

## I. Meetings of the CRM and the CRMX

- A. ***The College of Regional Ministers*** (CRM) shall meet annually for a study meeting to address items of fundamental importance for the church's mission, faith, order and practice. In even-numbered years, this meeting shall be held in conjunction with the meeting of the *Forum of Regional Moderators* (FORM). The College shall also meet annually for a working meeting on issues that are urgent and important in the life of the church and the world. The College may meet at other times upon call of the Executive Committee, as the College may specify, or upon written request from one-third of the regional ministers.
- B. As an expression of partnership and to assist in the task of collaboration, the executive leaders of officially, recognized racial/ethnic ministries (currently this includes the Central Pastoral Office for Hispanic Ministry, the North American Pacific Asian Disciples, and the National Convocation) will be invited to participate in all meetings of the CRM. Expenses of these executive leaders will not be covered by the CRM, but by their respective ministries.
- C. ***The Executive Committee*** (CRMX) shall meet at least twice but no more than three times each year. [These meetings may be by telephone, computer or in person upon fourteen days' notice by the President.]
- D. The Executive Committee (CRMX) shall consist of elected officers, appointees, and those who are designated as ex-officio. The elected officers are President, President-Elect, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Historian and Secretary. The appointees are General Commission on Ministry representative, and the two Representatives to the Administrative Committee of the General Board. The ex-officio persons are the General Minister and President (ex-officio without vote), and the [Council of General Ministries] representative (ex-officio without vote).
- E. The [CRMX] will choose a [General Ministries] President to serve on CRMX, (ex-officio without vote). The two-year term of the [Council of] General [Ministries] representative will coincide with the terms of the officers of CRM/CRMX. The expenses for the Unit President to attend the CRMX meetings will be an expense of the CRM.
- F. The Executive Committee of the College shall be responsible for:
1. Planning the worship/business/meeting-emphases of the College
  2. Facilitating the care and nurture of Regional Ministers for one another
  3. Identifying and arranging for programmatic subject matter at College meetings
  4. Overseeing the budget preparation, treasury management, and annual audit
  5. Receiving/considering/acting-on regular written reports from the committees of the College
  6. Dealing with recommendations from the General Minister and President
  7. Reporting to the College on any issues or matters important to them
  8. Filling vacancies on the Executive Committee and in the functioning committees
  9. Suggesting names to the GMP for consideration as appointees to GCOM
  10. Appointing representatives to the Administrative Committee of the General Board, and the

Council on Theological Education

11. Keeping General Units and Boards informed of the positions currently being filled by Regional Ministers
12. Appointing Task Groups as needed to accomplish the College's work and mission
13. Attending to the General Assembly meal function, display space, and reporting
14. Identifying and noting historical moments in the life of the College for the historian
15. [Removal and replacement of inactive CRMX members]
16. [Planning and coordinating meetings of the CRM]
17. [Addressing all matters effecting staff]

- G. Regarding the Executive Committee's responsibilities for program planning, the Vice-President of the College shall chair this task. The Executive Committee will select items to be processed as teaching documents or current issues, name a team to process, and prepare each teaching document or a brief on each selected issue. (See "*Procedures for Addressing Items of Concern*".)
- H. Regarding the Executive Committee's responsibilities for budget management, treasury oversight, [allocation and review of dues] and the annual audit, the President-Elect shall chair this task. A biennial budget for the College shall be prepared based on two calendar years (January 1 of odd-numbered years through December 31 of even-numbered years). The budget shall be presented for approval in the even-numbered years (**See Section [IX], Finances.**)

## II. Standing Committees

- A. ***Nominating Committee*** - The Nominating Committee shall be composed of the chair and four additional members, normally one from each of the Regional Fellowships, elected by the College. It shall present a slate of nominees to the College, which shall include officers (President, President-Elect, Vice-President, and Secretary), Historian, Chairs of the Standing Committees, and those who comprise the membership of the Calling Orientation and Advisory Committee (the Nominating Committee; and the Technology Committee). In its work, the Nominating Committee shall be governed by the principle of inclusion regarding the Regional Fellowships. (For further delineation of its duties, see **Section III, Election, Appointments and Terms of Office.**)
- B. ***Calling, Orientation and Advisory Committee*** - The calling, orientation and advisory committee shall be composed of a chair and four additional members elected by the College. This committee shall be responsible for counseling and assisting Regions in calling interim Regional Ministers and Regional Ministers in cooperation with the General Minister and President. It shall also be responsible for orienting new or interim Regional Ministers to the responsibilities of their offices. The chair and members of this committee shall also be available to consult or assist the General Minister and President in pastoral relationships and concerns with Regional Ministers and Regions. (See "*Procedures For Advisory Committee On Calling A Regional Minister*", "*Guidelines for The Office of Regional Minister*" and "*Marks of a Faithful Regional Church*").
- C. ***The Technology Committee*** - The Technology Committee shall be composed of a chair and three other members elected by the College. The Director of Search and Call from [Disciples

Home Missions] shall also be a member of the Committee. The Committee shall give primary oversight to the technology needs of Regional Ministers. The Committee's tasks will include, but not be limited to the following: to provide for an optimal computerized Search and Call program, to cooperate as needed with the *General Commission on Ministry* in this task, to give primary oversight to relationships with vendor(s) for computerized Search and Call and other programs, to assess regularly the needs of Regional Ministers for changes to the Search and Call program, to prioritize such needs or requests, to work with vendors (in cooperation with the *Office of Search and Call*) to best meet those needs, to stay aware of and implement any other technologies that could be of benefit to the College; and to accept other assignments by the College or Executive Committee.

### **III. Election, Appointments and Terms of Office**

- A. Officers, Standing Committee Members and Chairs shall be elected for two-year terms in even-numbered years at a meeting of the College. Terms of office begin at the end of the meeting in which the election is held. The Executive Committee shall have the power to fill vacancies.
- B. The President-Elect shall serve a term as President-Elect and a term as president and may not succeed to an additional term.
- C. The other officers and members of Standing Committees with the exception of the nominating committee shall be elected with a limit of two terms in the same office. Chairs may not serve more than two successive terms in a position.
- D. The nominating committee members and chair shall be elected for a two-year term and may not succeed their terms.
- E. The Executive Committee shall suggest names of Regional Ministers to the General Minister and President to be considered for appointments to the *General Commission on Ministry* (GCOM), and selects one of the Regional Ministers serving on the GCOM to serve on the College Executive Committee as the GCOM representative.
- F. The Executive Committee shall appoint two Regional Ministers to serve on the Administrative Committee of the General Board.

### **IV. Task Groups**

Task groups may be appointed as needed by the President in consultation with the Executive Committee and/or as directed by the College. All such groups shall be task-centered and not permanent committees. The work assignments and terms of office of each appointed task group shall be described in writing.

### **V. Regional Fellowships**

Regional Fellowships shall organize themselves as needed for mutual support and sharing in geographical areas. The [current] Regional Fellowship groupings are:

**NIRF (Northeast Inter-Regional Fellowship)**

Canada  
Northeast  
Pennsylvania  
West Virginia  
Ohio  
Michigan  
Capital Area

**SERF**

Virginia  
North Carolina  
South Carolina  
Florida  
Georgia  
Alabama-Northwest Florida  
Tennessee  
Kentucky

**HEARTLAND**

Indiana  
Illinois-Wisconsin  
Mid-America  
Kansas City  
Upper Midwest  
Nebraska  
Kansas

**ROSES (Regions of the Sun, Equipping Serving)**

Great River  
Oklahoma  
Southwest

**WRIM (Western Regions in Ministry)**

Arizona  
Pacific Southwest  
Central Rocky Mountain  
Northern California-Nevada  
Oregon  
Northern Lights

**VI. Related Organizations**

- A. Related organizations are those organizations whose purpose and function fall within the realm of Regional ministry and/or recognized by the General Church through the College.
- B. The constituting documents of all related organizations and any changes to those documents require approval by a majority vote of the Regional Ministers present at any regular meeting of the College of Regional Ministers. The College shall receive all minutes of the related organizations.
- C. ***The Forum of Regional Moderators*** (F.O.R.M.) shall be a related organization of the College. The guidelines for the *Forum of Regional Moderators* details the purpose and organization of the *Forum*. The *Forum* shall report to the College through the Second Vice-President of the College. (See "*Forum of Regional Moderators*" and "*The Role of The Regional Moderator in Relationship to The Regional Minister In The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)*".)

- D. *The Association of Former Regional Ministers and Spouses* (A.F.R.M.S.) shall be a related organization of the College. The guidelines of the *Association of Former Regional Ministers and Spouses* detail the purpose and organization of the *Association*. The *Association* shall report to the College through the Second Vice-President of the College.

## VII. Reports

- A. The College may receive written reports at regular meetings from all Standing Committees, the Historian, the Web-Master, the Representative to the Council on Theological Education, the GCOM representative, appointed task groups, the administrative secretary, the Regional Fellowships and the related organizations.
- B. The College may receive and distribute written reports from Regional Ministers serving on Boards of Units, Agencies and Departments of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

## VIII. Duties of the Officers, Other Elected Positions, and Appointees

- A. President - Shall perform duties usually associated with the office of President and shall serve as an ex-officio member of all committees
- B. President Elect - Shall preside in the absence of the President and chair the budgeting treasury, and audit oversight functions
- C. First Vice President –Shall chair the task of program planning
- D. Second Vice President - Shall serve on the planning committee for the *Forum of Regional Moderators* and shall receive and present to the College reports from related organizations
- E. Secretary - Shall keep accurate minutes of all executive and College meetings
- F. Representative to the General Commission on Ministry (appointee) - Shall communicate issues and concerns of the College to the *Commission*, and report deliberations and decisions of the *Commission* back to the College
- G. Historian - Shall maintain the history, archives and pictures of the College and its related organizations and send appropriate materials to the *Disciples of Christ Historical Society*
- H. Representatives to the Administrative Committee of the General Board (appointees) - Shall be a presence of the College in the deliberations and decision-making of this Administrative body for the General Board
- I. Representative to the Council on Theological Education (appointees) - Shall be a communications link between the Seminaries and the College of Regional Ministers

## IX. Finances

- A. The Executive Committee shall provide oversight to the budget, treasury, and audit tasks of the College
- B. College budget requests to the Regions shall be for annual allocations. These allocations requests shall be made in even-numbered years for the following two years. The allocation requests shall be based on the percentage received by each Region of the total *Disciples Mission Fund* distributed to the Regions. The latest available annual figures will be used to figure allocation requests.
- C. The duties of the Executive Committee in this regard shall be:
  - a. To prepare a biennial budget for recommendation to the College at the study meeting in even numbered years. This budget shall include authorized expenses of the *Forum of Regional Moderators*.
  - b. To secure budget allocations from the Regions.
  - c. To oversee the budget and the invested funds of the College.
  - d. To provide for an annual audit of the books and financial records.

## X. Quorum

- A. A minimum of three Regional Ministers who are members of the CRMX will constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.
- B. A majority of all the Regional Ministers shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business of the College of Regional Ministers. A Region must be current in its payment of dues in order for its Regional Minister to vote.

## XI. Amendment of the *Bylaws*

These *Bylaws* may be amended at any regular meeting of the College of Regional Ministers by a two-thirds vote of the members present provided written notice of such amendment be given the members thirty days in advance by the Executive Committee of the College of Regional Ministers.

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These *Bylaws* of the College of Regional Ministers supersede all earlier *Bylaws* of the College of Regional Minister and The Conference of Regional Ministers and Moderators. Date: December 1, 1998, amended 7/99, amended 7/2000, amended 7/2003, and amended 4/2004.