

Floor Proposal 1: Submitted by Karin S., Delegate for Group WEB 0616

Issue: I propose that we schedule 90 minutes to 3 hours at this ABC to discuss establishing a Conference Task Force to guide delegates in autonomously considering options for the future of the Conference: Discuss what this Conference Task Force could look like; develop and vote on motions pertinent to establish this service body; nominate and vote on its officers, if a service body is established.

Background: Currently, ACA WSO convenes the ABC. WSO is considering changes to this structure; this year, four ballot proposals about the structure of the ABC were voted onto the agenda by the fellowship. The urgency felt by the fellowship around this topic presents the Conference with an interesting and time-sensitive dilemma: is the Conference autonomous or does the Conference take its direction from WSO? The Conference needs an independent service body to guide it in deliberating this issue autonomously.

Parliamentarian Opinion: This proposal overlaps with one or more of the 2022 Ballot proposals that already address the future of the conference. Therefore, my opinion is that it is ineligible to be considered as a 2022 Floor Proposal.

Floor Proposal 2: Submitted by Julianne V., Delegate for Group WEB 0701

Issue: I propose that the Annual Business Conference create its own Policies and Procedures Committee tasked with creating and maintaining clear and manageable voting procedures for the annual business conference. This committee will form during this conference. It will collaborate with the WSO IT committee and will send monthly reports on its progress to all registered delegates. The proposed procedures will be voted on at the 2023 ABC.

Background/Time Sensitivity: For three years running, the WSO ABC/AWC committee has struggled to keep up with the technological demands of a virtual Annual Business Conference. Continued disruption to the process is a clear barrier to trust and participation. The current 40% barrier prior to any revote is enough to keep the minority from speaking up. This could result in silencing minority opinions prior to their expression. The resulting emphasis to “go along to get along” goes against the spirit and principle of the Traditions and Concepts. For continuity in the Conference, it falls to the delegates to determine their own procedures.

Parliamentarian Opinion: This proposal overlaps with one or more of the 2022 Ballot proposals that already address the future of the conference. Therefore, my opinion is that it is ineligible to be considered as a 2022 Floor Proposal.

Floor Proposal 3: Submitted by Patricia Y., Delegate for Group WEB 0590

Issue: I propose that online groups be given the opportunity to form or join either area Intergroups, or Regions (based on time zones, population clusters, or some other criteria.)

Background: The pandemic put extraordinary pressures on groups, and many temporarily went online. What is surprising, and why this is a time-sensitive issue, is that a number of groups have decided to stay online even though we are now officially in the “endemic” phase. Right now, online groups don’t have a place in the Intergroup or Regional structure of ACA. Not being able to join Intergroups limits the scope of activities these Web groups can do, outreach, teamwork, and cross-pollination that can happen when there are formal Intergroups. Waiting another year will stunt the growth of these groups.

Parliamentarian Opinion: Per Tradition 4, meetings and Intergroups already have the autonomy to create online and telephone Intergroups, some of which already exist. Additionally, many online groups belong to existing traditional local Intergroups. Intergroups also do not have defined geographic boundaries, so meetings are free to join whichever Intergroup they feel most comfortable with. Because this matter is already covered, I recommend that this proposal not be considered.

Floor Proposal 4: Submitted by Amber D., Delegate for Group WEB 0796

Issue: I propose that the conference create a Data Analysis Committee that would be responsible for organizing existing data sets, conducting data-oriented projects (including surveys and presenting results), and developing data stewardship practices and procedures. The committee should be composed of members with previous experience in data science, data analytics, database management, reporting, and/or data ethics.

Background/Urgency: To support good data collection, storage, and reporting practices for motions approved at this ABC, a committee should be formed immediately. ACA lacks consistency in its data collection practices and presentation of results of data collected from its members. A committee of ACA volunteers who have relevant experience would facilitate a complete process from initial study design, to presentation of results, and safe storage of data for future use.

Parliamentarian Opinion: Fine to proceed to the Delegates; It meets the criteria for a floor motion.