

Texas Conference United Methodist Women

Standing Rules of the Conference

Proposed Revisions

The title Executive Committee has been changed to Leadership Team throughout the document.

Rationale – The term commonly used in the United Methodist Handbook 2017 - 2020

A. Nominations, Elections and Appointive Procedures

1. **Method of Voting at Annual Meeting**. Voting shall be by ballot; Delete however, when there is but one nominee for an office, the vote may be taken by voice. Add – show of voting flag, or voice.

(Rationale -Clarification of current practice)

Rule will read - Voting shall be by ballot, show of voting flag, or voice.

Add –

4. **Elected Leaders.**

a. In addition to president, treasurer, secretary, and chair of the committee on nominations elected members of the Leadership Team shall be vice-president, communications coordinator, secretary for program resources, mission coordinator for spiritual growth, mission coordinator for social action, mission coordinator for education and interpretation, mission coordinator for membership, nurture, and outreach.

Rationale – The leadership team should include at least a president, treasurer, secretary and the chair of the committee on nominations. (Handbook pg. 33) Provisions will be made in the conference standing rules for additional elected and appointed leaders and additional committees not specified in the bylaws. (Bylaws, Article VIII, Section 2)

Add -

b. Only laywomen who are members of United Methodist churches within the boundaries of the conference may serve as elected leaders.

Rationale – Bylaws, Article III, Section 1

Add -

5. **Elections.**

a. Nomination of all leaders to be elected for the ensuing year, including the chairperson and members of the committee on nominations, shall be presented by the committee on nominations at the time of elections.

b. There shall be opportunity for nominations from the floor. Election may be by acclamation if there is only one nominee for each office. If there is more than one nominee voting must be by ballot. A majority vote (>50 percent of persons voting) is required for election.

c. When voting is by ballot, the chair of the committee on nominations shall appoint one person from each district to act as tellers.

Rational – Clarification of the election process. (Bylaws, Article V, Section 1, a and e)

10. Nominees to United Methodist Women National Office.

- a. At the Annual meeting in the fall of the year preceding each Quadrennial Meeting of the Jurisdiction organization, the Committee on Nominations shall present a slate of two (2) women for possible membership on the United Methodist Women National Office. The slate shall be presented to the conference Leadership Team and then to the local units according to the above-mentioned timeline for nominations to conference office. Additional names may be nominated from the floor of the Annual meeting with the consent of the nominee. Those elected as nominees shall be the two (2) with the highest number of votes.

Add -

The conference organization will also elect one woman to serve as an alternate. The committee on Nominations will present the name of one woman for alternate following the procedure above. Additional names may be nominated from the floor of the Annual meeting with the consent of the nominee. The name of this alternate will be retained by the conference secretary. In the event that one of the names of the two nominees is withdrawn, the name of the alternate will then be sent to the jurisdiction organization as the second nominee of the conference.

Rational – Bylaws, Article 5, Section 4 a

11. Delegates to Quadrennial Jurisdiction Meeting.

At the annual meeting of the conference organization prior to the quadrennial meeting of the jurisdiction organization, three (3) voting delegates will be elected by the conference organization, all of whom will be conference elected leaders. The conference president shall be one of the voting delegates. The ~~Delete - alternates~~ Add -additional delegates shall be the two conference officers receiving the next highest vote rank according to the number of votes received.

(Rational – correct term)

Rule will read –

At the annual meeting of the conference organization prior to the quadrennial meeting of the jurisdiction organization, three (3) voting delegates will be elected by the conference organization, all of whom will be conference elected leaders. The conference president shall be one of the voting delegates. The additional delegates shall be the two conference officers receiving the next highest vote rank according to the number of votes received.

B. Committees

1. Leadership Team

e. At its first meeting of the year, the Leadership Team shall determine a recipient of the conference Special Mission Recognition. **Add - and the Hazel Decker Award.** (*Rationale – current practice*)

8. Mission u Planning Committee

Delete -

a. The Conference Program Committee shall serve as the Planning Committee for the Mission u event.

b. The Conference Officers shall perform the same duties for Mission u as they do for all other meetings.

Add –

a. The members of the committee shall be the president, treasurer, secretary, registrar, dean, assistant dean, and associate dean.

b. The Dean shall serve as the chairperson. **Add - While she is serving, she will be a member of the conference leadership team.**

c. The Dean and Assistant Dean shall be elected by the committee from the members of the committee
Delete - and will serve a term of two (2) years.

d. The functions of the committee shall be to plan and promote a Mission u which shall serve as one means of fulfilling the PURPOSE

Add –

e. **The committee shall meet as needed to plan the event.**

Rational – Current practice and the Mission u Planning Committee Policies based on the National Office's Dean and Assistant Dean Handbook.)

The rule will read –

a. The members of the committee shall be the president, treasurer, secretary, registrar, dean, assistant dean, and associate dean.

b. The Dean shall serve as the chairperson of the Planning Committee. While she is serving, she will be a member of the conference leadership team.

c. The Dean and Assistant Dean shall be elected by the committee from the members of the committee.

d. The functions of the committee shall be to plan and promote a Mission u which shall serve as one means of fulfilling the PURPOSE.

e. The committee shall meet as needed to plan the event.

Add –

9. UMW Luncheon Committee
10. Committee on Charter for Racial Justice
11. Communications and Displays
12. Scholarship Committee Legislative Event
13. Scholarship Committee
14. Courtesy Committee
15. Hospitality Committee

Rationale – Current committees. Provisions will be made in the conference standing rules for additional elected and appointed leaders and additional committees not specified in the bylaws. (Bylaws, Article VIII, Section 2)

D. Meetings

1. Meetings Held Annually

- b. Mission u shall be held every summer at ~~Delete - Lakeview Methodist Conference Center~~ Add – at a location determined by the Mission u Planning Committee.

Rationale – Due to decrease in attendance and price increases at Lakeview it may become necessary to change the location.

Rule will read –

- b. Mission u shall be held every summer at a location determined by the Mission u Planning Committee.

E. Funds

7. Change Rate for Travel Expenses to Rate for Travel Subsidized Expenses. (*Rationale – More accurate term for our policy*) The following costs shall be paid (this includes members of the Committee on Nominations while visiting district meetings and events outside their district to observe potential leadership:

- c. Housing based on ~~Delete - occupancy rate of four per room~~ Add - 25% of cost

Rationale – Better describes the reimbursement since most do not stay four per room.

Rule will read – Housing based on 25% of cost.

11. District Funds.

c. Subsidy. Districts shall receive a subsidy of one-third the **Add – basic** cost of housing and registration (rounded to the nearest dollar) for district officers, including members of the Committee on Nominations, in attendance at Lakeview for Spring Event, Annual Meeting, and Mission u.

Rationale – We do not pay the first class housing rate.

Rule will read - Subsidy. Districts shall receive a subsidy of one-third the basic cost of housing and registration (rounded to the nearest dollar) for district officers, including members of the Committee on Nominations, in attendance at Lakeview for Spring Event, Annual Meeting, and Mission u.

d. Mission u Scholarship(s). **Add -For one recipient from each district**, the conference shall pay the cost of housing and registration, **Add - up to \$150.00**, for one youth, young adult, newly retired, ~~Delete - Hispanic or Asian woman from each district~~ **Add – or first timer. Consideration will be given to all ethnic groups in the district.** (Each district is responsible for study materials, travel, and supervision of youth.)

Rationale – Clarification of current practice.

The current wording is not inclusive of all ethnic groups.

Rule will read – Mission u Scholarship(s). For one recipient from each district, the conference shall pay the cost of housing and registration, up to \$150.00, for one youth, young adult, newly retired or first timer. Consideration shall be given to all ethnic groups in the district. (Each district is responsible for study materials, travel, and supervision of youth.)