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To: LREDA Board
C/O Rev. Makanah Morriss, LREDA President
UU Church of Cheyenne
P.O. Box 2331
Cheyenne WY 82003-2331

Subject: Trip Report for Campus Ministry Advisory Committee, 9 August 2002

Dear Makanah,

Here's the report that I promised the LREDA Board on the recent UU Campus Ministry Advisory Committee (CMAC) meeting. Please accept my apologies in getting this report to you so late. Work, family, and church life have been keeping me busy in the past few weeks. RE, YRUU, and OWL have been keeping me busy at home and elsewhere in August and September as well.

Campus Ministry New Developments in 2002 – The list of new developments and accomplishments that we came up with during our meeting is impressive. As an approach for this very long list, I've divided the developments and accomplishments into the following five categories: campus ministry leadership support, education and training, administrative support, communication, and resource development.

Category	Developments and Accomplishments in 2002
Campus Ministry Leadership Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Regular campus ministry leader conference calls to provide leaders with support and peer networking.•CMAC has met twice (Chicago in February 2002, ConCentric in August 2002)•Campus Ministry Manual and Organizing Handbook developed•Campus ministry advocate in UUA Youth Office (Jesse Jaeger)•Campus ministry advocate on MFC (Abbey Tennis)•Paid Campus Ministry Coordinators in the Mountain Desert District and Joseph Priestly District•Campus ministry track at ConCentric 2002 and beyond
Education and Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Campus Ministry Workshop presented at 2002 GA ("Campus Ministry 101," for more info on this, go online to http://www.uua.org/ga/ga02/5006.html)•Campus Ministry seminary course under development at Meadville-Lombard by Michael Tino and Mary Ann Macklin•New campus ministry resources made available to UU Seminary Students•Regional campus ministry trainings
Administrative Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•ConnectUU online database created, allowing ready access to youth, campus ministry, and young adult groups and events info.

	<p>Today, there are 113 campus groups currently listed in the ConnectUU database (111 local, 2 district). ConnectUU can be found online at http://www.uua.org/connect/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Wide variety of grants available to support campus ministry, see http://www.uua.org/ya-cm/yacm/grants.html for additional information
Communications/Outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •UU Campus Ministry Posters available from the UUA •Campus Ministry makes the cover of the September/October 2002 <i>UU World</i> magazine (see http://www.uua.org/world/index.html for the current cover story) •Campus Ministry Video created by Ben Ernst (part of the “Mind the Gap” resource packets mailed out to UU congregations in September 2002) •Ongoing discussion with CLF about free student memberships for first year college students
Resource Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •“Mind the Gap” denominational capital campaign for youth, campus ministry, and young adult program funding •Campus Ministry Worship Website now online at http://www.uua.org/ya-cm/worship/index.html

As you can see, we have some extremely active UUs working to change how our religious communities do campus ministry. I expect some very exciting developments both within our congregations and also within the wider UU universe as we better serve our campus and young adult UUs.

Training Opportunities and Funding Possibilities – There are several types of grants available to assist congregations in supporting campus ministry. As congregationally supported campus ministries expand and the need for training and support grows, keep UUA Young Adult and Campus (YACM) Office grants in mind. They may be able to assist your congregation’s campus ministry efforts with extra funding.

“Care and Feeding” of Lay Campus Ministry Workers – Unless UU campus ministry funding resources increase dramatically, most UU campus ministry workers will be both non-ordained and non-paid (some campus ministry workers may be minimally paid but this is very rare in the UUA). Both within our congregational communities and outside our congregational walls, we will need to be aware of how we support this crucial ministry located outside our church walls.

Because of the geographic separation between campuses and many UU congregations, creating effective shared ministry partnerships between our volunteer lay campus ministry workers and our lay/ordained religious professionals will be essential. There are similar situations involving existing lay UU ministries that we can learn from.

For creating partnerships between lay campus ministry workers and ordained clergy, we can borrow from existing LREDA member experience in creating DRE/minister partnerships.

For creating effective partnerships between our mostly volunteer and part-time campus ministry workers and our religious professionals (DREs and MREs), we can borrow from existing LREDA member experience in creating effective partnerships between professional religious educators and youth advisors. The suggestions for LREDA contained in the *June 2000 Youth Advisor Task Force*

Report to the UUA Board of Trustees would be a great starting point for LREDA in supporting campus ministry workers. The suggestions below are adapted from the Youth Advisor Report as a suggestion for LREDA in support of campus ministry workers:

- Create a category of membership for campus ministry workers, and develop, with the support of the YACM Office, resources, activities, and support systems for campus ministry workers (*Note: LREDA currently recommends that youth advisors join LREDA using the “supportive” member category ... the supportive category may be appropriate for campus ministry workers as well.*)
- Evaluate providing scholarships for campus ministry workers to attend the LREDA conference, as campus ministry workers, even when paid, often do not have a line item in the budget for such expenses.
- Consider including workshops in annual conference program that focus on campus ministry issues, to benefit not only campus ministry workers, but also religious educators in general.
- Encourage cluster groups to invite campus ministry workers to attend meetings.

“Credentialing” of Campus Ministry Workers – We need to look at this for both lay and ordained campus ministry workers coming from outside the campus wanting permission to work on campus. The requirements for lay/volunteer credentialing may be different from the professional/clergy credentials. This is one area where congregational support will be essential. A local congregation can provide “official” recognition to ensure that our campus ministry workers can have access to campuses and students.

How can LREDA help UU Campus Ministry? – As a continental, district, and cluster professional organization that supports lifespan faith development, LREDA can encourage networking between campus ministry workers and other LREDA members (other campus ministry workers, lifespan religious educators, and youth group advisors). This networking can help campus ministry workers share success stories along with the less successful experiences. LREDA members can serve as mentors and encourage young adults to pursue religious education careers. Finally, LREDA members who are not directly involved in campus ministry can share their ideas about what level of involvement and support for campus ministry is appropriate for the congregational religious educator.

Questions That Still Need Answering – Is campus ministry a DRE/MRE responsibility? If so, how much responsibility belongs to the DRE/MRE (keeping in mind that most DREs/MREs already have plenty of RE responsibilities within the church walls)? How much responsibility lies with the campus ministry worker?

If congregations were to view campus ministry as a specialized form of small group or covenant group ministry, one possible role for the DRE/MRE would be to provide support to the small group facilitator. Then the small group facilitator has the resources to support his/her campus group members with the DRE/MRE providing indirect support to the campus group.

How much time should a full or part-time DRE/MRE allocate to campus ministry?

What role will the LREDA membership have in curriculum development and curriculum adaptation for campus ministry?

What role will the LREDA membership have in mentoring campus ministry workers?

These questions are ones that the LREDA membership will need to examine and answer for themselves as we increase our denominational campus ministry efforts.

Additional Background on the Campus Ministry Committee and ConCentric – If anyone is interested, I can provide additional background information on our committee discussions and ConCentric activities. Both Ella Hereth, our YRUU rep on the committee, and I took notes during the meetings. Also, I took notes during the three ConCentric Workshops I attended (two on campus ministry, one on the MFC process). I also got a copy of the revised youth/young adult MFC competency requirements from Abbey Tennis if anyone would like a copy. All of the above mentioned resources are available electronically if anyone would like me to email them copies.

Please contact me by phone or email if you have any questions about my report or the Campus Ministry Advisory Committee. I will also be attending the 2002 LREDA Fall Conference in Asheville NC this year if anyone would like to visit in person as well.

Thanks for your support,

[signed]

Stephen Caldwell

LREDA Representative to CMAC

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