

**PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE BYLAWS OF THE PRESBYTERY OF GRAND CANYON
FOR ACTION BY THE PRESBYTERY
AT ITS STATED MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 17-18, 2004**

The Bylaws may be added to or amended at any stated meeting of Presbytery by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the members present, provided a fifty (50) day notice of the proposed changes has been given to the stated clerk in writing.

Proposed Change Concerning the Permanent Judicial Commission

MOTION #1: that Bylaw B-5.0100 concerning the establishment of the Presbytery of Grand Canyon Permanent Judicial Commission be changed to increase the number of members from seven to nine with additions shown in *italics* and deletions shown with a ~~strike through~~:

B-5.0100.Establishment. The permanent judicial commission shall be established as provided in The Rules of Discipline, ~~D-4.0100~~ *D 5.0100*. The commission shall consist of ~~seven (7)~~ *nine (9)* members, ~~four (4)~~ *five (5)* ministers and ~~three (3)~~ *four (4)* elders. Members shall be elected for three (3) year staggered terms.

Rationale

The increase from seven members to nine members is recommended to provide for a minimum of 5 members to hear a case in the event two of the PJC members are required to participate in any petition for review under the provisions of the Rules of Discipline as outlined below.

The Rules of Discipline were revised by affirmative vote of the presbyteries in 1999 to facilitate petitions for review in certain circumstances by a presbytery PJC. The change provides that: "Two of the members of the presbytery commission shall be designated to review any petition for review of the procedures of the investigating committee while the investigation in a disciplinary case is in process (D-10.0204) and to review any petition for review of the decision not to file charges (D-10.0303). These two members shall not take part in any subsequent trial."

An authoritative interpretation of the constitution was approved by the 215th General Assembly (2003) which stated:

1. That "members of the presbytery commission...designated to review" are to be current commission members and that this requirement could not be met by members of the reserve roster of the commission (D-5.0206b), in lieu of two current members of the commission; and
2. That if members are "assigned responsibilities under D-10.0204 or D-10.0303" then those members are not considered as part of the total number of commission members for determining a quorum (D-5.0204). A seven-member commission, therefore, with two members assigned such duties would figure its quorum as a majority of five rather than of seven. The minimum number for hearing a case in such an instance would thus be three. If a presbytery determines that such a number is insufficient to provide a fair hearing, then the presbytery may initially elect a larger commission. Section D-5.0101 requires a presbytery commission "be composed of no fewer than seven members" [emphasis added]. A larger number is assuredly allowable resolving the problem of providing for a fair hearing.

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Proposed Change Concerning the Educational Ministries Committee

MOTION #2: that Bylaw B-6.0320 concerning the Educational Ministries Committee of the Presbytery be changed to update and more accurately reflect the purpose and work of the committee as a resource for Christian education and nurture to the congregations, committees, and individual leaders of the Presbytery with additions shown in *italics* and deletions shown with a ~~strike through~~:

Article VI COMMITTEES OF THE PRESBYTERY **Part 3. The Program Committees of the Presbytery**

B-6.0320. Educational Ministries.

There shall be an Educational Ministries Committee composed of *up to* eighteen (18) members. The goal of this committee is to be a ~~consultative committee to churches, Presbytery committees and individual leaders in~~ *resource for* Christian education and nurture *to the congregations, committees, ministries, and individual leaders of the Presbytery.* The committee also shall exercise those functions assigned in the Standing Rules.

- SR6-0320-1 Develop and promote strategies for Presbytery support of educational programs with children, youth and adults.
- SR6-0320-2 Provide ~~training~~ *educational* events and promote the use of Presbyterian and Reformed ~~educational ministry program~~ *curriculum and other* resources.
- SR6-0320-3 Provide for leadership development ~~and~~ *including* church officer education through ~~such~~ *Presbytery-wide* events. ~~as the Big Event and Called To Be Faithful.~~
- SR6-0320-4 ~~Identify youth to participate in Synod and General Assembly events.~~
Identify, support, and encourage youth participants at all levels of governmental bodies of the denomination. Advise the Presbytery Committee on Nominations in the selection process of Youth Advisory Delegates to General Assembly and take an active role in encouraging participation in denominational events.
- SR6-0320-5 ~~Direct the Presbytery's responsibilities in relation to the camping program at Montlure.~~
Provide direct involvement in the presbytery of Grand Canyon's ministry with the Montlure Conference Center through its camp programs, disbursement of PGC Camperships and a liaison to the Montlure council.
- SR6-0320-6 Provide oversight of *the* Presbytery's ministry in higher education.
- SR6-0320-7 ~~Strengthen the Interchurch Resource Center as an educational, interpretive and consultative channel for the total program of the churches. Work on partnerships with other committees of Presbytery to provide resources in such areas as: worship, evangelism, education, stewardship, mission, peacemaking, justice concerns, etc. for all age groups.~~
Encourage use of the Interchurch Resource Center as an educational, interpretive, and resources channel for the congregations in partnership with committees of the Presbytery.

And Add the Following Standing Rules:

- SR6-0320-8 *Promote the Presbytery's active involvement in higher education ministries.*
- SR6-0320-9 *Promote involvement in ecumenical partnerships in educational endeavors.*