

## Summary of ICUUW Survey

### Thank you to all Respondents!

Thank you so much for your input. Your thoughts, interests, and sentiments are of vital concern to us in planning for the future. There were many suggestions and comments contained in your survey answers pieces of which are reported in this summary.

We had an excellent response of 92 surveys, this is 13% of 694 members, higher than the commonly expected response rate of 10%.

**Congratulations to Deb Bob White from the Central Midwest District who won the drawing and received a copy of Lisa Dodson's book, *The Moral Underground*.**

### About our members

- We are older, 88% of the respondents are over 50 years of age. Also, a significant share of respondents (13.3%) clergy.
- Several members wrote that they were suffering economic hardship as a result of the recession.
- Not surprisingly, four-fifths of respondents attended the Convocation when it was in Houston although 60% reported that cost had been a difficulty for them.

### Africa Funds Task Force

- 17.3% of respondents were interested in participating in the Africa Task Force and another 23.5% wanted to learn more about this process.
- Comments we received in addition to wanting more information
  - I would like to see more opportunities for countries in North and South America
  - Micro lending has some serious and increasingly well documented problems, especially in Africa. There are more effective ways to combat poverty and empower women. I am only interested if more well-founded approaches for helping women are on the table.

### Transylvanian Convocation

- Over a third were interested in attending the Convocation in Transylvania with third wanted additional information. Approximately one quarter of respondents had been to Transylvania. The topics they were most interested in for the Convocation being planner there:
  - Being helped to grow by networking with other Unitarian women from around the globe
  - Women gaining political and social rights around the world
  - Learning how we can help each other
  - Stories about improved education for girls around the world
  - Advances in health care for women and families
- The largest proportion would prefer the lowest registration cost (\$200-250), but over 50% of respondents said they would pay over \$250 for registration.

## Women's Groups in Congregations

- Barely half of the respondents belong to a women's group at their church.
- Over 80% were unaware of group memberships available through ICUUW
- Over half responded that they could use the group functions of the ICUUW web social network

## ICUUW Travel

- For the second year, enthusiastic response to travel with ICUUW. Almost two-thirds said we should continue to offer this and cited various reasons they were unable to travel to India.
- Nearly 50% said they would be interested in traveling with ICUUW in future.
- In order of interest were South America (54%), Africa (50%), Eastern Europe (44%) and Philippines (38.5).

## Some of your comments...

### ICUUW Future Directions

- I wish we heard regularly from women from different parts of the world—perhaps as bloggers.
- We should think of long term partnerships and projects instead of short terms projects. In other words next to "lets help this group now", we should have a vision of how we would like to look like in ten years.
- Perhaps some prioritizing is called for.
- Great to go international but we have so many people not reading in our country. Two areas concern ratifying CEDAW and STEM, Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, for women and girls.
- I'm active in IALRW and would like to learn more about our working together in the future.
- It would be great if we could connect to Immigration as a Moral Issue. There are many aspects of that topic specific to women, as well as many countries of concern.
- You are doing a magnificent job with limited resources. May you continue to lead and inform us on women's issues and the possibilities for meeting them worldwide.
- Consult with experts on women's empowerment, beginning with the keynote speaker Caren Grown.
- Local Conferences- Ga- Events

### Projects for the ICUUW online database

- CEDAW and Olga Flores
- Youth Project, senior projects, sport projects, projects with aim to gather the community
- Fruit harvest marketing. We are using products only from our gardens, and fruitberries made locally and try to market on special market places. The first year of harvest, production and fair was a great success, it gave self confidence for women, a knowledge that the local products are valuable.
- Breaking Ground /The Women's Entrepreneurial Program (WEP) <http://www.breaking-ground.org/womens-empowerment/>
- Literacy in America, STEM for girls
- I don't have a lot information on projects currently in the database. Communication is not very good in this arena.
- Zambian Partnership with Carbondale (IL) Unitarian Fellowship - Partnered with Ranchod Hospice and Daycare Center, we help provide funds and supplies for the AIDS orphans, hospice patients, and outreach patients (numbering @600)
- Family planning and education, Health care, Land rights
- Sponsor-a-Student, a program of the UUNEI and the UU Partner Church Council, sponsoring rural village Unitarian-run schools in the Khasi Hills of Northeast India
- Economic empowerment, palliative care, HIV/AIDS PREVENTION, Ophans and vulnerable children support, gender equity.

- CEDAW
- Haiti relief, focusing on women, reproductive rights and education, education in general, health care, domestic violence, etc.
- Compassionate Communication) which is an excellent program for the violence prevention piece.(see [www.cnvc.org](http://www.cnvc.org))
- Work with Breaking Ground and UU-UNO's Every Child is Our Child Program

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