

MONTHLY REPORT–CONCEPTS 2 AND 6 AD HOC STUDY COMMITTEE NOVEMBER 2023

The Concepts 2 and 6 Ad Hoc Study Committee met twice in November. In addition, Kaz S. reported on the committee's progress at the Nov. 4 Quarterly Delegates Meeting, and the committee hosted a breakout room for delegates during the QDM. The full written report to the QDM is at the end of this monthly report.

On Nov. 2, the committee provisionally approved the following alternative language for Concept 2:

ACA groups delegate to the World Service Conference the authority to act as their effective voice and conscience, and to represent the fellowship in world service matters.

The Committee has begun to study Concept 6 in detail and expects to present alternative language for both Concepts 2 and 6 for consideration at the 2024 ABC.

THE ACA WSO QUARTERLY REPORT OF CONCEPTS 2 & 6 STUDY GROUP 2023 For the Nov. 4 Quarterly Delegates Meeting

Name of Committee: Concepts 2 & 6 Ad Hoc Study Committee

Inaugural Meeting: October 20, 2022

Service Positions: The Committee has chosen not to have a standing committee chair. Rather, we rotate the Chair position and operate by group conscience

Committee Meetings: 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month at 5:30 PM ET. (Meeting ID: 834 2924 8013 Passcode: 90755)

Homepage: <https://acawso.org/concepts-study/>

Contact: 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.

Committee Members: Charlie H, Kelle J, Josh W, Sue V, Buddy S, Dove H, Kaz S

WSO accountability structure: This Ad Hoc Committee is part of the Policy & Structure Collaboration Committee and is represented there by Kelle J

Introduction

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 2 and 6 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.

The following motion passed at the 2023 ABC:

We move to request a six-month extension, with a detailed update at the next Quarterly Business Meeting, to complete proposed revisions to Concepts 2 and 6, but to affirm that Concept 2 will define the Conference as the voice and conscience of the ACA fellowship.

Background:

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 Update:

Since our last report at the 2023 Aug QDM , and as per the Motion that was presented at the Conference and subsequently approved:

The committee has continued its intensive study of Concept 2, seeking to identify possible alternative language for more clarity. Based on study of the 12 Concepts of Service, including their history and practice in ACA, AA, and AI-Anon, the Committee has reached these preliminary conclusions:

1. ACA`s Concept 2 is fundamentally flawed, and we intend to recommend that it be revised. As pointed out in the original ballot proposal, it does not state *who* is the actual voice and effective conscience of ACA`s fellowship. The committee will seek to assign these roles to the Conference, in line with Concept 2 in several other 12 step programs.
2. Draft Language to replace our current Concept 2 language: Currently, the committee continues to weigh different potential language for our recommendation back to the Conference for Concept 2. The top options include:
 - o The World Service Conference of Delegates serves as the actual voice and the effective conscience for our whole fellowship
 - o Authority for the active maintenance of our world services is hereby delegated to the World Service Conference of Delegates, which serves as the actual voice and the effective conscience for our whole fellowship

- The fellowship's authority is delegated to the World Service Conference, which serves as the voice and effective conscience of the fellowship.
- ACA groups entrust the World Service Conference with the authority to act as their effective voice and conscience, and to represent the fellowship in world service matters.
- ACA groups delegate to the World Service Conference the authority to act as their effective voice and conscience, and to represent the fellowship in world service matters.

3. Suggestion from the study group: to stop calling the events "Conferences" (Annual Business Conference, etc). Instead call the events "(annual/quarterly) business meetings of the Conference"

4. After further discussion we also understand that the wording of the Concepts might be influenced by a potential Conference Charter. We believe that a Conference Charter seeks to identify the relationships within our service structure and is closely tied to the Concepts which explain how the various pieces of world service fit together. This includes the roles of the fellowship, the Conference (and any service bodies of the Conference created as per tradition 9), the ACA World Service Organization Board of Trustees, WSO committees, and WSO paid staff.

5. We are beginning to make connections with the Future of the ABC Study Group, who are working on drafting a Charter, as the work of our two study groups is highly interrelated, and collaborating would help us accomplish our various tasks.

- Setting up a sync meeting with the Future of the ABC study group to discuss our common goals, interests, and ways that the work of one study group has implications for the other
- Working to set up a meeting with a rep from Arts Anonymous, a fellowship that recently worked through establishing both Concepts and a Charter, in order to understand more about the experience of doing so in that Fellowship

All final decisions about this committee's work will be made by the delegates at a future Conference Business Meeting. When the committee completes its recommendations, it will request a significant block of time at an upcoming Conference Business Meeting for review and direction.