



Uniting Church in Australia
ASSEMBLY
Assembly Standing Committee

11 – 13 November 2022

DOCUMENT 10

Type of Paper (Information/Decision)	Decision
Title	Resignation of UnitingWorld Board Chair Appointment of new UnitingWorld Board Chair
Assembly or ASC Minute	
Consultation	The UnitingWorld board has followed a structured recruitment process, including advertising, interviewing and reference checking. The Assembly General Secretary has been regularly briefed.
Purpose	To appoint a UnitingWorld Board Chair
Rationale & Findings Summary	<p>In June 2022, Ms Lin Hatfield Dodds, the current Chair of the UnitingWorld Board indicated her intention to step down from her role as Chair as soon as a replacement could be found. We reported this in our July report to the ASC.</p> <p>The UnitingWorld Board drew on UCA and Board-member networks to search for suitable candidates, as well as via website and social media. A Search Committee of the incumbent Chair and the Chairs of the two Board sub-committees reviewed 5 expressions of interest, interviewed 4 potential candidates and identified Rev Dr Steve Bevis (an ordained minister in the UCA) as the strongest candidate.</p> <p>Steve Bevis' nomination was endorsed by the UnitingWorld Board at its September meeting. The Board resolved by consensus to put forward Steve Bevis to the Assembly Standing Committee for appointment as Chair of the UnitingWorld Board.</p> <p>Other actions taken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Conducted interviews with three referees<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Rev Tony Goodluck, Moderator Northern Synodo Rev Dr Tim Meyer, Principal Eastern Collegeo Dr Peter Snowsill, ex Chair, Tearfund- Received Steve's Working with Children Check- Received an all-clear from his National Criminal Record Check- Received Steve's self-declaration that he is not disqualified from managing a corporation (Corporations Act 2001).- Received Steve's self-declaration that he is not disqualified from acting as a Responsible Person for a registered charity by the ACNC. <p>Steve has indicated his willingness to sign the UnitingWorld Board Member covenant and the UnitingWorld Code of Conduct, were he to be appointed.</p>

	<p>Per the UnitingWorld Constitution and Assembly process, the term of this appointment will be until the next UCA Assembly in 2024.</p> <p>UnitingWorld will ensure that as incoming chair Steve Bevis has access to professional development to support his role as Chair.</p>
Attachments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Expression of interest from Rev Dr Steve Bevis 2. Resume of Rev Dr Steve Bevis
Recommendations	<p>That the ASC</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note that the ASC note that Lin Hatfield Dodds is stepping down as Chair of the UnitingWorld Board, and thank her for her service. 2. Appoint Steve Bevis to the Board of UnitingWorld 3. Appoint Steve Bevis as Chair of the UnitingWorld Board.
Submitted by	<p>Dr Sureka Goringe, National Director Ms Lin Hatfield Dodds, Chair, UnitingWorld Board</p>

REV DR STEVE BEVIS

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Blegrave
Victoria 3160

PROFILE

UCA Minister of the Word. Director of the Master of Transformational Development, Eastern College Australia. Board Member Tearfund Australia. Founding Board Director Alice Springs Meeting Place Foundation Pty Ltd. Previous Chair Indigenous Theological Education Central Australia (ITECA).

EXPERIENCE

Director - Master of Transformational Development (MTD), Eastern College, Victoria — 2021-Present

Director and Lecturer. The MTD is a masters programme offering professional development for church and NGO leaders involved in international development across the global South.

Minister - John Flynn Memorial Church, Alice Springs — 2015-2020

Pilgrim Presbytery Standing Committee 2015-2020, Synod Standing Committee 2018-2019, National Assembly working group on Climate Change 2016, Uniting Justice Northern Synod Rep 2016, UCA AMEN national education and mission network Rep 2016 – 2018.

Board Director - Alice Springs Meeting Place Foundation Pty Ltd — 2018-Present

Founder and Director of the Foundation, an ASIC/ACNC listed and DGR status approved entity, providing legal and governance oversight to the church and communities work with Aboriginal youth, families and the wider task of truth-telling in Central Australia.

Tearfund Board Director — 2019-Present

Governance, membership and international programme sub-committees. Previously staff member for 13 years prior to election to the Board, as well as five years on Tearfund International Allocations Committee.

Board Chair ITECA 2015-2020

Joint UCA/Lutheran/Catholic entity to further theological education for Aboriginal people in Central Australia.

EDUCATION

University of Sydney — PhD Theology and International Development, 2012

SKILLS

Extensive experience and knowledge base in international development and Indigenous affairs sectors, theory and practice. Proven track record as innovative ministry and NGO leader. Capacity to develop vision, strategise. and protect and communicate ethos with stakeholders.

Expression of Interest Form for Assembly Committees or Task Groups

Basis of Union:

The Uniting Church recognises that responsibility for government in the Church belongs to the people of God by virtue of the gifts and tasks which God has laid upon them.


Constitution:

The Assembly shall have determining responsibility in matters of doctrine, worship, government and discipline, including the promotion of the Church's mission, establishment of standards of theological education and the reception of ministers from other denominations, and is empowered to make final decisions on all matters related to the Constitution of the UCA.

Name of the Committee / Task Group: [UnitingWorld Board](#)

Brief description of the Mandate / Terms of Reference for this body: see attached

Personal Information:

<p><i>Affix photo here</i></p> 	<p>Name: Rev Dr Steve Bevis</p> <p><i>(Please complete as relevant)</i></p> <p>Congregation: Tecoma Uniting Presbytery: Yarra Yarra Synod: Victas</p>
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What skills and experience will you bring to the Committee / Task Group?

Four years on Tearfund Australia Board
 Higher education role teaching Faith-based International Development
 Previous Chair of ITECA – a joint venture of the UCA, Anglican, Catholic and Lutheran churches in Central Australia providing ministry formation and theological education for Aboriginal Christians in partnership with Nungalinya College, Darwin
 Founding Director of the Alice Springs Meeting Place Foundation Pty Ltd (of which the Northern Synod is a founding member)
 Membership of Pilgrim Presbytery and Northern Synod Standing Committees.

What if any relevant experience have you had in the life of the Church?

Ordained UCA Minister of the Word with significant background in cross-cultural and intercultural ministries.
 Experience of ministry and life within three Synods

What if any relevant qualifications do you have?

PhD University of Sydney (Theology and International Development)

Age range	Under 30	30-59 X	60+
Ministry category	Lay	Ordained X	
Location	Remote	Rural	Regional Centre City X

What cultural and linguistic background do you have?

Anglo-Saxon/Celtic, English speaking

Referees: *(Please list the names and contact details of two people to act as referees for you in regard to this role)*

If you are not appointed to this body, are you willing for Assembly to retain a copy of this form, and to consider you for appointment to a relevant task group in the future? **YES / NO**

Signature:  _____

Date: 19/10/2022