

Concepts 2 and 6 Ad Hoc Study Committee

Monthly Report — November 2022

Chair: Position not filled (election expected in December or January)

Members: Brad H., Buddy S., Charlie H., Dove H., Erin D., John R., Josh W., Kelle J., Laura L., Sue V.

Purpose: To study Concepts 2 and 6, and submit a report on possible revisions to those Concepts to the 2023 ABC, in keeping with a motion approved by the 2022 ABC.

Meeting times: The committee currently is meeting on the first and third Thursday of the month, at 5 pm eastern. Information is on the Committee calendar.

November Monthly Activity

The committee met twice in November, on Nov. 2 and Nov. 17. It conducted a preliminary review of Concepts 2 and 6, and members committed to reading additional background and history about the Concepts, including from AA and Al-Anon, to put the study into clearer context.

The committee also gave a status report on its progress at the Nov. 12 Quarterly Delegates Meeting

The following is the text of the committee's status report, as presented at the Nov. 12 Quarterly Delegates Meeting. Some dates referenced in the report have since passed.

The Concepts 2 and 6 Ad Hoc Study Committee was authorized by the 2022 Annual Business Conference. The ABC's exact motion was: To create an ad-hoc committee that will study Concepts II and VI and report to the 2023 ABC on possible revisions. Delegates and the fellowship will be notified of the study and invited to join the ad-hoc committee.

ACA's 12 Concepts of Service are twelve statements of principle (available on the adultchildren.org website and in the Big Red Book) that explain how the various pieces of world service fit together. This includes the roles of the fellowship, the Conference, the ACA World Service Organization Board of Trustees, WSO committees, and WSO paid staff.

Concept 2 discusses how the voice of the fellowship guides world service.

Concept 6 discusses various roles of the Conference and the Board of Trustees in World Service, and how those two entities interact.

The Ballot Proposal that began this process sought to amend these two Concepts to bring greater clarity.

Status Report

Consistent with the ABC motion, the study was announced on the delegates channel and in the Traveler. The committee has met twice, with about eight regular participants, and is off to a very good start.

We have developed a plan for studying the two Concepts. We plan to submit a written report to the 2023 ABC with separate recommendations regarding each Concept. These recommendations can be “no change in the current language,” or a specific, fully written proposal for new language. In either case, the committee’s report will explain the reasoning for our recommendations, and what resources we used to reach our conclusions.

The Committee will make recommendations only about Concepts 2 and 6, although we may choose to consider other ACA Concepts if that could influence our study of Concepts 2 and 6.

Additional Background

The first committee meeting was largely organizational. We established discussion rules to ensure that the committee would deliberate in a safe, respectful environment. We also identified dates for a second and third meeting.

We did not choose a committee chair, operating for now by group conscience, but Charlie H. and Kelle J. were appointed to represent the committee at meetings of the Policy & Structure Collaboration Committee.

At our second meeting, we established parameters for our study. This began with a detailed review of the Ballot Proposal that began this process. It continued with review and discussion of the ABC motion to launch this study, and the Board of Trustees resolution that carried out the ABC motion. These reviews ensured that our study will conform to the mandate we received from the ABC and board.

Specific decisions at our second meeting included:

- The nature of the written report we plan to submit to the 2023 ABC.
- We will study each Concept separately, starting with Concept 2.
- All committee members will study the AA and AI-Anon versions of Concepts 2 and 6, to expand our perspective. Committee members may individually choose to consider Concepts 2 and 6 from additional fellowships.
- Committee members are encouraged to study several other resources from AA and other fellowships to expand our perspective.

The next meeting is scheduled for Nov. 17, 5 pm eastern US, and we plan to begin a more detailed consideration of Concept 2. If you are interested in joining the Ad Hoc Committee to Study Concepts 2 and 6, there is still time to get involved, and your participation is deeply welcomed.

You can contact the committee by email: concepts2and6@acawso.org. You can also reach us on Slack by contacting Charlie H. and/or Kelle J.