

*Oversight Working Group meeting minutes*  
*March 4, 2008*

Participants: Sue Winn, Henriette Thompson (notes), Florence Ayban (by email), PJ Hobbs, Paul Gehrs, Margaret Cornish; Rob Marsh (PMEJC rep to CoGS)  
Regrets: Caroline Chum (we hope you get well!); Peter Fenty (with condolences re. the death of his father-in-law); Lydia Laku (please get well!)

1. We opened with a reflection on the injustice of structures, the cultural assumptions that work in our daily lives, and the role of discernment and prayer. We prayed for God's guidance.
2. Check in.
3. Sue will remind PMEJC members today to submit articles and items for the next newsletter.
4. Theme for the fall workshop: OSWG affirms "partnerships" as the theme, with everything else that we do to be integrated under that theme. We will confirm this with the Vision, Theology and Worship WG who meet on March 12. (Margaret is on that WG.)
5. Priorities for PMEJC and OSWG:

We decided to hold discussion of PMEJC composition and membership until we make further progress on establishing priorities in our current turbulent context. Thanks to Florence for constructive input (see Feb 23 email).

Issues of accountability – questions raised by PJ:

- *What are staff doing that furthers the mandate of PMEJ?* Henriette is in the process of producing a consolidated Operations Template for Partnerships that will be shared upon completion mid-March with OSWG.
- *What are committee members doing on behalf of PMEJC?* Henriette will add a column for PMEJC members' Committee-related activities.
- *What are partners telling us?* HT will add a column to capture this information.
- *Do we have the budget resources to accomplish our mandate?* If not, then what...?

Henriette will also produce an update on progress made against GS and CoGS resolutions for this triennium.

Partnerships' staff are about to engage in scenario planning with varying levels of budget for 2010 and 2011. The fall 2008 CoGS approved implementation of a balanced budget by 2012. Staff will report results of scenario planning exercise to OSWG for further input, then we will work on how to engage all of PMEJC in the formation of priorities.

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Management Team is also working on future planning and prioritizing with a view to reduced budgets in 2010 and 2011. ELCIC and ACC program staff and church leaders are meeting March 17 and 18 to further the integration of our common work.

Paul briefly shared ELCIC's budget, program and staff reduction experience – it's painful but also produces unanticipated areas of creativity and learning. He recommends that we pay attention to the process of internal communications.

We are glad to have Rob Marsh, PMEJC rep to CoGS, present in our discussions. Rob will be attending the spring CoGS meeting, May 8 – 10.

6. Margaret: the Vancouver Olympics are surfacing the issue of human trafficking, especially of Asian women and children, and the increase in the number of brothels in the Lower Mainland. Can we work the human trafficking issue into the fall conference? We'll discuss further at our next OSWG meetings; this matter can also be brought forward to the WTW Working Group meeting on March 12.

**Next conference call: Tuesday, April 7, 11am EST/8am PST.**