

WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE OF NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS



P.O. Box 9999
Van Nuys, CA 91409
(818) 780-3951

TO: WSC Policy Committee

FROM: Dave Tynes, Chairperson,
WSC Ad Hoc Committee on NA Service

DATE: May 14, 1992

RE: Input to *A Guide to Service in Narcotics Anonymous*

I hope that by now you have received the package of material on national and world services, mailed last week by Steve Lantos. If you have not, please notify Steve at the office immediately. That package contains the substance of our discussions regarding national and world services over the past few years. Please look it at carefully, paying special attention to the portions dealing with delegate review panels in the section on national services.

The deadline for input from your committee on the national and world sections of the *Guide* has been extended to November 1, 1992. Please try to insure that your input is received at the office by that date. I am grateful for your help on this project and look forward to receiving your input. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Steve Lantos at the office.

GEOPOLITICAL BOUNDARIES FOR SEATING AT THE CONFERENCE

The Ad Hoc Committee on N.A. Service has discussed voting participation at the conference, considering a variety of options. The committee seems to favor a mechanism by which voting participation would be determined by geopolitical boundaries, or, in the United States, by state lines. At the most recent meeting October 12-14, the committee decided to look at something like the following scenario.

Each state would have at least one voting member seated at the conference. The mechanism for choosing that member may be decided by each state, to meet its needs. However, the committee envisions an event, such as a conference workshop, rather than a separate entity, such as an assembly. The committee prefers not to form a separate entity, since no services would be provided from that level. The sole purpose would be to bring together GSRs from around the state, to discuss issues pertinent to the upcoming conference, and to elect the voting member for that state.

Some states will require more than one voting member. Additional voting members would be allowed for states in which the population is too great to adequately conduct its affairs in one meeting. States which are very large, such as California, may also be granted an additional voting member. The committee has discussed criteria for adding additional voting members, such as number of groups, but at this time has not come to a conclusion.

In the scenario currently under consideration, a trustee committee would function as an "admissions committee." When a region reaches a critical size in terms of number of groups, or for any other reason believes it should have an additional voting member, it may petition that trustee committee. Whether the trustee committee will then grant the seat, or merely present information to the conference for its decision, has not been resolved. In another scenario, this trustee committee would keep an eye on the number of group registrations in each state, and when it appeared that a particular state had reached critical size, an additional voting seat would be offered.

1 worldwide, including the development and translation of N.A. recovery literature.
2 This chapter deals with the ASM; WSM, next.

3 QUESTIONS: Does the committee believe that this arrangement is a transitional one,
4 and that a more distinct structural separation between American and world service
5 agencies will occur in the future? If so, how long does the committee believe this
6 arrangement might last? And does the committee want to present material
7 describing a longer-range arrangement in the book after this material?

8 Conference advisory actions.

9 Right of decision.

10 **American Service Meeting composition**

11 Voting participants are all American delegates and ASM-nominated trustees;
12 WSM-nominated trustees are non-voting participants.

13 Delegates always maintain 2/3s majority of body of registered voting participants.
14 General Service Board (GSB) may expand as the number of recognized delegates
15 grows.

16 Participants are servants of N.A. as whole. Delegate travel expenses paid from
17 GSB General Fund.

18 **Annual American Service Meeting**

19 Meets once a year. Every other year, is followed immediately by the WSM.
20 (Remainder of lead-in to description of conference the same.)

21 **Reports**

22 Pretty much the same as before.

23 Note that the work group dismissed the idea of having three distinct GSB
24 subsidiary operating divisions (publishing/business, convention, magazine).

25 QUESTION: Does someone or some body need to issue a report on General Service
26 Office (GSO) operations--particularly those not reported through a trustee
27 committee, such as publishing, distribution, and general operations--to make up for
28 the absence of reports from these entities?

29 ANSWER: SEE STAFF REMARKS RELATED TO GSB SUBSIDIARY DIVISIONS.

30 **Delegate review panels, assignments**

31 American panels:

32 Conference

33 Cooperation with the professional community

34 Public information

35 Correctional facilities

36 Treatment facilities

37 Regional forums

38 Nominations

1 *Admissions (the status of this is unclear)*

2 World panels:

3 International services (combining international outreach, adaptation of
4 American service materials, WSM trustee nominations processing, and
5 planning and reporting for the WSM)

6 Literature development and translation

7 The N.A. Way Magazine

8 Budget and finance

9 *World convention (the status of this is unclear)*

10 QUESTION: It's not clear whether American delegates are to be assigned to both
11 American and World panels, or only to American. Or are non-American delegates
12 supposed to completely fill the World panels?

13 ANSWER: AMERICAN DELEGATES ARE ASSIGNED AT THE ASM TO ALL OF THESE; ADDITIONAL
14 NON-AMERICAN DELEGATES ARE ASSIGNED TO THE WORLD PANELS AT THE WSM.

15 QUESTION: Do all these panels meet at the ASM, or only the American panels? If
16 all meet, do all report? If all report, do all present conference advisory action
17 proposals? If only American panels present conference advisory action proposals at
18 the ASM, does the ASM nonetheless have the authority to address urgent matters
19 facing the World panels?

20 ANSWER: IN YEARS WHEN ONLY THE ASM MEETS, THE AMERICAN MEMBERS OF ALL THE
21 PANELS MEET WITH THE CORRESPONDING TRUSTEE COMMITTEES AND STAFF; AMERICAN AND
22 WORLD PANELS REPORT, BUT ONLY AMERICAN PANELS OFFER PROPOSED CONFERENCE ADVISORY
23 ACTIONS, EXCEPT IN CASES OF SERIOUS URGENCY.

24 IN YEARS WHEN THE ASM IS IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWED BY THE WSM, ONLY AMERICAN PANELS
25 MEET, REPORT, AND PROPOSE ACTION AT THE ASM; AMERICAN AND NON-AMERICAN DELEGATES
26 MEET IN THE WORLD PANELS AT THE WSM, AND REPORT AND PROPOSE ACTION THERE.

27 **Functions of delegate review panels**

28 Same, with adjustments in terms, except as follows.

29 Page 14, line 18 (14.18): *All* panel members--American and non-American--
30 receive committee reports and correspondence.

31 QUESTION, 14.20: Do non-American delegate review panel members take part in
32 mid-year meetings with their corresponding committee?

33 ANSWER: ONLY AMERICAN DELEGATE MEMBERS OF AMERICAN AND WORLD REVIEW PANELS
34 MEET WITH COMMITTEES BETWEEN ASMs; THE PARTICIPATION OF NON-AMERICAN WORLD PANEL
35 MEMBERS IS SOLICITED YEAR 'ROUND BY MAIL AND, WHEN POSSIBLE, BY PHONE.

36 **Panel meetings and reports at the American Service Meeting**

37 Virtually the same, except around 15.23 re. conference advisory action proposals.

38 QUESTION: Which panels--American, and/or World--are meeting and reporting at
39 the ASM, and which are proposing conference advisory actions (as asked earlier)?

1 **Input to general services**

2 Adjust terminology.

3 **Trustee nominations**

4 ASM nominates 24 trustees; WSM nominates 4 additional trustees. Perhaps note
5 allowance for expansion ratio in later years.

6 QUESTION: The July 3rd FSB draft noted six trustee slots being reserved for non-
7 addicts. Does the committee want to say anything about non-addict participation in
8 the General Service Board?

9 **Closing the American Service Meeting**

10 Adjust.

11 **American Service Meeting reports**

12 Adjust.

13 **Relations with N.A. worldwide**

14 Delete section.

15

* * * * *

16

**General Service Conference
World Service Meeting**

17

18 **Introduction**

19 General Service Conference provides "general" services to the entire fellowship.
20 The annual ASM, discussed in the previous chapter, deals only with issues specific
21 to America. The biennial WSM deals only with issues affecting entire fellowship.

22 **Composition**

23 *All* delegates--American and non-American--and *all* GSB members. Same 2/3s
24 balance; expansion ratio.

25 **Biennial World Service Meeting**

26 Order of events at WSM substantially the same as at ASM; different focus.
27 (Summary description only.) Select presiding officer for the meeting after first roll
28 call. Then, reports from those trustee committees having world responsibilities
29 (International Services, Literature Development and Translation, The N.A. Way
30 Magazine, Budget and Finance, *World Convention*). AGAIN, REPORT ON GSO

1 OPERATIONS, PUBLISHING? Meetings of World panels. Return to general session to
2 hear panel reports and consider proposed conference advisory actions.

3 Interspersed, same variety of sharing sessions with same general function as at
4 ASM. but with broader scope: *world* conscience for general services.

5 QUESTION: Any reason to note the availability of simultaneous translation services
6 at WSM?

7 World panels

8 List, describe.

9 QUESTION: Per question in ASM chapter, how are non-American delegates
10 assigned to panels?

11 Conference advisory actions.

12 Trustee nominations

13 Four seats on the GSB are elected from nominations by the WSM. GSB
14 International Services Committee develops roster. QUESTION: Does ISC delegate
15 panel also develop a roster?

16 World Service Meeting reports

17 Coordinated by GSB International Services Committee, with panel participation.
18 QUESTION: What sort of panel participation?

19 QUESTION: To whom is the WSM Final Report distributed?

20 ANSWER: THE WSM FINAL REPORT IS DISTRIBUTED TO ALL REGIONAL SERVICE COMMITTEES
21 REGISTERED WITH THE GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE.

22 A condensed report of WSM proceedings appears in a special edition of the
23 *Fellowship Report*.

24 * * * * *

25 **General Service Board**

26 Introduction

27 21.15, 16: GSB administers all "general" services on behalf of the GSC, services
28 affecting the entire American movement and world services as well.

29 General Service Board composition

30 28 members, 24 elected from ASM nominations, 4 elected from WSM
31 nominations. Expansion ratio. Regardless of source of nomination, serve on GSB
32 as equal members with equal rights. 4-year terms. (Note: No staff trustees.)

1 QUESTION: Should there be any remarks here on rotation and continuity?
2 Conference ability to replace trustees directly.

3 **General officers**

4 General officers are chair, vice chair, treasurer, and chairperson of GSB
5 International Services Committee, all elected from current trustees; continue to
6 serve as trustees. These serve as registered officers of GSB, Inc. GSO Executive
7 Director serves as general secretary to the board.

8 **General Service Board meetings**

9 Same, with deletion of reference to subsidiary boards.

10 **Trustee committees**

11 QUESTION, 23.5: Should there be additional specifications on how committees are
12 composed? If so, what?

13 23.13: Update discussion of the role of delegate panels.

14 AMERICAN SERVICES: Conference, Regional Forums, CPC, P.I., Correctional
15 Facilities, Treatment Facilities, Nominations.

16 WORLD SERVICES: International Services, Literature Development and Translation,
17 Budget and Finance, *World Convention*, *The N.A. Way Magazine*.

18 **Subsidiary divisions**

19 Delete; where appropriate, discuss functions under committees, above.

20 28.7: No comments to appear regarding editorial independence of *The N.A. Way*
21 *Magazine*.

22 WITH THE DELETION OF THE SUBSIDIARY DIVISION MODEL FROM THE DRAFT, THE COMMITTEE IS
23 LEFT TO EXPLAIN HOW SPECIALIZED BUSINESS OPERATIONS WILL BE PROVIDED WITH QUALIFIED
24 VOLUNTEER OVERSIGHT.

25 **General Service Office**

26 Departments: International Services, Group Services, H&I, P.I., CPC, Literature,
27 *World Convention*, *The N.A. Way Magazine*, Executive Director's office.

28 **GSB funding**

29 QUESTION: Scrap?

30 **World service**

31 Delete.

Working outline

WORLD SERVICES

October 30, 1990

PRIMARY FUNCTIONS

1. **Outreach.** Coordinates assistance for emerging N.A. communities, by:
 - a. Linking those young communities with more mature ones,
 - b. Coordinating development workshops,
 - c. Assisting in the translation of N.A. literature, and
 - d. When necessary, providing N.A. literature at reduced cost to national communities.
2. **World sharing session.** Facilitates the sharing of national service experience.
3. **Integrity of identity.** Helps safeguard the integrity of N.A.'s identity by:
 - a. Holding N.A. literature copyrights, and N.A. trademarks, in trust on behalf of the N.A. Fellowship worldwide,
 - b. Reviewing translations and adaptations of existing N.A. materials, and
 - c. Reviewing new materials developed by national communities.
4. **Public information.** Serves as a liaison between N.A. as a whole and other international organizations, whether they be professional, business, government, or press agencies.
5. **Worldwide publishing and distribution.**

WORLD SERVICE ASSEMBLY

1. **Purpose, primary functions**
 - a. World sharing session
 - b. *Review, oversight for World Service Board*
2. **Membership**
 - a. WSB members
 - b. Delegates
3. **Triennial meeting**
4. **Reports and resolutions**
 - a. *Fellowship*
 - b. *WSB*
5. *Affirmation of WSB nominations made by various national service boards*

WORLD SERVICE BOARD

1. **Purpose, primary activities--**establish policies to be administered by WSO
 - a. Development issues and services
 - b. Translations and permissions
 - c. Public information
 - d. WSA agenda
2. **Membership**
 - a. Base ratio--how many from which countries
 - b. Nominations procedures
 - c. Elections
 - d. Terms
 - e. Rotation

- f. Suspension, removal
- 3. Annual meetings**
- 4. Executive committee**
 - a. Meets quarterly**
 - b. Fellowship communications**
 - c. WSO administrative oversight**
 - 1) Fiscal policy
 - 2) Personnel
 - 3) Publication and distribution

WORLD SERVICE OFFICE

- 1. Executive director**
 - a. Liaison between WSO staff and WSB**
 - b. Reports and newsletters**, to members of the various national conferences
 - c. Public information**
 - d. Direct supervision of administrative operations**
 - 1) Personnel
 - 2) Accounting
 - 3) Travel coordination
 - 4) Logistical coordination for events (WSB meetings, WSA meetings, development workshops)
 - 2. Departments**
 - a. Development services**
 - 1) respond to requests for information from new groups, new service committees
 - 2) facilitate contacts between new communities and developed movements nearby
 - 3) coordinate development workshops, conducted by various leaders from developed movements nearby
 - b. Translations and permissions**
 - 1) Assist national committees working on translations
 - 2) Coordinate in-house translation work
 - 3) Review translations for faithfulness to original
 - 4) Review new material for faithfulness to N.A. message
 - 5) Review use of N.A. trademarks
 - c. Publication production and distribution**--typesetting, printing, binding, warehousing, sales, export of all N.A. literature

WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE

PRIMARY SERVICE BOARD

ADMISSIONS
PANEL

PSB
ADMIN

REVIEW
PANEL

BUDGET
FINANCE

REVIEW
PANEL

PUBLIC
RELATIONS/
INFORMATION

REVIEW
PANEL

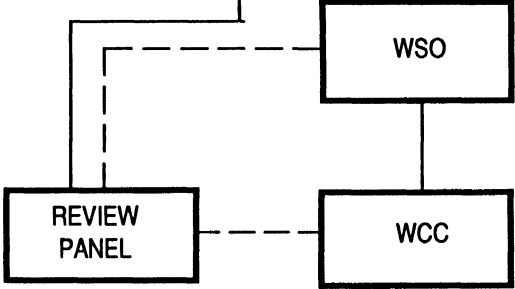
HOSPITALS
&
INSTITUTIONS

REVIEW
PANEL

LITERATURE
REVIEW
(TRANSLATIONS)

REVIEW
PANEL

INTERNAL
AFFAIRS
(POLICY)



**PHASE
ONE**

WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE

PRIMARY SERVICE BOARD

ADMISSIONS
PANEL

PSB
ADMIN

WSO

WCC

REVIEW
PANEL

BUDGET
FINANCE

REVIEW
PANEL

REVIEW
PANEL

PUBLIC
RELATIONS/
INFORMATION

REVIEW
PANEL

HOSPITALS
&
INSTITUTIONS

REVIEW
PANEL

LITERATURE
REVIEW
(TRANSLATIONS)

REVIEW
PANEL

INTERNAL
AFFAIRS
(POLICY)

**PHASE
TWO**

TITLE	TIME	DATE & SIGN EACH ENTRY & SHOW PROFESSION OF THE RECORDER
		GUIDE TO SERVICE WORLD LEVEL.
#1		FELLOWSHIP (SPIRITUAL SIDE) CONCERNS. MEETS EVERY TWO YEARS.
	A	B. O. T.
		TRUSTEES, (2) ELECTED FROM EACH NATIONAL/CONTINENTAL CONFERENCE, FOR 4 (FOUR) YEAR TERM'S, POSSIBLE REELECTED 1X.
	B	PURPOSE, /NATURE OF B O. T.
	1	TO BE A RESOURCE FOR WORLD WIDE N.A.
	2	TO PROVIDE INPUT FOR DEVELOPING AND FURTHERING THE N.A. MESSAGE OF RECOVERY.
	3	TO MEET, WITH NATIONAL /CONTINENTAL REPRESENTIVES, AND ADMIN. COMMITTEE (SET UP WITH MEMBERS FROM ALL NATIONAL /CONTINENTAL CONFERENCES, TO HANDLE MATTERS IN THE TWO (2) YEAR PERIOD BETWEEN MEETINGS (WORLD LEVEL)) TO DISCUSS AND RESOLVE ISSUES AFFECTING N.A. AS A WHOLE.
	4	EACH MEMBER OF THE WORLD LEVEL SHALL HAVE A VOTE ON PROCEDURAL ISSUES. ANY MATTER'S REFLECTING A CHANGE IN THE STRUCTURE, STEPS OR TRADITIONS SHALL BE SENT BACK TO NATIONAL /CONTINENTAL LEVELS TO BE ADDRESSED THROUGH GROUP CONCILIATE.

PROGRESS NOTES *TED LOGUE*

B.S.R. REGION OF VIRGINIANS/Policy Comm. Member.

TITLE	TIME	DATE & SIGN EACH ENTRY & SHOW PROFESSION OF THE RECORDER
		"WORLD LEVEL NOTES"
		<p>TO FACILITATE WORLD LEVEL CONFERENCES THE EVENT COULD BE "HOSTED" BY A NAT/CONT. COMMITTEE SET UP ON A ROTATING BASIS. POSSIBLY THE MEETING COULD START ON A WEEKEND OR MONDAY. DEPENDING ON THE NUMBERS OF MATTERS TO PUT ON THE AGENDA. THE WEEK COULD BE ENDED WITH THE BEGINNING OF A BI-ANNUAL "WORLD" CONVENTION STARTING ON THURSDAY AND ENDING ON SUNDAY.</p>
		<p>THERE WILL ALWAYS BE LOGISTICAL PROBLEMS ARISING WITH CONFERENCES ATTENDED BY MEMBERS FROM THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, SUCH AS TRAVEL EXPENSES AND WELL AS VISA RESTRICTIONS. TRANSLATORS AND AUDIO/VISUAL EQUIPMENT WILL PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE FUNCTIONING OF THE MEETING.</p>
		<p>THE NATIONAL/CONTINENTAL MEETINGS WILL BE ABLE TO BE LARGER IN NUMBERS OF MEMBERS ATTENDING, BEING MORE COST EFFECTIVE. THE AGENDAS WILL CENTER AROUND H+I, P.I., OUT REACH, LITERATURE REVIEW. POLICY WOULD DEAL WITH TELEVISION PROCEDURAL AND SEVERAL NATIONAL/CONTINENTAL CONCERNS.</p>

Input for Restructure of the World Service Conference

The purpose of this input is an idea of structuring the WSC to have an even or equal service conference of a global nature.

A more balanced representation of a global equality could be accomplished through continental representation of the following nature.

The actual delegates in its entirety from each continent would be comprised of 8 continental representatives, 2 trustees, 2 administrators, 2 representatives of all standing subcommittees of the WSC. As needs of the fellowship and or service structure changes, addition or elimination of committees could be implemented.

There seems to be a disparity of representation at the World Service Conference.

Its been a U.S. Service Conference since its inception with invitations from any other countries to form a service structure.

There's been no clear definition of what a service body i.e., country, state or area is comprised of.

In years gone by, a country with one group had a voice at the conference. That was a noble gesture on behalf of the conference that year, but was it practical or fair, or was it just an emotional decision of the moment?

Some of the issues of discussion at the World Service Conference have little or no regard to a growing fellowship that has an entirely different way of life i.e., political systems, cultural, or societal background.

In the past this was the responsibility of the board of the trustees to look out for the concerns of those who have not been informed of recovery through the spiritual fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous. However experienced in recovery through NA our past and existing trustees are, are they also experienced in these sometimes obstacles i.e., language, laws of other nations, cultures of other nations, to look out for their best interests?

As the formation of WSC evolved, our service arms of the fellowship have gained in experience through trial and error, through some good, brilliant and, not sometimes so good decisions during conference week.

At that particular conference week of that particular year, the best attempt of serving the requests, needs and desires of the fellowship are met with the representation as we know it. However, representation with a vote on the floor has been a majority of North Americans, the U.S. being the greatest.

The continental representation would resolve this issue. The means of determining who would represent would be up to that continent's conscience. All group conscience would still be through those continental representatives.

The means of collection of the conscience of groups would lie in what would work for that continent.

The length of position would have to be uniform to allow rotation of trusted servants. There should be a limit to service in any position at the World Service Conference.

All tasks, assignments, new literature would be based on donations, income sales that are accrued through calendar year. A review of budgets in regards to funds would be received for 90 days by either the entire participants or the administrative committee to determine what is to be accomplished. The need of subcommittees and the boards to meet would be up to the availability of funds prior to the conference.

There would be times when desires of some would not be accomplished due to a lack of funding, however, future conferences might be provided with the means.

The World Service Conference should be an annual event. The continental assembly or conference would not necessarily meet annually. That is in accord with their own autonomy.

The voice and representation of what we now know as a region would be up to the autonomy of that continental assembly.

Those more experienced in length of time as far as service in NA now might find fault with this new concept - that a majority of the conference would be inexperienced in NA service as they understand it. However, in those sparsely populated continents there are needs that only those residents have experience in.

Do we allow equality at the WSC based on a spiritual fellowship evolving during that conference year to the point that they are required to have a certain population of recovering addicts? A certain amount of years of service experience to be heard at the WSC to help with the growth of NA as a whole?

There are sometimes unspoken things that are felt by all the participants. When this has been broached (the disparity of outside of WS participants at the conference) have we not all felt, are we doing the right thing? It is a question all past, present and future participants must ask until equality is attained.

This proposed conference would be equal in representation, a fair and equitable system of participation globally.

In the temporary working guide to our service structure, the WSC is described as "an event - the coming together". The new representation previously described would be a true coming together.

It is not known how this falls in line in regards to the twelve concepts or a guide to service and is offered for consideration when these are written or rewritten for inclusion. This previously described WSC would not evolve without a degree of difficulty. A lot of obstacles could be invented to hamper equal efforts. A lot would have to be "laid on the table" besides motions. Representatives would have to leave a variety of detrimental characteristics, such as bias, prejudice, preconceived conclusions, ego, etc. before entering the conference room. This type of "coming together" might create a resounding growth that might not be achieved for generations.

TO: George, tough SW
FROM: Shannon the Irksome
DATE: June 12, 1992
RE: Slippery figures and penguin love

Try these.

WSC WORKSHOP:

188 people (3 Admin, 11 Trustees, 3 Directors, 14 Lit, 12 P.I., 23 H&I, 11 Policy, 96 RSRs/Alts who are not committee members, 15 others -- committee "pool" members, second alternates, various ad hoc committee members, etc.)

120 for 3 days, 68 for 2.

Travel: 188 @ \$400 = \$75,200

Lodging: 496 nights @ \$45 = \$22,320

Meals: 496 days @ \$25 = \$12,400

WSC WORKSHOP TOTAL, NOT INCLUDING MEETING SPACE, STAFF SUPPORT, ETC.: \$109,920.

ANNUAL MEETING:

208 people (3 Admin, 11 Trustees, 12 Directors, 60 committee members, 112 RSRs/Alternates who are not committee members, 10 others).

75 for 9 days, 133 for 8.

Travel: 208 @ 400 = \$83,200

Lodging: 1739 nights @ \$45 = \$78,255

Meals: 1739 days @ \$25 = \$43,475

WSC ANNUAL MEETING TOTAL, NOT INCLUDING SPACE, STAFF, ETC.: \$204,930.

Where are these numbers wrong? What about other expenses (staff at Van Nuys, traveling staff, meeting space, etc.)?

RSR participation, defined as RSRs/Alts making up the committees and having one mid-year meeting between annual conferences, is an expensive deal, but approximately \$60,000/yr. cheaper than our current system. As review/input bodies for trustees' work-in-progress they would add the grass-roots perspective necessary for fellowship support of world services.

Speaking of which, any ideas on how some kind of "RSR participation" could work in a system with bi- or triennial meetings/assemblies? Or, why not?

What are the right questions?

How do we get from here to there?

How about them Penguins?

Thanks for the help.

To: WSC Admin.
FROM: David J. RSR TriState

The RSR Alt and myself have discussed the proposal for two meetings, simultaneously going on, at the WSC. Here is our input.

In our region the idea of an Alternate RSR is so that person would gain experience for the next year, as the RSR. Having two meetings occurring at the same time, especially if they are business meetings, would lessen their experience and knowledge. In a time when Quarterlies are being cut back, that world level experience is tougher and tougher to obtain. We feel both the RSR and RSR Alt should be able to attend all meetings as a team and not have to decide where would hurt the region the least by a less knowledgeable and experienced RSR Alt.

We speak of a multi National conference, this would hinder us moving in that direction also. Most addicts outside the USA do not speak our language and those that do most aren't totally fluent or fast. The RSR team we spoke of before is even more important to them. When the conference is meeting, they seem to act as unit and keep close together. Splitting them up would decrease their lack of understanding. Even if interpreters were provided, who would use him/her only the RSR or only the one in the business session or would we provide two. That would double the cost of an already costly item.

Another concern of ours was, if for any reason, what if a Region could only send one RSR. (financial, relapse whatever) This would obviously exclude that Region from obtaining all the information necessary to make sound judgement on all the issues. And may exclude him/her from a voting situation in order to obtain information from a panel presentation or other.

Lastly, new Regions usually do not send WSC experienced Reps. And some already formed Regions from time to time also experience this. It is much easier to do a good job and be off service if the cherry RSR's do not have to be two places at once. Again, two cherry RSR's acting as a team can do better together than each of them at different meetings trying to decipher all that new info.

In Service,

David J.
RSR

Sean S.
RSR Alt.

Addendum I.

The following questionnaire is for information only. Completing it doesn't commit you or your group to anything. The Alternate Service Informational Structure (A.S.I.S.) is exploring any and all options to better serve the addicts who still suffer. We as a body feel the current service structure is lacking in several areas including, but not limited to, the current usage of the group conscience process, and the literature review process.

Please return this completed form to, A.S.I.S., P.O. Box 4504
Allentown, PA 18105

thank you for being a part of!

- 1) Do you as a member of a home group. wish to be a part of a structure seeking new alternatives?

- 2) Do you want your home groups' conscience to be a part of this alternate service structure, regardless of whether or not your group is part of the current service structure?

- 3) Do you want to be involved in individual/group tally?
(Where each individual/group votes on all issues)

- 4) How should the Alternate Service Informational Structure (A.S.I.S.) communicate and meet? (Modem, common meeting, conference calls, etc)

The dedication of our member groups can be...

- 1) To form a bond between the isolated groups and areas within our fellowship to have a unified conscience on issues and decisions that effect our fellowship.
- 2) To have a collective literature development process that allows for open participation from all of our groups.
- 3) To create a single layered service structure outside the group level, with the only function providing communication and service to the groups, as directed by the groups.
- 4) To finding creative, new solutions, commonly shared by our member groups.
- 5) Through the informed application of the traditions, seeking to further our primary purpose.
- 6) To the unrestricted availability and distribution of NA literature.
- 7) To the furtherance of unity within NA.