

Highlights from the February 2018 Presbyterian Mission Agency Board meeting to help you share the good news of the Mission Agency.

Governance Task Force

The PMAB approved the Governance Task Force's recommendations to send a new Manual of Operations and Organization for Mission to the General Assembly for approval. There were some amendments: adding two ecumenical advisory members to the PMAB as corresponding members, and continuing deployment of Board members to the General Assembly Committee on Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations (GACEIR). The sections regarding Board Operations, Staff Operations and Relationships with Other Bodies do not require General Assembly action, and they will come back to the Board for approval in April.

Per Capita

The PMAB voted to approve an increase in per capita funding and forward it to be considered by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) General Assembly 223 (2018) this summer in St. Louis. This would increase the per capita from the current \$7.73 to \$10.71 in 2019 and \$11.45 in 2020, and provide funding for additional Board meetings as approved in the Governance Task Force recommendations.

Way Forward

Discussion was held with Mark Hostetter, moderator of the Way Forward Commission, about the group's expected proposals and specifically the removal of the A Corp from the Presbyterian Mission Agency's responsibilities. PMAB member Joe Morrow engaged Hostetter in a question-and-answer session to learn more about how the Way Forward Commission sees the process being implemented.

Governance Task Force co-chairs Conrad Rocha and Melinda Sanders presented a list of five options set before the PMAB:

- Do Nothing — PMAB should be passive and let GA process run its course
- Stay the Course — PMAB should ask GA to give time for its own internal reforms to bear fruit rather than implementing additional change at this point
- Collaborate with Way Forward/All Agency Review on a proposal that addresses PMAB concerns
- Seek a separate outcome through PMAB/COGA conversations
- Ask GA to deliver PMA as a separate mission-focused corporation

After discussion the Board decided to continue to pursue each of the options, and to bring a recommendation to a specially called meeting of the Board on Friday, Feb. 16.

Personnel and Nominating Committee

The Board approved the nominations of Joe Morrow to the position of chair and Warren Lesane to the position of chair-elect for the 2018–20 term. They will take office at the conclusion of the General Assembly in June. Warren will serve as vice chair for 2018–20, and then become chair following the 224th General Assembly (2020).



Joe Morrow

Warren Lesane

Program and Administrative Committee leadership nominations were approved as follows:

- Audit — Sinthia Hernandez-Diaz
- Personnel and Nominating — Mark Brainerd
- Property/Legal — Melinda Sanders
- Resource Allocation and Stewardship — Conrad Rocha
- Nurture the Body — Patsy Smith
- Outreach to the World — Shannan Vance-Ocampo

These individuals will also take office following the General Assembly session in June. A recommendation was approved to rename the Executive Committee of the PMAB to the Coordinating Committee, in keeping with its role of coordinating the activities of the other committees. Gina Meester was appointed to the Mission Responsibility Through Investment (MRTI) Committee for a four-year term. The Board approved a 3 percent salary increase pool for the staff of the Presbyterian Mission Agency, effective April 1, 2018, with a standard percentage of 3 percent and a 0 percent merit increase pool, contingent on year-end results and their impact on budgets.

Resource Allocation and Stewardship Program Committee

In September 2017, the PMAB approved the transfer of PMA's Congregational Ministries Publishing (CMP) to the Presbyterian Publishing Corporation (PPC). At this meeting, grants derived from funds being managed by the Foundation that were earmarked for Christian Education and not currently being used **were approved with allocations for 2018, 2019 and 2020** to complete and ensure the efficient transfer of personnel and assets required for PPC to assume the functions of CMP.

Nurture the Body Program Committee

The PMAB approved the Presbyterian Intercultural Network (PIN) resolution on Declaring an Imperative for the Reformation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) in being a Transformative Church in This Intercultural Era for submission to the 223rd General Assembly (2018) and request that staff incorporate in the resolution previously approved Presbyterian Mission Agency Board actions, such as the recommendations of the Belhar and World Mission Intercultural Competencies Ministerial Teams, as appropriate, in consultation with these ministerial team chairs.

They also recommended that the General Assembly affirm the continued institutional relationship with Presbyterian Women, and to recognize and affirm the list of Presbyterian-related racial-ethnic schools. The committee also presented the **Women of Faith Award nominees** to be forwarded to General Assembly 223.

Outreach to the World Program Committee

The Outreach to the World Program Committee approved recommendations to the General Assembly from Mission Responsibility Through Investment (MRTI) that included affirming the need for urgent and robust responses to the threat of climate change, a report on MRTI's engagements with companies in the past two years and affirming guideline metrics to measure progress with corporations.

Stony Point

The Stony Point Sustainability Task Force provided a progress report, which revealed that Stony Point's "hospitality, interfaith and justice ministries are sustainable on an operational basis." At the April 2018 meeting, the board will be asked to work through a series of funding questions to determine next steps.



Power and Privilege Ministerial Team

The PMAB **approved recommendations** from the Power and Privilege Ministerial Team to ensure training opportunities at each Board meeting, continue with an ongoing Power and Privilege Working Group to work in collaboration with Advocacy Committees to develop criteria and benchmarks for evaluation, and create reporting mechanisms through the Executive Director or his or her designee at each Board meeting.

Mission Work Plan

A proposal for the PMA Mission Work Plan was approved by the executive committee, with a focus on vital congregations, poverty, and systemic racism and white privilege for the 2019–20 period. It will provide the framework for budget development. In April a budget will be approved, and both the budget and the Mission Work Plan will be forwarded to GA for adoption.

Thank You for Your Support

\$1,209 was received during the opening worship to support **One Great Hour of Sharing** offering.

Mark Your Calendar for Upcoming Dates:

April 25–27 — Board Meeting: Cincinnati

June 16–23 — 223rd General Assembly: St. Louis

Sept. 26–29 — Board Meeting: Louisville, Kentucky



Talking Points

for Presbyterian Mission
Agency Board Members