Standing Committee Report

1. Introduction

The Presbytery and Synod Standing Committee (June) and Synod Standing Committee (August onwards) is empowered to act on behalf of the Presbytery and Synod/Synod in between full meetings (June and November 2019). As per the "Manual for Meetings", Standing Committee meetings include devotions, pastoral prayers, discussion and times for prayerful discernment. The Committee faithfully and diligently deals with a myriad of matters and continue to gather and discern God's will in the life of the Church. The business that is presented, discussed and discerned often involves honest and robust conversation. The Standing Committee applies itself diligently to ensure that the necessary time is given to addressing the business matters set before it.

Standing Committee meetings are held in the Presbytery and Synod Office at 212 Pirie Street.

2. Membership 2018/2019

Members of Standing Committee for the 2018/19 membership term are:
Ex-officio members:
Moderator, Rev Sue Ellis
Ex-Moderator - Rev Dr Graham Vawser (December 2018 – October 2019)
Interim CEO/General Secretary Rev Rob Brown (December 2018 – April 2019)
General Secretary Rev Felicity Amery from June 2019
Synod Property Officer and Executive Officer, Resources, Peter Battersby
(Astrid Kuivasaari during Peter's absence and/or for the M&S Fund Budget or other PT/RB items)
Rev Mark Kickett is the nominated representative of the UAICC Regional Council
Elected members (number of meetings attended):

* Alice Kroker (2)	Rev Alison Whish (6)	Rev Andrew Robertson (5)
Bronte Wilson (7)	Bruce Ind (6)	*Rev Dean Brine (2)
Elizabeth Megaw (7)	Ken Burt (5)	Leanne Davis (5)
Martyn Smith (co-option) (6)	Dr Pam Bartholomaeus (7)	Dr Peter Gunn 7)
Sean Weetra (2)	Rev Simon Dent (6)	

*replaced Lauren Andris who resigned her Standing Committee membership earlier in the year
*replaced Rev Susan Doughty who resigned her Standing Committee membership earlier in the year

Resourcing members:
Associate General Secretary – Malcolm Wilson – December 2018; Rev Sue Page – from 2019
Executive Officer, UnitingCare - Chris Headland – December 2018; Rev Tim Hodgson – from 2019
Rev Philip Gardner – Executive Officer, Pastoral Relations and Mission Planning (and later Executive Officer, Pastoral Relations and Safe Church)

Rev Prof Andrew Dutney – Executive Officer, Mission & Leadership Development
Mark Schultz – Team Leader, Mission Resourcing
Observer - Bindy Taylor, Communications Manager; Acting Manager, Win Kamaputri
Minutes – Tracey Bost

As per the By-laws, the Standing Committee Nominating Committee will bring to the full meeting of the Synod the names and profiles of nominees, for at least the number required to be elected. Please note that members of the Synod can also make additional nominations at or prior to the meeting where the election will take place. The By-laws also allow for up to two (2) members to be co-opted by the Committee. Standing Committee has agreed that these co-options will be on an annual basis and will be made following the elections to enhance the gifts and skills of the elected Standing Committee.

3. Meetings

Standing Committee has met on the following occasions since the Annual Meeting in 2018:

14 December 2018	1 February 2019	5 April 2019	3 May 2019
14 June 2019	2 August 2019	11 October 2018	

4. Minutes

All Minutes from Standing Committee meetings are available on the Uniting Church in South Australia website - https://sa.uca.org.au/synod/standing-committee-2019/

MAJOR DECISIONS ARE SHOWN BELOW:

FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY (INCLUDING STRATEGIC MOMENTS)

DECEMBER 18

- Post 2018 Annual Presbytery & Synod meeting decisions including the outworking of Proposal 28 and membership of the Task Groups including:
    - Membership of the Non-Geographic Presbytery Task Group and Restructuring Task Group
    - Executive Functions of the Synod retained by the Synod
- Appointment of Rev Sue Page as Associate General Secretary
- UCA Redress Ltd – approve the principles of financial contribution and principles of identifying participating institutions

FEBRUARY 19

- Staffing Update:- Rev Sue Page (Associate General Secretary); Rev Tim Hodgson (Executive Officer, UnitingCare), Mr Malcolm Wilson – Grants and Historical Records Officer
- UCA Redress Ltd
- Appointment of Mr Martyn Smith as a Standing Committee co-option
- Uniting Leadership
- Restructuring Task Group
- Special Synod meeting – 9 February 2019

APRIL 19

See 4.1 – Strategic Moment

- New name for the Non-Geographic Presbytery – now the Generate Presbytery – and operational matters
- Restructuring Task Group Report – process around congregations selecting a Presbytery
- Extra Standing Committee scheduled for 3 May 2019 to finalise the proposals for the June Presbytery and Synod meeting
- Transitional Presbytery of South Australia to be formed at the June Synod meeting.
- Funding model –Affirm the assumptions contained in the paper "Synod and Presbytery Funding – Assumptions"
- Conclusion of the Mission Networks and operational matters

General Secretary's Report

- Preparing for the separation of the Presbytery – and creation of Presbyteries
- New General Secretary and General Secretary's Liaison Group

MAY 19

See 4.1 – Strategic Moment

Approval of Proposals for the June Presbytery and Synod Meeting – Presbytery Restructure including:

- Funding model - Approve the adoption of the Blended Pool + Flow Funding Model (Model 4) to fund Presbyteries and the SA Synod from 1 January 2020.
- Financial Administrative Functions to be retained by the Synod
- Operational matters for each Presbytery
- Position Description – Executive Officer – Placements and Safe Church
- Pastoral Relations Committee and Placements during the transition period
- Formal closure of Mission Networks

General Secretary's Report

No report this meeting.

JUNE 2019

See 4.1 Strategic Moment

Generate Presbytery Task Group Update including:

- Proposals to the June Presbytery and Synod meeting
- Appointments to the Restructuring Task Group
- Decision to form a Joint Pastoral Relations Committee with the current Pastoral Relations Committee from 1 July 2019 until 31 December 2019
- Placements Committee will continue until the November 2019 annual meeting.

Transitional Presbytery SA Task Group Update including:

- Nomination and election of office bearers
- Appointments to the Restructuring Task Group
- Appointment of lay congregational members of each Presbytery as members of the Synod 2019-2020
- Appointment of two candidates as members of the Synod 2019-2020

General Secretary's Report
Table group discussion about what Assembly should be cognisant of in respect to each Synod.

AUGUST 19

- Assembly Standing Committee Meeting Update
- Resignation of Rev Dr Graham Humphris as Chair of the Property Trust and Resources Board
- Transitional Presbytery SA Consultations
- Review process for Executive Officers

OCTOBER 19 - UNCONFIRMED

- Appointment of Rev Tim Hodgson to the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability SA Synod Task Group
- Appoint a Task Group to review the Position Descriptions of the Moderator, General Secretary and Associate General Secretary
- Moderator's Support Group
- 2020 Standing Committee Dates

FROM THE ASSOCIATE GENERAL SECRETARY

DECEMBER 18

Appointments to:
Board of Morialta Trust, Discipline Committees

FEBRUARY 19

- Readiness for Ordination Reports – Lynne Aird and Peter Morton
- Moderator Nominating Committee re-launch
- Appointments to the Stipends Committee

APRIL 19

- Constitution and By-laws of Seaford Christian Churches
- Appointments to the UCASA Covenanting Committee

MAY 19

No report this meeting.

JUNE 19

- Appointments to the National Standing Appeal Panel
- Appointments to the Synod Ecumenical Relationships Committee

AUGUST 19

- Restructuring Task Group Report including the Consultation and Discernment Working Group Report and Process and Implementation Working Group Report
- Recognise congregations as coming under the oversight of the Generate Presbytery

- Recognise congregations as coming under the oversight of the Transitional Presbytery SA
- Stipends Committee – Professional Development allowance
- Presbytery Office Bearers Induction Day
- Business Committee – Planning for the November 2019 annual meeting

OCTOBER 19 - UNCONFIRMED

- Recognise congregations as coming under the oversight of the Generate Presbytery
- Recognise congregations as coming under the oversight of the Transitional Presbytery SA
- Adopt the UCASA Privacy Policy and Procedures v3
- Approve UCASA Relief Fund By-laws
- Approve the UCASA Foundation Grants Committee
- Synod Membership
- Synod Standing Committee Membership
- Assembly Membership
- Presbytery Membership
- Separating the one Presbytery & Synod model into multiple Presbyteries and SA Synod model
- Presbytery Funding Model
- Approve the Mission & Leadership Development Board By-law
- Approve the Placements Committee By-law

FROM UNITINGCARE

DECEMBER 18

Amendment to Clause 9.1 – Westminster School Inc. Rules

Appointments to:

Council of Annesley College, Board of Helping Hand Care Inc, Board of Lincoln College Inc, Board of Pilgrim School Inc, Council of Scotch College, Board of Uniting Communities Inc, Board of Uniting Country SA Ltd, Board of Uniting Country SA Ltd, Board of UnitingCare Glenelg, Council of Westminster School Inc,

FEBRUARY 19

Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety

Appointments to:

Board of Eldercare Inc, Resthaven Inc Board

Acknowledge and Thank:

Mr Geoff Tully – Board member of Resthaven Inc

Mrs Suzanne Fuller - Board member of Resthaven Inc

APRIL 19

Appointments to:

Board of Lincoln College Inc, Resthaven Inc Board

MAY 19

Appointment of Mr James Tamblyn as Principal of Pedare Christian College from 2020.

JUNE 19

Appointments to:

Resthaven Inc Board, Council of Westminster School Inc.

AUGUST 19

- News and challenges from the agencies and organisations associated with the Uniting Church
- New model of Best Practice

Appointment to:

Prince Alfred College Advisory Committee

OCTOBER 19

Appointments to:

Pedare Christian College Inc. Board, Council of Westminster School Inc, Resthaven Inc. Board, Board of Governors of St Andrew's Hospital Inc, Board of Uniting Communities Inc, MediaCom Education Inc Board, Appointment of CEO, MediaCom Education Inc.

Acknowledge and Thank

Mrs Lee Sando – member of the Board of Resthaven Inc.

FROM THE PROPERTY TRUST AND RESOURCES BOARD

DECEMBER 18

- Mission and Service Fund Financial Report to 30 September 2018
- Mission and Service Fund 5 Year Rolling Forecast
- UCA Redress Ltd Levy
- UCSA Relief Fund amendments

FEBRUARY 19

No report this meeting.

APRIL 19

- Resources Board By-law proposed amendments
- Resources Board Chairperson Position Description
- Mission & Service Fund Financial Report – 31 December 2018
- Uniting Venues SA Report
- Adopt the Mission and Service Fund audited Financial Statements – 31 December 2018
- Note the Mission and Service Fund financial statements for the quarter ended 31 December 2018

MAY 19

No report this meeting.

JUNE 19

- Approve the adoption of the Financial Statements – usually this is a responsibility of the Synod meeting, however, given the timing of the meeting and the need to lodge reports with the ACNC, 21 statements presented for adoption – remaining 8 will be brought to a future meeting.

- External Audit – Internal Audit – Financial Statements Review Panel – no issues discovered
- Acknowledgement of the Congregation Contributions
- Mission and Service Fund Balance Sheet
- Funding the UCA Redress Ltd and the National Safe Church Unit
- Approve amendments to the Uniting Venues SA By-law

AUGUST 19

- Nominate Rev Felicity Amery to be a member of the Uniting Church SA Investment Fund Ltd.

OCTOBER 19 - UNCONFIRMED

- 30 June 2019 Mission & Service Fund Report and additional 2018 Financial Statements
- UAICC – use of Capital Fund – 2018 budget deficit
- Mission and Service Fund Budget 2020 for approval at the 2019 Annual Synod meeting
- Insurance of Church buildings
- Annual contribution to the National Safe Church Unit and Assembly contribution 2020-2022
- Membership of the Property Trust and Resources Board including:
    - Chairperson of the Property Trust
    - Chairperson of the Resources Board
- Exemption from Resources Board By-law
- Appointments to the Board of Ecumenical Endeavours P/L and board of Citicom P/L
- Approve amendments to the UCASA Relief Fund Rules
- Approve amendments to the UCASA Arts and Cultural Development Group Inc. Rules
- Approve amendments to the UCASA Building Fund Rules
- Approve amendments to the UCASA Ethical Investment Policy and Procedures

FROM UNITING ABORIGINAL & ISLANDER CHRISTIAN CONGRESS

DECEMBER 18

- Approve the 2019 UAICC Budget

FEBRUARY 19

No report.

APRIL 19

UAICC REVIEW

- Refer UAICC Review recommendations to the UAICC Regional Council so that they might accept, amend or reject any of the recommendations
- Covenanting Committee

MAY 19

No report this meeting.

JUNE 19

Decisions of the UAICC Regional Council including:

- To recognise Raukkan Faith Community as a community in the UAICC & UCA in SA
- Invite Rev Ross Honey and the General Secretary to continue working with SA UAICC Regional Council and its Ministry Centres.

AUGUST 19
No report this meeting.

OCTOBER 19
No report this meeting.

FROM MISSION AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT (UCLT AND MISSION RESOURCING)

DECEMBER 18
No report.

FEBRUARY 19

- Report for information including staffing updates: - farewell to Ann Phillips, Eloise Scherer, Laura Carson and Judyth Roberts. Welcome to Tim Littleford.

APRIL 19

- Acknowledged the passing of a much loved staff member, Siti Rogoimuri
- UCLT faculty appointments including the extension of Craig Bailey as Director of Leadership and appointment of Dr Mauro Meruzzi as Postgraduate Studies Coordinator.
- Mission Resourcing activities including KCO, Intergenerational events and Social Justice including the Moderator's Social Justice matters, i.e. The SA Abortion Bill and Nuclear Waste disposal.

MAY 19
No report this meeting.

JUNE 19
Staffing Update and activities of the College and Mission Resourcing.

AUGUST 19

- Changing relationship with Flinders University as a result of their restructuring
- National Review of Theological Colleges
- Maintaining relationships with Presbyteries

OCTOBER 19 - UNCONFIRMED

- Appointment of Dr Peter Gunn to the Uniting College Grans Committee as a Uniting College representative
- All Candidates to be included in the membership of Synod

FROM PASTORAL RELATIONS & MISSION PLANNING

DECEMBER 18

- Dissolve and Cease to Recognise Peterborough Uniting Church
- Dissolve and Cease to Recognise The Fish Gate Uniting Church

FEBRUARY 19

No report this meeting.

APRIL 19

- Conversations about Chaplaincy Services SA
- Changes to Criminal History Screening
- DISSOLVE and CEASE TO RECOGNISE the Lucindale Uniting Church
- DISSOLVE and CEASE TO RECOGNISE the Port Vincent Uniting Church
- Recognise the Northern Suburbs Dinka Speaking Faith Community as a Congregation.

MAY 19

No report this meeting.

JUNE 19

- Amended Safe Church Police Check processes
- DISSOLVE and CEASE TO RECOGNISE the Eden Hills Uniting Church
- Appointment to the Synod Sexual Misconduct Complaints Committee
- Amalgamate City Soul UC and UCity Uniting Church

AUGUST 19

- Church Planting updates
- DISSOLVE and CEASE TO RECOGNISE the Mundoora Uniting Church
- CEASE TO RECOGNISE the Uniting College as a Faith Community at their request
- Endorse the Change of Name of UCity Uniting Church to CityView Uniting Church
- Withdrawal of recognition of Rev Susan Doughty as a Minister of the Word in the Uniting Church in Australia
- Adopt the Revised Safe Church Duty of Care Policy

OCTOBER 19 - UNCONFIRMED

- Removal of Apsley Uniting Church from the UCASA records and transfer responsibility to the Synod of Vic/Tas
- DISSOLVE and CEASE TO RECOGNISE the Koolywurtie Uniting Church
- DISSOLVE and CEASE TO RECOGNISE the Minnipa Uniting Church
- DISSOLVE and CEASE TO RECOGNISE the Parilla Uniting Church
- DISSOLVE and CEASE TO RECOGNISE the Corny Point Uniting Church

OTHER AGENDA ITEMS

DECEMBER 18

- Moderator's Mid-Term Review
- Minutes of the November Annual Presbytery and Synod Meeting
- UAICC Review recommendations

FEBRUARY 19

- Moderator's Mid-Term Review Report
- Non-Geographic Presbytery Task Group and Restructuring Task Group Progress Reports
- General Secretary Joint Nominating Committee Report
- Appointment of Rev Rob Brown to the Ex-General Secretary position

APRIL 19

- Approval of the Special Presbytery Meeting 5 January 2019
- Approval of the Special Synod Meeting 9 February 2019

AUGUST 19

Approval of the 28 – 29 June 2019 meeting of the Presbytery and Synod.

5. Synod Standing Committee Meetings 2019/2020

Following the 2019 Annual Meeting, Standing Committee will meet:

Friday 6 December 2019	**Friday 7th February 2020**	**Friday 3rd April 2020**
Friday 12th June 2020	**Friday 7th August 2020**	**Friday 27th November 2020**

In 2019/2020, Standing Committee will meet a minimum of 6 times on Friday evenings from 3 pm to approximately 7.00 pm followed by a shared meal.

The December meeting (first meeting of the new Committee) will begin with a time of community building, followed by information sessions to ensure members are adequately informed to fulfil their responsibilities as members of the Presbytery and Synod Standing Committee.

6. Dissolution of a Congregation Reporting

Regulation 3.4.3(d)(iv) requires congregations that are no longer recognised by the Presbytery to be reported to the Synod. Closures reported to Standing Committee between the December and October Standing Committee meetings are:

- Dissolve and Cease to Recognise Peterborough Uniting Church
- Dissolve and Cease to Recognise The Fish Gate Uniting Church
- Dissolve and Cease to Recognise the Lucindale Uniting Church
- Dissolve and Cease to Recognise the Port Vincent Uniting Church

- Dissolve and Cease to Recognise the Eden Hills Uniting Church
- Dissolve and Cease to Recognise the Mundoora Uniting Church
- Cease to Recognise the Uniting College as a Faith Community at their request
- Dissolve and Cease to Recognise the Koolywurtie Uniting Church
- Dissolve and Cease to Recognise the Minnipa Uniting Church
- Dissolve and Cease to Recognise the Parilla Uniting Church

7. Final Comments

As you can see the scope of the work that Synod Standing Committee processes during the year is extensive and vital to the ongoing work of the Uniting Church here in South Australia. I wish to thank all members of the Synod Standing Committee for their commitment and contributions. At our Annual Meeting in November some members will come to the end of their term so a special thank you is in order. For those continuing, the dates for 2020 are approved and we look forward to your regular attendance.

At this time of year it is also important for all members of the Synod to be thinking about the gifts and skills the Standing Committee will need for the future. The Matrix, shown below, will assist you to discern who you might nominate in preparation for elections at the meeting.

Please continue to prayer for the work of the SSC as it seeks to be the decision making body of the Synod between Annual Meetings.

Rev Felicity Amery
General Secretary
October 2019

Uniting Church in Australia South Australia
Synod Standing Committee - Skills Register 2019 – 2020

Standing Committee is the peak governance body within the Presbytery and Synod. To ensure that the Committee is best placed to fulfil its responsibilities it is desirable that we have a register of the skills represented across the membership of the Standing Committee. You are invited to complete the matrix below by indicating your skill level for the listed areas. All results will be collated and a register of skills developed.

Skill or gift	High	Medium	Low
Understanding and experience of UCA polity			
Understanding of the church in today's context *(Theological, linguistic and cultural diversity)*			
Experience and ability to think missionally			
Gifts developed from active involvement in the church			
Ability and experience to reflect theologically			
Ability to hold a holistic understanding of God's mission			
Strategic planning			

Business related skills/experience

Skill or gift	High	Medium	Low
Corporate Governance			
Strategic planning			
Creativity and innovation			
Board experience			
Legal compliance			
Financial management *(Accounting, investment, budgeting)*			
Communication			
Understanding of difference between Governance and management			
Risk management			
Event planning / management			

Personal qualities

Skill or gift	High	Medium	Low
Availability to do additional SC related work			
Discern information			
Readiness to articulate relevant questions			
Flexibility and adaptability to accommodate situations			