

# Pacific Southwest Mennonite Conference

## Nominations Policy

Reviewed by Executive Committee on 2/7/06  
Affirmed by Conference Board on 4/29/06  
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In keeping with By-Laws 2.07, 3.03, and 5.01, and in the consolidation of previous policy documents<sup>1</sup>, it the policy of the Pacific Southwest Mennonite Conference that:

- 1. A Gift Discernment Committee (GDC) will make nominations for review by the Conference Board and action by the Conference Delegates in order to fill vacancies among the standing committees, the Board of Directors, and the Officers of the Conference. The GDC is formed by, and does its work under the authority granted to it by, the PSMC Board of Directors.**
  - a. Members of the GDC serve three year terms, for no more than two consecutive terms. Three members are chosen by written ballot at the Annual Meeting of the PSMC, and two members are *ex officio*.
  - b. The GDC shall be comprised of five persons
    - i. The past-moderator of the PSMC.
    - ii. One member from each of the three recognized geographical regions of the PSMC will be nominated by the Board of Directors for Delegate approval at the Annual Meeting.
    - iii. The Lead District Elder from Southern California is also a member of the GDC.
  - c. The GDC shall organize itself, naming its own chairperson, and the committee shall schedule meetings as it deems appropriate
  
- 2. The basic responsibility of the GDC is to discern qualified people who are willing to serve on the PSMC Board of Directors, on other conference committees, and as PSMC representatives to various boards, committees, and commissions as requested by the Conference Board.**
  - a. The GDC will present a slate of Board members and Officers to the Board of Directors for discernment at the Spring Meeting of the Board. Election of the slate as reviewed by the Board shall occur at the Annual Meeting of the PSMC. The GDC may also present candidates for various positions to any meeting of the Board for Delegate action at the next such meeting. Nominations from the Delegate Assembly Floor for any vacancy should be directed to the GDC for ballot consideration.
  - b. The GDC will develop its own methods for discerning candidates for various conference related positions. The GDC should seek the counsel of congregations and conference staff to help identify candidates, and when seeking to fill a particular assignment, the GDC should contact the affected board, commission, or committee to solicit its input into the process. The GDC will be particularly mindful of the PSMC's desire to reflect, through the overall composition of appointments, our diversity as a conference, and our need for specific functional skills.
  - c. Since the GDC serves at the behest of the PSMC Board of Directors, it is important that clear lines of communication be established. The GDC shall send one of its members to the Fall Meeting of the PSMC Board of Directors for a time of reporting and discussion.

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<sup>1</sup> This document replaces PSMC Policy # 1997-16 (as adopted by the PSMC Board of Directors on October 16, 1998), and replaces and further clarifies the document, "Relationship of PSMC Gift Discernment Committee to the PSMC Executive (*sic*) Board", dated May 24, 2001