

PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENTS

Underlining indicates insertion; [brackets indicate deletion.]

Co-Moderator Vacancies

The UUA Bylaws currently permit more than one person to hold the office of moderator as “co-moderators,” and this amendment clarifies that if one of those individuals holding the office of moderator leaves the role then the position will be vacant. Co-moderators are chosen as a team, and if that team is no longer intact then the Board must act to fill the vacancy. The amendment gives the Board flexibility to appoint one or more of the members of a co-moderator team to a vacancy to serve out the remainder of the term, but does not require them to do so.

88 Section 8.8. Moderator.

- 89 (a) The Moderator shall preside at General Assemblies and meetings of the Board of
90 Trustees and the Executive Committee. The Moderator shall represent the Association
91 on special occasions and shall assist in promoting its welfare. The Moderator shall
92 serve as Chief Governance Officer of the Association.
- 93 (b) As used in these Bylaws, the term “Moderator” may refer to a single individual, or to
94 multiple individuals, serving in the position, even though the word “Moderator” may
95 appear in the singular form of the word. When multiple individuals are serving in the
96 position of Moderator, if one or more of those individuals dies, is disqualified,
97 resigns, or is removed, the position of Moderator shall be deemed vacant under
98 Section 8.7(a).

99 Section 8.7. Vacancies

- 100 (a) Elected Officers. A vacancy created by the death, disqualification, resignation, or
101 removal of an elected officer shall be filled by majority vote of the Board of Trustees.
102 An individual appointed to fill a vacancy shall serve until the vacancy is filled by regular
103 or special election. If the position of Moderator is deemed vacant under Section
104 8.8 (b), the Board may, but shall not be obligated, to appoint as Moderator any
105 remaining individual(s) who had been serving in the position of Moderator when
106 the position was deemed vacant, and may do so either as a sole appointment or
107 with one or more other individuals.

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Timelines for Nominating Committee

This proposed amendment extends the deadline by which nominations must be made by the Nominating Committee for the UUA Board and Committees. The current deadline of December 10 was developed in a time when the UUA relied on sending materials and nominations by mail, and much less time is required when applications and notifications can be made online. This will give applicants for volunteer roles and the Nominating Committee additional time to complete the process, which is currently limited to consideration of candidates only in the Fall who will not take office until the following June. The amendment includes a conforming change to the deadline to submit nominations by petition.

108 *Section 9.4. Nomination by Nominating Committee.

109 (a) The Nominating Committee shall submit one or more nominations for each elective
110 position to be filled, except Moderator and President, including positions to be filled
111 by special election. With respect to Board positions, the Nominating Committee shall
112 designate the position number for which each person is being nominated.

113 (b) The Nominating Committee shall endeavor to nominate individuals so that the
114 membership of the Board of Trustees and each elected committee reflects the
115 full diversity of the Association, especially in regard to historically marginalized
116 communities, but also balancing amongst size of congregation, lay and ordained,
117 geography, age (including youth and young adults), and gender, among others. The
118 Nominating Committee shall consult with groups and organizations including those
119 traditionally underrepresented in Unitarian Universalist leadership, to help inform the
120 nominating process.

121 (c) Only one person from any one member congregation shall be nominated to serve on
122 the Nominating Committee or the Board of Trustees.

123 (d) The [report of the] Nominating Committee shall issue a report with its nominations
124 on or before March 15 of the year in which the nominees will be candidates
125 for election. Nominations shall be filed with the Secretary of the Association and
126 distributed [mailed] to all certified member congregations, associate member
127 organizations, and trustees [on or before December 10 of each year].

128 Section 9.6 Nomination by Petition

129 (a) For Moderator and President. A nomination for the office of Moderator or President, for
130 a regular or special election, may be by petition signed by no fewer than fifty certified
131 member congregations, including at least one congregation from three of the regions
132 of the Association. A certified member congregation may authorize the signing of a
133 petition only by vote of its governing board or by vote at a duly called meeting of its
134 members. Such a petition shall be filed with the Secretary of the Association, only in
135 such form as the Secretary may prescribe, not later than February 1 of the year of the
136 election and not earlier than the preceding March 1.

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137 (b) For other Elective Positions. A nomination for any elective position, for a regular or
138 special election, may be by petition signed by not less than fifty members of certified
139 member congregations, with no more than ten signatures of members of any one
140 congregation counted toward the required fifty. A separate petition, in form prescribed
141 by the Secretary, shall be filed for each nomination not later than **[February 1] May 1**
142 of the year of the election and not earlier than the preceding October 1. A petition for
143 nomination to the Board of Trustees must designate the position number for which the
144 person is being nominated.