



## STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Membership: Membership: Ex-officio Chair Sue Ellis - Moderator, Rob Brown – Interim General Secretary, Graham Vawser-Ex-Moderator, Peter Battersby - Synod Property Officer & Presbytery Treasurer, Mark Kickett-UAICC Regional Council appointment, Elected Members Bronte Wilson, Peter Gunn, Elizabeth Megaw, Bruce Ind, Lauren Andris, Alison Whish, Ken Burt, Leanne Davis, Pam Bartholomaeus, Sean Weetra, Andrew Robertson, Simon Dent, Susan Doughty Co-opted members - none, Resourcing Members (non-voting) – Philip Gardner, Sue Page, Andrew Dutney, Tim Hodgson, Mark Schultz (Observer) Bindy Taylor, (Minutes) Tracey Bost, Guests: Rob Stoner, Diane Bury, Ian Price

Apologies: Andrew Dutney, Bindy Taylor, Susan Doughty, Mark Kickett

Absent: Sean Weetra

Reference #	1.0 WELCOME
	The Moderator welcomed all to the meeting, opening with an Acknowledgement of Country from “Wide and Deep”: “From before recorded time, the First Peoples cared for this Land. We praise the Creator for the beauty of this Land and honour those who have offered themselves in tending it. We acknowledge the Kaurna Elders and communities who have told the sacred stories and nurtured faithfulness to the Creator. We ask God’s blessing on those who continue to work for the healing and restoration of this Land and Communities”
	1.1 Devotions Mr Bruce Ind led the meeting in devotions, using a Disney cartoon (attitudes and behaviours) to speak about upholding the values and teachings of Jesus to bring heaven to earth and bring forth the kingdom of God.
	1.2 Pastoral Matters The Moderator prayed for pastoral concerns.
	1.3 Attendance/Apologies Apologies as shown above.
PSSC19.01	1.4 Conflict of Interest / Interest Declaration  It was AGREED that the Presbytery and Synod resolve to:  a. Note: i. Rob Brown declared a conflict of interest in 5.8.2 (Interim General Secretary’s Confidential Supplementary Report) ii. Resolve that he remain in the meeting to present the report and leave the meeting for the decision.

	<p>b. Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Peter Battersby declared a conflict of interest in 5.8.1 (General Secretary's JNC Confidential Report) and 5.8.2 (Interim General Secretary's Confidential Supplementary Report) as a direct report to the General Secretary.</li> <li>ii. Resolve that he remain in the meeting but not vote.</li> </ul> <p>c. Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Graham Vawser declared a conflict of interest in 5.1.3.4 as a member of the Resthaven Board.</li> <li>ii. Resolve that he remain in the meeting but not vote.</li> </ul> <p>d. Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Simon Dent declared an interest in 5.1.2 as a Formation Panel member.</li> <li>ii. Resolve that he remain in the meeting but not vote.</li> </ul> <p>e. Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Kent Burt declared an interest in 5.1.1 – Susan Burt is a member of the Restructuring Task Group.</li> <li>ii. Resolve that he remain in the meeting and participate.</li> </ul>
PSSC19.02	<p>1.5 Approval of Agenda</p> <p>It was AGREED that the Presbytery and Synod Standing Committee resolve to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. APPROVE the Agenda, including the following Consent Agenda items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.7 – budgetary consideration</li> <li>1.8 – receive reports</li> <li>2.1 – approval of previous minutes</li> <li>2.2 – action list</li> <li>3.1.1 – receive correspondence</li> <li>3.2.1 – correspondence/actions</li> <li>5.1.3.1-6 - UnitingCare Report</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<p>1.6 Priority Order of Business</p> <p>4 pm –Gen Sec JNC Report (5.8.1)</p> <p>Otherwise, as per agenda.</p>
	<p>1.7 Process</p> <p>As part of the deliberative process, fully consider the budgetary and missional aspects in accordance with the Strategic Plan brought before Standing Committee.</p>
PSSC19.03	<p>1.8 Receive Reports</p> <p>It was AGREED that the Presbytery and Synod Standing Committee resolve to: RECEIVE all reports as provided (electronic and hard copy) in the Standing Committee business papers 1 February 2019.</p>
	<p><b>2.0 MINUTES AND ACTION LIST</b></p>
PSSC19.04	<p>2.1 Approval of Previous Minutes</p> <p>It was AGREED that the Presbytery and Synod Standing Committee resolve to: APPROVE the Minutes of the Presbytery and Synod Standing Committee Meeting 14 December 2018.</p>

	<p>2.2 Action List (Actions Taken Since Previous Meeting) See Action List.</p>
	<p><b>3.0 CORRESPONDENCE</b></p>
PSSC19.05	<p>3.1 Receive correspondence</p> <p>It was AGREED that the Presbytery and Synod Standing Committee resolve to RECEIVE the correspondence as listed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Lt from Hon Steven Marshall MP regarding the GM-APY Lands, Mr Richard King.</li> <li>2. Emails from Bishop John Stead, Chair of Leaders of Christian Churches and Marie Loller, President of SA Council of Churches regarding the appointment of Rev Anne Hewitt to the role of SACC Ecumenical Facilitator/Executive Officer.</li> <li>3. Confidential correspondence.</li> </ol>
PSSC19.06	<p>3.2 Action from incoming/outgoing correspondence</p> <p>It was AGREED that the Presbytery and Synod Standing Committee resolve to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Note the item of correspondence.</li> <li>2. Note the item of correspondence. The Interim General Secretary offered to send a letter of congratulations and support to Rev Anne Hewitt.</li> <li>3. Note the item of correspondence.</li> </ol>
	<p><b>4.0 STRATEGIC MOMENT</b></p> <p>In table groups, Standing Committee discussed achievements made and challenges felt in regard to the Strategic Plan.</p>
	<p><b>5.0 STANDING REPORTS</b></p>
	<p><b>5.1 Governance, Innovation and Communication</b></p> <p>Interim General Secretary's Report</p> <p>The Interim General Secretary spoke to his report, including:</p> <p><b>Staffing update:</b> Commencement of Rev Sue Page (Associate General Secretary); Commencement of Rev Tim Hodgson (Executive Officer, UnitingCare); Mr Malcolm Wilson has moved into a part-time administrative role (Grants and Historical Records Officer) and is assisting Pastoral Relations and Mission Planning one day per week while Rev Ashley Davis (Region Minister Rural &amp; Remote SA) is on long service leave; Mr Chris Headland (previously Acting Executive Officer, UnitingCare) will be retiring at the end of the month;</p>

Recruitment for a temporary PA to the Moderator is currently underway;

#### **UCA Redress Ltd**

Satisfying the Government's conditions so that the Uniting Church in Australia are able to formally enter the National Redress Scheme has taken some time. An announcement that the UCA has joined the National Redress Scheme should not be far away.

#### **Standing Committee co-option**

Standing Committee membership allows for up to two co-options in order to strengthen the Standing Committee by co-opting people who have particular skill sets. Mr Martyn Smith has been co-opted to fill a vacancy on Standing Committee to strengthen Standing Committee in the area of financial management;

"Uniting Leaders" has been rebranded to "**Uniting Leadership**", with a focus on providing resources to develop leadership across the myriads of environments within the UCA, moving away from conference style products to more about training, certification, theological symposia and grounded research.

**Restructuring Task Group** - The Group has met twice; Mr Barry Atwell has been appointed as the Project Officer; the Group has been put in place to ascertain what the new Presbytery (-ies) might look like; Both Task Groups (Restructuring Task Group and Non-Geographic Presbytery Task Group) are looking into what aspects of the life of the Church are best located centrally; further to this process the new Presbytery may decide to delegate other tasks to the Synod; The makeup of the new Presbytery will assist the Restructuring Task Group to determine what the other Presbytery (-ies) might choose to decide to do also; Formal consultation will be undertaken with the Urban and Community Outreach Mission Networks in order to ascertain their thoughts on the place of networks in the future structures and the shape of the Presbytery (-ies) that may be formed; Other consultations will be undertaken with the Networks that will most likely relate to the Non-Geographic Presbytery. Additional consultations with congregations not joining the NGP are likely. It is anticipated that both Task Groups will present to the June Presbytery and Synod meeting.

A **Special Synod** meeting on Saturday 9 February 2019 has been called to hear the General Secretary JNC report and recommendation of a new General Secretary and any business remaining from the November 2018 Annual Presbytery and Synod meeting.

It was AGREED that the Synod Standing Committee resolve to:

SSC19.07

1. NOTE that the Associate General Secretary has given notice to members of the Synod that the Moderator has called a Special Meeting of the Synod to be held on Saturday 9 February 2019 in order to:
  1. APPOINT a new General Secretary.
  2. DEAL with business remaining from the November Annual Meeting of the Presbytery and Synod, and
  3. SHARE an update on progress towards the separation of the Presbytery and the Synod and the formation of the new Presbytery as agreed at the November Presbytery and Synod annual meeting.

<p>PSSC19.08</p>	<p>It was AGREED that the Presbytery and Synod Standing Committee resolve to:</p> <p>2. CO-OPT Mr Martyn Smith as a member of the 2018/2019 Standing Committee.</p>
<p>PSC19.09</p> <p>SSC19.10</p>	<p><b>5.1.2 Associate General Secretary's Report</b></p> <p>The Associate General Secretary, Rev Sue Page, spoke to her report, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Readiness for Ordination Reports</li> <li>• Preparations underway for the Special Synod meeting on 9 February;</li> <li>• Moderator Nominating Committee – re-launch at the Special Synod meeting with nominations to the June 2019 Presbytery and Synod meeting;</li> </ul> <p>It was AGREED that the Presbytery Standing Committee resolve to:</p> <p>1. ORDAIN Lynne Aird as a Minister of the Word in the Uniting Church in Australia.</p> <p>2. ORDAIN Peter Morton as a Minister of the Word in the Uniting Church in Australia, subject to receiving a call to a ministry placement.</p> <p>It was AGREED that the Synod Standing Committee resolve to:</p> <p>3. APPOINT Rev Dr Ian Price, Ps Jeanette Lennon and Rev Sandy Boyce to the Stipends Committee for a twelve month term, concluding at the annual meeting of the Synod in November 2019.</p>
<p>SSC19.11</p> <p>SSC19.12</p>	<p><b>5.1.3 UnitingCare Report</b></p> <p>The Executive Officer, UnitingCare, Rev Tim Hodgson, spoke to the UnitingCare Report, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety – The Uniting Church has presented their witness statement; members of the Church are able to submit individual submissions.</li> <li>• Appointment of Board members.</li> </ul> <p>It was AGREED that the Synod Standing Committee resolve to:</p> <p>1. APPOINT Prof Justin Beilby to the Board of Eldercare Inc for a second term of three years commencing on 23 March 2019 and concluding on 22 March 2022.</p> <p>2. APPOINT Rev Dr Graham Humphris to the Board of Eldercare Inc for a second term of three years commencing on 23 March 2019 and concluding on 22 March 2022.</p>

SSC19.13	3. APPOINT Ms Jan Turbill to the Board of Eldercare Inc for a second term of three years commencing on 23 March 2019 and concluding on 22 March 2022.
SSC19.14	4. APPOINT Mr Michael Haydon to the Resthaven Inc Board for an initial term of less than three years commencing on 2 February 2019 and concluding on 31 December 2021.
SSC19.15	5. ACKNOWLEDGE AND THANK Mr Geoff Tully for his service as a Board member of Resthaven Inc.
SSC19.16	6. ACKNOWLEDGE AND THANK Mrs Suzanne Fuller for her service as a Board member of Resthaven Inc.
	<b>5.2 Resources Board</b>
	No report this meeting.
	<b>5.3 Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress</b>
	No report this meeting.
	<b>5.4 Uniting College for Leadership &amp; Theology (UCLT)</b>
	<p>The Acting Executive Officer, Rev Mark Schulz, presented his report for information, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rev. Prof. Andrew Dutney is on outside study leave for the 1<sup>st</sup> half of 2019. Rev Tim Hein is Acting Principal; Mark is enjoying the opportunity to connect with the College staff on a more regular basis;</li> <li>• Staffing changes - farewell to Ann Phillips, Eloise Scherer. Laura Carson and Judyth Roberts and welcome to Tim Littleford as Intergenerational Discipleship Developer with a focus on Youth and Young Adults;</li> <li>• KCO – well into preparations for event at Adare (or local group)</li> <li>• Mission Resourcing Centres update including a new 0.2 FTE placement with CMLA;</li> <li>• UCLT – “Venture” – adult discipleship program; Certificate IV in Christian Ministry &amp; Theology;</li> <li>• The College is entering a Strategic Plan Phase;</li> <li>• The Covenanting Committee meet Saturday 2 February 2019.</li> </ul>
	<b>5.5 Pastoral Relations &amp; Mission Planning</b>
	Pastoral Relations & Mission Planning Report No report this meeting.
5.6	<b>Moderator’s Mid-Term Review</b>
5.6.1	<p>Moderator’s Mid-Term Review Report</p> <p>One of the recommendations from the Moderator’s Mid-Term Review Report was to discuss the ‘fit’, or otherwise, of there being both a theme for a Moderator’s term of office and a Synod Strategic Plan.</p>

	<p>Standing Committee discussed the benefit to the Moderator and to the UCSA of the Moderator using a personal theme, with the following comments:</p> <p>The past Moderator, Rev Dr Graham Vawser, offered the following comments:</p> <p>“There is a difference between the role of the Moderator and the role of the General Secretary; the General Secretary works under the Strategic Plan, the Moderator works within the Strategic Plan; because of the different roles that are given within the Regulations and By-laws, the Moderator needs to focus in a broader way because the General Secretary works with the Executive Officers who flesh out the Strategic Plan and the Moderator brings the particular focus that arises out of the persons interests and passions and style. Having the Strategic Plan and Moderator’s Theme is important for the presentation of the life of the Church. It is helpful for the Moderator because it means there is a theme rather than the breadth of the Strategic Plan when we go around visiting places”.</p>
5.7	<b>NGPTG &amp; RTG Progress Report</b>
5.7.2	<p>Both of the Task Groups share the same view on what should stay with the Synod; Copies of the NGPTG meeting minutes were made available;</p> <p>Re: survey of congregations – 50% have responded with 40% electing the NGP, 30% another Presbytery and 30% undecided – require more information.</p> <p>Congregations will decide which Presbytery they wish to belong to; congregations will be formally assigned to a Presbytery by the Synod.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Non Geographic Presbytery Task Group (NGPTG) Progress Report. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Verbal Report from Leanne Davis;</li> <li>• the NGPTG has met twice as a Task Group and once with the Interim General Secretary and Executive Officer, PR&amp;MP</li> <li>• The Task Group has been investigating what a Presbytery does-what should stay with the Synod, i.e. Safe Church;</li> <li>• A name for the Presbytery will be considered at the next meeting;</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Restructuring Task Group See 5.1.1 – Interim General Secretary’s Report</li> </ol>
5.8	<b>General Secretary Joint Nominating Committee (JNC)</b>
5.8.1	<b>General Secretary Joint Nominating Committee (Confidential) Report</b> Confidential Minute SSC19.17 – SSC19.18
5.8.2	<b>Interim General Secretary’s (Confidential) Supplementary Report</b> Confidential Minute SSC19.19 – SSC19.22
	<b>6.0 Other Business</b>
	No other business was raised.
	<b>7.0 Adjournment</b>
	Friday 5 April 2019, Level 2/212 Pirie Street Devotions: Leanne Davis