and justice for all men, and supports Mexican-Americans, Chicanos, and Spanish-speaking Americans in their fight to secure their inalienable human rights.

### SUPPORT FOR MINISTERS INVOLVED IN COUNSELING SERVICES FOR PROBLEM PREGNANCIES

**BE IT RESOLVED:** That the 1969 General Assembly of the UUA expresses its support for and encouragement of ministers who are participants in counseling services for women with problem pregnancies.

Respectfully submitted,

FRANK B. FREDERICK  
*Recording Secretary*