



<i>In This Issue</i>	
2005 Annual Business Meeting Minutes	
<i>Submitted by</i>	
<i>Conference Charter Committee (CCC)</i>	<i>Fellowship-Wide Services (F.W.S.)</i>

Dear Conference Member/Intergroups/Lone Group:

As you review the enclosed minutes of the 2005 Annual Business Meeting (ABM), please be aware that our business method has undergone some changes.

Issues for Discussion (IFD) which had no motion made were dropped from the agenda. The motions and IFD's below are in skeletal form.

The following motions and IFD's were considered.

- 05o02/98-20C** To change by-laws, Article V, Section 6 defining a quorum on interim votes **(Passed)**
- 05o04/02-04a** To include an Index Bookmark with each Basic text **(Did not pass or fail due to deadlock vote of 19-19-3)**
- 05o05/04-08** To provide a convention/conference for the spouse or significant companion of any conference member attending the S.L.A.A. ABM/ABC **(IFD - discussed)**
- 05o06/04-13** To require upon BOT override of Conference majority vote, the BMIS item overridden be re-submitted back to the Conference no later than the next ABM **(Failed)**
- 05o07/04-14** Edit Preamble to change "Sponsorship/Meetings" to "Support," change item #5 Spirituality to #3 **(IFD - discussed)**
- 05o09/04-16** To create a Conference Service Sponsorship (or Mentorship) Committee **(IFD - discussed)**
- 05o10/04-17** Change by-laws to reflect a recommendation that delegate terms be 3 years with 2 terms **(IFD - discussed)**
- 05n11/05-01; 05n12/05-02; 05n13/05-03; 05n14/05-04** To reword several areas of the *Introduction to the S.L.A.A.* and *Anorexia: Sexual, Social, Emotional* pamphlets **(Passed)**
- 05n15/05-05** Whether topic of incest/sexual abuse should be addressed in S.L.A.A. literature **(IFD- discussed)**
- 05n16/05-06** To change S.L.A.A. bylaws, Article VI – Board of Trustees Sections 2 and 4 **(Passed, but not by 2/3 majority required for Bylaw change)**
- 05n17/05-07** To change the international service structure to allow decisions to be made by representatives of a larger number of S.L.A.A. members in all countries where S.L.A.A. exists **(IFD -discussed)**
- 05n18/05-08** That the 2006 registration fee for ABC/M delegates from outside United States and Canada may be waived. **(Passed)**
- Motion to approve the continued existence of the Conference Committees:** CAC, CBC, CIC, CLC, CpiC, CCC, CFC, MRC, POC, CSC, CDC, CS&TCCJC, HRC, IGC, IFC, MRBOTC, CSPC **(Passed)**

As with all BMIS items, you are encouraged to submit motions well in advance of the deadline, in order to give the BMIS Review Committee, Conference Committees, and F.W.S. adequate time to provide feedback.

If you serve on a Conference Committee that plans to craft a motion in response to an IFD, please be aware that most items will be referred to several Conference Committees. That means several committees will be asked to provide feedback on the item. In crafting your motion, please coordinate with all committees to which the item will be referred. Coordination between committees can reduce the number of redundant motions and improve the quality of motions. To obtain a list of the committees to which a particular item will be referred, please contact the CCC Chair, Rob K. (robstarfox@yahoo.com)

If you have any other questions or comments on the 2005 ABM process, please contact the CCC chair, Rob K at robstarfox@yahoo.com or F.W.S. at info@slaafws.org

In Service,

Conference Charter Committee and F.W.S.

Please make copies for your local groups!

September 2005

The S.L.A.A. Fellowship-Services, Inc.
2005 Annual Business Meeting

Tuesday, July 5 – Friday, July 8, 2005
The Westin, San Francisco Airport, San Francisco, CA

Minutes

Conference Theme: The 3rd Tradition of S.L.A.A.:

“The only requirement for S.L.A.A. membership is a desire to stop living out a pattern of sex and love addiction. Any two or more persons gathered together for mutual aid in recovering from sex and love addiction may call themselves an S.L.A.A. group, provided that as a group they have no other affiliation.”

Present were 41 voting members that included seven members of the Board of Trustees, the F.W.S. Executive Director, *the Journal* editor, and delegates from the U.S.A., Canada (French and English speaking), Brazil/Uruguay, and Italy. Also in attendance were observers and volunteers from Germany and the San Francisco/East Bay Intergroup.

The F.W.S. Office, Board Committees, and most Conference committees submitted 2004 – 2005 annual reports to the ABM. The following list of reports appeared in the Welcome packet:

- F.W.S. Office 2004 – 2005 Report
- S.L.A.A./F.W.S. Job Ledger Report for the Period from Oct. 1, 2004 to Sept. 30, 2005
- 2004 – 2005 Board of Trustees Annual Report
- 2004 – 2005 Board Finance & Operating Committee (BF&OC) ABM Report
- 2004 – 2005 Board Governance & Nominating (BG&NC) Committee ABM Report
- 2004 – 2005 Board Public Relations Committee (BPRC) ABM Report
- Conference Anorexia Committee (CAC)
- Conference By-Laws Committee (CBC)
- Conference Charter Committee (CCC)
- CCC BMIS Review Subcommittee Activity Report
- Conference Diversity Committee (CDC)
- Conference Finance Committee (CFC)
- Conference Healthy Relationships Committee (HRC)
- Conference Interfellowship Committee (CIFC)
- Conference Internet Committee (CIC), referred to as the Conference Computer Committee on its report
- Conference Journal Committee (CJC)
- Conference Literature Committee (CLC), provided during the course of the ABM
- CLC Bottom Lines Worksheet Draft Revision dated June 3, 2005
- CLC Anorexia – Sexual, Social, Emotional in Plain Language Draft Revision dated June 23, 2005.
- CLC Crosstalk and Feedback Draft dated June 1, 2003, provided during the course of the ABM.
- Member Relations to the BOT / F.W.S. Committee (MRBOTC)
- Conference Public Information Committee (CPiC)
- Conference Steps and Traditions Committee (CS&TC)
- Prison Outreach Committee (POC)

- Conference Service Committee (CSC)
- Conference Sponsorship Committee (CSPC)

The following committees did not provide a report in the packet or at any time during the course of the ABM.

- Conference Membership Retention Committee (MRC)
- Conference Intergroup Communication Committee (IGC)

Forms included in the packet for completion and return to the F.W.S. office:

- Form to receive F.W.S. News via e-mail.
- S.L.A.A. Speaker Bureau Form
- Subscription to the *Journal*

Frequently Used Abbreviations:

BMIS: Business Meeting Items Summary

BOT: Board of Trustees

CCC: Conference Charter Committee

CSM: Conference Service Manual

HP: Higher Power

General Assembly – Tuesday, July 5, 2005, 1:00 – 4:45 p.m.

The General Assembly began with a moment of silence and the Serenity Prayer. Rob K. (CCC Chair), Marcella M. (BOT Chair) and Karma K. (CFC Chair) facilitated this session. This session's record keeper was Andrew H.

It was noted the only F.W.S. staff member present was the Executive Director. It was noted that one F.W.S. staff member terminated her employment with the F.W.S. office to take another position. The Executive Director (ED) is now the only full-time employee. Gratitude was expressed for the efforts of the Local Planning Committee (San Francisco/East Bay). Time was taken to recognize the efforts of the local volunteers/delegates and observers for their participation and help to host this year's ABM. It was noted that an International Recovery Convention (IRC) begins at the end of the ABM on Friday. All participants present introduced themselves, e.g. name, location, service roles, and number of ABMs attended. Six participants from outside the U.S. were acknowledged. The theme of this ABM, the Third Tradition, was introduced.

Time was taken to explain the General Assembly process, as well as the importance of the voting quorum. It was explained why checking in at the door with "the clipboard" is imperative for the voting quorum. The quorum was explained. The quorum is a specific number of people needed in the General Assembly room for doing business. Without this number of persons, the Conference cannot vote, nor can we perform any business functions. The quorum was stated to be 2/3 of the total voting members checked-in at this ABM.

Ribbon colors attached to participant name tags were also explained. Participants were asked to be present while here and put cellular/mobile telephones on silent or turn them off. It was also explained that all participants must use the microphone in order to facilitate clear communication between all participants and for recording of the ABM.

The deadline for submitting motions for consideration at this year's ABM was 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, July 5, 2005. Motions and Issues for Discussion could be submitted throughout the year. There were CCC members who offered help with motion formulation.

Logistical information regarding the hospitality suite was offered. The seating configuration for the General Assemblies was explained as roughly a circle, assuring everyone is of equal significance. The

roles of micro, macro, and backup were explained, along with other service roles: record keeper, spiritual reminder, vote counters, and timekeeper. The facilitators explained that anyone can act as spiritual reminder and call for 30 or 60 seconds of silence. There were volunteers needed to read the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions at every major session.

The activities for this day were explained. ABM attendees were reminded to bring the CSM, the BMIS, and Higher Power to each General Assembly. The ABM schedule was reviewed and committee meeting location and times identified. The delegates were informed as to the roles of the committee members and committee chair in the work of the committee at the ABM and during the next year. Committees were expected to make budget requests, project goals, and rosters by the end of the ABM. At the last General Assembly, the Conference will confirm the Conference committees. It was explained that a key commitment of the delegate was the election of BOT members. The election was to be held on Friday morning. Other events, such as, the trip to San F and the silent and live auctions, were highlighted. Volunteers for the Getting Current Meetings were: Wednesday morning – Michael S. (Omaha, NE); Thursday morning – James E. (Seattle, WA); and Friday morning – Kim B. (NEI).

After time for announcements and a break, the General Assembly resumed with reports from the FWS office, the BOT, and various Conference Committees. These reports provided a brief review of what had transpired since the last ABM.

F.W.S. Report: The Executive Director highlighted information in the packet regarding objectives, finances, office staffing, negotiated vendor contracts, and a flow sheet for Public Information requests.

Board of Trustees: In addition to the report, the BOT Chair spoke about a motion to change the BOT make-up. The BF&OC Chair also added information about “designated” gifts (donations) to FWS for FWS-sponsored projects and the Endowment Fund.

This was followed by the Conference Committee Reports.

CAC: Stephen D., referred to report.

CBC: Sam A., referred to report.

CCC: In addition to the CCC report, Rob K. requested assistance for CCC activities, such as, the Conference Newsletter, updating the CSM, and formalization of an interim vote process for agenda items.

CDC: Jason T. highlighted the need for and challenges of international diversity, particularly at the ABM.

CFC: Karma K., referred to report.

CIC: Irv. B. stated the committee met over internet VOIP in order to reduce expenses. He facilitated “Wiki” as a tool.

CLC: Gaelen S.R. reported in lieu of the Chairperson. She explained the current challenges of the CLC having only five writers and a number of unfinished projects. There are several projects that are nearing completion.

CPiC: Bill McM. added the ongoing development of the Public Information Outreach Kit as a challenge.

CSC: Keith R. highlighted the development of a service prayer and the website for use of matching service opportunities with those willing to do the service.

CS&TC: Randi D. focused on the charter of the committee.

HRC: Bill McM., referred to report.

IFC: Irv. B., referred to report.

CJC: Andrew H. spoke on behalf of the committee chair. He offered information regarding the increase in subscriptions and the need for article submission. He also explained the “buy one – get one ½ price” *Journal* subscription deal during the ABM.

MRBOTC: Karma K., referred to report.

POC: John C. spoke for the chair, Dave McM. A regional organization effort is in progress.

CSPC: There was a report in the packet, but there was no representative at this session.

There were no reports from the IGC and the MRC. These committees are inactive. The facilitators reviewed the schedule changes for the rest of the evening due to the unanticipated length of the reports. The facilitators then reviewed Phase I and Phase II of the business method used during the General Assemblies. The difference between an Issue for Discussion (IFD) and a motion was described. The voting process was also discussed: how a motion passes, binding votes, simple majority, group conscience, minority opinion, and the use of vote counters. The difference between Phase I and Phase II also discussed. There were 41 people registered and seated as of this General Assembly session, thus, the quorum is 28.

After brief announcements, a review of the evening schedule, and the Serenity Prayer, the General Assembly ended for the Getting to Know the BOT & FWS Meeting and dinner. Delegates were reminded of the 7:00pm deadline for submitting motions for consideration at the 2005 ABM.

General Assembly reconvenes, July 5, 2005 7:15 – 8:15 p.m.

This General Session was led by Andrew H. as the micro, Cindy M. as the macro. The 12 Steps and 12 Traditions were read. There were 33 voting members in the room at the beginning of this session, so business was started. There was an explanation of the Phase I process.

The assignment of roles was as follows: Steve S. and James E. -Vote Counters; Liz D. -Timekeeper; Katarina V. – Spiritual Reminder; and Deb W. – Record Keeper.

Phase I began with reference to the 2005 BMIS.

05o01/98-18 - Motion: “That the ABM approve as Conference-Approved Literature the attached rewrite of Chapter 4 from our Basic Text and the Anorexia pamphlet, for publication as a separate booklet.” There was a brief statement made by a representative of the CLC stating the reason for withdrawing this motion from the BMIS. The statement reads as follows: “The CLC feels beaten down by the Conference as a whole for the past two years. However, we believe we have solved a longstanding dilemma. Normally, we don’t encourage applause for the results of any vote; however, I am hoping that applause will be ok in this case for the decision of the CLC. After much discussion, the CLC members present determined (with the help of the BOT liaison) that full Conference approval was not required for any part of the Plain Language project, as there were no new ideas being added whatsoever. Similar to a translation into French or German, a translation into plain language needs to be reviewed and ratified by self-defined members of the S.L.A.A. Anorexia Committee and those members who may read at an elementary school level, not the Conference itself. Several alternatives were discussed, including reverting to the original non-Anorexia version of the motion. Subsequent to the discussion, the following motion was approved unanimously: ‘That the CLC withdraw the entire Plain Language motion 05o01/98-18.’ The vote of the CLC was 4-0-0.”

05o02/98-20C - Motion: “Change By-Laws, Article V, Section 6 to read as follows: The Conference will meet yearly at a predetermined site. Special delegate member(s) meetings may be called by the Board in case of an emergency. However, in no instance may a delegate member(s) meeting be convened on less than six weeks written notice delivered to all delegate member(s) of record. At any such special meetings a response from two-thirds of the voting members seated at the close of the most recent ABM shall constitute a quorum. The greater of two-thirds consensus of the quorum or 60% of the voting members seated at the close of the most recent ABM is necessary to pass an issue ~~shall be taken to be the number of delegate member(s) which constituted a two-thirds consensus at the most recent Annual Fellowship Wide Service Conference, S.L.A.A.~~ Mail or telephone polls may also be used at any item to render advisory opinions.” The Phase I vote was: 37-1-1. The one vote opposed can live with it. The motion passes.

05o03/01-05 - Motion: “Approve the [Crosstalk, Feedback & Triggering Language] pamphlet Approve the [Crosstalk, Feedback & Triggering Language] pamphlet.” This motion was moved to Phase II.

05o04/02-04 - Motion: “Upon the next printing of each version of the Basic Text, the topic index taken from the topic bookmark created for the 2001 25th Anniversary International Recovery Convention

(attached photocopy of 25th Anniversary Bookmark) will be incorporated as a topic index page in the Basic Text. Until the next printing of the text which includes the topic index, each purchaser order of the Basic Text would include a bookmark for each book at no charge.” There was reference to a new amended motion: **05o04/02-04a** - “Upon the next printing of each version of the Basic Text, the topic index taken from the topic bookmark will be incorporated as a topic index page in the Basic Text. Until the next printing of the text, which includes the topic index, each purchaser order of the Basic Text would include an insert for each book at no charge.” This motion was moved to Phase II.

05o05/04-08 - Issue for Discussion (IFD): “Discuss providing a ‘convention; conference; activities program; assembly; etc.’ (discussion would ensue on title) for the spouse or significant companion of any conference member attending the S.L.A.A. ABM/ABC. This can include, but not be limited to: 1. Orientation-including brief history of S.L.A.A.; what ABM/ABC is all about; what will their spouse be doing at the business meeting (?); etc.; 2. Co-SLAA sponsored meetings-include what are the steps and traditions of S.L.A.A.; 3. Temporary sponsors or contact person available for the spouse during their stay; 4. At least 3 major tourist attractions for optional group participation; 5. Maps of the area, including items of major interest; 6. Shuttles to shopping districts; 7. Other group activities, including card games; brunch or lunch-with invited speaker; 8. Hospitality room; 9. Spiritual (Higher Power) centered 'meetings.' *We could send out information fliers addressing the member's spouse with an invitation to attend this 'conference.'” This item was moved to Phase II.

05o06/04-13 - Motion: “To require that upon Board of Trustees override of Conference simple majority vote, the BMIS item overridden be re-submitted back to the Conference no later than the next ABM for a second and final vote by the Conference.” The vote was 14-22-3. Those 14 participants in the minority could not live with the motion passing, so this motion was moved to Phase II.

05o07/04-14 - IFD: “Edit Preamble to change #2 “Sponsorship/Meetings” to “Support”, change item #5 “Spirituality” to #3 and bump #3 and #4 to #4 and #5.” This item was moved to Phase II.

05o09/04-15 – Motion: “Create a Conference Writing Teams Committee (CWTC). The CWTC will operate parallel to the CLC but will not replace it nor operate as a subcommittee of it. The CWTC will provide a framework for communication for both open and closed Writing Teams (WTs). Each WT may choose to be open or closed to additional members.” The originator of this motion e-mailed the chair of the CCC of his wishes to table this motion. This motion was tabled until 2006.

05o08/04-16 – IFD: “Create a Conference Service Sponsorship (or Mentorship) Committee. This would have three members who would be elected by the conference much like BOT members are elected.” This item was moved to Phase II.

05o10/04-17 - IFD: “Change the by-laws to reflect a recommendation that the terms of delegates be 3 years with 2 terms totaling 6 years.” This item was moved to Phase II.

05n11/05-01 – Motion: “To remove the words ‘In spite of the relative newness of this fellowship...’ in *An Introduction to Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous* pamphlet so that page 3, 2nd full paragraph starts with ‘A number of persons...’.” The Phase I vote was 37-2-1. The minority could live with it. This motion passes.

05n12/05-02 – Motion: “To add the word “contact” and remove the words ‘...will give you the phone number of an anorectic in the Fellowship you can call’ in the *Anorexia Sexual, Social Emotional* pamphlet so that page 11, 3rd full paragraph reads as follows: ‘If you are hesitant to go to a meeting, or if you simply want to speak to a fellow anorectic, contact Fellowship-Wide Services to get information or assistance.’” This motion was moved to Phase II.

05n13/05-03 - Motion: “To remove the word “below” in the *Anorexia Sexual, Social Emotional* pamphlet so that page 11, 4th full paragraph reads as follows: “If there isn’t an anorectic meeting near you, you may want to start one. When you contact the Fellowship-Wide Services office, we will send you a start-up kit, an anorexia meeting format, and a person to contact who can tell you what their experience has been in starting a meeting.” This motion was moved to Phase II.

05n14/05-04 – Motion: “To add the words “**you can purchase a starter kit which includes**” and “**list of people and/or groups**” and removing the words “we will send you a start up kit,” and “...person to contact” in the *Anorexia Sexual, Social Emotional* pamphlet so that page 11, 4th full paragraph reads as follows: “If there isn’t an anorectic meeting near you, you may want to start one. When you contact the Fellowship-Wide Services office, you can purchase a starter kit which includes an anorexia meeting format and a list of people and/or groups who can tell you what their experience has been in starting a meeting.” This motion was moved to Phase II.

05n15/05-05 - IFD: “Discuss whether the topic of incest/sexual abuse should be addressed in SLAA literature, e.g. a pamphlet.” This item was moved to Phase II.

05n16/05-06 – Motion: “To change the S.L.A.A. Bylaws, Article VI – Board of Trustees, Sections 2 and 4, as follows (relevant paragraphs reproduced only): The number of Trustees shall be **seven**. No Trustee shall serve more than two consecutive **elected** terms, nor more than three consecutive terms, including **a combination of elected and appointed/confirmed** terms, at which time such Trustee must stand down for at least one year. Trustee terms shall be staggered so that **three** Trustees are scheduled to be elected each year, **two each for a three-year term and one for a one-year term**. Those Trustees who are not qualified members of the corporation shall be persons from the community at large who have made substantial contributions to the purposes of the Fellowship principles stated in the Twelve Traditions. All other Trustees must have three years of continuous sobriety as of the date of their election and must maintain their sobriety during their tenure. Section 4 – Election Voters shall be asked to vote for a maximum of three candidates: **two for a three-year term and one for a one-year term**. The top **two** candidates **for the three-year terms** receiving a vote from at least 50% of the eligible voters shall fill the full three-year vacant Board seats. **Additionally, the top candidate for the one-year term receiving a vote from at least 50% of the eligible voters shall fill the full one-year vacant Board seat**. In the event that there are any members of the Board that have been appointed as interim Trustees under Article IX, these names shall then be voted upon as to whether they should be retained in office for the remainder of the unused term.” This motion was moved to Phase II.

05n17/05-07 - IFD: “Discuss possibilities of changing the international service structure to allow decisions to be made by representatives of a larger number of S.L.A.A. members in all countries where we have S.L.A.A.” This item was moved to Phase II.

05n18/05-08 – Motion: “Waive the registration fee for ABC/M delegates from outside the United States and Canada for the ABC/M 2006.” This motion was moved to Phase II.

05n19/05-09 – Motion: “With regard to the Travel Equalization Fund (TEF) policy, to pay the same percentage travel allowance for international delegates and North American delegates.” The Phase I vote was 7-25-8. The minority could not live with this result. The motion was moved to Phase II.

05n20/05-10 – Motion: “To create a scholarship fund to pay for the food, lodging, and other registration costs for one delegate to the ABC/M from each of the following countries/regions: Argentina/Uruguay, Australia/New Zealand/Singapore, Brazil, Denmark/Sweden, Germany/Netherlands, Ireland/England, Italy/Spain, and South Africa to the ABC/M 2007.” This motion was moved to Phase II.

The General Assembly session was adjourned with time for announcements and the Serenity Prayer. There was a panel of speakers on the topic of Tradition 3.

General Assembly, July 6, 2005 , 1:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.

Marcella M., the micro for this session, opened the meeting with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer in French and Quebecoise. The 12 Steps and 12 Traditions were read. The macro for this session was Keith R. and Delphi M. was the back-up. The assignment of roles was as follows: Timekeeper: Sam A.; Spiritual Reminder: Maria P.; Record Keepers: Andrew H. and Deb W.; and Vote Counters: Michael S. and Bruce B. Phase I was continued with motions newly submitted at the July 5, 2005 deadline, with Andrew as the micro and Cindy M. as the macro. All new items were addressed in the BMIS subcommittee.

05n21/05-11 – IFD: “To Adopt the Following Prayer: ‘Higher Power make me worthy to serve You through this Fellowship and the 12 Steps. Help me to be generous with my time and effort, to give without counting the cost, to give back wholly for what I have so freely received without looking for any regard other than that of knowing I have done Your will. Through my service, may I give hope and peace to those that still suffer. Amen.’” This item was moved to Phase II.

05n22/05-12 –IFD: “The Conference approve active participation with the IFF on a web site for concurrent listing of active SLAA meetings (by city and area). The IFF is starting a conjugate web site for all the S and Co-S fellowships listing. Will SLAA participate?” This item was moved to Phase II.

05n23/05-13 – IFD: “The Conference approve listing of our literature on a master list for distribution to other S-groups, general web posting, and for availability for therapists and professionals. This is an annotated list with a short description of the literature, its contents and where it is available.” This item was moved to Phase II.

05n24/05-14 – IFD: “The Conference approve co-fellowship participation within the IFF. At present, this would mean co-fellowships would send a representative and would participate in phone teleconferencing. The IFF would encourage the co-fellowships to fund and support a web site of their own.” This item was moved to Phase II.

05n25/05-15 - IFD: “The Conference consider a voting member from the on-line meetings.” This item was moved to Phase II.

Comment/Question from the floor: “Should the owner of a submission be facilitating us through that item?” The Conference continued with the same facilitator with little or no address to the comment/question..

05n27/05-17 – IFD: “How do we nurture concepts of service at all levels of recovery in the S.L.A.A. Fellowship and the spiritual path undertaken?” The entire intent was not available and was moved to Phase II.

05n28/05-18 – Motion: “Revise recognition of contributions (both group and individual), to remove the tier structure as well as the donor’s name and instead state ‘Anonymous’, location and amount.” The Phase I vote was 10 22-6. The minority could not live with that result. The motion was moved to Phase II.

05n29/05-19 – Motion: “Publish contributions to endowment fund separately from contributions to the F.W.S./S.L.A.A.” This motion was moved to Phase II.

05n30/05-20 - IFD: “In light of the special relationship between S.L.A.A. and CoSLAA (ref CoSLAA trad 12), to what degree is it appropriate to honor this relationship and which entity/ies should be the steward of the relationship between S.L.A.A. and CoSLAA?” This item was moved to Phase II.

Phase I was concluded. Danielle P., chair of the BG&NC, presented BOT election information. The three exiting BOT members were introduced: Marcella M., Cristina C., and Deb W. Also introduced was Chris D., the candidate who was appointed to the BOT and was up for Conference confirmation. Two other candidates were introduced, Bill M. and Richard C. If the motion to change the BOT structure passes, Deb W. would be a candidate for the 1-year BOT position. The delegates were reminded to read the interviews in the packets. The delegates were informed that floor nominations would be accepted. The importance of being prompt on Friday morning for the BOT election was stressed. The means in which the votes were counted was given.

Phase II of the business method began. This process was reviewed by Marcella M., the micro. There was a correction made to the Phase II process as written in the CSM.

05o03/01-05 - Motion: “Approve the [Crosstalk, Feedback & Triggering Language] pamphlet.” Sam A. reported that this CLC Motion was withdrawn by its owner, 3-1-1. The CLC provided an updated draft copy of this literature. The CLC will continue with the project. The committee decided it is not appropriate to retain this on the BMIS agenda until such time as this project is further developed.

05o04/02-04a - Motion: “Each purchase order of the *Basic Text* to include an insert of the topic index page for each book at no charge.” This motion was entered as an amendment to 05o04/02-04 on the

BMIS. After questions of clarification were answered and the intent reviewed, a friendly amendment was offered. Revised Motion: “To include an index with each new book distributed (not necessarily purchased).” Pros for the motion included: the motion does not indicate how the index will be included; bookmarks, which have the same information as the index, are still available for sale. Cons included: This is one person’s idea of an index, not the entire fellowship’s; the bookmark will not be available any longer as a marketing tool; this is not complete enough for addition to the Basic Text; the motion is too unclear to vote for it. An additional amendment was offered to the motion: “Until the next printing of the Basic Text, each distribution of Text will include the current insert which has been created in the book. The book does not need to be purchased. It will also be included in newcomer book.” This amendment was declined. The vote for the revised amendment was 14-25-4. The minority opinion was as follows: This would help a recovering sex and love addict when they open the book. It may help someone, somewhere in a time of desperation; group conscience in Houston was not aware of the insert – a lot of people aren’t aware it can be bought – if it comes with the text it would be a lot easier – the Houston group is 99% behind this; I can’t see any reason why we shouldn’t at least do this. A second vote was 19-19-3. The motion deadlocked, it did not pass nor did it fail. The motion is resolved in deadlock and goes away.

05o05/04-08 – IFD: “Discuss providing a ‘convention; conference; activities program; assembly; etc.’ (discussion would ensue on title) for the spouse or significant companion of any conference member attending the S.L.A.A. ABM/ABC. This can include, but not be limited to: 1. Orientation-including brief history of S.L.A.A.; what ABM/ABC is all about; what will their spouse be doing at the business meeting(?); etc.; 2. Co-SLAA sponsored meetings-include what are the Steps and Traditions of S.L.A.A.; 3. Temporary sponsors or contact person available for the spouse during their stay; 4. At least 3 major tourist attractions for optional group participation; 5. Maps of the area, including items of major interest; 6. Shuttles to shopping districts; 7. Other group activities, including card games; brunch or lunch-with invited speaker; 8. Hospitality room; 9. Spiritual (Higher Power) centered ‘meetings.’ *We could send out information fliers addressing the member's spouse with an invitation to attend this 'conference.’” No motion was entertained regarding this IFD for the past year, thus this item drops from the agenda. Discussion was completed and this item was closed.

05o06/04-13 - Motion: “To require that upon Board of Trustees override of Conference simple majority vote, the BMIS item overridden be re-submitted back to the Conference no later than the next ABM for a second and final vote by the Conference.” Pros included: It is important that group conscience and Tradition Two be respected. This motion is a point of contention between the Conference and the BOT and is written to empower group conscience of the Conference; The Tucson Intergroup feels strongly that group conscience comes first; I support right and duty of BOT to function. This allows the Conference to express views to BOT without having to go through a committee for resubmission. Cons included: Trust the BOT to be the safeguard for us legally and financially; this is a group’s assumption that it is about simple majority votes, which are not understood to be group conscience. The first vote was 16-23-2. The minority opinion included: Note how important GC is, how HP is observed, empowering group conscience, not changing By-laws, or that 2/3 majority isn’t necessarily not respected; Central Texas is in completely in favor. There are rules and reasons for it. The second vote was 15-23-3. The minority opinion did not shift, therefore the motion fails.

05o07/04-14 – IFD: “Edit Preamble to change #2 “Sponsorship/Meetings” to “Support”, change item #5 “Spirituality” to #3 and bump #3 and #4 to #4 and #5.” The originator of this motion had requested that another item (the By-Law motion 05n16/05-06 p 14) be handled at this time, prior to handling this IFD. The micro considered a motion to move the item; the motion was seconded. The motion reads: “Address item 05n16/05-06 at this time in lieu of 05o07/04-14.” Pros included: this will help us decide in how to vote for the BOT; this would be more timely an issue for election; we should support the author of motion 05o07/04-14. Cons included: the process of deciding to change order is not efficient; I want to be respectful of the process and not set precedent that we move motions around on a whim. There is no urgency. The first vote was 12-23-6. The motion to change the order of business was withdrawn by

the originator. Discussion continued on **05o07/04-14**. Fifteen minutes was given for the discussion with one minute for each participant who wishes to address the item. The results are as follows:

- Intergroup needs an explanation about change to “Support.”
- I am happy that we have just changed the Preamble. In Germany, we couldn’t find a good translation for “Support.” The current Preamble is good. Sponsorship is not well developed in Germany. We couldn’t increase the importance by changing the order. In Germany, most important items are put at the end. What we decide here, can make a decision for others.
- I agree that Sponsorship/Meetings is much more clear and graphic than “support.” Just read over the comments about the expense to make this change. It might not be worthwhile to make change.
- I oppose this idea because of expense, and because the last thing heard is a spiritually better place than hearing it first.
- It works now. Why bother with the time and expense. It will be, when it is found, wherever it is found, in the list. Germany has 75 groups in a country the size of Texas, where we really need to encourage sponsorship.
- We’ve looked for several years for a single word starting with “S.” This may get us in a ripple effect. From literature standpoint, support twice interrupts cadence. I really appreciated support being first, I don’t know what to do after.
- Don’t dink with the Preamble.
- Tucson was unanimous that we didn’t know it was broken, why are we fixing it.
- Support is what I did for first three years in program. When I got a sponsor and went to meetings, I got sober.

Discussion was completed and this item was closed. [NOTE: This IFD will retain its place on the BMIS until Phase II of the next ABM, permitting the opportunity for a motion to be presented relating to this discussion. Should no motion be presented, it will drop from the BMIS when the next Conference arrives at this place on the BMIS in Phase II.]

05o09/04-16 – IFD: “Create a Conference Service Sponsorship (or Mentorship) Committee.

This would have three members who would be elected by the conference much like BOT members are elected.” Discussion time was set for 15 minutes, with one minute for each participant willing to address this issue. The results are as follows:

- The Conference Service Committee is in support of this motion and will provide services by the Service Finder Match program mentioned previously in production by the CSC. The CSC is willing to take on responsibilities under our committee and do not foresee the need for another committee to be implemented.
- We have a lot of committees. I also am noticing that we are not getting a lot done. There are not enough people to do the work of existing committees. I want to really, really, really, really focus on what we want to get done.
- I am not in favor of more committees. There is nothing like getting your feet wet in an existing committee.
- I get plenty of mentorship from speaking with people as a member of Conference or BOT. I just have to talk to them without another committee.
- I think it is a good idea. In our home, when our kids want a new toy, a toy has to be disposed. We need to get rid of a committee. We need to cap it. If we want a new committee, we have to get rid of a committee for sustainability.

Discussion was completed and this item was closed. [NOTE: This IFD will retain its place on the BMIS until Phase II of the next ABM, permitting the opportunity for a motion to be presented relating to this discussion. Should no motion be presented, it will drop from the BMIS when the next Conference arrives at this place on the BMIS in Phase II.]

05o10/04-17 – IFD: “Change the by-laws to reflect a recommendation that the terms of delegates be 3 years with 2 terms totaling 6 years.” Discussion time was set for 15 minutes, with one minute for each participant willing to address this issue. The results are as follows:

- The CSC ed that this motion be changed to a delegate having three 2-year terms for a total of 6 years with all terms being optional. This will be more conducive toward a willingness for service.
- After discussion on this issue, it was felt strongly that we would prefer that a delegate commit to two years, with three terms.
- Conceivably, we could have a BOT elected for a partial term, and then take another partial term for a total of eight years. This may not be an issue for most people who want to get out when their term is up. Rotation is important to keep things from getting stale, fiefdoms being built, and getting stale. I know it is hard to get people. The fact that is difficult should not mean that we go to something else.
- This is a reminder that this effects the term of a delegate. BOT terms will be discussed later.
- This just feels like an awfully long commitment, not only for those that are already delegates, but for those considering.
- The observer role can be at front end of career, back end, or in the middle. Community members can participate in Conference activities without being a delegate. We must distinguish between participation and leadership.

Discussion was completed and this item was closed. [NOTE: This IFD will retain its place on the BMIS until Phase II of the next ABM, permitting the opportunity for a motion to be presented relating to this discussion. Should no motion be presented, it will drop from the BMIS when the next Conference arrives at this place on the BMIS in Phase II.]

05n12/05-02 – Motion: “To add the word “contact” and remove the words “...will give you the phone number of an anorectic in the Fellowship you can call.” in the *Anorexia Sexual, Social Emotional* pamphlet so that page 11, 3rd full paragraph reads as follows: “If you are hesitant to go to a meeting, or if you simply want to speak to a fellow anorectic, contact Fellowship-Wide Services to get information or assistance.” Comment from the CLC offered: We found problems with the original motion. Our comments appear at right on BMIS. The issues that the CLC had, no longer exist because of reasons given, therefore comments are no longer in effect. A comment from the FWS office: When people call the office, they want to talk to the anorectic in the office. There are not a bevy of anorectics in the office. The caller is not happy with response. There were no pros or cons. The first vote was 38-0-1. The motion passes.

05n13/05-03 - Motion: “To remove the word “below” in the *Anorexia Sexual, Social Emotional* pamphlet so that page 11, 4th full paragraph reads as follows: “If there isn’t an anorectic meeting near you, you may want to start one. When you contact the Fellowship-Wide Services office, we will send you a start-up kit, an anorexia meeting format, and a person to contact who can tell you what their experience has been in starting a meeting.” Pros were: We can’t change something that is conference approved without conference approval. The first vote was 39-0-0. The motion passed.

05n14/05-04 – Motion: “To add the words “**you can purchase a starter kit which includes**” and “**list of people and/or groups**” and removing the words “we will send you a start up kit,” and “...person to contact” in the *Anorexia Sexual, Social Emotional* pamphlet so that page 11, 4th full paragraph reads as follows: “If there isn’t an anorectic meeting near you, you may want to start one. When you contact the Fellowship-Wide Services office, you can purchase a starter kit which includes an anorexia meeting format and a list of people and/or groups who can tell you what their experience has been in starting a meeting.” There were no pros or cons. The first vote was 37-0-2. The motion passed.

05n15/05-05 – IFD: “Discuss whether the topic of incest/sexual abuse should be addressed in SLAA literature, e.g. a pamphlet.” Discussion time was set for 15 minutes, with one minute for each participant willing to address this issue. The results are as follows:

- I realize that many people in S.L.A.A. have an abuse history, but not everybody. It is not necessarily a part of sex and love addiction. Just because a lot of people have had that experience does not mean that we need to address it. There are not a lot of minorities represented, but that doesn't necessarily mean we address sex and love addiction in a Caucasian manner. There is another group for this issue.
- When I first came to S.L.A.A., my initial reaction was that I would never mention that I was a survivor of childhood abuse, but other people in the Fellowship came forward as survivor and helped me address my concerns. Acting out is really abuse, and many don't recognize it. It is a delicate matter and it is tied to the addiction.
- The Delaware Intergroup discussion included a lot of concerns about getting involved in legal issues, and in therapy rather than recovery. The feeling to specifically talk about that specific bottom-line is not necessary. There is already too much involved in legal and therapy.
- In the Houston Intergroup, the people who were not survivors thought this was a good idea, survivors thought it was not a good idea. There is a concern about liability issues for F.W.S. The issues for incest survivors is so fragile, some survivors may be suicidal. SIA is the place to deal with this.
- As survivor of abuse and incest, I realize that any literature takes a lot of effort. The way this issue is worded is very relevant. Issues as survivors are intimately associated with sex and love addiction. I didn't realize my addiction until I recognized my survivor issues.
- I support literature being developed, but not to be graphic in content.
- Two-thirds of our meetings have been survivors. I am also a survivor. I would have felt more comforted had I some literature. I was really frightened. I was afraid of men who were talking about acting out. My survivorship is a part of my S.L.A.A. for all of my life. It won't disappear completely.
- In the spirit of interfellowship and of support, we could have SIA brochures at our meeting.
- There is a process of a trial balloon. There is writing for the *Journal*. This topic can be discussed in that venue with no boundaries and there is no conference approval needed for the text written for the *Journal*. One could begin to start working on a story about how these issues meld. The first ten years were put in major bounded books. In theory, we could compile issues around incest. The *Journal* is a tremendous avenue for this kind of discussion.
- There may be legal and liability issues. As for relevance, we have issues for Anorexia, although not all of us have these issues. I am not an incest survivor – it doesn't pertain to me.
- We all tend to have all our own little areas. I'm not trying to be insensitive to others. I see this as a way to open the gate to every little thing. We could open a floodgate for anything. We would be involved in pamphlet writing for a long time. Is there a limit?
- Open the floodgates, write some literature.
- Join the CLC.

Discussion was completed and this item was closed. [NOTE: This IFD will retain its place on the BMIS until Phase II of the next ABM, permitting the opportunity for a motion to be presented relating to this discussion. Should no motion be presented, it will drop from the BMIS when the next Conference arrives at this place on the BMIS in Phase II.]

05n16/05-06 – Motion: “To change the S.L.A.A. bylaws, Article VI – Board of Trustees, Sections 2 and 4, as follows (relevant paragraphs reproduced only): The number of Trustees shall be **seven**. No Trustee shall serve more than two consecutive **elected** terms, nor more than three consecutive terms, including **a combination of elected and appointed/confirmed** terms, at which time such Trustee must stand down for at least one year. Trustee terms shall be staggered so that **three** Trustees are scheduled to be elected each year, **two each for a three-year term and one for a one-year term**. Those Trustees who

are not qualified members of the corporation shall be persons from the community at large who have made substantial contributions to the purposes of the Fellowship principles stated in the Twelve Traditions. All other Trustees must have three years of continuous sobriety as of the date of their election and must maintain their sobriety during their tenure. Section 4 – Election Voters shall be asked to vote for a maximum of three candidates: **two for a three-year term and one for a one-year term.** The top **two candidates for the three-year terms** receiving a vote from at least 50% of the eligible voters shall fill the full three-year vacant Board seats. **Additionally, the top candidate for the one-year term receiving a vote from at least 50% of the eligible voters shall fill the full one-year vacant Board seat.** In the event that there are any members of the Board that have been appointed as interim Trustees under Article IX, these names shall then be voted upon as to whether they should be retained in office for the remainder of the unused term.” After questions of clarification were answered, pros and cons were offered. The pros included: This is a well thought out plan. It does not serve us to have vacancies; The BOT has been streamlining its work and committees over the past two years. This is also more cost efficient in time and money; We are following through with recommendations to streamline the work and the position of BOT members. Cons included: This could have been several proposals. I would like to have been able to vote on number of years instead of number of members. I know it is hard to recruit members and I am concerned about reduced number of members; The BOT does a lot of work, but that is not the Board’s job, it is to advise. It is better to have a full board of nine people as advisors rather than as worker bees. The worker bees should be in committees; I have spent 9 years as a board member, my family has spent 11. It has been seven people in a group of nine, a lot. People who become disillusioned, experience a loss of sobriety, and resignations reduce number of BOTs during terms. Mathematically, if you start with seven, you will end up with five, a 22% reduction. The reduced number, reduces diversity. I have a very strong concern there has been an increasing narrowing of the board. I don’t like what I have seen - narrower and narrower thinking. I want 9. I want 2 more that think like me. I don’t want to think the other 2 who think like me will be out. The first vote was 27-11-2. Minority opinion included: The Tucson Intergroup thinks that changing the Bylaws is dangerous; I am concerned for the consolidation of power’ don’t dink with the Bylaws; We are letting the problem drive us. I hear that we are having problems getting people to serve, so let’s reduce our expectations. I don’t believe the year of terms is the issue. It feels as if this motion has been trying to be driven home to the Conference. It feels rushed and like shoving a square peg into a round hole. A comment was made last night, that if there is a one-year term, there is someone available. This is a reminder that there is a vacancy of a term that has just one year left. I saw it as bait to get people to vote with this motion. This hasn’t felt right; I think this could be proposed as separate amendments for voting; This motion does not feel sober. I question whether the BOT members are sober in review of this situation. I am disappointed and I think this is being rammed down our throats. I do not think this is the solution. I appreciate the BOTs thinking outside the box on other items. But I think the BOT is thinking small on this issue. I want the BOT to think of greater ideas. There are other opportunities. If this motion is to pass, I think it is inappropriate to implement this at this ABM, perhaps next year. This motion is so big and so complex to decide in such a short time frame. The second vote was 18-21-2. The minority had changed and there was a new minority.

However, time had run over for this business session and this item will be picked up again at the beginning of the next General Assembly. Floor nominations were also moved to the next morning. The General Assembly was adjourned after the Serenity Prayer was said in Hebrew, for an S.L.A.A. meeting offsite and potluck.

General Assembly Reconvenes, July 07, 2005, 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

The meeting started with a moment of silence and the Serenity Prayer in Italian. The 12 Steps and 12 Traditions were read. Rob K. was the micro for this session, Cindy M., the macro, and Sam A. as the back-up. Assignment of roles was as follows: Timekeeper: Cristina C.; Spiritual Reminder: James E.; Record Keeper: Andrew H.; Vote Counters: Jason T. and Maria P. After check-ins, the BG&NC

introduced the BOT candidates. The floor was opened for nominations. No floor nominations were made from the floor.

Phase II was continued after the micro read the A.A. Declaration of Unity. The micro reminded the participants that we were still in process with **05n16/05-06** and that a first vote was taken. In the second vote, the minority changed and that it was time for the new minority to offer minority opinion.

- The BOT had just accepted guidelines to change structure and streamline for efficiency. This motion is seen as continuation of the restructuring. It has been an amazing journey of work and sharing and really taking to heart the needs of the Fellowship. Someone asked me about the Executive Service Corps, the organization that made the streamlining recommendations. They are an amazing organization of volunteers to help make organizations user friendly and more efficient.
- If we use the attrition rate logic from last night, it suggests that we would increase BOT to 20 members. Last year, the Conference decided not to increase BOT members to 11. It is important to trust the BOT to know that efficiency with 7 is ok. Diversity does not come from numbers. It doesn't matter if we have 7 or 7,000. If you vote the right persons, you will get your diversity.
- The ESC recommendations have been in place from 2 years ago. Those BOT members, who discussed prior BOT working situations, were not part of the 2-year period of implementing these changes. We are the BOT members who put forth these recommendations and know best about the streamlining and its effectiveness. These recommendations are working well. My previous BOT experience was not the same as I have experienced these past two years. While I appreciate your tender loving care and concern for our workloads, we have been trusted to do your work. We are best to judge how much work we can handle.
- Even if there is a reduction in BOT members, it does not mean that each BOT will get more work. We have non-BOT members that do work on BOT committees. This practice provides non-BOT members to see how the BOT works and the BOT get to see that non-BOT's abilities. It was brought up that Bylaws should not be changed because they are Bylaws. Even, in reduction, group conscience would be reflected.
- I would like to address the concern that the BOT has been setting the stage by placing motion before going to vote on candidates. That is incorrect. I have worked very hard in getting people to fill the positions. If the Conference is concerned with power, this should be considered by Conference before the election. We need to do what best serves the Fellowship.
- I have served with both these structures. My focus is on broadening the international structure. Streamlining has enabled the Board to look at international issues and opportunities in a better way. What I like about this process is that I don't have to convince you.
- To change the Bylaws, there is a specific template for Bylaw changes that made this motion longer and bigger. It was necessary to include in the content of the motion to reduce the number of members from nine to seven and change a 3-year term to 1-year. If we were thought to be setting the stage, I'd like to think we were acting responsibly and being prepared. We were not "ramming this motion down people's throats." We apologize if this is how you feel. We were excited about our plans to make this strategic move in hopes that it would serve you better.
- My question is what will serve the Fellowship in terms of practice and progress. If there are empty seats, the Fellowship will still go forward. I asked someone against this motion if the motion would damage any Steps and Traditions. The answer was no. If it helps the BOT to serve as best as they can, even if the plan is imperfect, then why not. If this motion does that, God will fix the ego and power by working through us.

- There have been more chaotic days in my ten years of ABM experience and I have served on a couple of BOTs. Over the years, the BOT has become more organized and more of an organization. These folks have worked their tails off to make this happen. That is not what this is all about. The scary part is the change to Bylaws, our cornerstone. I see groups moving away from the Bylaws. We may do that, too, if we strongly are in support of this. We need to believe in the group conscience of the BOT and leave some of these decisions to them despite our fear of change.
- I came from an abusive family, where my mother took it and took it. I saw the BOT take and take it yesterday. The line was crossed yesterday. There were allegations of character and improper motives and I commend every BOT member as a good demonstration of how anyone should act in light of difficult statements. I detect an unidentifiable fear of power and corruption of power. I have never seen any bureaucracy ask to decrease in size. This BOT is transparent. In fact, it can implement this by not filling vacancies and carry on as BOT of seven. It chose to make this decision with the Conference rather than passive-aggressively doing what they think needs to be done. I also do not think we have deviated from our schedule. There have been no last minute surprises. I had plenty of time to review the content of this motion and make my own decisions accordingly.
- I go back to that they are trusted servants. The bottom line is we have elected these people as trusted servants. I do have to look at them, I have to look at my HP and accept that they are trusted servants until something is done to not trust them. We need to trust our servants and go to our HPs and follow what we have been taught here about trusted servants.
- I was upset about the things that were said yesterday and chose to remove myself from the toxicity and employ self-care. This is a time to come together, a time of productivity. The BOT has elected to move forward to growing our Fellowship and I want to move forward, too. I would like to stress unity.

The third vote was 27-10-3. While the motion had majority, under normal conditions, it passed. There were questions raised about the threshold to change the By-Laws, about whether that threshold was 2/3 of the people in the room voting, or 2/3 of authorized voters at the ABM. The micro clarified that the CCC had been incorrect in blanketly stating that the vote to change the By-Laws was the same as the vote to “bind the BOT” in Article V, Section 4. We find ourselves in “uncharted” territory with this vote and its interpretation under Article XIV. The micro decided to have the Conference decide with a simple majority vote, an up and down vote with no abstentions, as to the question, “Does this meet the requirement to change the By-Laws according to the first statement in Article XIV – AMENDMENTS of the By-Laws? After questions of clarification, the vote taken was 22-18. The Conference determined by a simple majority that the vote of 27-10-3 that 05n16/05-06 meets the threshold to change the Bylaws as defined in Article XIV of the By-Laws.

05n17/05-07 – IFD: “Discuss possibilities of changing the international service structure to allow decisions to be made by representatives of a larger number of S.L.A.A. members in all countries where we have S.L.A.A.” Discussion time was set for 15 minutes, with one minute for each participant willing to address this issue. The results are as follows:

- My Intergroup feels we should encourage diversity. My idea is, rather than get all delegates to one meeting on one continent, have ABMs on several continents in the language(s) common to those continents. We would all use the same BMIS.
- The Diversity Committee has been researching how other Fellowships do this. In the A.A. model, service structures are in each country or region. As it is set up now, each group of five meetings has one delegate, thus Germany’s 75 groups can send 15 delegates, though this is not financially feasible. Brazil has enough groups for 6 delegates.

- We have a good structure in Germany, but not a BOT. I don't know of the German Intergroup commitment. We are still feeling quite satisfied with the situation.
- If a country had an S.L.A.A. structure that made a decision without agreement with the structure in U.S.A., what would happen?
- We could have voting by proxy. Maybe people in our program would like to have a ballot to send to ABM. The BOT is working hard. Maybe we can have BOTs all over that get together annually.
- It is important to hear all the voices, all the sounds. I can't stress this enough. Other fellowships have worked out some of these international issues.
- Somebody has suggested having the ABM in Germany. We are not at your level of organization. I don't know that everyone is aware that you are making votes for everyone all over the world. We think only in your own language.
- The Tucson Intergroup believes we are responsible for our own recovery and responsible to reach out to the hand that reaches for recovery.
- I would like to have another forum, in addition to the Diversity Committee, to address this.
- The BOT is looking at the issues of an international service structure. We want to have a discussion that is more than 15 minutes. We want to hear from you, we want your help. Let us know, so that we can start on this.
- I speak historically about Brazil, Argentina, and Uruguay. The people who were suffering got literature from FWS and translated it. Meetings started growing and a service structure got created with little help from FWS. People there have hard time to understand the need to coordinate with FWS and the ABM. They don't grasp importance of being part of this.

Discussion was completed and this item was closed. [NOTE: This IFD will retain its place on the BMIS until Phase II of the next ABM, permitting the opportunity for a motion to be presented relating to this discussion. Should no motion be presented, it will drop from the BMIS when the next Conference arrives at this place on the BMIS in Phase II.]

05n18/05-08 – Motion: “Waive the registration fee for ABC/M delegates from outside the United States and Canada for the ABC/M 2006.” A comment was made that FWS waiving registration fee for people outside U.S. and Canada has cost implications. The registration fee helps to cover expenses, including the cost of shipping the CSM. The registration fee also covers snacks in the hospitality suite. A friendly amendment was offered. It is not only about people in the U.S. and Canada having a different expense base. Registration helps equalize paying into what is needed for the week. A friendly amendment was offered and accepted: “Waive the registration fee for the ABC/M delegates beyond the first two from outside the U.S. and Canada for the ABC/M 2006.” The pros included: We don't always understand our abundance in the U.S. and our responsibility and service is to be mother and father to other countries and demonstrate that financially; The Tucson Intergroup wishes to pass it on. San Francisco did a wonderful job in showing us how to be of service. We can take a lesson from this. Cons included: I think there are other ways to fund a delegate. LA sent money to FWS for the international delegate fund; We want international participation. I don't think this motion is the way to do it. We need to talk about the next motion which addresses travel expenses, which is why we don't have international participation. The registration fees goes to expenses the support the event happening. Costs for those who pay the registration fee will go up. There are inherent ways to manipulate this motion if passed; I think it is the 7th Tradition to pay for your delegate's way; Waiving this fee only increases the expenses elsewhere. There was another friendly amendment offered and accepted: “Waive the registration fee for the ABC/M delegates from outside the U.S. and Canada for the ABC/M 2006 if they need and request financial assistance.” There were additional pros and cons offered on the amended motion. An additional amendment was offered and turned down. The pros included: It will not cost FWS the additional funds it states. I got scholarship money to get to the ABM; this is a North-American-centric event. For some, the cost of a flight could equal one

year's rent. Cons include: I think this is a 7th Tradition issue in that we are self-supporting. There was an additional friendly amendment that was not accepted. Another friendly amendment was offered: "Registration fees may be waived for delegates outside the U.S. and Canada who would not otherwise be able to attend the 2006 ABC/M Conference." This amendment was accepted. This session was adjourned. This motion will continue in the next General Assembly. After announcements, the Serenity Prayer was said in Portuguese.

General Assembly Reconvenes, July 07, 2005, 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

This session started with a moment of silence and the Serenity Prayer. There was only role change: Spiritual Reminder: Deb W.

Motion **05n18/05-08** continued from the morning session. The motion was amended and now reads: "Registration fees may be waived for delegates outside the U.S. and Canada who would not otherwise be able to attend the 2006 ABC/M Conference." The first vote was 20-15-1. Minority opinion included: This motion does not offer opportunity for appeal and how the registration is waived. The motion is vague, leaving room for arguments; I reiterate that each group should be self-supporting in accordance with 7th Tradition; I would love to have as much international representation as we can, but from a fiscal standpoint, if 10 people do this we don't get the money this organization really needs to put on this event; I support more international participation. However, what if there was someone within U.S. and Canada that was not able to afford registration fee. This excludes these persons with similar financial needs; Vagueness, ambiguity is a problem for me. Regardless, there are other ways to help international delegates to come to ABM. The second vote was 15-22-2. The minority changed. The minority opinion included: This touches me in a special way because I went to our intergroup for assistance for one of the international delegates. We live on a very, very rich continent; I don't think that there is fear that there will be 20 or 30 delegates from the world that would be asking for this assistance, maybe 1 or 2 or 3. We need to encourage delegates from small communities who can experience this fantastic energy and take it home; The last vote demonstrates lack of sensitivity. The minority often disregarded by majority; I am actually encouraged about what I have heard. Even those who voted in opposition are in favor of international delegates, though not in this way. There are alternative ways to be considered by our groups. We may have differences about how to achieve this; I want to remind members that registration is a small portion of total cost to participate. This is a request that just the registration cost be removed to help reduce the total cost. Enough U.S. and Canada participants could cover this; I received assistance to a recovery event from others because I could not afford it. We need to remember the 7th tradition, and reach out beyond U.S. and Canada. I want to see 15 delegates from Germany, 10 from Sweden, more from Uruguay. If money makes the difference, then we should do it. This country does it all the time; The FWS Director spoke of total cost of putting on ABM. This is about bringing additional people who would not otherwise be there; I hear a lot of people saying "we want international, but." Maybe we need to put our money where our mouth is. I agree this is based on fear of scarcity; I'd like to remind people this is only for one year, to see how it works in 2006. Personally, I think this would be great if we got lots of people; I am in conflict as a delegate and as a member, and as the staff accountant for FWS. With all due respect, some of costs mentioned are fixed and independent of the number of participants. The bigger vision is for one year. The goal of the organization is to break even to achieve fiscal goals. The current financial difficulty is not from this Conference, thus risks are not from waived registrations. Thus waiving will not really, truly impact the bottom line. This is a simple gesture; There is a mention of this motion being in contradiction to 7th Tradition. This is referring an individual rather than S.L.A.A. groups being self-supporting. Also, speak of 5th Tradition - the primary purpose is to carry the message. That certainly includes the international members who would not otherwise have contact and experience of coming to the U.S. to get to the roots of the program. We need to open our hearts to international delegates; Jason is one of the co-founders of the program. I'd like to see him come back; Regardless of whether we have a delegate here, we all gain. We

benefit from international delegates here. The result of the third vote was 23-16-1. The motion passed. Note: this is not a 2/3 majority.

This was the end of the General Assembly this year in which BMIS items were addressed. The remainder of the agenda items would remain on the agenda for next year. Conference committees were encouraged to work throughout the year to discuss the motions. Referring to the folder of accountability information compiled by the CCC and the CFC, items and roles for committee members and chairs was reviewed. The General Assembly was adjourned with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer in German.

General Assembly Reconvenes, July 07, 2005, 7:15 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

The meeting started with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer in Pig Latin. This session was facilitated by the BOT Chair, also one of the three members of the BG&NC. Andrew H. was the record keeper. The Conference recognized the service of these outgoing BOTs, Cristina C; Marcella M; and Deb W. The session continued with a question and answer period for the BOT nominees from the Conference members. The session was then adjourned to wrap up the silent auction and to participate in the live auction. This session ended with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer in gibberish.

General Assembly, July 08, 2005, 8:30 a.m. – 9:40 a.m.

The meeting opened with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. The facilitators for the meeting were Irv B (micro), Sam A. (macro), and Cindy M. (backup). The BG&NC stepped in for the purpose of conducting the vote for the BOT. Marcella M. noted no response was received from the Fellowship's attorney with regard to this year's motion to change the make-up of the BOT. Thus, the election will be based on the current BOT configuration. Deb W. has thus withdrawn her nomination for a 1-year term. The voting options are for two three-year seats, Richard K. and Bill M., and confirmation of the appointed BOT, Chris D. Karma K. volunteered to be the vote observer. The ballots were distributed. After delegates cast ballots, the BG&NC collected the ballots, then departed the room with the observer to count the votes.

After their departure, the facilitators continued. The Conference was informed as to the expectations of committees in regards to committee budgets, committee expenses, and committee accountability. Information regarding conference calls and its expense was discussed. Other costs were outlined. The fiscal year was outlined for the committees. All committees were informed about the Committee Chairs calls and each chair was encouraged to attend. The delegates were informed that there were seven new Journal subscriptions over the past few days. There was \$357.00 raised from silent auction; \$4,600.00 from live auction; and \$175.25 from raffle tickets, for a total of \$5132.25 for FWS.

The BG&NC announced the election results, thanking all the candidates for their availability. Richard C. was elected to the BOT. Chris D. was confirmed to the previously appointed slot.

This session was adjourned for final committee meetings and lunch with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer in Italian.

General Assembly, July 08, 2005, 1:15 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

This session was opened with a moment of silence and the Serenity Prayer. This session was facilitated by Rob K. (New CCC Chair), Danielle P. (New BOT Chair), and Karma K. (New CFC Chair). Committees were asked to identify the following: Chair / co-chair(s); Budget requests; Number of members; First scheduled meeting; Projects; and Goals. The BOT report included that Deb W. was appointed to fill the BOT term with one year remaining. The BOT Liaisons are:

- Richard K.: CAC, CDC

- Chris D.: CS&TC, MRBOTC, IGC
- Deb W.: CJC, CLC, CSC, CPiC
- Roger.: CFC, CSPC, HRC
- John C.: CIC, POC, MRC, IFC
- Danielle P.: CCC, CBC

The BOT voted to approve the ByLaws changes contingent upon the response from our attorney. The remaining passed motions have been approved by the BOT. The Conference committees' reports included:

- CAC: co-chairs- Stephen D. and Scott D.; budget- \$500.00 for conference calls; 7 members; 1st meeting- July 24, 2005; projects- Anorexia Plain language feedback by Sept. 9.
- CBC: chair- Jeffrey M.; budget- \$650.00 review; 7 members; projects- check motions for clarity and draft revisions for clarity and conflict resolution.
- CIC: co-chairs- Irv B. and Jacinthe L.; budget- \$2,500, \$1500 in machinery (VOIP, PBX box) to reduce calling costs across groups, place internal server behind firewall at FWS for secure website information; membership includes two international members; projects- work with CJC to make on-line Journal, increase subscriptions through technology and internationalization, encourage groups to work on-line, maintain CIC and publicizing it to maintain committee activity and create guidelines for internet safe-surfing.
- CLC: co-chairs- Ken A. and Tom D.; budget- \$2552.00; 9 members; 1st meeting – August 12; projects- conference/BOT approval of SLAA Basics document; approval for Anorexia Plain Language, Bottom lines, Cross-Talk, Feedback and Triggering Language pamphlet, publishing CLC process
- CPiC: chair- Bill M.; budget- \$630; 10 members \$630; projects- continue with progress with Intergroup PI kit.
- CS&TC: chair- Randi, back-up chair- Liz D. budget- \$2244; 7 members; meetings set for 4th Sunday of the month at 7pm Pacific; projects- continue coordination with Ruthie regarding Steps and Traditions, authorship of S.L.A.A. 12 and 12 within literature process, maintaining a spiritual and grounded committee process.
- CJC: chair- Jim D.; budget- \$650.00; 8 members; meetings set for the 3rd Sunday of each month at 3pm Pacific; 1st meeting- August 21. projects- conference calls to support the *Journal*, 1 joint meeting with CiC to use technology to grow *Journal*, *Journal* representative coordination/support, *Journal* survey of readers former and potential, updating *Journal* editor description and guidelines, increase subscriptions above 235.
- HRC: chair- Bill M., budget- \$460; 10 members; first call in August; projects- continue with progress of current project of HR publication.
- IGC: no report
- IFC: chair-Tom D., interim chair, Irv B.; budget- \$1164; 6 members; 1st meeting- July 31, 8:30pm Central; projects- including one person at Interfellowship Forum in November.
- MRBOTC: co-chairs- Dee G. and Rita H.; budget- \$1000; 7 members; 1st meeting- August 7 at 9:00am Central; projects – communication improvement between Conference and BOT, prepare for Getting to Know BOT at next ABM, compile survey from this year's ABM.
- MRC: chair- Delphi M.; budget- \$300; 3 members; projects- review step 1 chip, step chips 2 thru 12, Fellowship-wide effort for service mindset development, old-timers and differences between U.S. and outside U.S. stories

- POC: chair- Dave McM.; budget to be developed; 5 members; 1st meeting- meetings set for the first Fridays of the month at 8:00pm Eastern; projects- TBA.
- CSPC: no report.
- CSC: chair-Keith R.; budget- \$750; 5 members; meetings set for Sundays at 7:00am Pacific; projects – recovery basket; service finder match to match volunteers with committees (flyer draft to do this with final in 4 to 6 weeks to be distributed via email)
- CCC: chair- Rob K., budget- \$4050; 11 members; 1st meeting- July 24 at 7am Pacific; projects include facilitating chairs’ calls, BMIS review subcommittee, CSM edit subcommittee.
- CFC: chair- Karma K.; budget- \$350; 6or 7 members; projects- allocate remaining year’s funds, allocate next year’s funds.
- CDC: co-chairs- Jason T. and Dee G.; budget - \$802; members- diverse committee of native speakers of many languages, 13 members in 7 countries; 1st meeting- August 6, 11:00 p.m. Frankfurt Germany time; projects- finish meeting format catalog, international diversity project, increase the number of minorities in S.L.A.A. groups (e.g., disability, economic status, race).

There was a motion on the floor to “approve the continued existence of the Conference Committees.”

CAC	CS&TCCCJC
CBC	HRC
CIC	IGC
CLC	IFC
CPiC	MRBOTC
CCC	MRC
CFC	POC
CSC	CSPC
CDC	

Irv B. and Liz D. were the vote counters. The vote was 30-0. The motion passed.

Voting membership was re-calculated due to the BOT members that retired and one new BOT member appointed for 1-year term. For this purpose and the purpose of the interim vote, the number of voting members is now 39. There was a motion to “Confirm the math of the new quorum.” The vote was 32-1. The voting members were confirmed.

Upon request of the CLC, a straw poll was conducted in order to guide them into crafting a motion regarding literature. The vote was 12-18.

After time for announcements, the 2005 ABC was closed with a moment of silence and the Serenity Prayer.