

Approved Minutes
from the April 11, 2016 General Conference
General Conference of the Joint Conference of Restoration Branches
The Gathering Place, Independence, MO
April 11, 2016

The general conference of 2016 was begun with a ceremonial opening, including the hymn "God of Our Fathers," a flag ceremony with flags from the countries which have branches that participate in the Joint Conference of Restoration Branches, the hymn "This Is My Song" and a blessing on the conference by president Fred Greene.

The conference was called to order with an introduction of officers serving for the conference. They include president Fred Greene, vice-president Dan Sherer, secretary Alan Smith, treasurer Nathan Sherer, recorder Randy Vick and historian Jerry Vickery.

Randy Vick presented a preliminary credentials report, with a fuller report to be presented at the Friday business session. He noted that there had been a significant increase in registrations for the conference that morning.

After a motion by Dale Wilson and a second by David Newman, the conference voted to approve the order of business and order of resolutions for the conference. The presentation of a document by president Greene was then brought up with a motion from Bob Giertz, seconded by David Newman, to allow listening to a presentation and following testimonies without interruption. The motion was approved.

Fred Greene then read the following document:

A Revelation Given to the Saints of The 2016 General Conference
Saints of the Restoration. You have been faithful to my words and now I shall be faithful to your needs and your prayers unto me as a body of my Saints. You have suffered much because of your faith and have striven to be obedient. For this you have been blessed in many ways known and unknown unto you. You have sought to do away with discontent and discord among your ranks and have diligently sought my blessings. Now I the Lord Jesus Christ as the head of my Church, shall enact the following to further the work of my church in establishing the cause of Zion:

It is now necessary that the office of Apostle be established among you. Therefore, the following men are called to the office of Apostle: Gary Whiting and Randy Vick. They are to be ordained to this office as soon as possible. Further it is my will that Gary Whiting become the President of the Twelve at this time. They shall meet with much prayer and fasting and shall be given the names of the other ten Apostles to be ordained in the future with the approval of the General Conference. Their authority shall be as described in previous revelations given to the church. When the Quorum is filled, the Presidency of the JCRB shall reside in the Twelve. This shall constitute the standing Presidency of the JCRB for the current time. These Apostles shall be charged with gathering all the scattered Saints into one body. This effort is to begin in this land and then reach out to the world. It is my will that all those who desire to be engaged in the marvelous work that is about to come

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forth be strengthened, united and prepared. Therefore, call my people to gather in repentance, faith and anticipation of the wonderful things which are to come to pass before you soon. For many prophecies are being fulfilled before your eyes that are warning you of coming events. Therefore my people must be prepared and united in faith and strength that they may overcome and be joyful witnesses before the world as my own. The Apostles are cautioned to not allow Presidential responsibilities to encumber or delay fulfilling this immediate need of my people saith the Lord.

In order to preserve the office of Evangelist/Patriarch in these crucial times and in response to the prayers of the Saints, the following men are called to the office of Evangelist/Patriarch: Neil Simmons, Jerry Vickery, Dan Sherer and Ronald Smith. These are to be ordained as soon as possible to their new office and calling in service to my people. They, along with the existing Evangelist/Patriarchs, are to meet often and confer together in much prayer and fasting. When they are prepared, I the Lord will sanctify them and grant unto them Spiritual power enabling them to bring to my people the evangelical pulpit ministry needed with vigor and power for this day and in preparation for those things which are shortly to come to pass. The names of additional men to be called to this office in good order and by approval of the General Conference shall be given later if they prove worthy. It is my desire that the ranks of the Evangelist/Patriarch be greatly increased in order to fulfill their calling for this time. For they are called to be Spiritual Fathers to my people and bring ministry that heals their spirit and reinvigorates their faith as well as reestablishes Zion principles among them. I shall empower them to preach and prepare the Saints, reviving and calling them to repentance as well as be a voice of warning unto them. The spirit of prophecy is inherent in this office and therefore, they must strive to continually be humble in order to retain and exercise this gift. If the Evangelist/Patriarchs are faithful, humble and obedient, they shall prepare my people by laying the foundation for my promised spiritual endowment. Therefore, congregations should increasingly utilize their evangelical preaching power more so now than ever before that my people may be blessed and prepared.

I call upon the High Priests of the church to repent and humble themselves before me saith the Lord. While some have rendered a pleasing service unto me, others have not productively engaged in the leadership of my church to the extent that they should. Some complain and criticize and attempt to undermine my work thus sowing the seeds of contention among my people. I command you therefore to turn away from sophistry and aggrandizement and cease from judgments and legalisms lest the Adversary gain control and the people of the church suffer. Remember, the servant is not greater than his master. Therefore, humble yourselves and after much repenting I shall bless you with a greater Spiritual power never before experienced by men in this office and calling, and shall confer upon you a greater work that is to be accomplished in this day by those holding this office.

I am well pleased with the efforts of the Seventy before me. Generally, you have proven worthy of your calling and my spirit has led you because of your faith and desire to serve me. Continue seeking out new vineyards through prayer and fasting where my gospel must be heard for many await hearing the words of their salvation. Be aware that the Adversary is loosed upon the world and there is much evil upon the face of the earth. Therefore, walk circumspectly in your work for my Kingdom. Let wisdom prevail in your travels through much prayer and I shall go before you and prepare the way for you. The Seventy must unite further in order to fully enjoy an increasing power of the Spirit in their

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ministry. Remove all contention from among you and forbid it to exist in your ranks. Support and serve one another in prayer and brotherly love. Actively look for others who have been called to the work of the Seventy. There are many in this land and in foreign places whom I have given the seeds for this calling. Some have been called to bring the ministry of the Seventy to specific people such as the youth and young adults. Therefore seek them out and through much prayer I shall reveal them unto you. Go out specifically to those people in this land who need to hear my words calling them to repent and unite together in preparation.

The Elders of the church have generally given an offering of faith and loyalty to the work which is pleasing unto me. They are to join with the Seventy in the work of calling and uniting my people as much as possible in order to more effectively utilize the efforts of the Seventy. Seek therefore to strengthen my congregations and reinvigorate their spirit and lift their faith unto me. For I am He who calleth them to make ready.

It is incumbent upon the Saints to render greater support to this effort entrusted to my priesthood and the work of my church. My commandments regarding stewardship have been given. Firstly, all those holding priesthood must obey the commandments regarding stewardship and tithing in order for them to receive the spiritual presence they desire in their ministry. My spirit will not abide fully where there is willful disobedience by my priesthood. Therefore repent, embrace and obey the laws of stewardship that your ministry may be approved. All my Saints must also obey the laws of stewardship given unto you. I have promised a great spiritual endowment to be given at a future time. I cannot give this gift until my Saints are more obedient to the laws of Stewardship given to you long ago. Therefore, bind up your testimony in your stewardship and I the Lord shall greatly reward your efforts.

The Aaronic Priesthood should be encouraged and lifted up before the congregations of the church. They have not been utilized or nurtured as required by the Melchisedec Priesthood and consequently have become ineffective in their vital ministry to families, youth and young adults. Therefore, you are urged to utilize the Aaronic Priesthood in visiting all the families in your congregations teaching them to pray and study in their homes and also teaching the importance of their stewardship. The office of Priest is of great importance in the preparation of the church for the marvelous things which are about to come to pass in your midst. See that they are prayerfully lifted up and supported as required by me in order to fulfill the task laid out before them. There are many young men in the church who are being prepared by my Spirit to serve in the Aaronic priesthood. Do not let their young years deter you from calling them to serve me at this time.

My children, the door has been opened unto you to rebuild my church among my people in spirit, in word and in truth. I have said before that if you keep not my commandments and esteem my words as naught, I shall raise another to accomplish the work whereunto you are called to perform in these latter days in preparation of my coming. Now, this charge is given unto you to seek to bring forth and establish the cause of Zion. If you do not respond to my calling at this time, then I shall raise up yet another. Remember, My work shall not be frustrated, only the work of men is frustrated. Therefore, strive to witness to others the renewed call to Zionic principles that they too might realize their calling in this work and my spirit shall witness the truth of it to them also. The doors should be open to all who desire to join you in this work, turn none away. For this is my will saith the Lord.

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Be not disheartened by your small numbers nor lose faith in the work because of the many divisions among my Saints at this time. Soon, if you are faithful to my words I shall perform a marvelous work among the children of men that shall turn their hearts away from division to a desire to be united as one body in faith and the joy of my Spirit shall be upon them and they shall see my promises being fulfilled before their eyes. Therefore, remain faithful and strengthen your love for one another and of Me, for such are My people. Amen

My testimony of these words:

These words have been given to me over a long period of time and through much prayer. Many of them were first impressed upon me at the end of the last General Conference in 2015. I was impressed greatly that the Lord had words to bring forth to the Conference but it was not yet time to do so. Then as we were driving home from Conference some of these words came to me. Again during the 2015 National Conference, additional words were given under the same spirit and since that time more and more have been received. I have had many sleepless nights pondering on these words as I was led to write them. Often I was awakened to write them in the early morning hours. My prayers have been for the Lord to assure that these words came from His throne and are for His people at this time. When I have prayed and fasted over them, additional words have come to be included. Hence this is a very long and inclusive revelation. I believe many parts of this revelation have been held back for several years until the Saints could prove they could meet together in peace and unity under the spirit of repentance. I believe the Lord has seen this come to pass over time and now gives what He has held back for us all to follow. His instructions are clear and complete for now. I believe there is more to be revealed if we humbly follow His directions and earnestly complete the tasks He had laid out before us all.

An additional witness of this revelation is given by a revelation of like nature received by Jerry Vickery in 2014. This revelation was given to me by Brother Vickery and I shared it with a few others in order pray and to determine how to proceed with it. After praying about it we all confirmed its authenticity as a revelation but collectively determined that it was not to be given to the conference as yet. The 2014 revelation called for Apostles and Evangelist/Patriarchs also. No names were given for Evangelist/Patriarch but three names were given to occupy the office of Apostle. I filed this document and did not read it again until last week. When I did read it, I was amazed to see that two of the men called to Apostle in this revelation were also called to the office of Apostle in the revelation given to Jerry Vickery in 2014. Additionally, brother Gary Whiting is called in both revelations as the President of the Apostles. I believe our Lord is working among His people to confirm His will so that we might understand it and in faith move forward to accomplish His work in these last critical days.

It is important to note that the Lord is preparing us all for something that is coming that will inspire us and perhaps also be a little frightening too. Hence the need for us all to unite, strengthen our faith and prepare. The organizational changes called for in this should not be of great concern to the Saints. The Lord desires for the Presidency to reside in the Twelve for the "current time." I understand that this will unite the Saints more as a body instead of being solely "independent branches." I understand the concerns this will raise. However, in reality we all are connected through Jesus Christ and He is the Head of His church. If we are His willing servants, then we cannot refuse being called to unify under

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Christ for the work coming before us all. It is my prayer that the Lord will confer upon the Conference the Spirit of truth in these words as He has myself and others.

*Your Servant,
Fred Greene*

After Brother Greene presented some additional remarks, testimonies were shared by each of the men who had accepted priesthood calls outlined in the document. These included Gary Whiting, Randy Vick, Neil Simmons, Jerry Vickery, Dan Sherer and Ron Smith. Testimonies were also shared by officers Nathan Sherer and Alan Smith and by Arturo Gomez.

“Redeemer of Israel” was sung to close the session with Nathan Sherer offering a prayer. Business was to resume with the session on Friday, April 15.

Respectfully submitted,
H. Alan Smith
Conference Secretary

Unapproved Minutes from the April 15, 2016 General Conference

General Conference of the Joint Conference of Restoration Branches
The Gathering Place, Independence, MO
April 15, 2016

The business session was called to order by president Fred Greene, and after the singing of a hymn, recorder Randy Vick offered a prayer.

Minutes from the April 17, 2015 general conference were brought forward for consideration. A change was made in the term for the historian on page 2 of the minutes and rewording of a paragraph on page 3. The new paragraph should read: "Gary Whiting requested that the conference withdraw the name of Erwin Schnettler at this time. He said the quorum believed in their testimony of his call, but they wanted Brother Schnettler to have additional time to consider his testimony to the call before it was approved." The minutes were approved with these changes.

Minutes from the April 11, 2016 business session were then brought forward for consideration. The minutes were approved without any changes.

Treasurer Nathan Sherer brought an introduction to the general conference budget as well as the annual JCRB budget, for action later on in the session. He noted that at that point \$7,000 of the \$28,220 budget for the conference had been contributed. The conference budget is not part of the annual JCRB budget.

In presenting the annual JCRB budget, he noted that the Seventy travel portion of the budget had been increased to \$227,708 and the budget for other missionary activities involving the Seventy had been increased to \$120,000 for a total for the Seventy portion of the budget of \$347,766.

Brother Greene then called the attention of the conference to a series of reports in section 7 of the conference binder. These included reports from three of the four Organizational Analysis committees, the High Priests Quorum, the Education Committee, The Beacon, Restoration Women's Ministries, Youth Activities Committee, Youth Missionary Corps, a U.S. National Conference Elder's Quorum update, U.S. National Conference Report on the Auditorium status, reports from the Heartland and Independence districts, Bishop Carl Cederstrom, the JCRB office staff and Dr. Charles Zerr. A motion was made to accept the reports by Bob Giertz, seconded by George Knotts. The motion was approved.

Several other reports were also made to the conference from quorums. These included the High Priest quorum, Elder's quorum, Aaronic priesthood quorum and the women's quorum. Included in the reports were appointments to the Missionary Funding Committee. A motion was made to approve the reports and make them a part of the

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minutes by Rex Curtis with George Knotts seconding the motion. The motion was approved.

High Priest Report

The High Priest Quorum met for two mornings, with the time spent almost exclusively in prayer and discussion of the document brought to the conference by Brother Fred Greene. No official action was taken by the quorum following this discussion.

The Quorum voted that Michael Beem continue as the High Priest Quorum's representative on the Missionary Funding Committee and that Dean Falconer be the alternate.

Respectfully submitted,
H. Alan Smith
Secretary
High Priest Quorum

Elder's Report

The Elders Quorum met on Wednesday and Thursday of Conference Week. On Wednesday, Brother Sherrie Wages began our meeting by asking for prayer, which was given. He then outlined some of the topics that we were to address, including the issues presented in Section 1.3 – page 2 (Evangelism, a Greater Spiritual Presence in our Services, and Mission) of the conference binder, as well as the proposed resolutions before the Conference. Chief among the resolutions to consider was the revelation brought to the Conference by Brother Fred Greene on Monday morning. Brother Sherrie also thanked the elders for allowing him the privilege of serving as president of the quorum for the past several conferences, but added that he felt it was now time for another elder to serve in that capacity. He then discussed the spiritual concepts of faith, hope and charity, and asked us to consider individuals we know who exemplify those traits in their lives. It was then stated by Brother Nestman that it is Jesus Christ who portrays all of those wonderful characteristics. Brother Phelps challenged us to read Ether 5 in the Book of Mormon for homework. We then briefly discussed Resolution 2016-1 (General Conference Every Two Years), Resolution 2016-3 (Archived Resolutions), Resolution 2016-4 (Corrections to Resolutions), and Resolution 2016-6 (Substitute to Replace JCR # 13.)

Thursday was almost entirely devoted to discussing the revelation/document, and we invited Brother Greene to join us in order to clarify the order of the business agenda to be performed on Friday, as well as the nuances and subtleties of how the revelation came to him, which he graciously did. After he left, we deliberated and discussed the document for a long period of time, with the main focus being on whether or not to draft a resolution designed to give members in our respective branches (and countries) more time to discuss the revelation, even if it meant tabling the vote until a later time or date of the conference, or perhaps until General Conference of 2017. It was decided by majority vote to draft a resolution to be made available to the Conference, to be presented if it were deemed in order and appropriate by Brother Sherrie. It should be noted that several elders expressed their opinion that the vote should be taken immediately, and therefore voted against drafting such a resolution.

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With regard to other matters, Brother Chad Nestman was elected Quorum President for General Conference 2017, and David Newman and Richard Hoff were both elected to represent the Elders Quorum on the Missionary Funding Committee, and will confer and decide between the two of them as to who will be made available when it is appropriate to participate.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Taylor

Aaronic Priesthood Report

The following report was submitted from the Aaronic Quorum meeting during the conference.

1. Regarding the need for the church to reinvigorate its call to evangelism. The Aaronic Quorum unanimously and intentionally plans to work at building relationships with families and individuals, seeing to their needs both physical and spiritual. This is to be carried out in the “Home Ministry” process within our respective branches. If you have not been visited, please ask.

2. In regards to seeking “A greater spiritual presence.” We all feel the need for greater self-reflection and repentance. We came to the conclusion that our worship starts when we wake up in the morning. We feel that when we greet the Saints as they enter the church that this is the best opportunity for us to invite the Saints to worship quietly. In addition we intend to teach this in the homes.

3. With regards to mission. We all intend to be diligent in filing our tithing statement and seeing to the needs of the families of missionaries who are out in the field.

Respectfully submitted,
Phillip J. O’Camb

Women’s Quorum Report

Responses were made to questions presented to the group by Brother Fred Greene on topics of strengthening evangelism, greater spiritual presence and mission.

Evangelism

The women noted that we cannot direct the priesthood, but there are things that we can do to support and strengthen them.

1. We will invite the Aaronic priesthood into our homes and share our confirming testimonies of Jesus Christ.

2. We can encourage the priesthood to gather often for fasting and prayer to seek the Lord’s guidance on the direction their branch should go and support them in this with our own fasting and prayer.

3. We can keep an “on the go” bag in our car that contains some ready-to-teach lessons and materials for teaching so we can be ready “in an instant.”

4. We can be out serving in our community to identify people and needs that we can bring to the attention of the priesthood,

5. We can encourage the Aaronic priesthood to visit inactive members.

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6. We can do women-to-women visits in members home to help identify needs and bring blessing.

7. We can show appreciation for the work that those who are functioning in their ministry do.

8. We can be sure that we correctly communicate messages in a timely way to priesthood members in our homes and encourage them to go on a visit.

9. We can support the priesthood when activities are planned.

10. We can become educated on how to do spiritual warfare, and how to use those means to protect our worship from distractions and intrusions of that sort.

Greater spiritual presence

1. Prepare for the Sabbath by getting everything ready on Saturday.

2. Prepare the place of worship both physically and spiritually.

3. Emphasize showing reverence and teaching our children to do so, leading by example.

4. Emphasize being respectful of others in the worship setting.

5. Be obedient to the directions given by those presiding.

6. Avoid engaging in conversations until after the worship that do not invite the Spirit or encourage it to stay.

7. Encourage a branch code of conduct to which all agree so that the members of the branch can help support parents in teaching their children reverence and respect.

8. Encourage the priesthood to study and grow in their priesthood responsibilities and mentor new priesthood members.

Mission

1. Recognize that the members are missionaries and be valiant in our testimony.

2. Provide information about mission work and people to help inspire and teach about giving to serve.

3. Obey the financial law and teach our children to do so.

4. Create an environment that allows all of the members in the home the time and opportunity to go out to serve.

5. Pray for resources, freedom and the desire for the priesthood to be able to go out.

6. Commit to supporting the families of those who are in the field. Where possible, create a branch fund to meet material needs.

7. Commit to prayer and fasting for the missionary effort.

Resolution 2016-7 Request for Consideration of Ordinations was brought to the floor with a motion by Dale Wilson and a second by David Newman. Sherrie Wages moved a substitute motion in its place and Jon Tandy seconded.

The substitute motion read:

Recommended Action Regarding the Document entitled "A Revelation Given to the Saints of the 2016 General Conference."

Whereas: On Monday, April 11, 2016, Patriarch Fred Greene, president of the JCRB, read a document to the conference entitled, "A Revelation Given to the Saints of the 2016 General Conference" (hereafter referred to as the document) which was a departure from the previous tradition of bringing the document first to the various priesthood quorums prior to sharing it with the conference body.

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And Whereas: The document identifies individuals call to the office of Apostle and those called to the office of Evangelist-Patriarch and they were given the opportunity to address the conference regarding their testimony of the affirmation of the Spirit of the Lord regarding their call,

And Whereas: There were several others, who spoke in favor of the individuals and the offices to which they were called, however, there was no opportunity to discuss other important elements of the document such as the statement that the apostles, which fully staffed, will become the standing Presidency of the JCRB for the current time, the admonition to the high priests, the admonition that the saints are not supporting the priesthood sufficiently and not following the law of stewardship, and the threat that if we don't step up to our responsibility to bring forth and establish the cause of Zion, He will find someone else to do the work we have been called to do,

And Whereas: The subject document was discussed during the mass meeting of the Melchisedek Priesthood on Tuesday, April 12, 2016 during which time a number of the priesthood stood to share their support for and/or concerns with the subject document. At the conclusion of the meeting, those in attendance were admonished to engage in mighty prayer an fasting so as to obtain a personal testimony regarding god's will concerning the revelation,

And Whereas: The Elders Quorum, meeting together on April 13 and 14, 2016, discussed and agreed by a 2/3 majority to recommend the following process for assuring the JCRB that we have widely shared the document with our members scattered across the world and come as close to "common consent" as humanly possible prior to voting to accept or reject the essential elements of the subject document. Therefore,

Be it Resolved: The President of the JCRB, in council with the other Officers of the JCRB, appoint a committee to prepare a "Talking Points" paper/text which describes the spiritual and historical precedence for the process or process for calling men to the office of Apostle and Evangelist/Patriarch in the Restoration, and,

Be it further Resolved: The Talking Points paper/text should be prepared with haste as we believe there is great urgency for the document and the Talking Points to be shared in the branches and homes of our members in the interconference period (prior to 2017 general conference), so that question/objections can be identified and hopefully answered in a timely manner as to support fully informed action on the document at the next general conference, and,

Be it further resolved: The President of the conference should take the lead to disseminate the document and Talking Points throughout the branches and homes of our members by individuals qualified to speak with informed authority and provide feedback regarding positive and negative reaction to the document, and

Be it further Resolved: The President of the conference should take the lead to identify a panel/committee of 'experts' who are available to address positive and negative feedback from branches, members and non-members in a non-threatening manner, and

Be it further Resolved: The Elders fully support the admonition for our members to engage in mighty prayer and fasting so as to obtain a personal testimony regarding God's will concerning the document.

A number of brothers and sisters spoke in favor or against the substitute motion.

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A motion was made by Michael Beem and seconded by Jared Watson to move the previous question on all matters before the body — which included the main motion and the substitute motion. The motion to call the question passed on a vote of 1,296-553.

The vote on the substitute “Recommended Action Regarding the Document entitled “A Revelation Given to the Saints of the 2016 General Conference” was defeated by a wide enough margin that a count was not indicated.

The vote on 2016-7 Request for Consideration of Ordinations was then passed on a vote of 1,158-657.

JCR#129 Request for Consideration of Ordinations (From the conference officers)

Whereas, the inspired message (revelation) brought to the conference provides for the call of men to the office of Apostle and Patriarch/Evangelist.

Be it resolved: that Gary Whiting, Randy Vick, Neil Simmons and Ron Smith be ordained to the office of High Priest, and

Be it further resolved: that Gary Whiting and Randy Vick be set apart to the office of Apostle, and

Be it further resolved: that Neil Simmons, Jerry Vickery, Dan Sherer and Ron Smith be set apart to the office of Patriarch/Evangelist.

Be it further resolved: that if this resolution is tabled, or not approved by this general conference, all those called by GCR 2016-7 shall retain their current priesthood offices and callings.

At the conclusion of the vote, Levy Vickery moved and Dale Wilson seconded that the business session be suspended until after a lunch break. The motion was approved and the session closed at approximately 1:15 p.m.

At approximately 2:30 p.m., Brother Greene called the business session back into order.

Next item of business was Resolution 2016-5 Support for Youth Rally, offered by the Quorum of High Priests. David Drummond moved and Julie Skotak seconded that the motion be approved. After some discussion, the motion was approved.

JCR#130 Support for Youth Rally

(From the Quorum of High Priests)

Whereas: all youth need to know their Lord and Savior in a personal relationship, and

Whereas: a large percentage of youth leave the church in high school and college age years, and

Whereas: providing an opportunity for joint praise, worship and fellowship with other Restoration youth could provide an additional opportunity for youth to be supported in their growing relationship with Jesus Christ

Be it resolved: that the Joint Conference of Restoration Branches support the formation of an independent board that would organize a Restoration Youth Rally to be held in the Independence, MO, area in 2017, and

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Be it further resolved: that the board would be made up of a youth leader from various Restoration organizations and a youth representative from each of these groups and that the JCRB would have its youth leader and an elected youth representative representing it on this board.

Resolution 2016-1 General Conference Held Every Two Years from the Logistics Committee was then called up.

2016-1 General Conference Every Two Years

(From the general conference Logistics Committee)

Whereas: holding general conferences every two years would be a better use of financial and personnel resources for the Joint Conference of Restoration Branches,

Be it resolved: that beginning with the 2017 general conference, general conferences of the Joint Conference of Restoration Branches be held in April every two years (odd numbered years) unless there is a specific need for an interim conference as determined by majority vote of the conference or the conference officers.

And be it resolved: that budgeting for the general conference be done on a two-year cycle to be approved at the biennial conference.

And be it resolved: that terms of officers and committees not otherwise indicated would run for the two-year conference interim period.

Barb Giertz moved and Lorena Herod seconded that the resolution be approved. After some discussion was held and several people said they would help with the work of the Logistics Committee, the matter was voted on and failed.

Next on the agenda were several resolutions brought by the committee which reviewed and evaluated all the current Joint Conference of Restoration Branches resolutions against the new purpose statement established by the 2015 general conference.

Resolution 2016-2 Consistent References to the JCRB General Conference was brought to the floor with Jerry Vickery moving and Lorena Herod seconding the motion to approve it. The resolution was approved by the conference.

JCR#131 Consistent References to JCRB General Conference

(From the Resolutions Review Committee; Organizational/Analysis committee approved by the 2015 General Conference to answer recommendation #7)

Resolved: that when "general conference" is referred to in a JCRB resolution it should be formatted as "general conference" in lower case instead of upper case to make references consistent.

Resolution 2016-5 Archived Resolutions was brought to the floor with Lorena Herod moving and David Newman seconding that the motion be approved.

A motion was made by Betty Vickery and seconded by Julie Skotak to amend the motion by the inclusion of a further resolved:

And be it further resolved: that when the conditions of a resolution expire, or new

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legislation makes the resolution no longer binding, that the Secretary be authorized to archive the resolution with the approval of the other JCRB officers without further conference action. The amendment was approved, as was the motion as amended.

JCR#132 Archived Resolutions

(From the Resolutions Review Committee; Organizational/Analysis committee approved by the 2015 General Conference to answer recommendation #7)

Whereas: several of the Joint Conference of Restoration Branches resolutions refer only to a specific action or time frame, which has expired, or refer to matters that have been changed by later resolutions,

And whereas: these resolutions still have value as a historic record even though they are no longer binding on the conference,

Be it resolved: that the booklet with the resolutions for the JCRB be divided into sections of "Active Resolutions" and "Archived Resolutions," with the active resolutions being those that are binding on the conference,

And that: the following numbered resolutions be included in the archived section:

JCR# 2	JCR# 4	JCR# 5	JCR# 18	JCR# 19	JCR# 20	JCR# 21
JCR# 24	JCR# 25	JCR# 26	JCR# 27	JCR# 28	JCR# 29	JCR# 30
JCR# 33	JCR# 34	JCR# 36	JCR# 37	JCR# 38	JCR# 44	JCR# 47
JCR# 48	JCR# 50	JCR# 51	JCR# 62	JCR# 64	JCR# 67	JCR# 87
JCR# 88	JCR# 94	JCR# 97	JCR# 98	JCR# 99	JCR# 107	JCR# 109
JCR# 110	JCR# 111	JCR# 113	JCR# 117			

And be it further resolved: that when the conditions of a resolution expire, or new legislation makes the resolution no longer binding, that the Secretary be authorized to archive the resolution with the approval of the other JCRB officers without further conference action. The amendment was approved, as was the motion as amended.

Resolution 2016-4 Corrections of Resolutions was the next agenda item. It was moved by Jerry Vickery and seconded by Lorena Herod. The motion was approved.

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JCR#133 Corrections to Resolutions

(From the Resolutions Review Committee; Organizational/Analysis committee approved by the 2015 General Conference to answer recommendation #7; see Section 2.7 for discussion aid)

Whereas: some corrections are needed in the wording of several current JCRB resolutions to make them consistent with correct references or other wording,

Be it resolved: that this be the approved wording for the following current resolutions:

JCR #57, Education Committee

Whereas: Saints outside the Center Place have more difficulty obtaining church materials and resources,

Be it resolved: the JCRB will form an Education Committee in order to address the resource needs of Saints in outlying and secluded areas. This committee shall be comprised of seven members and the chairperson will hold the office of Elder.

JCR #79, Ordering of Quorums

Whereas: the General Conference adopted GCR #311 on April 12, 1886, addressing the ordering of the lesser quorums of the Church and referring the matter back to the Conference and the Twelve. Therefore

Be it resolved: that GCR #311 is hereby rescinded. And

Be it further resolved: that JCR #59 adopted by the conference on April 12, 2008 has addressed this issue and provided direction in this matter.

JCR #86, Seventy to teach Law of Stewardship

Whereas: In accordance with Doctrine and Covenants Section 120, Paragraph 3d, which states, "The Seventy when traveling by the voice of the church, or sent by the Twelve to minister the word where the Twelve cannot go, are in the powers of their ministration apostles-those sent-..."

And whereas: In accordance with Doctrine and Covenants Section 114, which states, "1 a. In order to place the church in a position to carry on the promulgation of the gospel, and as a means of fulfilling the law, the Twelve will take measures in connection with the Bishop, to execute the law of tithing; b. and let them before God see to it, that the temporal means so obtained is truly used for the purposes of the church,... ". Therefore

Be it resolved: That the Seventy will fulfill their role in the powers of their ministrations as Apostles, and they will, in their duties, teach, expound and exhort the Saints to comply with the Law of Stewardship, the financial law of the Church along with all the other laws that God has placed with us.

JCR #89, Affirmation of Law of Stewardship

Whereas: the General Conference adopted GCR #174 on April 10, 1875, affirms "That the Law of Tithing is binding upon the Church in its scattered condition". Therefore

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Be it resolved: that we affirm the acceptance and direction given to the Church by GCR #174 and that this direction is still in effect.

Be it further resolved: That the level of Church organization that exists today does not in any way absolve the saints from complying with the Law of Stewardship and providing an accounting of their stewardship.

JCR #90, Law of Stewardship Applicable

Whereas: the general Conference adopted GCR #210 on September 11, 1878, affirms "That the Law of Tithing ... is applicable to the Church in its present condition, and should be observed". Therefore

Be it resolved: that we affirm the acceptance and direction given to the Church by GCR #210 and that this direction is still in effect.

Be it further resolved: That the level of Church organization that exists today does not in any way absolve the saints from complying with the Law of Stewardship and providing an accounting of their stewardship.

Next resolution to be discussed was 2016-6 Substitute to replace JCR#13 Church Exists Where Saints Are Organized According to the Pattern from the Quorum of High Priests. It was moved by Jerry Vickery and seconded by David Newman.

Cheryl Hout moved and Terry Hout seconded a motion to amend the resolution to replace the words "church members" for the words "saints in good standing." The amendment failed.

The resolution as originally printed was then voted on and approved.

JRC#134 Substitute to replace JCR #13, Church Exists Where Saints Are Organized According To The Pattern

(From the Quorum of High Priests)

Resolved: that we believe that a branch of the Church of Jesus Christ, organized in April 6, 1830, and continued in the Reorganization on April 6, 1860, exists wherever six or more saints in good standing are organized according to the pattern in the Doctrine and Covenants, Articles of Incorporation of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (1872), and A Manual of Practice and Rules of Order and Debate for Deliberative Assemblies of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (1876, 1891, 1904).

Officers for the Joint Conference of Restoration Branches for the year until the next conference in 2017 were elected.

A letter was received from the mass meeting of Elders which brought a nomination for president of the conference.

Minutes of the Mass Meeting of Elders
Thursday, April 14, 2016

Conference Vice President Dan Sherer called the meeting to order. The order of business was for the mass meeting of elders to nominate a candidate for president of the

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general conference of the Joint Conference of Restoration Branches.

Following prayers from Randy Beem, Dean Falconer and Erwin Schnettler, brother Sherer opened the floor for nominations. He noted that the person should be an Elder, Seventy or High Priest from a participating branch.

Rex Curtis nominated Fred Greene for the position, the only nomination offered. A vote was held and Brother Greene was chosen as the person to be presented to the conference. The vote was not unanimous.

Doug Patterson closed the meeting with prayer.

Submitted by,

H. Alan Smith

Conference Secretary

No other nominations were made and Fred Greene was elected as president. Dan Sherer was nominated and re-elected as Vice President. Alan Smith was nominated and re-elected as Secretary. Nathan Sherer was nominated and re-elected as Treasurer. Doug Patterson was nominated and elected as Recorder. Brother Jerry Vickery will continue as historian through the 2018 conference.

People were elected to serve on a number of conference committees.

These included:

Youth Activities Committee (two year terms) — Hailey Norman, Grace Pedersen, Michelle Sherer and Duane Newman.

Restoration Women's Ministries (three year terms) — Donna Vickery, Karen Bates and Chari Pedersen.

Missionary Funding Committee — Bishop's Designee Bob Giertz, High Priest designee Michael Beem, High Priest alternate Dean Falconer, Seventy designee, Gary Metzger, Seventy alternate Hugh Caldwell, Elder designee David Newman, Elder alternate Richard Hoff.

Logistics Committee — Elected members: Sally Simmons, Laurie Schooley, Alice Hughes, James Vreeland, Donna Vickery, Kathy Drummond, Lisa Newman, Cheryl Hout, Duane Newman, Janice Jordison, Barb Giertz, Levi Vickery. Appointed members: Barbra Jordison, Chris Taylor and Debbie Newman.

Finance Committee — Chris Pedersen and Randy Beem.

Credentials Committee — Two year terms: Chris Pedersen, Gary Metzger. One year term: Richard Hoff.

Education Committee — Julie Skotak, Cheri Cruickshank, Sande Cromwell, Cheryl Hout, Genie Simmons, Frank Frye, Jim Noland, Jared Watson and James Vreeland. Diana McLucky will be appointed if anyone on the committee is not willing to serve.

Designated members and appointed members were also recognized for the Communications Department committees.

Treasurer Nathan Sherer was called upon to review the financial statements for the conference. He shared the audited 2014-15 financial statements and the unaudited statement of financial condition as of March 31, 2016. Julie Skotak moved and Dale Wilson seconded that the financial statements be approved. The motion carried.

Brother Sherer then discussed the budget for this year's general conference. The budget, which includes international delegate travel, totaled \$28,200. Dale Wilson moved and Frank Fry seconded that the budget be approved. The motion carried.

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Brother Sherer presented the budget for the Joint Conference of Restoration Branches for the year, which totaled \$606,268. This included \$51,400 for the Presidents of Seventy budget, \$101,600 for the facilities budget (including \$30,000 for roof repair), \$347,768 for the Seventy travel and program budget and \$105,500 for other budget items. The Seventy budget included \$223,708 for missionary travel and \$120,060 for program expenses. Julie Skotak moved and Betty Vickery seconded the motion to approve the JCRB budget for the fiscal year. The motion carried.

A letter from Senior President of Seventy Gary R. Whiting was read, presenting the call of Elder Erwin Schnettler of Penaflor Santiago, Chile, to the office of Seventy. Brother Schnettler shared his testimony of the call to the office. Gary Whiting moved and Frank Frye seconded that the call be approved. The motion was approved.

With the ordinations to Apostle and Patriarch/Evangelist approved by the conference, the Council of Presidents of Seventy has been reduced to four, a number that can still function, Brother Whiting told the conference. Seventy Patrick McKay has been chosen as the new President of the First Quorum of Seventy, it was noted.

Recorder Randy Vick provided the Credentials Committee report for the conference. He noted that this year's conference had saints and delegates from 16 nations, more countries than ever before. They include Belize, Cameroon, Chile, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guatemala, Haiti, India, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Rwanda, Sri Lanka and the United States of America. Represented for the first time were Haiti, Malawi, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. A total of 26 branches in the United States and 18 international branches were represented at this year's conference.

There were 17 proxy delegates, 45 delegates, five alternates, 117 other members and seven guests registered for the conference, carrying a total of 2,546 votes. The Credentials Committee also credentialed a delegate from the Center Place Branch of the Church of Christ Restored.

Messages from church representatives in Rwanda, Malawi and Nigeria were shared.

The business meeting was adjourned with the singing of a hymn and a prayer, offered by vice president Dan Sherer.

Respectfully submitted,
H. Alan Smith
Conference Secretary

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Unapproved Minutes
From the April 3, 2017 General Conference
General Conference of the Joint Conference of Restoration Branches
Good Shepherd Community of Christ, Independence, MO
April 3, 2017

The general conference of 2017 was begun with a ceremonial opening, including the hymn “Great and Marvelous Are Thy Works,” a power point with the flags from the countries which have branches that participate in the Joint Conference of Restoration Branches, the hymn “This Is My Song,” and a blessing on the conference by conference vice president Dan Sherer.

The conference was called to order with an introduction of officers serving for the conference. They include president Fred Greene, vice-president Dan Sherer, secretary H. Alan Smith, treasurer Nathan Sherer and recorder Doug Patterson.

Doug Patterson presented a preliminary credentials report, with a fuller report to be presented at the Friday, April 7, business session. By March 30 there had been 166 registrations for the conference, a significant increase in the number of registrations at that point before conference began in past years.

The minutes of the April 15, 2016 business meeting were brought to the attention of the conference for approval. Jim McKay moved and Dale Wilson seconded the motion to approve the minutes as printed. The motion was approved.

Julie Skotak moved and Rex Curtis seconded the motion to approve an amended order of business and the order of resolutions for the conference. The addition of action on the setting apart request by the Seventy for two new Presidents of Seventy was added to the business for the opening session. The motion to approved to adopt the order of business and order of resolutions.

President Greene called the attention of the conference to reports from the Education Committee, Latter Day Saints’ Beacon, Restoration Women’s Ministries, Youth Activities Committee, Information Technology Committee and the U.S. National Conference Discussion Summary. A motion was made by Chad Nestman and seconded by Frank Frye to accept the committee reports. The motion was approved.

President Greene called the attention of the conference to quorum reports from the Quorum of Restoration Apostles, Quorum of High Priests and Quorum of Seventy. Dale Wilson and David Newman seconded the motion to accept the quorum reports. The motion was approved.

Treasurer Nathan Sherer presented an amended budget for the general conference this year. The budget calls for \$2,600 in building rental, \$1,500 in other expense, \$2,500 in food expense, \$350 for childcare, \$800 for supplies and \$1,500 for IT expense for a total general expense amount of \$9,250. Delegate travel totaled \$19,600 for a total budget of \$28,910. This

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compares to the budget of \$28,220 for 2016. Dave Drummond moved and Dave Newman seconded the motion to approve the conference budget for 2017. The motion carried.

Treasurer Sherer also gave a brief introduction to the Joint Council of Restoration Branches annual budget, which will be voted on at the Friday business session with details from the Quorum of Seventy are completed.

Next item for discussion was Resolution 2017-1 Change of Rules of Order for Election of Officers. Dale Wilson moved and Martha Wiseman seconded the motion to approve the resolution which read:

2017-1 Change in Rules of Order for Election of Officers *(From the Conference Officers)*

Be it resolved that the first seven items in Resolution #3 -- Rules of Order of the conference be amended to read:

Resolution #3, Rules of Order

Rules of Ordering the Conference

1. Mass meeting of Melchisedek Priesthood from Participating Branches. Following prayer and supplication to the Lord that these activities shall be blessed with His spirit, a mass meeting of the registered Melchisedek priesthood from participating branches shall be convened prior to the election of officers. The JCRB Vice President shall call the meeting to order and appoint the JCRB secretary/clerk to take minutes.
2. Presiding Protocols. The Conference President shall be chosen from among the Melchisedek priesthood of the participating branches. Preference shall be given to the office of Apostle, then the office of High Priest, then to the office of Seventy, and finally the office of Elder.
3. Nomination by the Melchisedek Priesthood for Conference President. Having affirmed the presiding protocols, the Vice-President shall open nominations for the office of President of the Conference. The nominee shall be determined by a hand vote of the priesthood.
4. Closing the Mass Meeting of Melchisedek Priesthood. The Vice-President shall direct the Secretary/Clerk to prepare a report of the meeting and election results for the conference. He shall then call upon the newly elected nominee to offer a closing prayer.
5. Election of Conference President by the Conference. At the announced time and place, the presiding officer shall read the report of the mass meeting of the Melchisedek priesthood to the conference. He shall then accept the nomination from the Melchisedek priesthood and open the floor for nominations. Following the nominating process, the conference President shall be chosen from the eligible nominees by vote of the officially registered membership.
6. Electing other officers. Nominations will then be opened for four officers: Vice-President, Secretary/Clerk, Treasurer and Recorder. These offices will be filled by vote of the officially registered membership.
7. Officers: Officers shall be elected to serve from spring conference to spring conference. New officers shall assume their responsibilities at the close of the conference at which they were elected. These duties of the officers are as follows:

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- a. President: The President shall be elected to preside over the deliberative sessions of the conference. He shall also serve as the chair for the Logistics Committee in planning and coordinating preparations for the next conference. The president will be responsible to ensure that the operations needed to carry out the will of the conference during the inter-conference period are handled.
- b. Vice-President: The Vice-President shall be subject to the same qualifications for office as the President. He shall be a member of the Logistics Committee with voice and vote and shall preside in the absence or by the direction of the President. He shall serve as a counselor to the President and lend support and assistance. The President and the Vice-President shall function harmoniously for the benefit and welfare of the conference.
- c. Secretary/Clerk: The Secretary/Clerk shall be chosen from among the Melchisedek priesthood (Doc. & Cov. 17:25b) to keep a record of the activities and deliberations of the conference. Minutes shall be provided at each subsequent business session for approval by the body and a draft set of minutes shall be available on the day after the last business session by electronic format for distribution to delegates and members. He shall serve as the secretary for the Logistics Committee with voice and vote. The Secretary shall be allowed to contract with members to assist in completing these tasks.
- d. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall be chosen from among the Melchisedek priesthood and shall preside over the Finance Committee. He shall receive all Conference monies and shall disburse all financial obligations. He shall report on budgetary items, as requested, and provide an annual report of conference income and expenses to the conference. In all his duties, and until a bishop shall be appointed, the Treasurer shall be accountable to the Conference. The Treasurer shall draw from among the membership to assist him in transacting his responsibilities.
- e. Recorder: The Recorder shall maintain membership records as submitted by participating branches and oversee the credentialing of delegates and members as chair of the Credentials Committee.

Jerry Vickery offered an amendment to the measure, changing the wording in several places and Jamie Herring seconded the motion. In item number 1, the amendment struck the words “from participating branches.” In item number 2 the amendment added the work registered before Melchisedek priesthood and struck the words “of the participating branches.” The amendment also struck the words “Apostle, then the office of” in the second sentence. In items 7d the amendment struck the words, “and until a bishop shall be appointed.”

Frank Frye then made an amendment to the amendment, putting the words “Apostle, then the office of” back into the resolution. Patrick McKay seconded the motion. A vote was held on the amendment to the amendment, which carried. The amended motion was then voted on and approved as well.

The adopted motion was:

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JCR#135 Change in Rules of Order for Election of Officers

(From the Conference Officers)

Be it resolved that the first seven items in Resolution #3 -- Rules of Order of the conference be amended to read:

Resolution #3, Rules of Order

Rules of Ordering the Conference

1. Mass meeting of Melchisedek Priesthood from Participating Branches. Following prayer and supplication to the Lord that these activities shall be blessed with His spirit, a mass meeting of the registered Melchisedek priesthood shall be convened prior to the election of officers. The JCRB Vice President shall call the meeting to order and appoint the JCRB secretary/clerk to take minutes.
2. Presiding Protocols. The Conference President shall be chosen from among the registered Melchisedek priesthood. Preference shall be given to the office of Apostle, then the office of High Priest, then to the office of Seventy, and finally the office of Elder.
3. Nomination by the Melchisedek Priesthood for Conference President. Having affirmed the presiding protocols, the Vice-President shall open nominations for the office of President of the Conference. The nominee shall be determined by a hand vote of the priesthood.
4. Closing the Mass Meeting of Melchisedek Priesthood. The Vice-President shall direct the Secretary/Clerk to prepare a report of the meeting and election results for the conference. He shall then call upon the newly elected nominee to offer a closing prayer.
5. Election of Conference President by the Conference. At the announced time and place, the presiding officer shall read the report of the mass meeting of the Melchisedek priesthood to the conference. He shall then accept the nomination from the Melchisedek priesthood and open the floor for nominations. Following the nominating process, the conference President shall be chosen from the eligible nominees by vote of the officially registered membership.
6. Electing other officers. Nominations will then be opened for four officers: Vice-President, Secretary/Clerk, Treasurer and Recorder. These offices will be filled by vote of the officially registered membership.
7. Officers: Officers shall be elected to serve from spring conference to spring conference. New officers shall assume their responsibilities at the close of the conference at which they were elected. These duties of the officers are as follows:
 - a. President: The President shall be elected to preside over the deliberative sessions of the conference. He shall also serve as the chair for the Logistics Committee in planning and coordinating preparations for the next conference. The president will be responsible to ensure that the operations needed to carry out the will of the conference during the inter-conference period are handled.
 - b. Vice-President: The Vice-President shall be subject to the same qualifications for office as the President. He shall be a member of the Logistics Committee with voice and vote and shall preside in the absence or by the direction of the President. He shall serve as a counselor to the President and lend support and assistance. The President and the Vice-President shall function harmoniously for the benefit and welfare of the conference.

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- c. Secretary/Clerk: The Secretary/Clerk shall be chosen from among the Melchisedek priesthood (Doc. & Cov. 17:25b) to keep a record of the activities and deliberations of the conference. Minutes shall be provided at each subsequent business session for approval by the body and a draft set of minutes shall be available on the day after the last business session by electronic format for distribution to delegates and members. He shall serve as the secretary for the Logistics Committee with voice and vote. The Secretary shall be allowed to contract with members to assist in completing these tasks.
- d. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall be chosen from among the Melchisedek priesthood and shall preside over the Finance Committee. He shall receive all Conference monies and shall disburse all financial obligations. He shall report on budgetary items, as requested, and provide an annual report of conference income and expenses to the conference. In all his duties, the Treasurer shall be accountable to the Conference. The Treasurer shall draw from among the membership to assist him in transacting his responsibilities.
- e. Recorder: The Recorder shall maintain membership records as submitted by participating branches and oversee the credentialing of delegates and members as chair of the Credentials Committee.

Next item of business was the request from the Seventy for setting apart two of the members of the quorum to responsibilities as Presidents of Seventy. Jim McKay and Dan Norman were recommended to serve as members of the Council of Presidents of Seventy. The action was moved to the agenda for Monday so the two men could function in their new roles during the week. Dave Drummond made the motion to approve the request and Dick Hahn seconded the motion. The measure was approved.

Dale Wilson then moved and Dave Newman seconded a motion to adjourn the conference session to the next scheduled meeting on Friday, April 7.

Respectfully submitted,
H. Alan Smith
Conference Secretary