

**Education Committee Reports Archives**

1955

*General Council*

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE OF URANTIA BROTHERHOOD  
For the Year 1955

During the year the Educational Committee held 24 meetings.

One of our first tasks was the selection of a group of Brotherhood members which could be looked upon as potential teachers in a projected school for the training of Certified Leaders and Ordained Teachers. It was from this list that a smaller group was selected to take up a course of intensive training with William S. Sadler, Jr.

Next, our attention was addressed to the formulation of an application questionnaire to be filled out by Leader or Teacher applicants.

Then, our Committee turned to the building of a Two-Year Course of Study, and also provided for a third year to be added at some time in the future. This course of study, in briefest outline form, covers the following ground:

Proposed Schedule and Skeletal Curriculum Designed to  
Prepare Candidates for Certified Leader and  
Ordained Teacher

Faculty

The class which was led by William S. Sadler, Jr. from September 1955 to June 1956 is to provide the nucleus of a teaching staff. The Committee on Education, which must approve all staff members, will determine what qualifications will be necessary and then arrange for a balanced teaching staff.

Time Schedule

It is proposed that classes begin in September 1956, and that two evenings per week be devoted to this program with the following schedule in effect:

- (a) First semester -- September through January  
Second semester -- February through June
- (b) One class from 7:30 to 8:30 P. M.  
Fifteen-minute intermission  
Second class from 8:45 to 9:45 P. M.

Program

Course of study for Certified Leaders shall consist of the first of the proposed two (three) year's course.

Course of study for Ordained Teachers shall start with two years, and later be extended to three years.

A Major consists of a course that meets one hour a week for two semesters.

A Minor consists of a course that meets one hour a week for one semester.

The completion of the first year course with the writing of an appropriate thesis will qualify an individual for Certification of Leadership. Those who wish to qualify for Ordination as a Teacher must continue at least another year in an advanced course.

### THE CURRICULUM

#### First Year

1. Major: (2) Study of the Urantia Book. Synthetic.
2. Minors: (4)
  - a. Topical study
  - b. Life of Christ - (The Four Gospels)
  - c. Leadership -- methods of speaking and teaching.
  - d. Study of Urantia Brotherhood -- Urantia Societies.  
(Constitution - Organization)

#### Second Year

1. Major: (2) Urantia Doctrine and Philosophy
2. Minors: (4)
  - a. Introduction to Comparative Religion
  - b. Advance Course in speaking and teaching
  - c. Education Psychology
  - d. Study of Christian sects and denominations.

#### Third Year

1. Major: (2)
  - a. Science and History -- The Urantia Book
  - b. Advanced Comparative Religion
2. Minors: (4)
  - a. Homiletics
  - b. Advanced study of The Urantia Book
  - c. Old and New Testament History
  - d. Technic of Presenting The Urantia Book

Report of Educational Committee

Page 3

The Committee has engaged in much discussion regarding the name for this school, but has not been able thus far to agree upon a suitable designation.

At the closing of the year's work the Committee was in the midst of preparing the details of the various courses of study. About half of this work has been accomplished, and it will continue to occupy our attention for the early meetings of 1956.

Wm. L. Sadler  
Chairman *W*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

1956

REPORT OF THE EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE for 1956

To - The General Council of Urantia Brotherhood

For the first half of the year the Committee met almost weekly for discussions and to effect the organization of the teaching corps and the curricula. It was decided to inaugurate only one-half of the first year's course for this year.

The first semester of the School started September 19th. Seventy-one students and auditors matriculated.

A corps of a dozen teachers has been assembled to cover the two-years' course (ultimately three-years'), and the entire curriculum for two years has been established, and teachers assigned.

The officers of the School, designated by the Educational Committee, are:

William S. Sadler, President  
Alvin L. Kulieke, Dean  
Kenton Stephens, Secretary and Treasurer

The Committee is gratified with the interest shown in the School, and we feel that an auspicious start has been made.

Respectfully submitted,

*William S. Sadler*

Chairman, Educational Committee

1957

REPORT OF  
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION OF URANTIA BROTHERHOOD  
FOR THE YEAR 1957

0-244

TO: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF URANTIA BROTHERHOOD.

The chief responsibility of this Committee is the conduct of the Urantia Brotherhood School. During this year the part-time program has been continued, two courses being taught every Wednesday evening during the school year.

The second semester of the school year, running from February 1st to June was devoted to the study of Part II of the Urantia Doctrine conducted by this writer and a course in public speaking conducted by Kenten Stephens.

The registered students and auditors in numbers remained about the same as the preceding year and interest was good. The quality of the work performed was excellent.

The fall semester was devoted to the study of the structure of the Urantia Book conducted by Marian Rowley and the study of the constitution of the Urantia Brotherhood conducted by Warren Kulieks. These two courses will continue until February 1st of this year.

Upon recommendation of the Educational Committee and by authority of the Executive Committee of the Urantia Brotherhood, the members of the teacher's pool -- the faculty of the Brotherhood School -- were granted teachers diplomas and certificates. There are ten members of this group.

A number of meetings were held during the year at which consideration was given to the curriculum, the assignment of teachers, and other interests of the School. While the present course is being conducted on a two-years basis a curriculum is now being shaped up for a three-years course.

Respectfully submitted,

*William S. Sadler*

William S. Sadler

Dated Dec.31, 1957.

*Faint handwritten notes or signatures in the bottom right corner.*

1958

REPORT OF THE EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR 1958

For the first time the registrations for this school year included students from beyond the metropolitan area of Chicago.

The opening of school was marked by the first graduating exercises. Twelve certificates of Leadership were granted.

The second semester of this school year witnessed the finish of Marian Rowley's course on the Structure of the Urantia Book, and a minor presented by myself on The Teachings of Jesus. The opening semester in the Fall presented two courses: Educational Psychology by Ruth Burton, and Doctrine III by myself.

A set of maps was purchased and is now in use by the School.

During the year regular Committee meetings were held which were characterized by many discussions pertaining to the present and future conduct of the School.

Respectfully submitted,

*William S. Sadler*

Chairman, Educational Committee

12/31/58

1959

Report of  
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION  
of  
URANTIA BROTHERHOOD  
for year 1959

To the Executive Committee of Urantia Brotherhood:

The chief responsibility of this Committee is the conduct of the Urantia Brotherhood School. During this year, the part-time program has been continued - two courses being conducted every Wednesday evening of the school year.

The second semester of the present school year, extending from February into June, was devoted to the study of DOCTRINE OF URANTIA BOOK, Part IV, which I conducted, and WORLD RELIGIONS, conducted by Tom Wideroe.

The Fall semester was devoted to a course on WORSHIP AND WISDOM, which I am conducting, and the beginning of a two-year's course on SCIENCE IN THE URANTIA BOOK, conducted by Alvin Kulieke.

The enrollment remains about the same from year to year, running in the neighborhood of twenty-five students registered for credit, and about twenty-five auditors.

On the whole, I feel rather satisfied with the program of the Brotherhood School except in the matter of new students. A study of the personnel of the student body reveals that we are having about the same students from year to year. There are only a small number of new students each year, and this gives me some concern as I look into the future.

It is our custom to hold commencement or graduation exercises at the beginning of the Fall term. This year we graduated six Certified Leaders.

As teachers, we are gaining experience with the curriculum, not only as to its content but also as to its organization - that is, how much time it requires for these teaching courses.

During the year, three new textbooks have been added to the school library. These textbooks are written, not only to serve the present and future purposes of the School, but also with the thought in mind of a future correspondence school.

During 1959, at the request of the Educational Committee, Ruth Burton has made a very thorough study of correspondence schools and has possessed herself of a very valuable collection of data and information which will be of service to us later on. There does not seem to be a real call for a correspondence school at the present time. A note asking for response from those who would be interested in a correspondence school only brought two inquiries.

During the year the Committee held regular monthly meetings, and continuous study and consideration has been given to the welfare of the School and possibilities of improving the curriculum.

Respectfully submitted,  
*William D. Sadler*  
Chairman, Committee on Education

1960

REPORT OF THE EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR 1960

To the Executive Committee  
and  
To the General Council

The interest in the Brotherhood School keeps up, but I am more than a little concerned about the fact that for several years we are dealing with the same group of students. In the past two or three years we have had very few new recruits to the student body.

During the past year we have issued certificates of Leadership to 3 students. So far, no one has finished the course leading to the granting of the diploma of Ordained Teacher.

We are preparing a small brochure describing the work of the School, which we hope to circulate among Urantians of the metropolitan area with the view to recruiting some more students for the next school year.

The past year's class work has been devoted to Alvin Kulieke's course on Science in the Urantia Book, and to my course of Topical Studies.

During the past two years Mrs. Ruth Burton has done a great deal of work in the investigation of correspondence schools, and through her efforts we are assembling data and other accumulated material which will be invaluable at some future time when we are confronted with the task of organizing a correspondence school. In due time this will come about as study groups of the country multiply.

During the year, quite a number of textbooks, as used in the School, have found distribution among Urantia Societies and several of the study groups, as well as to interested individuals.

Respectfully submitted,

*William S. Siddle*

Chairman



REPORT OF THE EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE OF URANTIA BROTHERHOOD FOR 1961

The School has continued its weekly sessions, conducting two courses of study, with the attendance about the same as in recent years.

During the year, a brochure, describing the work of the School, was published, and since we are anxious that it should find its way into the hands of prospective students, we earnestly solicit the co-operation of every member of the Brotherhood in an effort to recruit new students.

In September of this year, soon after the opening of the School at the annual Commencement, the first class of Ordained Teachers received their diplomas.

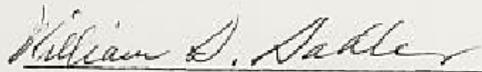
Our Committee realizes that some time in the future a correspondence school will be conducted, and in the past year or two, a careful study has been made of several correspondence schools in this country with a view to collecting information that will be valuable some time in the future when the time arrives for launching this enterprise.

We feel that many members of the Brotherhood should avail themselves of this course of instruction which would make them more familiar with the Urantia Book, as well as helping them to a better understanding of how to present it most effectively to interested inquirers.

We hope to recruit many new members for the 1962-63 sessions of the School and would call attention to the fact that auditors are registered for these courses of study to accommodate those who wish to attend to absorb what they can from the sessions but who do not take the examinations for credit. If you cannot attend as a regular student, register as an auditor.

Attention should be called to the growing list of textbooks which are used in the School and which are available for purchase for all members of the Brotherhood who may not be able to attend the School either as students or auditors.

This report is respectfully submitted by the Educational Committee.

  
William S. Sadler, Chairman

1962

REPORT OF EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR URANTIA BROTHERHOOD for 1962

To the Executive Committee of Urantia Brotherhood:  
To the General Council of the Urantia Brotherhood:

During the year the plan of study in the School has been limited to Wednesday evening's two classes. Currently, Alvin Kulieke, assisted by several other faculty members, is conducting a second year's course in TOPICAL STUDIES, and I have begun the topic on the STUDY OF THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE, this year taking up the Old Testament. There were three graduates as Ordained Teachers this year. There were no Certified Leaders graduated the past year.

The attendance has remained about as of the past few years although several new students have been enrolled. I have repeatedly called attention to the fact that our Committee is somewhat distressed by the failure to increase the enrollment of our classes. The attention of all of you is called to the fact that during the past year we perfected a very attractive brochure describing the purposes of the School and courses offered, and you are urged to make use of this possible means of enlarging the enrollment of the School in the Fall of 1963. And again, we should call the attention of every one that auditors are welcome to avail themselves of these courses of study. The fee is nominal and they, of course, are not required to pass any examinations.

It is the continuing hope of our Educational Committee that an increased interest in the School can be aroused among individuals living in Chicago and its suburbs who could profit greatly by availing themselves of this opportunity for enhancement of their efforts in the spreading of Urantia teachings. Do you, as Council members, know of any especially suitable young members of the Brotherhood who should be encouraged to avail themselves of these courses of study?

Your Committee would like very much to be able to enlarge the attendance of the School in the next few years pending the time when it will be possible to inaugurate a correspondence school which would be able to reach a large number of members of the Brotherhood scattered here and yon throughout the country. And, of course, it has been with the correspondence school in mind that there has been such a careful preparation of textbooks which are in present use in the School.

We beseech your continued interest in the School and, above all, that you help us find new matriculants, thus helping us to maintain the present attendance and, if possible, to increase it.

Respectfully submitted,

THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

William S. Sadler  
Chairman

1963

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION  
1963

To the Executive Committee  
To the General Council

It was with considerable trepidation and anxiety that the Committee on Education voted to launch the first Summer Study Session.

The dates decided upon were August 23-25, 1963, and a special committee of Dean Alvin Kulieke and Secretary-General Marian Rowley were asked by me to formulate the course of study.

It was more than gratifying to have registrations, from 12 states, of 102 students. The interest in the work on the part of the class was all that could be expected, and as we mentioned, the results of this first effort more than met all our most sanguine expectations.

As reported quite fully in the October news letter, the teachers attempted to cover, in a comprehensive way, an over-all survey of the Urantia Book. The instructors assigned for this summer session were Alvin Kulieke, Dr. William S. Sadler, Dr. Meredith Sprunger, Miss Marian Rowley, Kenton Stephens, and Mrs. Anne Rawson. Sessions were held morning, afternoon, and evening, with the exception that Saturday evening was devoted to a more recreational and relaxing type of program.

The many letters which have come to headquarters from those who attended the summer session afford ample testimony to its helpfulness, and assure those responsible for its inauguration that the undertaking was more than successful. And there pervaded all of the sessions a really over-all spiritual inspiration as was suggested by the remarks of the Urantia Brotherhood President, Miss E. L. Christensen, in her keynote speech.

In the Urantia Brotherhood School I am carrying on the study of the Books of the New Testament, and Mrs. Anne Rawson is conducting an interesting course in the synoptic relationship of the Urantia Book to the Four Gospels of the New Testament. This year we had three graduates in the group of Ordained Teachers.

Year after year I have been recording in my annual report the gradual decrease in the attendance at the School of the Urantia Brotherhood. It is not altogether clear to me as to how to account for this fact, and I have, from year to year, been hoping to see a revival of interest, a growing desire to increase one's training in the art of teaching the Urantia Book.

From time to time we have sent out letters and inaugurated other efforts to try and interest the people of outlying groups and the other Urantia Societies of the metropolitan area, but so far the efforts of your Educational Committee have not been very fruitful.

Report of Committee on Education, 1963

2.

Perhaps some one can give us a suggestion as to how we may enlist the interest and thus enlarge the attendance on the part of those who are seeking degrees from the School or at least are interested enough to become auditors. I am glad to see that we do have a group of auditors that almost equals in size the number of regular students.

We seek the answer to the question, "What can we do; what can you do to help the Brotherhood School?"

Respectfully submitted,

*William S. Sadler*

William S. Sadler

Chairman, Committee on Education

1964-65

ANNUAL REPORT  
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION  
1964-1965

To the General Council:

The chief concern of this Committee is the conduct of the Urantia Brotherhood School. Regular sessions are held during the school year from September through June. The Course in Urantia Doctrine was conducted by Alvin Kulicke, with assistance from time to time by other members of the faculty.

I began a new course, which will continue for some time, in the analytic study of Part I and Part II of the Urantia Book. The interest of the students (though fewer in number than desired) was excellent, and we cannot help but feel that all profited considerably by their perusal of these two courses. Both of these courses will be continued in the next session of the School.

A new venture, under the auspices of the Education Committee, was that of the extension course conducted in California by Mrs. Ruth Burton. One of the courses of the Curriculum, a Minor, entitled "The Life and Teachings of Jesus, and the New Testament," was given as an extension course of the School by Mrs. Ruth Burton, in Los Angeles, California. There were nine two-hour sessions in the nine weeks between January 11 and March 14, 1965, totaling the necessary eighteen hours of instruction. The class consisted of twenty-nine members, fifteen enrolled for credit and fourteen as auditors. They met in three divisions -- one in Pasadena, another in Los Angeles, and the third in Santa Monica. Mrs. Burton reports a most challenging and gratifying experience. There was evident a sincere and enthusiastic interest in the study of the Urantia Book in the Los Angeles area. The Californians hope that the Brotherhood School can continue to give extension courses in their region.

As President of the Urantia Brotherhood School I am somewhat perplexed and distressed at our inability to attract and recruit a larger attendance from the metropolitan area of Chicago. It would seem that there are many Urantians who would benefit from these courses of training, even if they did not seek to earn certificates and diplomas, and I sincerely hope that all my hearers will bestir themselves to see if they can help us in this matter of increasing the attendance in the Urantia Brotherhood School.

Respectfully submitted,

*William S. Sadler*

William S. Sadler  
Chairman

1965-66

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

1965-1966

August 7, 1966

TO THE GENERAL COUNCIL:

School sessions started September 22, 1965. There was no graduation ceremony as no one was qualified for certificates. The courses presented were THEOLOGY OF THE URANTIA BOOK - Vol. II, presented by Alvin Kulieke, assisted by other faculty members; and ANALYTIC STUDY OF THE URANTIA BOOK - Vol. I, presented by Dr. Sadler, assisted by Anne Rawson.

A very successful summer study session was held at headquarters in August 1965 with 81 people in attendance from 12 states, plus 1 student from Canada. The theme for this study was "The Morontia Life." Various aspects were presented by Alvin Kulieke, Kenton Stephens, Anne Rawson, and Marian Rowley.

An extension course was held in Los Angeles, California in January and February 1966 by Ruth Burton. Her subject was "Deity" and she used the textbook THEOLOGY OF THE URANTIA BOOK - Vol. I. Approximately 25 students and auditors were enrolled for the course, and the meetings were held in two sessions a week - Sunday afternoons and Tuesday evenings.

Another extension course was held in Los Angeles in July 1966 by Alvin Kulieke. His subject was "Astronomy" for which he used the textbook SCIENCE IN THE URANTIA BOOK - Vol. I. Classes were held twice a week for three weeks, and attended by about 25 students and auditors.

The Executive Committee approved the decision of the Committee on Education to take a recess for one year from offering courses for credit in the Wednesday night School, due to lack of new students. The present plan is to have a study group which will meet in the fall and in the spring and which will be open to anyone who is interested. We hope that many will avail themselves of this opportunity for an intensive and profitable study of the Urantia Book.

*William D. Sadler*

Chairman, Committee on Education

1966-67 is missing

1967-68

REPORT  
of  
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION  
1967-1968

August 4, 1968

To the Executive Committee  
To the General Council

The Committee on Education held five regular meetings this past year, at which several matters of business were considered.

It was decided that there would be a Summer Study Session August 2nd and 3rd, 1968. Alvin L. Kulieke and Marian T. Fowley were selected as a committee to arrange the program and conduct the session. The committee eventually approved the theme: MORAL ASCENSION TO PARADISE. The various phases of the ascendant career were to be discussed by the following: Mrs. Ruth Burton, Mrs. Julia Fenderson, Mr. Alvin L. Kulieke, Mrs. Anna Rawson, and Dr. Meredith J. Sprunger.

For the School program of the past year, two seminar sessions of nine weeks each were held on Wednesday evenings during the Fall of 1967 and Spring of 1968. Most of those attending had already earned their Certified Leader or Graded Teacher degrees, but all participants were consistent in attendance. As a result, the studies were conducted in depth, with all in attendance contributing to the discussions. It was the consensus of the group that all benefited by gaining much information, understanding, and inspiration. Among the various subjects considered were: Thought Adjusters, Personality Survival, Seraphic Guardians of Destiny, Seraphic Priestly Government, and Energy - Mind and Matter. The same plan of study is to be carried out during 1968 and 1969 with different subjects to be considered. We hope that many will avail themselves of this opportunity to participate in a more intensive study of the wonderful Urantia teachings.

At our last meeting the Committee on Education re-elected the officers of the School for the coming year: Dr. William S. Sadler, President; Mrs. Helen Carlson, Secretary; Anton L. Stephens, Treasurer; Alvin L. Kulieke, Dean.

We continue to study and evaluate our programs and are ready to adapt the program to the needs or desires of those attending our sessions.

*William S. Sadler*  
William S. Sadler  
Chairman

WSS/ar

1969, 1970 Missing

**Note William S. Sadler died in 1969.**

**Kenton Stephens seems to have been his immediate successor as Education chair**

**1971**

1971 REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION TO THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF URANTIA BROTHERHOOD Kenton Stephens July 1971 The Committee on Education in its meetings since July 1970 undertook serious investigation of different and augmented ways of reaching Urantians who live at a distance from Chicago or who find it difficult to travel regularly to a society's meeting or to Urantia Brotherhood headquarters.

In March 1971 society and study groups were surveyed concerning their interest in sending qualified individuals to Chicago "for one or more seminars of two to three days of intensive instruction. " (See attached copy of March 8 letter.) The results were surprising, to say the least. The level of interest among the societies and groups was nowhere high enough for the committee to recommend establishing such seminars. Aside from the usual problems of cost, transportation, and time, there was a strong hint in the replies that the societies and groups wanted to rely heavily on their own individual styles of study and contemplation. Headquarters seemed to be a little too much "establishment", at least for some of the respondents. The replies could be useful for some study by the Executive Committee.

Nevertheless, the task of re-examining the purposes and procedures of the school continues. Members of the committee have suggested revisions in the present curriculum, which constitute the basis for further discussion in the committee. The committee and the school continued operation of the week-night study sessions at 533 Diversey in the same pattern now in effect for several years. It is expected that these sessions will continue.

In addition, the school was responsible for planning the 1971 summer study session (a copy of the program is enclosed). These sessions were initiated in 1963 and occur in those years when the Triennial Delegate Assembly does not meet. Dates for 1971 are Friday, July 30, and Saturday, July 31.

It is the personal, subjective opinion of the chairman that the function of the school in formally preparing teachers and leaders must be re-examined in the light of new enterprises undertaken by societies and study groups. They have thrived without sustained supervision from headquarters. The press toward decentralization is strong in all segments of Western society and the Urantia Brotherhood is no more immune than our educational systems.

The membership of the committee is a matter of record. The council should note that the committee created the school with the following officers:

President Kenton E. Stephens Dean Alvin S. Kulieke Registrar Helen Carlson

Respectfully submitted, Kenton E. Stephens, Chairman

file:///

Education Committee Report: Urantia Brotherhood systems. The membership of the committee is a matter of record. The council should note that the committee created the school with the following officers: President Kenton E. Stephens Dean Alvin S. Kulieke Registrar Helen Carlson  
Respectfully submitted, Kenton E. Stephens, Chairman

### **No Educ Report Found 1972; the following appeared in the President's Report**

(We approved the recommendation of the Committee on Education for a continuance of the Wednesday seminars for another year, while consideration is being given to offering courses for credit in another year. We also approved the proposal of the Committee on Education to hold a Summer Study Session July 21 and 22, and set the date for the General Council meeting on July 23 at 10 A.M.--ALK Pres Report June, '72)

**1973** July, 1973

Until the death of Alvin Kulieke, the Committee on Education had the following members:

Kenton E. Stephens, Chairman  
Albert H. Dyon  
Marian T. Rowley  
Helen C. Carlson  
Alvin L. Kulieke  
E. L. Christensen

Lynn Kulieke has replaced Alvin Kulieke as a member of the committee.

This report covers the time from the meeting of the last Triennial Delegate Assembly in July 1970 to this date. It was a period of considerable thought and review of the purposes and functions of the committee. A serious investigation of different and augmented ways of reaching Urantians who live at a distance from Chicago and who find it difficult to travel regularly, was undertaken. In March, 1971, societies and study groups were surveyed concerning their interest in sending qualified individuals to Chicago for one or more seminars of two to three days of intensive instruction. (See attached copy of March 8, 1971 lett.) The results were surprising, to say the least. The level of interest among the societies and groups was nowhere near high enough for the committee to recommend establishing such seminars. Aside from the usual problems of cost, transportation, and time, there was a strong hint in the replies that the societies and groups wanted to rely heavily on their own individual styles of study and contemplation.

Headquarters seemed to be a little too much establishment, at least for some of the respondents. The task of reexamining the purposes and procedures of the school and the other work of the committee continues.

Up until the death of Alvin Kulieke, the committee and the school continued operation of the week-night study sessions at 533 Diversey Parkway in the same pattern which had existed over a period of several years. Alvin Kulieke had been the mainstay of these sessions and Urantians,

at least in the Chicago area, will long remember him for the work and the insight which he brought to his task.

**1974 REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION  
to the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE and to the GENERAL COUNCIL  
of the URANTIA BROTHERHOOD**

Kenton Stephens

Membership of the Committee on Education for the year 1973-1974 consisted of the following:

Kenton E. Stephens, Chairman

Albert H. Dyon

Marian T. Rowley

Helen C. Carlson

Lynn Kulieke

E. L. Christensen

Since the organization of the URANTIA Brotherhood, the Committee on Education has been responsible for two essential activities: first of all, the ongoing evening studies, centered in Chicago, which led to the certification of leaders and to the ordination of teachers; secondly, the summer study sessions.

The evening studies at this time do not exist. There are several reasons for this. First of all, leadership in the persons of Dr. William Sadler and Mr. Alvin Kulieke is no longer with us. For many years, these evening studies depended upon the interest and stamina of these two men, as well as others who were part of the teaching process. Since the death of Alvin, who was also a member of the Education Committee and Dean of the school, the evening sessions disappeared.

There is, however, some renewed interest in reaching out to people in the Chicago area and, perhaps, even on a larger scale in some way so that we may continue with the preparation of leaders. The Committee on Education has received a proposal to reinaugurate such studies and will consider the proposal shortly after this year's summer study session. Miss Lynn Kulieke and Mr. Mark Kulieke, with others, have developed a set of ideas which will be the focus of our consideration.

From time to time we have polled the Societies throughout the country and have found that they have become more self-sufficient in the development of study programs. Therefore, the loss in Chicago is not a complete one.

As far as the summer study session is concerned, good growth and progress has been evident. For the first time, the session was held away from the 533 building. More people were involved as participants and as attendees. By the time this report is read to the General Assembly, we will have the exact figures on those who enjoyed the program at Kendall College in Evanston. Planning for an expanded summer study session, of course, has become more difficult. Not only

were members of the committee directly involved with the planning, but Mr. Paul Snider, in his first year as President of the Brotherhood, took an active interest. We are very much interested in reactions to the summer study session and we will either rely on spontaneous communications or, perhaps, we will poll the Societies for reactions.

My decision to relinquish my responsibilities as Chairman of the committee comes from a dilemma which has plagued me for years. There are serious conflicts between the time involved with the Education Committee and my work as Superintendent of Schools in Oak Park. Therefore, in order to make possible less restricted leadership, I have submitted my resignation to the President of the Brotherhood. The activities of the years were gratifying. I will lend whatever assistance I can to the newly elected leaders of the Committee.

Kenton E. Stephens  
Chairman,  
Committee on  
Education

**Report of the Committee on Education of  
Urantia Brotherhood  
1975**

Meredith Sprunger

---

The founders of the Urantia Brotherhood visualized the educational function of the

Brotherhood basic to its future. Accordingly they organized the Brotherhood School and trained Certified Leaders and Ordained Teachers. The students of this from the Chicago area. It was soon apparent the Brotherhood School needed to find ways to extend its outreach. The Summer Study Session, now known as the General Conference, was initiated to partially meet this need.

The continuing challenge of extending the service of the Brotherhood School along with new approaches to education in our culture have necessitated rethinking the philosophy, curriculum, methods, and goals of the Brotherhood School. The Committee on Education has started this task during the past year. The Workshop was initiated to facilitate the restructuring process of the Brotherhood School.

We are planning a program whereby we will get extensive feedback from all segments .of the Brotherhood which will help shape the policies of the Brotherhood School. At present we visualize a school with considerable flexibility and diversity to promote maximum educational

activity while at the same time controlling the quality of educational goals. We are not overly concerned about current status or methodologies but the end goals of our educational experience.

Last summer I accepted the chairmanship of the Committee on Education with some misgivings concerning the problem which the distance between Fort Wayne and Chicago would precipitate. Although we got along reasonably well, the monthly trips to meet with the Executive Committee required shifting of classes and other schedule changes. Irene's illness this spring along with a year of experience brought me to several conclusions:

1) The chairman of the committees of the Brotherhood should live in the Chicago area or the Executive Committee should meet on a Saturday.

2) Expediting plans for the General Conference and Workshop should be in the Chicago office and immediate decisions in planning the conference should be in the hands of a small committee in the Chicago area.

I, therefore, have advised Paul to appoint a chairman of the Committee on Education who lives in the Chicago area.

Cordially,

Meredith J. Sprunger

**1976 Report of the Committee on Education  
to the  
Triennial Delegate Assembly of  
Urantia Brotherhood**

Meredith Sprunger June 21, 1976

Following suggestions made by the workshop last year, the Committee on Education took a survey of the educational needs and goals of the membership of the Brotherhood. On the basis of this information and their own deliberation the committee has written a position paper entitled "Philosophy and Purpose of Educational Activities." With the aid of many Brotherhood members who have backgrounds in education, the committee has compiled a paper on "Ideals and Characteristics of Excellence in Education." Both of these papers will be distributed at our workshop at Fountainhead Lodge on June 28th.

We have recommended a rewording of the Brotherhood Constitution. Section 11.4 The Committee on Education.

We have recommended that various study guides which are out of print be reprinted.

We have encouraged the Family of God Foundation in their plans to set up a training center for foreign students.

We have on our agenda the consideration of the following projects:

1. Translate our philosophy, purpose, and goals into behavioral objectives for actualization.
2. Find resource people and teachers in various areas of knowledge or activities who would be available to the Brotherhood under given conditions.
3. Select educational references from the entire URANTIA Book and place in a discrete volume.
4. Construct a guide to the pronunciation of names and terms in The URANTIA Book.
5. Compile sources of educational material and teaching aids which are available in the Brotherhood and suggest materials needed.
6. Work out curricula or educational experiences which might facilitate competence in the teachings of The URANTIA Book.

Meredith J. Sprunger

### **1977 Annual Report of Committee on Education URANTIA Brotherhood**

Lynne Kulieke

This year the Committee on Education concentrated on three major areas of endeavor:

- 1 - the translation of the statement on The Philosophy of Education to behavioral objectives.
- 2 - the formation of suggested curricula for formal and informal study of the URANTIA teachings--to be used by societies and study groups as they will.
- 3 - the preparation of education workshops at the 1978 conference for all persons interested in teaching, whatever the milieu.

To accomplish the first two goals two Ad Hoc committees were formed. David and Sally Schlundt have given generously of their time and thought to the translation of the committee's philosophy of education into behavioral objectives. Their problem has been to reflect on what observable behavior one may expect from a person dedicated to doing the Father's will, and, more specifically, to the study and dissemination of the Urantia teachings. While this project has

not yet been completed, the committee is hopeful of making available in the not-too-distant future, the results of its thinking.

The second Ad Hoc committee, the committee on curricula, composed of Marjorie Reed, Chuck Burton, and Barbara Newsom, has begun its work with zest. In order to determine exactly what educational activities are being pursued now in the many study groups and in the societies across the country and in other nations, a questionnaire was sent them in December of 1976. We greatly appreciate the responses to the questionnaire, which have been very interesting and most valuable to us in these efforts of ours on curricula. In addition the Ad Hoc committee has undertaken research into URANTIA education programs of the past. Knowing where Urantians have been and where URANTIANS are at present, will help in planning for the future. In its role as facilitator, the Education Committee wishes to meet present needs and interests, while it remains ever mindful of the necessity of provision for growth.

Finally, the Committee is preparing to participate in the 1978 conference by providing two workshops: the first on the universe as one vast school, and the second on the teaching methods, approaches, etc. of Jesus during his bestowal on our planet. In preparation for these workshops, the Committee is formally consulting six other individuals from across the country; at the same time it always welcomes and is open to input from any interested party.

Bearing in mind its constitutional charge "to find, prepare, and qualify teachers," the committee hopes that the workshops of the '78 conference will only be the first in a series of annual workshops for "teacher/students" of The URANTIA Book.

It has been for me a privilege and a personal pleasure to work with John Hales, Helen Carlson, David Schlundt, Marjorie Reed, and Chuck Burton this year, and I am looking forward eagerly to a fruitful relationship in the exercise of our task in the future.

### **1978 Report of the Education Committee to the General Council of the Urantia Brotherhood**

Submitted by Lynne Kulieke, Chairwoman, Committee on Education

The Committee on Education has met five times this year, largely in preparation for the Education Workshops of the 1978 general Conference at Williams Bay, Wisconsin. In its endeavor to gain widespread representation and participation, the Committee also invited eight persons from the field to aid in its plans. This communication culminated in a most satisfying interchange by means of a telephone conference call in October, and the Committee wishes to express its deep appreciation for the valuable contributions of the eight conferees. In order to meet its constitutional charge of finding, preparing, and qualifying teachers for the dissemination of the Urantia teachings, the Committee hopes that these workshops will be repeated annually.

This year the focus will be general, with an emphasis on the universe as one vast school and how Jesus taught. In future sessions these areas will be treated more in depth, and other subjects rising from discussion will be addressed also. Evaluation by all individuals attending and their

participation in planning further workshops will constitute an important part of this long-range program. The Committee on Education has also prepared a preliminary statement of current thinking, to be revised, expanded, and mailed to Urantia Brotherhood members, upon completion of the 1978 workshops. In addition, work continues on the identification of behavioral objectives and on curriculum studies.

The Committee has been extremely active, and I would like to express my gratitude to all the members, David Schlundt, Marjorie Reed, Charles Burton, Helen Carlson, and John Hales for their dedicated efforts.

Chairman, Lynne B. Kulieke

### **1979 Report of the Committee on Education**

Lynne B. Kulieke

The Committee on Education has been active this year in a variety of areas, from the very practical to the highly philosophical. After nearly two years preparation, the Committee on Education realized the fruits of its labor, sponsoring a two day series of workshops at the 1978 General Conference held at Lake Geneva, Wisconsin last August. This series was repeated on the last two days of the conference with different leaders in order to provide maximum opportunity for experience and to allow more URANTIA Book students to participate in the program. A questionnaire soliciting feedback on these workshops was subsequently mailed to all participants in preparation for the 1979 workshops. Response indicated a desire for a continuing program (with some changes); thus the Committee has devoted a great deal of time and energy in the last months to bringing about another study session which may fulfill this desire. To carry out this project, the Committee on Education invited the help and contribution of the Special Projects Committee and, furthermore, sought the cooperation of the Fraternal Relations Committee, already engaged in tentative plans of its own, in preparation for a more complete program for the leadership of URANTIA Brotherhood.

The Committee on Education, after much thought and discussion, also proposed two constitutional amendments regarding its name and part of its function to the Executive Committee for review and eventual presentation to the General Council, at this meeting or the next. The members of the Committee also prepared a small packet offering guidelines for study groups, to be available upon solicitation to URANTIA Brotherhood. Finally, the Committee has maintained a steady dialogue among its members and with others as to the evolving nature of its role in the movement. At all times we welcome input from interested individuals and groups of individuals. We are ever hopeful of coming to know personally more and more readers of The URANTIA Book, through the workshops we sponsor, and through increased travel to other parts of the United States and the world.

I wish to extend my personal thanks to the members, Helen Carlson, John Hales, Marjorie Reed, Charles Burton, and David Schlundt, for their dedicated efforts and wonderful inspiration.

### **1980 Report Missing**

#### **STATEMENT OF THE CURRENT THINKING OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF URANTIA BROTHERHOOD, 1981**

A. Brotherhood Educational Activities. As individuals, the members of the Education Committee unite with readers of The URANTIA Book and other Urantians in that greatest of personal adventures, seeking to do the Father's will. As an arm of the URANTIA Brotherhood, the fraternal organization of students of The URANTIA Book, the Education Committee has a social function. The Brotherhood constitution charges the committee to find, prepare, and qualify teachers for the purpose of disseminating the teachings of the book in order that each mortal may be aided in achieving his/her personal spiritual goals. Thus, it is the committee's task to encourage intensive study of the papers together with study of evolutionary knowledge, secular and religious., We do not maintain that such study is an end in itself, but we do affirm that it can be invaluable when coupled with communion between the individual and her/his Thought Adjuster, when enhanced by the individual's cooperation with other superhuman agencies, when assimilated into the individual's life pattern. The committee, in its coordinating role, arranges to bring people together on our time-space sphere where they, through the study experience, may contribute to their own education and to that of others by sharing.

B. Workshops. As part of the attempt to achieve the afore-mentioned aims, the Education Committee has initiated a series of workshops with the following specific objectives:

- 1) To provide a framework for study of the teachings of The URANTIA Book with the idea of improving quantitative and qualitative knowledge of these teachings.
- 2) To provide a laboratory practicum in which participants may try various techniques in and of the teaching/learning process for use in other situations (i.e. the local study group, the family). This practice in socializing learning may well facilitate the development of those skills which promote awareness of values and meanings in addition to facts.
- 3) To provide a climate in which personalities may interact cooperatively in such study--to provide generally yet-another experience in living. The committee feels that other benefits not related to education (except in the very broadest sense) may accrue for both the individual and the group. The members enjoy speculating that these workshops may even become one of those alternative institutions of self-gratification which civilization is encouraged to develop. (P. 772)

In the current series, three programs have been offered--1978, 1979, and 1980--either as part of a General Conference or in cooperation with other standing committees of the Brotherhood.

C. Workshop for 1981 General Conference. The committee would like to acquaint more readers of the book with the workshop activity outlined above. Hence, in 1981 we are offering a

"demonstration" workshop consistent with the theme of the Conference. Our topic is "Recognition of the Gifts of the Father," with the focus on those gifts--not always obvious--that we can utilize as we pursue in depth our studies of the truths contained in The URANTIA Book. We are hopeful that the participants will become so engaged in this kind of activity that they will join in future workshops, broadening and deepening their own experience while contributing to the growth of others.

D. Study Aids. The Education Committee does not have the authority to make decisions on the reproduction and dissemination of study materials on The URANTIA Book. Such power rests with the URANTIA Foundation. It is true that the committee, operating through the Executive Committee of the URANTIA Brotherhood, may make recommendations to the Foundation. However, the Education Committee has found from experience that the most valuable aids are those which, through study, one provides oneself and those which accompany personal interchange. Knowledge and understanding can also be strengthened by individual pursuit of interests "inspired " by reading the papers.

E. Conclusion. The committee hopes that this summary of its thinking, by no means exhaustive, will serve to promote an understanding of its concerns and functions.

Education Committee Members: Marjorie Reed K. David Schlundt Marilyn Hauck Stephen Dreier Helen Carlson, Secretary Lynne Kulieke, Chairman

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

TO THE GENERAL COUNCIL

MAY, 1982

The activities of the Education Committee over the past year can generally be divided into four areas:

- 1 - Immediate programs designed to carry out its charge "to find, prepare, and qualify teachers."

The Education Committee participated in the General Conference, June, 1981, at Snowmass, Colorado, presenting "workshop demonstrations" in order to familiarize readers of the Book with the annual workshop program sponsored by the committee.

In addition the committee has cooperated with other standing committees of URANTIA Brotherhood in the planning and organization of workshops to be presented in Lake Forest, Illinois, in June, 1982.

- 2 - Long-range thinking re: how to foster URANTIA Book study in the future.

The committee remains in the question-asking stage in this area. While general directions can be identified, answers have not yet been formulated at this time.

- 3 - Discussion of the committee's function and role with particular attention to a) titles and certification; b) relationship with educational programs not under its aegis.

The committee, after years of careful thought and preparation, is finally at the point of offering a constitutional amendment re: titles and certification, for the consideration of the General Council.

It has also proposed in writing, for discussion by the Executive Committee, various questions on the subject of the committee's relationship with educational programs, such as publications or schools, sponsored by groups or individuals not directly connected with the committee.

- 4 - Review of study aid requests.

All study aid requests, specific and general, received by the committee, are submitted to the Executive Committee for consideration, which is, of course, always subject to URANTIA Foundation policy re: publication and distribution.

The committee, composed of Helen Carlson, secretary; Stephen Dreier; Marilyn Hauck; Marjorie Reed; K. David Schlundt; and Lynne Kulieke, chair, is indeed happy to have served in the ways described above and invites comment from the General Council in any area. We look forward to future service opportunities and the continued participation and guidance of the Council.

Respectfully submitted,

*Lynne B. Kulieke*

Lynne B. Kulieke, Chair  
May 21, 1982

**1983 Report Missing**

1984

THE REPORT OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
TO THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF URANTIA BROTHERHOOD  
AUGUST, 1984

The Education Committee is pleased to report, concerning its activities in the past year, the following:

- 1 - Just subsequent to the last General Council meeting, the committee participated with other Brotherhood committees in the successful realization of a seminar on Prayer and Worship, held in Lake Forest, Illinois.
- 2 - The committee has engaged in assisting the General Conference Planning Committee to prepare for the 1984 URANTIA Brotherhood Conference at Green Lake, Wisconsin. It has undertaken the task of organizing the small group sessions dedicated specifically to intensive study of the teachings of The URANTIA Book related to the theme of the conference.
- 3 - As part of the afore-mentioned task, the committee has drawn from the wisdom and experience of interested teacher/students of The URANTIA Book in the formulation of guidelines for leaders of small group study sessions to use as they deem fit. Such guidelines will be available for all others who request them.
- 4 - The committee has begun planning for an intensive teaching practicum seminar to take place in the summer of 1985. The emphasis will be on methods of teaching/learning the content of The URANTIA Book.
- 5 - The committee has roughed out a preliminary proposal for a scholarship program to be submitted for review to the Finance Committee and subsequently for approval to the Executive Committee and General Council.
- 6 - The committee has cooperated with the Publications Committee in recommending to the Foundation, with the approval of the Executive Committee, the reissue in microfiche of early text books related to study of The URANTIA Book.

On behalf of all the members of the Education Committee--Helen Carlson, Stephen Dreier, Marilyn Hauck, Joyce Henrion, and Marjorie Reed--I thank you for the opportunity to serve and urge the continued contribution of such thoughts and suggestions as you may have that will assist us in carrying out our constitutional charge.

Respectfully submitted,



Lynne B. Kuliecke,  
Chairman of the Education Committee

1985

Report  
of  
Education Committee  
to  
General Council of URANTIA Brotherhood  
August, 1984 to June, 1985

This year the Education Committee has been pleased to engage in the following activities:

- 1 - In cooperation with many other individuals and arms of URANTIA Brotherhood, we participated in the preparation for and realization of the General Conference at Green Lake, Wisconsin, by organizing the morning study sessions, and we wish to express our deep appreciation to all those who contributed to their success.
- 2 - With the valuable in-put of many teacher/leaders, we have created a set of guidelines for small study group facilitators to be available upon request and for all who participate in Education Committee Seminars in such capacity.
- 3 - In the preparation stage now is a questionnaire, the completion of which will enable the committee to function more efficiently and purposefully in both short-range and long-range projects. We are moving carefully in the formation of said questionnaire, working under the guidance of an expert in research fact-gathering, in order to maximize number, quality, and usefulness of response.
- 4 - We have planned a four-year (with a break for the General Conference year still under discussion), sequential study of The URANTIA Book for the Education Committee Intensive Study Seminars, addressing Part I in June, 1985 at Lake Forest College, Lake Forest, Illinois. Many of our efforts this past year have been directed toward carrying out the first stage of this plan. We are genuinely pleased by the generosity of those who have responded, volunteering their time, effort, and talent to the realization of the Seminar.
- 5 - We have invited several individuals from various parts of the country to work with us in the preparation of the afore-mentioned Seminars; these persons will constitute a special task-force for a three-year period and will be followed, in turn, by others. In this endeavor, the committee hopes to take advantage of the valuable resources to be found throughout the readership of The URANTIA Book.

On behalf of the members of the committee--Helen Carlson, Stephen Dreier, Marilyn Hauck, Joycee Henrion, and Marjorie Reed--, I wish to thank the Council most warmly for the opportunity, privilege, and constant challenge of serving in this capacity.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Lynne B. Kulicke*  
Lynne B. Kulicke, Chairman

## **1986 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE TO THE GENERAL COUNCIL**

Lynne Kulieke

This year the Education Committee has devoted its time and attention to the following areas:

1 - 1986 Intensive Study Seminars. In cooperation with the Fraternal Relations and Special Projects Committees and with the office staff, the committee has planned and is in the process of implementing a four-day study program focusing on Part II of The URANTIA Book at Lake Forest College, Lake Forest, Illinois. The next seminars are projected for the summer of 1988.

2 - Study Aids. The committee continues its deliberations on this subject re: need, kind, formation, and dissemination. It has just made available for general use a new brochure of guidelines for small-group leaders; it is also in the process of devising another letter to be mailed to all new readers registered on the mailing list at headquarters, indicating what study aids may be obtained from the central office. Finally, an ad-hoc committee has been formed to pursue this topic on an on-going basis.

3 - Teaching Skills Workshops. The committee is inaugurating a pilot (experimental) program this year at the Intensive Study Seminars to be developed in future years according to need and interest.

4 - Conference Contacts. The committee has determined to make itself and its members available to assist any groups from the readership requesting help in organizing conferences.

5 - Scholarship Program. The committee has reviewed carefully many proposals and plans to supply monies to individuals otherwise unable to attend and participate in Brotherhood-sponsored events; it has concluded that central administration of such a program at this time would be impractical, unwieldy, and conceivably unfair. Therefore, it has decided to pursue the following course: Through the Bulletin, mailings for committee-sponsored events, and any other means at its disposal, it will encourage the readership at large, societies and study groups to consider the establishment, official or unofficial, of a local scholarship program if such seems desirable to them. Other subjects under discussion include the formation of a visitor's program (teacher/student/minister) and the creation of a questionnaire to readers to assist the committee in fulfilling its constitutional charge.

The committee extends its heartfelt thanks to guests, Mary Daly, Kevin Goodman, Polly Friedman, Pat Mundelius, and Ralph and Betty Zehr, for wisdom and effort freely given to the concerns of the committee and to all others who have contributed so much to its work.

The members, John Andrews, Helen Carlson, Marilyn Hauck, Joyce Henrion, Marjorie Reed, and I also wish to express gratitude to the General Council for its support and for the opportunity it has provided us to be of service.

Respectfully submitted, Lynn Kulieke

## **1987 REPORT OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE TO THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF URANTIA BROTHERHOOD**

Lynne Kulieke

Because the Education Committee takes seriously those statements of purpose to be found in the preamble to the Constitution of URANTIA Brotherhood and its specific charter to find, prepare, and qualify teachers, it has explored, and will continue to explore, many methods by which it may contribute to the broadening and deepening of the understanding of the truths contained in The URANTIA Book. To this end, in recent years it has undertaken to sponsor a series of seminars in order to provide interested readers with an opportunity to develop and practice teaching/learning skills and to increase their knowledge of the Book. The committee has long believed that the major resource for the dissemination of the teachings of the Fifth Epochal Revelation on Urantia is the human personality as he/ she attempts to align his/her will with that of the Father and to cooperate lovingly with all the children of God, mortal and supermortal. It has been the committee's hope that participants in these seminars will so profit that they will be moved to utilize what they have found of value there in the service of others--in activities which aspire, as does the committee, however humbly, to promote the "progressive comprehension of reality.

This year, the committee, in its attempt to improve on past performance, has dedicated considerable time and energy to a review of its endeavors to date as it prepares for the 1988 seminars (theme-. "Patterning for Perfection" with focus on the study of the first half of Part III of The URANTIA Book). It has also made available for all who desire it, a pamphlet of guidelines for teacher/leaders based on the wisdom and experience of those who have attended many such study gatherings as conferences, workshops, etc. Another project, immediately related to these seminars, is now "in the works." This is a pamphlet of guidelines for student participants designed to enhance the learning experience and to promote recognition of the close relationship of teachers and students to the successful realization of a seminar, class, or study group of any kind. The guiding principles for the committee have been those found in The URANTIA Book concerning the educational goals and techniques of the universe, wherein the ascending child alternates as student and teacher.

The Education Committee recognizes the benefits provided by the evolutionary plan in the cultivation of the fruits it seeks. In its work it views the time and effort required for tilling the soil, fertilizing the trees, pruning the branches not as a test of patience but as a challenge to its understanding of the nature of growth and progress in the person and in the civilization of Urantia.

On behalf of the Education Committee members and associates-John Andrews, Kevin Goodman, Joyce Henrion, Marjorie Reed, Ralph Zehr, Helen Carlson, Mary Daly, Barbara Dreier and Betty Zehr--I thank the members of the General Council for their support and for the opportunity to serve.

Respectfully submitted, Lynne B. Kulieke, Chairman, Education Committee 6/12/87

## **1988 REPORT OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE to the GENERAL COUNCIL of URANTIA BROTHERHOOD**

Lynne Kulieke

In the past year the Education Committee has primarily devoted its energies to the organization of the 1988 Intensive Study Seminar to be held in June at Lake Forest College, Lake Forest, Illinois. We have attempted to improve on past seminars by making a number of fine-tuning adjustments in the preconference process, including the provision of study questions and study group leader guidelines for all participants.

We anticipate that this series of seminars will be completed in 1992 and are presently developing plans for another series to follow. In conjunction with this endeavor, we have also invited participants to offer their reflections on their role at such seminars and other related activities of URANTIA Brotherhood. Their thoughtful contributions will provide the base for another pamphlet similar in form to that already existing on small group leaders.

The Education Committee has also initiated review of the Visiting Teacher project with an eye to meeting the needs and desires of isolated readers of The URANTIA Book who have expressed an interest in hosting visitors in order to share ideas on the teachings. It is possible that this project may be realized in cooperation with the newly proposed field representative program. Finally, the Education Committee has been asked by President David Elders to consider the possibility of the development of a center for activities for readers of The URANTIA Book. Thus we have begun discussion among ourselves on this subject.

Mindful of the admonishment in the Book regarding the status of education as an institution on Urantia, we are agreed, first and foremost, that the Book must be consulted at every turn as we make plans so that Urantia Brotherhood does not try to put new wine into old wineskins. We believe that we must indeed make every effort to find new ways to think about school, teachers, and the learning process as a whole before we implement any plan so far-reaching in its consequences.

Thus, it is our hope that other standing committees and members of the General Council will wish to engage with the Education Committee in long and serious dialogue concerning such a project so that as an organization we conform with the evolutionary plan for the universes of time and space growth through experience enhanced by revelation.

On behalf of the members and associates of the Education Committee, I most sincerely thank the General Council for this wonderful opportunity for service. Submitted by Lynn B. Kulieke, Chairman, Education Committee

Members: Barbara Dreier Joyce Henrion Lynne B. Kulieke, Chair Marjorie Reed, Secretary Betty Zehr Ralph Zehr

Associates: John Andrews Helen Carlson Mary Daly (retired) Adrienne Jarnagin Douglas Parker  
Jeffrey Wattles

**1989 Report Missing**

**1990 Report Missing**

**Report of the Education Committee  
to the 1991 Triennial Delegate Assembly and General Council**

Dan Massey

During the past three years, the primary activities of the Education Committee have related to its continuing sponsorship of the intensive Summer Seminar. Seminars were held at Lake Forest College, Lake Forest, Illinois, 26-30 June 1989, and, this year, 23-27 June 1991. The programs for these seminars continued the sequential study of The Urantia Book begun in 1985. The 1989 program covered the second half of Part III of the Book and was based on the theme "Foundations of the Jesusonian Gospel". The 1991 program covers the first half of Part IV, using the theme "Inspired Living-Amidst the Trials of Time". This sequence will conclude next year with an examination of the second half of Part IV.

These seminars represent the major current effort of the Education Committee to address its constitutional mandate to "...find, prepare, and qualify teachers of The Urantia Book..." and to "...interest such ... persons in preparing themselves to teach ... and to prepare and qualify such persons to teach The Urantia Book..." Over the years, the ideas implied by the words "...to teach The Urantia Book..." have been broadened in practice to mean "...to help readers to understand the teachings of The Urantia Book..."

As the committee's major effort, the seminars have a triune focus. First, they afford readers an opportunity to study the Book with others from diverse parts of the movement. Second, they provide a forum for readers to demonstrate and exchange ideas about styles and methods of presenting concepts from the Book. Third, because of their traditional association with the Triennial Delegate Assembly and the General Council, they create a social setting in which committed readers, who are attending these meetings, make contact with people responsible for the administrative, programmatic, and policymaking functions of the Fellowship.

During the past three years the committee has increasingly recognized the multiple functions the seminar program fulfills for the Fellowship, and has endeavored to provide a program which balances the intellectual, the instructional, and the social features of the experience. This has led to planning a number of presentations in which ideas and viewpoints external to, but impinging on the teachings of the Book have been presented and discussed. In the 1989 program, for example, workshops were offered on such subjects as modern artistic visions of Ikhnaton and the archaeological record of the Amarna period. The 1991 program includes a historical examination of the period of Michael's bestowal and an examination of the relationship of the teachings of Jesus to the evolved doctrines of the Christian religions.

The intellectual and instructional agenda of the seminar week has been balanced and relieved by special programs offered by the Fraternal Relations Committee, which have been designed to complement the seminar theme. In 1989 several Christian ministers offered their unique perspective as readers of the Book. In 1991 speakers representing Zen Buddhism, Islam, and Hinduism are offering "Urmia style" presentations of their religious traditions. The Education Committee gives a special vote of thanks to the Fraternal Relations Committee for organizing these marvelous extensions to the core program.

The scope of the seminars has also been extended by programming free time for informal fellowship and ad hoc meetings to address topics of interest to self-selected groups of attendees. The 1991 evening program includes a multi-media presentation, a social evening, an evening of open committee meetings, and an additional Fraternal Relations Committee presentation. We believe this varied program, in which about a third of the registered attendees will also serve as presenters, affords the best opportunity to address the multiple and varied needs of committed students of The Urantia Book for experience in learning, teaching, and socializing the revelation. The focus of the seminars is admittedly selective. It is the intent of the committee to make the appeal of the seminars as broad as possible while maintaining high standards of concept, discourse, and fellowship. Although seminar participants are largely self-selected, a factor in self-selection that goes beyond interest in the seminar agenda is the cost and time involved in travel to Lake Forest. This has, unfortunately, made it difficult or impossible for many committed readers to participate in these programs. In future years this problem may be addressed by organizing either this seminar or alternative seminars outside the Chicago area. The continuing success of the Scientific Symposium series (in Nashville in 1988 and in Oklahoma City in 1991), which was organized by an ad hoc team, indicates the viability of a broader and more varied seminar program.

During the recent strategic planning session held in Tampa this Winter, a number of General Councilors, Education Committee members, and Area Coordinators participated in a careful analysis of the "Mindal Purpose" described in the Fellowship Constitution. The most interesting result of this analysis was the discovery of a major goal for the Fellowship which is, at present, largely un-addressed. Simply stated, this goal is to foster intellectual awareness, throughout the world, of the concepts, ideas, and teachings of the Book. This goal is quite apart from and different from similar, and better understood goals to foster the living of the teachings of the Book, to encourage public awareness of the existence and contents of the Book, and to promote sales and distribution of the Book. The new goal of fostering intellectual awareness of the concepts, ideas, and teachings of the Book is directly related to the constitutional mandate of the Education Committee, although it also overlaps areas of interest to a number of other standing committees of the Fellowship. During the next few years we plan to initiate program planning in this new and potentially important area. We are open to ideas from all readers about how best to launch a discussion and planning activity in this area, and look forward to hearing your thoughts.

Respectfully submitted for the Education Committee

Dan Massey, Chairman

Barbara Dreier Joan Neumann Marjorie Reed, Secretary Betty Zehr Ralph Zehr

## **1992 Annual Report of the Education Committee to the General Council of The Urantia Book Fellowship**

Dan Massey

During the 1991-92 year, the Education Committee continued support of the Summer Seminar program and initiated a new, experimental study program - the Wrightwood Series.

The 1992 Seminar held at Lake Forest College, 28 June through 2 July, completes the program of sequential study of The Urantia Book which was begun in 1985. The theme for the final seminar is "Personal Religion and Cosmic Citizenship." Approximately 90 adults are registered for this program, forty of whom will participate in presentation of the program. The Education Committee continues to feel that the summer seminar program is an important way of encouraging thoughtful study of The Urantia Book and is actively engaged in considering the form and content of future programs. In this context, it may be noted that 1994 will be the bi-millennium of Jesus' birth.

The committee's major new initiative during the past year has been the inception of the Wrightwood Series. Each seminar of this program is a weekend-long invitational seminar held at the Chicago headquarters. The goal of this program is to provide a sponsored venue conducive to detailed and indepth study of a specific topic related to The Urantia Book. Each seminar participant commits to a significant amount of preparatory work and to participation in development of a final, publishable product.

During the spring, two seminars were held. The first of these seminars, organized by Janet Farrington, dealt with the subject "Building the Living Temple of Spiritual Fellowship." The initial phase of work by seminar participants is now complete. A collection of six research papers will be published during the Fall. The second seminar, organized by Barbara Dreier, addressed the subject "Race and The Urantia Book." This seminar was of a smaller and more exploratory character than the first, and will met at least one more time with expanded participation before releasing any work products.

It is noteworthy that participants in both seminars see this experience as the beginning of a continuing focus of study and exploration of the subject matter. At the same time, The Education Committee is analyzing the initial experience in order to better shape future activities in this area. Two topics which have been suggested for future Wrightwood Series seminars are "Roots of the Revelation-Historical and Human" and "The Science of the Urantia Book-Problems and Predictions." The committee continues to develop ideas for this new program and hopes to conduct an additional two seminars next spring.

An ad hoc committee on publications policy has recently recommended that the Education Committee assume responsibility for reviewing, editing, and publishing the proceedings of conferences for Urantia Book readers-locally, nationally, and internationally. The committee would like to take steps to assure reasonably high quality for such a publication and has just begun to explore possible approaches.

Respectfully submitted for the Education Committee

Dan Massey, Chairman Barbara Dreier Janet Farrington Joan Neumann Marjorie Reed

26 June 1992

### **1993 Report Missing**

### **1994 Triennial Report of the Education Committee**

Dan Massey

The principal activity of the Education Committee has been to organize the program for the Intensive Summer Seminar, which has been held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the General Council during each summer in which a General Conference was not held. These programs were organized in 1991 and 1992, providing intensive study of Part IV of the Urantia Book, at Lake Forest College, Lake Forest, Illinois. The 1992 program completed a cycle of six seminars, begun in 1984 in which the entirety of the Book was progressively examined.

In planning our program for the summer of 1994, a decision was made to organize a combined event in conjunction with Scientific Symposium III in Oklahoma City, during the extended period of 1-9 July. As a result of this, Education Committee seminars have been scheduled for three days in this period while three days have been devoted to the Scientific Symposium. Fellowship organizational activities (the Triennial Delegate Assembly and the annual meeting of the General Council) are scheduled for six days during this period; therefore, some overlapping of functions had to occur.

This overlapping of programs, combining opportunities to study the Book with opportunities to participate in the organizational life of the Fellowship, is a deliberate experiment by the Education Committee. In discussions with readers attending previous seminars, we discovered that the sharp separation of the educational and organization functions which had been practiced for many years seemed to be isolating many very dedicated students of the book from opportunities for significant personal contact with the many equally dedicated volunteers in service to the readership. We hope that, by drawing these two groups together and providing the opportunity for crossover between educational and organizational programs, this gap will be partially bridged. The committee will be evaluating the results of this experiment and is interested in hearing the reactions of delegates and councilors to this novel approach.

The theme of the Seminar, "Progress and Providence-Keys to Universe Integration," is designed to complement the theme of the Symposium, "Man's Universe Integration. -" The committee hopes that, by offering a venue for the in depth study of the Supreme and Ultimate, a philosophical setting will be provided for the more factual exercises of the Scientific Symposium. In this combined program, serious students of the book are offered six full days of group interaction and study-the most ambitious such program the Fellowship has ever sponsored.

The other major activity of the committee during the past three years has been the organization of several programs in the Wrightwood Series. Each seminar of this program is a weekend-long invitational seminar held at the Chicago headquarters. The goal of this program is to provide a sponsored venue conducive to detailed and in-depth study of a specific topic related to The Urantia Book. Each seminar participant commits to a significant amount of preparatory work and to participation in development of a final, publishable product.

During 1992, two seminars were held. The first of these seminars, organized by Janet Farrington, dealt with the subject "Building the Living Temple of Spiritual Fellowship." A collection of six research papers emerging from this seminar has been published and is available for purchase from headquarters. The second seminar, organized by Barbara Dreier, addressed the subject "Race and The Urantia Book." This seminar was of a smaller and more exploratory character than the first, and met a second time in 1993. Although significant issues of diverging viewpoint remained unresolved among the participants after the second meeting, the research papers from this seminar have been completed, edited, and await publication later this year.

In 1993, a third seminar on the subject of gender was organized by Janet Farrington and led by Alison Gardner. The papers from this seminar have been compiled and should be published in the near future. In 1993 plans were also made to hold a seminar on "The Evolution of the New Cult." A few proposals and a number of expressions of interest were received from various readers; however, the focus of interest in the topic seemed to require significant direction in order to achieve the goals of a Wrightwood program. Further development of this program will remain in abeyance until the organizers can muster the energy required to re-focus the agendas of the participants.

The Education Committee hopes to get "The New Cult" back on track and to sponsor additional Wrightwood programs. Topics which have been suggested for future Wrightwood Series seminars are "Roots of the Revelation-Historical and Human" and "The Science of The Urantia Book-Problems and Predictions." The forthcoming secular, skeptical critique of the book and its origins by the well-known popularizer of mathematics and logic, Martin Gardner, seems likely to raise a number of salient questions in these areas. It is not clear that the Fellowship is in any way equipped to respond to these questions. It is by no means certain that the Fellowship should develop a response; however, it could be beneficial to provide a service in bringing together and publishing the viewpoints of individual, serious students of the book, the movement, and their joint history.

During this past triennium Marjorie Reed, our longest-serving member, retired from the Education Committee. The entire committee joins me in thanking Marjorie for her many years of kind, thoughtful, and helpful service to the committee, its programs, and its various chairpersons. We wish Marjorie the very best in her future endeavors.

Respectfully submitted for the Education Committee Dan Massey, Chairman

Matthew Block Barbara Dreier Janet Farrington Irwin Ginsburgh Joan Neuman

**1995 Report Missing  
1996 Report Missing**

**From Urantia Brotherhood School to Fellowship  
Summer Seminars: Evolving a Viable Philosophy  
of Readership Education (1997)**

**Report of the Education Committee to the  
1997 Triennial Delegate Assembly and General Council**

*L. Dan Massey, Chairman*

This document contains a history of Brotherhood/Fellowship efforts to mobilize educational services for the readership along with some commentary on constructive roles which the Fellowship might play within the developing readership community.

Forty-two years have now passed since the establishment of Urantia Brotherhood. During that period the role and vision of the Brotherhood's Education Committee has undergone almost as many changes as the Brotherhood itself. In the original Brotherhood constitution, the Education Committee was charged to "find, prepare, and train teachers of the Urantia Book" and to interest others in doing likewise. In addition, the original constitution charged the Education Committee to ordain Teachers of the Urantia Book.

The early committee took these mandates quite seriously and set about the creation of a Brotherhood School with a formal academic program leading to eventual ordination. As we look back at the training and teaching materials prepared by these early enthusiasts, their viewpoint of the requisites for training a religious teacher seem shockingly provincial. The work of the early Brotherhood School consisted, apparently, of examining paragraphs from the Urantia book, collected according to topic, and attempting to summarize the meaning of the paragraph in one's own words, while conforming the concepts to the standard established by the instructor, who was generally either Dr. Sadler or Warren Kulieke.

When we look at the limited record of these times we see little to indicate that the Brotherhood School students or their teachers were concerned with the relationship of the text or teachings to the larger body of human knowledge or to the cultural context of the revelation. The sole exception seems to have been some attempt to examine the Book in relation to the Bible and the Apocrypha. Anything a student acquired of ministerial, counseling, or teaching ability or training would have come from somewhere other than the Brotherhood School.

Eventually the Brotherhood School ceased operation, although a number of readers from the Chicago area had attended some of its classes and at least two readers are reported to have eventually graduated and been ordained as "Teachers." Agitation for reopening the school continued within some parts of the Brotherhood for a number of years; however, in 1976 the Education Committee, which was ultimately responsible for the school, announced in a formal position paper that the educational purposes of the movement would be better served by fostering enhanced educational programs in study groups and periodic regional, national, and international conferences. At the same time, the committee recommended amendment of the Brotherhood constitution to remove the provision for ordination of Teachers.

Concurrently with the operation of the Brotherhood School, there had evolved a tradition of holding an annual Summer Seminar at 533 Diversey, and it was on this tradition the committee relied as a vehicle for its constitutional charter. During the Forum and early Brotherhood years, summer picnics had been held on the shores of Lake Michigan. As these affairs came to include increasingly elaborate study sessions and grew in scope they were moved to the large front meeting room on the second floor of 533. For several days each summer a number of students of the book would meet, by invitation, to ponder and debate the meanings of the book and, increasingly, the place of the text and its students in the larger world.

Beginning with the 1975 General Conference, and continuing with the 1976 International Forum, the Education Committee formally sponsored a multiday program of study groups and workshops open to any reader. With the establishment of the Summer Seminar at Lake Forest Academy (1979-80) and, subsequently, Lake Forest College (1982-92), the committee's focus became the conduct of these programs (during years when a General or International Conference was not held). Frequently, but not invariably, the committee also developed a significant part of the General Conference program (1975, 1978, and 1984).

The task of preparing Summer Seminar programs consumed most of the committee resources, although periodic attempts were made to provide a form of organizational outreach in which the most knowledgeable students of the book would attend regional conferences as presenters or participants to leaven the event. An unsuccessful attempt was made to launch a "Speakers' Bureau" to assist in scheduling such resources and most such efforts were limited by Brotherhood financial constraints. Only a few such "guest appearances" occurred under committee auspices.

In 1983, the committee held its "most popular" Summer Seminar at Lake Forest College, with over 160 in attendance. At the same time, the committee was apparently troubled that these events might be losing their educational focus in favor of a more conference-like atmosphere and determined to embark, for the next eight years, on a complete sequential study of the entire Urantia Book. During this period there was gradual decline in seminar attendance, prompting significant re-evaluation of the seminar program in planning for the 1994 event.

Attendance at Summer Seminars since 1976 has been completely open to all interested readers. The fact that these programs (except for 1976) were all held in the Chicago area somewhat limited the opportunities for attendance. In addition, the programs were mostly held during the week, so that full participation required attendees to take vacation time from work\_time that might otherwise have been spent with family or in more recreational activities. It appeared that a considerable effort was being expended to develop and maintain this "educational" program, but that relatively few readers were being served thereby.

Throughout the Lake Forest period, the typical attendee would be someone with a serious, usually longterm, personal commitment to the Urantia book and the movement community. This generally included members of the General Council, TDA delegates, persons likely to be elected to the General Council, and other regionally active study group leaders and/or Society organizers. From one summer to the next, there would be a change of less than 20 persons in the roster of Summer Seminar attendees. In one sense, these people were selecting themselves, by their commitment to this process, as the teachers and leaders of the Urantia movement.

So it was entirely appropriate that the Education Committee seek to serve the needs of this group. Unfortunately, very many qualified persons who chanced to live inconveniently far from Chicago or who were unable to take the time or afford the expense of travel to Chicago were not well-served by this arrangement. This was particularly true of the many readers in the far West and the international community. At the same time, the Brotherhood was undergoing the re-evaluation of its relationship to the Urantia movement that has led to its evolution into the present-day Fellowship.

Gradually, the decision-makers in the organization were coming to understand that its role should not be to direct what the readership did in service of the movement but to facilitate what the readership would do for the movement.

This changing attitude led to a shift in Education Committee priorities for the Summer Seminar program. Rather than hold the Seminar in Chicago, it was decided that it should be held in different parts of the country where there were significant numbers of readers. Rather than have the program defined and composed centrally, with speakers drawn from the small pool of chronic Seminar attendees, it was decided that program participation should be encouraged from the local group. Essentially, the committee determined that it would combine its efforts with the efforts of a local group preparing a regional conference to create a composite effort. The committee would offer its experience in planning and organizing educational programs to lighten the work of a local team.

By bringing councilors and TDA delegates to the augmented regional conference, we would foster a broadened exchange of ideas and understanding of the Book, as well as enhancing the connections of friendship between those working within the formal organization and those serving the revelation in other, local and regional capacities.

The first such Summer Seminar was held in 1994 in Oklahoma City. The Oklahoma group had taken responsibility for holding the Third Scientific Symposium and it was decided to combine this with a Education Committee program. The Education Committee worked with the Symposium sponsors and the local group to create an educational program that complemented the scientific program in theme and provided talks and workshops led equally by Oklahoma students and other movement resources.

In 1995 another, similarly planned seminar was held in Teaneck, New Jersey. Although this program was more modest in scope than 1994 (no Scientific Symposium was planned and this was not a TDA year), a similarly high degree of participation from the local community was achieved. For 1997 we have worked closely with readers from the Pacific Northwest to allow the current program to address regional needs and interests, while also serving as a prototype for portions of the 1999 International Conference. As part of this, we have also invited program input from the team working on the 1999 conference program. The 1998 seminar is tentatively planned for the Washington, D.C. area and will entail further programmatic exploration for 1999 as well as topical material organized with the collaboration of readers in the national capital region.

It is a bit early to evaluate the success of this type of organizational "outreach". So far we have learned that the concerns and attitudes of each region vary widely, and each seminar has presented its own unique requirements for integrating with local needs and desires. This summer the seminar has been given a far more "conference-like" flavor than ever before, without

compromising the opportunity for educational participation. I, for one, see no reason that, as it grows, our movement would not have annual large-scale conferences, with full educational tracks. On the other hand, considering the effort involved in such productions, and the limited volunteer resources of our movement, these events will probably not become so established for a number of years.

Concurrently with an interest in geographical "outreach," our committee also began to consider how it might serve the needs of readers with a less formally academic approach to mastery of the teachings. The Scientific Symposium, organized by an independent team of readers, had shown one type of such alternative program. The originators of these programs have indicated an interest in the continuation of such studies under the auspices of the Fellowship, and the Education Committee is considering how this obvious need and interest might best be addressed. There is a small scientific component in the current program and will likely be more extensive one in the future.

For many years readers have urged greater recognition of the artistic and intuitive side of learning and spiritualization. We had thought it might be feasible to organize an "Artistic Symposium" at some future time, somewhat along the lines of the successful science programs. This summer's preconference artistic retreat is an initial undertaking to assess the feasibility of and reader interest in such a program. I hope to be able to report more fully on this matter in the future.

Some six years ago the Education Committee embarked on the Wrightwood Series of programs to promote in-depth study of topics from the Urantia book perspective. Three of these invited seminars were conducted, after which the participants prepared and presented program elements at International Conferences and published papers summarizing their discussions and deliberations. I believe this program has been quite successful. We have not been sufficiently energetic in the last few years in developing Wrightwood events and should work to facilitate additional programs of this type, possibly by following our own example and relaxing the amount of control we have insisted on in the past.

From time to time readers have urged us to prepare more general educational material based on the Book. Particular interest has been expressed in developing programs for parents to use in training their children in Urantian moral and spiritual principles. The Education Committee has always been most reluctant to embark on such an enterprise and has hesitated even to impose informal "educational" programs on children who attend seminars with their parents. This attitude stems in part from a belief that it is inappropriate to take advantage of a personal relationship to seek to coerce another to adopt one's own belief system. Children, of course, are especially vulnerable to parental authority and pressure. While parents have responsibilities for the education and training of their offspring to function effectively in society, and while the spiritual viewpoint is a major adjunct to this process, that obligation will not be well-served by coercive indoctrination.

We believe that the spiritual education of children is properly the province of parents in the home. While it is possible that programmatic material can be prepared to guide that process, yet retaining the requisite degree of ethical sensitivity, such an effort is almost surely beyond the wisdom of a committee like our own, focused on the educational and intellectual process. In this respect we encourage the efforts of the ad hoc Family Life committee to draw on multiple

sources of expertise and wisdom in working towards this end. The Education Committee will support the Family Life committee in its work, but recognizes the need for a broader perspective.

Another continuing concern of the committee is the role it should play in dissemination of information about the socialization of the revelation and the activities of the Fellowship itself. The constitutional charter of the committee has long been read very narrowly to apply exclusively to teaching the contents of the text of the Book. On the other hand, it is clear that the text does not exist apart from the movement, and that the traditions, history, and activity of the movement, while not changing the text at all, do affect the way in which successive generations of readers react to and interpret the text.

As a case in point, for almost eight years the Fellowship and its governing bodies and members have been the targets of an intermittent barrage of deceptive and deceitful negative propaganda foisted upon the readership by various Trustees of Urantia Foundation, acting in their official capacities, and by individual proponents of the Trustees' sociopathic and egocentric interpretations of their alleged rights and responsibilities under the Declaration of Trust. Throughout this entire period, the Fellowship has taken no actions (except when forced by Foundation-initiated litigation) to set the record straight or to instruct readers, confused and misled by the Foundation's activities, in the historical facts and organizational events of this period.

At the same time, increasing public awareness of the Urantia Book and its readership has begun to trigger opposition from the polar extremes of skepticism and fundamentalism. The well-known skeptical fanatic Martin Gardner has produced a highly colored and frequently inaccurate critique of the text and its origins. At the same time we can look forward to reading "UFO Cults and Urantia" from the radically fundamentalist Zondervan publishing house, if anyone can find a copy.

With the revelation and its socialization under three-sided attack from one of its own publishers, a popular science writer, and fundamentalist Christian cultists, the question of defense naturally comes to mind. One can argue, of course, that the appropriate response to this sort of thing is transcendence. However, organizations are not personal, much less transcendent beings. What one may do as an individual under attack does not necessarily apply to what an organization should do. In particular, the Fellowship must consider how its response (or lack thereof) to these events (and other, more serious ones surely to come) can best serve the readership.

If the Fellowship were a church or trying to be a church, there is little doubt that it would aggressively indoctrinate people in an "officially correct position" on all the matters raised by its opponents. On the other hand, if the Fellowship were a publisher exclusively concerned with printing an accurate text and not caring a bit for what happened next, it would be justified in completely ignoring these external events. I believe that the latter materialistic attitude, inherited by Urantia Brotherhood from years of close association with Urantia Foundation, is what has prevailed in our governing bodies and has been mistaken by its proponents for spiritual transcendence.

In actuality, the Fellowship is chiefly a social organization. It does not pretend to divine authority, although it may facilitate the acts of others in attempting to grow spiritually. It likewise should not ignore the social context of its work, although it may chance to publish a revealed text. As a social organization, the Fellowship could choose to help the readership learn the facts

of the socialization of the revelation, just as it has chosen to help the readership understand the meaning of the text of the Book. Rather than present an official, dogmatic history and interpretation of events, the Fellowship could facilitate the work of other, interested parties in compiling this information and advocating their purely personal viewpoints.

At the same time, the Fellowship could serve the readership by providing a forum for the public discussion of these significant events.

I do not think such an initiative would contravene the purposes of either the Education Committee or the Fellowship itself, and invite you, as a councilor or TDA delegate, to consider your response to these thoughts.

Submitted for the Education Committee.

Dan Massey, Chairman  
Matthew Block  
Irwin Ginsburgh  
Michelle Klimesh  
Patrick Yesh  
Stephen Zendt

**1998 Annual Report of the Education Committee**  
Michelle Klimesh

Dear Friends,

This year the Education Committee worked with local area readers to present the 1998 Summer Study Sessions at Mount Vernon College in Washington DC, July 9-12.

A Wrightwood Series, "Cult and The Urantia Book" has been initiated by Alison Gardner. The assembled panel of authors, all first-time Wrightwood participants, include: Steven Hecht, Joan Neumann Wentworth, Neal Waldrop, Christel Garrick, Phil Geiger, Dan Massey, and Rebecca Kantor. Publication is planned for Spring of 1999, preliminary to a major panel presentationworkshop at IC99. ,

Charles Olivea and Stephen Zendt will soon initiate another Wrightwood Series on Parables. This effort will be the Education committee's fifth Wrightwood Series.

Steve Dreier stepped down as Chairman of the Education Committee to serve as Vice-President in April. Since the work for 1998 has been humming along without me, I have been spending my time reviewing the reports of the Education Committee's work for the past 42 years. I have also been percolating ideas about the committee's future, which I suspect will increasingly make use of Internet technology.

The members of the Education Committee wish to thank the General Council for giving us an opportunity to be of service.

Sincerely,

Michelle Klimesh, Chair

Matthew Block, Irving Ginsburgh, Alison Gardner, Charles Olivea, Stephen Zendt

### **1999 Report Missing**

### **The Education Committee Report Summer 2000**

This past year, the Education Committee has been occupied with the organization of the Summer Study Session "Science, Ethics, and Religion" in Elmhurst, Illinois.

A cooperative effort between the Education Committee and the Domestic Extension Committee produced a set of materials that we call the Study Group Starter Kit. Included in this package is a series of topical studies suitable for new readers, plus information about how to start and nurture a local study group.

The Wrightwood on Race, chaired by Bobbie Dreier, is now in it's second printing. The Wrightwood on The Deity Adventure, chaired by Alison Gardner, is still in prepublication. The panelists for the planned Wrightwood on Parables, chaired by Stephen Zendt, have been seated. Potential panelists for a future Wrightwood on Family have been identified.

Our plans for a speaker's bureau have been put on hold. Long range plans for developing a teachers track at summer conferences are being developed.

On behalf of the Education Committee, I thank the General Council for the opportunity to be of service to the revelation.

Very Truly Yours, Michelle Klimesh, Chair

Alison Gardner David Holt Charles Olivea Nick Stefero Stephen Zendt

### **2001**

To: The General Council of The Urantia Book Fellowship

From: Lee Smith, Education Committee Chairperson

## **Subject: Education Committee Annual Report**

An annual report gives a snapshot in time of an entity's evolution and progress. Herein, we are given an opportunity to pause and reflect on the purposes, quality of functioning, and future endeavors of our organization and its various committees. As this is my first full year as a committee chair, I am particularly pleased that I am able to present this report during a fascinating period in the evolution of our movement.

Over time the Education Committee has gone through some informal changes. The original, constituted purpose (which I do not believe has ever been formally amended since it was written in 1955), is as follows:

Section 11.14. **The Education Committee:** The Education Committee shall find, prepare, and qualify teachers of The Urantia Book, who shall be persons of high moral character, devoted to the teachings and principles of The Urantia Book; it shall seek to interest such suitable persons in preparing themselves to teach the truths of The Urantia Book and to prepare and qualify such persons to teach The Urantia Book. By and with the approval and consent of the Executive Committee, it shall establish and implement standards of character, conduct, and education for such teachers. Any title or certificate conferred by the Education Committee may be revoked by the Executive Committee for conduct unworthy of the office upon request of the Education Committee and recommendation of the Judicial Committee after a hearing upon notice to show cause.

For whatever reasons, it appears that the Education Committee has never established a formal on-going process that is aimed at fulfilling the task described above.

Our web site descriptive, however, is a both more current and succinct:

**Education--** Responsible for many aspects of the triennial International Conferences, the annual summer study sessions and the Wrightwood Series of in-depth studies on topics of contemporary concern.

Nevertheless, I believe that The Fellowship's Constituted Purpose Statement is actually more true to the Education Committee's real mission:

The purposes of THE FELLOWSHIP are the study and dissemination of the teachings of The Urantia Book; the promotion, improvement, and expansion among the peoples of the world of the comprehension and understanding of Cosmology and the relation of the planet on which we live to the Universe, of the genesis and destiny of Man and his relation to God, and of the teachings of Jesus; and the inculcation and encouragement of the realization and appreciation of the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man -- in order to increase and enhance the comfort, happiness, and well-being of Man, as an individual and as a member of society, by fostering a religion, a philosophy, and a cosmology which are commensurate with Man's intellectual and cultural development, through the medium of fraternal association, ever obedient

and subservient to the laws of this country and of all countries wherein THE FELLOWSHIP may extend.

In this regard though, I am particularly drawn to these words from the Midwayers:

P2090:4, 196:1.3 To "follow Jesus" means to personally share his religious faith and to enter into the spirit of the Master's life of unselfish service for man. One of the most important things in human living is to find out what Jesus believed, to discover his ideals, and to strive for the achievement of his exalted life purpose. Of all human knowledge, that which is of greatest value is to know the religious life of Jesus and how he lived it.

P2086:2, 195:10.16 The great hope of Urantia lies in the possibility of a new revelation of Jesus with a new and enlarged presentation of his saving message which would spiritually unite in loving service the numerous families of his present-day professed followers

P2096:9, 196:3.30 Be not discouraged; human evolution is still in progress, and the revelation of God to the world, in and through Jesus, shall not fail.

I personally believe that The Urantia Book Fellowship and, indeed, the entire Urantia Book readership (movement) has difficulty staying focused on the essential message of the Fifth Epochal Revelation: to foster the renewed and restated gospel of experiencing universal family fellowship with God, a loving Parent. ♦ I further believe that the apex of the Urantia Papers (and its subsequent experiential realization as a living revelation) is most powerfully shown in the re-revealed life and teachings of Jesus. ♦ The Jesus-mania that the world has been experiencing of late is an indication of the potential readiness of the masses for the teachings found in the FER and particularly in the Jesus papers.

Perhaps it is time for the Education Committee to update its Constitutional purpose and I will ask our committee and the General Council as a whole to consider this.

I further believe it is an appropriate time for the Education Committee to focus more on ♦ fostering a religion, a philosophy, and a cosmology ♦ by linking our educational focus to the Jesus Papers, even to using *Jesus: A New Revelation* as a teaching tool. ♦ Despite our enthusiasm to have a Fellowship-produced copy of *The Urantia Book*, I must remind everyone that *JANR* is published, packaged and ready to go out *now*.

The Committee will gratefully entertain ideas for teaching and training efforts that focus on Jesus ♦ life and teaching. We will continue, of course, with the traditionally broader elements of committee work.

To lend some evidence to what I am stating, I have attached a survey taken by one of our committee members at the conclusion of IC96. ♦ You will note the overview indicates that, even among seasoned UB readers, the desire of experiential process is a paramount theme.

We have been told of Jesus's teachings that:

P2090:5, 196:1.4 The common people heard Jesus gladly, and they will again respond to the presentation of his sincere human life of consecrated religious motivation if such truths shall again be proclaimed to the world. The people heard him gladly because he was one of them, an unpretentious layman; the world's greatest religious teacher was indeed a layman.

I frequently have copies of the UB returned to me with comments that the book is too detailed, intellectual, elitist, etc. My impression from the rap on the street, so to speak, is that Urantia Book readers tend to be seen as a rather insular group in regards to our cosmic knowledge and intellectual self-assuredness.

Yet, in The Last Teaching at Pella, we are reminded that:

P1856:2, 169:4.4 Jesus well knew that God can be known only by the realities of experience; never can he be understood by the mere teaching of the mind. Jesus taught his apostles that, while they never could fully understand God, they could most certainly *know* him, even as they had known the Son of Man. You can know God, not by understanding what Jesus said, but by knowing what Jesus was. Jesus *was* a revelation of God.

P1857:3, 169:4.12 But mark you! never did Jesus say, "Whoso has heard me has heard God." But he did say, "He who has *seen* me has seen the Father." To hear Jesus' teaching is not equivalent to knowing God, but to *see* Jesus is an experience which in itself is a revelation of the Father to the soul. The God of universes rules the far-flung creation, but it is the Father in heaven who sends forth his spirit to dwell within your minds.

If this is important to us, how then do we see Jesus and reveal him ---and thereby the Father --to our fellows?

P2084:1, 195:10.1 Christianity has indeed done a great service for this world, but what is now most needed is Jesus. The world needs to see Jesus living again on earth in the experience of spirit-born mortals who effectively reveal the Master to all men.

I recently came across a gospel CD of African-American heritage wherein one song, "Live in Me, Jesus," particularly struck me. Its refrain is: "let me be the legs for You to walk, let me be the mouth for You to talk, live in me Jesus, have Your way in me, tell the world through me that You love them because I may be the only Jesus that this generation will ever see."

I submit that we actually do have a unique advantage in doing just that: presenting Jesus again through human eyes. We are blessed with an understanding of Revelation. The only complement we really need then is the action of our faith.

P1111:2, 101:5.9 Evolved religion rests wholly on faith. Revelation has the additional assurance of its expanded presentation of the truths of divinity and reality and the still more valuable testimony of the actual experience which accumulates in consequence of the practical working union of the

faith of evolution and the truth of revelation. Such a working union of human faith and divine truth constitutes the possession of a character well on the road to the actual acquirement of a morontial personality.

Faith is the basis for spiritual growth in a physical universe. ❖ As we progress towards Paradise, we are told that the assurance of experiential truth attainment gradually replaces the assurance of faith. ❖ In the meantime:

P1113:6, 101:6.10 Through the appropriation of the faith of Jesus, mortal man can foretaste in time the realities of eternity. Jesus made the discovery, in human experience, of the Final Father, and his brothers in the flesh of mortal life can follow him along this same experience of Father discovery. They can even attain, as they are, the same satisfaction in this experience with the Father as did Jesus as he was.

So many of us have had our faith supremely tested recently, that ❖invigorating faith❖ quite naturally became this year❖s Summer Session theme. ❖ At this year❖s gathering the Education Committee is attempting to incorporate the spiritual value (faith value) of building relationships❖both human and divine❖as we learn and share more deeply the ideas and ideals of the Fifth Epochal Revelation. In so doing, we are co-creating another small, but growing, part of the kingdom of heaven on earth.

The Education committee looks forward to participating with the planning team for IC 2002. ❖ The Wrightwood Seminar Series has been temporarily put on hold in order to concentrate on the Summer Session and IC 2002. ❖ However, if a seminar could be convened this fall that would contribute significantly to the IC 2002 program, I would consider it useful to impanel a Wrightwood group in liaison with the IC2002 program team. ❖

In any case and in all cases, I pray that Jesus will live and be seen❖ in each of us.

In Loving Fellowship,

Lee Smith

Education Chair

## **2002 Report Missing**

### **The Urantia Book Fellowship Annual Report of the Education Committee July 2003**

As a whole, the Education Committee was quiet for much of 2002, although a great deal of the educational labor for The Urantia Book Fellowship was superbly handled by the special committee and designated presenters who created the outstanding International Conference in Estes Park. Throughout the past year, however, many of the individual Education Committee members performed services in a variety of ways: they contributed to The Fellowship's

publications, The Mighty Messenger and The Herald; helped produce retreats for their local Societies; and presented at regional conferences--such as at the "Joyous Living" weekend last month in Los Angeles (sponsored by The School for Meanings and Values). Our Committee members have also been collaborating with The Fellowship's Public Relations-Book Marketing Team, which will have a significant presence at this year's Summer Study Session.

In 2003, despite limited funding, an effort to revitalize the Wrightwood Seminar has begun. The current Wrightwood group's goal is to develop a program on the subject of "family". The outcome of this study will be to produce a Urantia Book-based interfaith, public-outreach presentation that embraces the ideals and values of family in the broadest context. The product could then be a centerpiece for Summer Study 2004, especially if we select an interfaith-friendly environment. This will allow The Fellowship another public venue for presenting key common teachings from TUB and the life of Jesus. After all, what could be more universally appealing than the ideals and values of family?

This summer, The Education Committee, primarily at my urging, has tackled a challenging and perplexing subject for this year's Summer Study Session. Under the general heading of "Revelation and the Religionist", we will focus on exploring the distinctions between socialized (even institutionalized) religions that evolve from sacred texts (or divine mandates) and the challenges that each of us as individual, truth-seeking religionists must face when belief encounters incongruent facts, and faith confronts doubt.

Jesus tells us: "There is but one struggle for those who enter the kingdom, and that is to fight the good fight of faith. The believer has only one battle, and that is against doubt -- unbelief."

159:3.8

At this time, it appears to me that there are a number of relevant issues:

1. Recent discoveries of significant "human source" authors along with their source documents;
2. Recognition that some of the "facts" stated in The Urantia Papers ("which constitute the most recent presentation of truth to the mortals of Urantia") may be "in need of revision";
3. Public promotion of The Urantia Book by various groups and organizations, which seek to gain a wider audience and foster social acceptance of the book and its teachings;
4. Preparations by reader-believers to handle potentially greater and more critical social, academic, secular and theological scrutiny of the book; and
5. Controversy within the Urantia "movement" about unity and organizational purposes.

Will these factors coincide to meaningfully challenge Urantia Book reader-believers? Could The Urantia Book "movement" be soon facing something akin to a "Crisis at Capernaum"?

Should this be the case, regarding The Urantia Book, can we rely on the following statement from Jesus' Epochal Sermon?

153:2.11 ... "Let us be patient; the truth never suffers from honest examination. I am all that you say but more."

One of the desired outcomes of this summer's study session is to evaluate and put the human source information in perspective, such that dedicated Urantian religionists may go forward with

interfaith efforts and public outreach presentations with a deeper understanding of the evolutionary underpinnings of The Urantia Book, rather than naively portray it as a totally divine and perfect document.

Jesus, in speaking with Nathaniel about the veracity of any sacred scripture stated:

159:4.8 “Mark you well my words, Nathaniel, nothing which human nature has touched can be regarded as infallible. Through the mind of man divine truth may indeed shine forth, but always of relative purity and partial divinity. The creature may crave infallibility, but only the Creators possess it.”

The Summer Study Session in 2004 will focus more on “taking it to the streets”, therefore we are planning to have the next Session in a favorable interfaith-oriented community, such as Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Your thoughts on this report and on any other ideas related to education are positively welcomed. My email address is: smith606@pacbell.net

Sincerely, Lee Smith Education Committee Chairperson

### **Education Committee Annual Report September 2004**

Greetings!

I am looking forward to working with you all in Kansas City and submit the following to report the progress we are making with our vision.

The constitution states: Section 11.14. The Education Committee: The Education Committee shall find, prepare, and qualify teachers of The Urantia Book, who shall be persons of high moral character, devoted to the teachings and principles of The Urantia Book; it shall seek to interest such suitable persons in preparing themselves to teach the truths of The Urantia Book and to prepare and qualify such persons to teach The Urantia Book. Etc.

Excerpts from the retreat summary of the General Council mid-year meeting:

- Create an Urantia University, both in physical locations and on the Internet, dedicated to training teachers and fostering the development of leaders. Re-activate The Fellowship as an educational institution.
- Take more active and systematic steps to develop a Speakers Bureau, perhaps in conjunction with the efforts to get the School going.

The Education Committee is very aware of the paramount task of ahead of us. We have had ongoing dialogue on how we can approach this task effectively. We have narrowed it down to two main objectives:

1. Create a web site that will be set up for an eventual internet/correspondence school
2. Create a curriculum to train presenters that will be worked into the creation, growth and maintenance of a university or school. I have met with Bill Rocap who is a professional website designer/educator. We have talked about the basic web design. It will include all the bells and whistles of Flash that benefits people with a broadband connection while including the same informative content with HTML dial up connection. It will include basic facts of the Urantia Book (our local universe/superuniverse etc.) There will also be links set up just for student

access, (subject matter etc.) The web has obviously many educational possibilities; it's also a great place to show off what we're doing. Thomas Orjala is meeting with the committee this weekend to discuss and propose a program for young adults.

As we progress in creating our curriculum, I think it's important to talk about it publicly, be inclusive, for instance, by asking people on Socadmin what they think would be needed (attributes/knowledge) from a teacher/presenter of the UB. Let's create a buzz about it.

We need to truly know what we're presenting and to whom we're presenting it- know our audience. To have this work effectively we will work with experienced individuals in creating a curriculum that would not only encompass the UB, but also the study of subjects that help us better understand, become more aware of and sensitive to our fellows' religious backgrounds and experiences. Subjects that include the tools needed in the presentation/public area such as interfaith studies, public speaking, possibly areas in science & psychology. Some of these studies can be taken outside our organization, i.e., Toastmasters etc... We are also analyzing what has worked and what hasn't worked in the past in looking at present day successful internet/correspondence schools. One of the patterns of revelation is to bring people in. Once the curriculum is in place, the committee will start by inviting a small group to become certified presenters/teachers. This will also include an end of the year education conference where participants come together for shared experiences and graduation ceremonies. Once we have presenters, we will concentrate on different venues for them to participate.

We have also found a volunteer to help the committee with on-site responsibilities for summer study seminars. These responsibilities would include rooms, food, registration and the like, so that the committee can concentrate more on the conference itself.

I have also spoken with Polly Friedman who is working with various Urantia organizations to have organizational representatives work as study group leaders in new countries where the revelation is taking off.

Thanks for your attention here, have a safe trip and I'll see you in Kansas City!

Respectively submitted, Gary Deinstadt

### **2005 Report Missing**

### **Annual Report of the Education Committee 2006**

The Education Committee presently has a website up and running at <http://www.urantia-education.org/index.htm>.

This is the skeletal frame work of our future internet school that will be training the future presenters of the Urantia Book. We are busy putting together the curriculum that will make this a reality. Dr. Peter Laurence has completed a course on interfaith/ religious dialogue studies. This course has been taken by members of the Interfaith committee. A course is being developed by Dr. Marta Elders using examples described in the training of Teachers and Believers paper. A meeting is being organized to include past education chairs, people from the Foundations internet school, the education committee to brainstorm on internet school content. Early in the fall, the University of Santa Fe cancelled the Summer Study Seminar 06'. We quickly looked at different venue possibilities. Finally we found the Dominican University in River Forest, Illinois (a suburb of Chicago) Charles Olivea is our program chair. Our topic is Celestial Ministry: Seen and

Unseen. We are presently looking into having next years Summer Study Seminar at St. Johns University in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Respectfully submitted,

The Education Committee:

Gary Deinstadt- Chair Stephen Zendt Charles Olivea Dolores Nice Nick Stefaro David Holt

### **Education Committee Report 2007**

Gary Deinstadt, Chair

We are busily preparing for the Summer Study Session 07' that will be held at the Dominican University in River Forest Illinois, on the weekend of July 20th through the 22nd. The TDA is reconvening and a spiritual retreat is scheduled for Thursday, July 19th. General Council/Executive Council meeting will meet on the afternoon of the 22nd through the 23rd. Avi and Lila Dogim are in charge of programs. The topic is Cosmic Citizenship. As of this date, all presenters have been picked. The registration form will be forwarded to publications before next Mighty Messenger printing.

I'm also attending an Urantia education summit that Gard Jameson and others are putting together on the weekend of June 8th -10th. It will consist of approximately 30 people from various Urantia organizations, educational professionals etc. Participants will submit topics that are of interest. A few that have been recommended are:

- 1) How can we make a repository or library of secondary works available to all readers?
- 2) How can we best train teachers and leaders? What models work best?
- 3) What are some methods for revitalizing study groups that work well?
- 4) How can we integrate the teachings into the culture of the planet?

It seems that there is an over all concern that various groups, organizations etc are duplicating efforts.

Hopefully the outcome of this meeting will provide improved ways of working together.

Respectively submitted,

Gary Deinstadt

## Education Committee Report Summer 2008

Currently, the Education Committee is preparing for the Education Committee booth at IC 08. The booth will have information on our current projects and future plans.

The Committee is also setting the ground work for the 2009 Fellowship Summer Study Session to be held in Chicago. Chicago's central location addresses the cost issues of rising fuel, airfares and an upcoming Triennial Delegate Assembly. At this point the venue is yet undetermined, but we do have an application into Dominican University and they should confirm availability within this week for early July of next year. John Hales is also looking into other venues in the Chicago area. As you know we have had our last two SSS at Dominican University and they have been two of our most successful conferences, both financially and in terms of program execution, i.e., having a Program Chair. Adding a youth program to the SSS is also in the works. This will enable more parents to attend.

Our work in training Urantia Book presenters is moving ahead as well. Some of the key areas are:

Public speaking skills i.e., Toastmasters, etc., and the issues speakers face such as how to work with hecklers, etc. Nick Stefaro has much experience in this area. Casey Snider, a training professional, has also signed on as an adjunct member to help us in training presenters.

Curriculum that would include the answers for the most frequently asked questions (FAQs) encountered in the public arena, such as where does this book come from? These FAQs are the result of this past year's research accumulated by committee members and other various sources.

Research into curriculum from the original Urantia Book School to see what may be useful (or is it outdated?); thanks to Katharina Becker

Interfaith: Dr. Peter Laurence has designed and made available to us a program on interfaith dialogue. Members of the Interfaith committee have taken this course.

Jesus way of teaching/training: Marta Elder has volunteered to coordinate the results of two study groups that are exclusively assigned to work on Jesus way of teaching and training. She will summarize their findings and use their wisdom to create this course in our curriculum.

This fall, Charles Olivea, a professional educator, will begin the paramount task of working on the skeletal framework of an actual UB school.

And lastly, the Fellowship Education Committee has joined an educational initiative started by Gard Jamieson that consists of members of the Foundation and the UAI to pool our efforts for the benefit of the UB community.

*Knowledge is possessed only by sharing; it is safeguarded by wisdom and socialized by love. (Paper 48, Urantia Book)*

Respectfully submitted,

The Education Committee:

Gary Deinstadt- Chair

Lila Dogim

Charles Olivea

Katharina Becker

Nick Stefaro

David Holt

## **Education Committee Report**

For the year 2009 (Written in early 2010?)

In the past year the Education Committee had organized and run the Summer Study Session of 2009, which was successful both educationally and financially. At the present time, the Committee is actively engaged in preparations for Summer Study Session 2010, which will be held at a new location, Techny Towers in Chicago. For more information about the site go to [www.technytowers.org](http://www.technytowers.org)

The Committee met over a weekend in October during which it developed a Strategic Plan (see below) describing its goals and plans for the rest of the year.

## STRATEGIC PLAN

Over the past year, the Education Committee has shifted into higher gear: we aim to work for and encourage a change in the culture of learning within the Fellowship. We are inspired by the norms of the Fifth Mansion World, which exhibit for the first time among average ascenders, unselfish service and spontaneous worship, and especially, for us in the Education Committee, the notion of voluntary study.

We on the Committee believe that the practice of voluntary study presupposes a deeper and broader focus by students of *The Urantia Book* on the pursuit of truth, beauty and goodness. This inspiring idealism embraces elements of mind and spirit, a living marriage of meanings and values. In attempting this shift to a more studied approach to the teachings of the Fifth Epochal Revelation, we are moved by the principle of group wisdom guided by our best effort to discern God's will for the quality and extent of education in our experience.

We want to see a more explicit use of *The Urantia Book* as fellow students gather to learn from the revelation through group study. We are taking steps toward creating a more deliberate approach to the use of the book, including preregistration for the summer study sessions, greater effort to communicate with Fellowship members through a newsletter of the Education Committee and an expanded Education website. Also planned are the establishment of a preconference day as a permanent feature of study conferences and collaboration with the Education Initiative with an eye toward improving study groups and study practices.

In evaluating our work, we will be mindful of "performance-based" forms of assessment, i.e., programs and events, the fruit of which can be observed for their effects. For instance, in the process of teaching some of our members to present more effectively, we would want them to actually "present" later on in the same conference in which they received their training. This follows the principle in the universe of "learning in the morning and practicing in the afternoon," if you will. We, on the Committee, believe that the effort to combine theory and practice, idealism and habit, is crucial to improving the culture of learning within the Fellowship. Programs or events that can succeed at Fellowship conferences may in turn serve as educational models for regional conferences and for study group. At least, this is our motivating ideal.

### **GOALS FOR 2010**

1. Expanding the Summer Study Seminar to include
  - a. Preconference day offering more options than in the previous years
  - b. Children's program
  - c. Truth seekers program
  - d. Some workshops requiring preregistration and study of the assigned materials prior to participation
2. Developing an expanded Education Committee website
3. Publishing and distributing a semiannual Education Committee Newsletter to promote conferences and other educational endeavors
4. Participating in the Education Initiative to reinvigorate study groups

### For the year 2010 (Written early 2011??)

In the past year the Education Committee had organized and run the Summer Study Session of 2010 which, according to the feedback we received, was successful.

The conference was held at Techny Towers in Chicago, a venue which was perceived by most attendees to be a major improvement over the previous location. 120 persons attended, a 5.5% increase over attendance at SSS 2009.

Although we had a children's program prepared and available none registered. We are not discouraged and will continue offering this program.

Our website is developing and growing.

We held our annual meeting in Florida over a weekend in November, at which time we discussed the Education Committee's mission and came up with language for a Constitutional Amendment that will clearly state it.

We spent a lot of time during our numerous conference calls and a face to face meeting discussing the best ways to stimulate and promote in-depth study of the whole revelation.

GOALS FOR 2011

Continue expanding our website

Write at least one article for each Mighty Messenger

Present two educational workshops at IC11

Run two intensive workshops in collaboration with a Florida study group – preparing potential teachers.

Initiate planning for SSS12

We are ready and willing to make presentations and workshops for any group that will invite us.

## **Education Committee Report**

**January, 2013**

The Education Committee of *The Urantia Book* Fellowship once again sponsored a Summer Study Session in 2012, as it has for three decades two of every three years. The theme was "Progressive Planetary Civilization," and again the sessions were held at Techny Towers in Northbrook, Illinois during a weekend in early August. The entire Education Committee contributed to the planning for the meetings, but the chief organizers were Lila Dogim, then committee chair, Lara Amyx, conference coordinator, and Peter Laurence, program chairman. SSS12. The event enjoyed the highest attendance of any in the series for several years, in part buoyed by the presence of a large representation of young readers, many of whom had participated at a Youth and Young Adults Committee conference in Chicago the previous week.

The Education Committee met in Chicago in October of 2012 for its annual three-day meeting. A large part of the meeting was dedicated to planning the Summer Study Session 2013, again slated to be at Techny Towers, from July 10 to July 14, 2013 The theme is "Our Gift to God the Father: Service to the Supreme." Program chair is Nick Stefero, and conference coordinator is new committee chair, David Kulieke.

The committee has also rededicated itself to supporting quality education and in-depth study of *The Urantia Book*. The committee will pursue this objective with a somewhat intensified schedule during SSS13. It also plans to continue upstepping the quality of study in 2015, when the summer study sessions begin again after a year's hiatus for the international conference of 2014. The SSS2015 will begin a sequential study of *The Urantia Book*, beginning with the first papers of Part 1. Planners will include other strands at the summer sessions, including a hoped-for collaboration with the Interfaith Committee and a suggestion for a day-long panel approach to answering questions and difficult issues while dealing with the public or the media.

Some other developments on the committee have included:

A new Mission Statement: After quite a bit of discussion about a Vision Statement, the committee dispensed with having one and decided to limit itself to a new Mission Statement, which is as follows:

***The Urantia Book* Fellowship Education Committee creates and fosters opportunity to cultivate high quality of thinking and to nurture the pursuit of wisdom through in-depth study of the teachings of *The Urantia Book*.**

References to teaching, learning, and education in *The Urantia Book*: Using handwritten, typed, or photocopied references gathered as a result of an Education Committee initiative led by Lynne Kulieke during the 1980's, David Kulieke downloaded all of these references, which

amounted to well over 100 pages. These were then winnowed down to less than 20 pages of categorized "Key References on Education in *The Urantia Book*. They will soon be accessible on the website.

Archival list of Brotherhood/Fellowship themes of international conferences and summer study sessions: Ken Keyser began a list of pertinent information about international conferences and summer study sessions from an historical perspective. He is currently in the process of gathering additional information.

The committee continues to use small sub-committees to pursue projects which are then reviewed and refined by the entire committee. The Education Committee sub-committees include:

The Wrightwood Series: This series included intensive study seminars which were held over several days at which attendees will prepare before and conclude with papers on in-depth study topics. They were previously held at the Fellowship headquarters at 529 Wrightwood in Chicago. Katharina Becker is leading an effort to reestablish this series.

Educational Resources: Daniel Glazer heads an initiative to gather resources significant to the committee's goals. These efforts would be available as hard copy and on the Education Committee website. Part of the process includes the decision of what is germane, particularly with so many resources available on several websites related to *The Urantia Book*.

Study Group, Society, and Field Support Subcommittee: This is a new subcommittee for the purpose of helping to improve the quality of study where people are, if, when, and how they would like us to. This includes but is not limited to study groups and societies that sponsor or support study groups. The initiative might involve online initiatives, training of individuals, and field visits. It would utilize materials, both electronic and otherwise, and rely on information gathered by the Resources Subcommittee. It would necessitate collaboration with the Fellowship Outreach Committee and Membership Committee. In fact, the Outreach Committee has already sent a draft outline requesting feedback from the Education Committee regarding Outreach's work with study groups. David Kulieke is spearheading this effort.

Website Updating and Refurbishing: Nick Stefero is the committee's webmaster and is in charge of improving the website, making it more useful, and adapting it to the updated Fellowship website.

Education Committee Strand at the 2014 International Conference: Marilyn Kulieke is the liaison for the committee with conference planners in putting together a program track for studying the book.

Standard Text Reference System and Citations: Ken Keyser pointed out that, in the wake of the multi-organization work on the standard text, there is not yet consistency on citations of quotations from *The Urantia Book*. The committee intends to address this issue under Ken's leadership. Ideas breed ideas, and other initiatives have been proposed or are being considered.

Respectfully submitted,

David Kulieke,

chair

Katharina Becker

Bobbie Dreier

Daniel Glazier

Charles Olivea

Nick Stefero,

members

Ken Keyser

Marilynn Kulieke

Barbara Newsom,

adjuncts

## 2013.2

### **Person Submitting Report:**David Kulieke

Today's Date

06/20/2013

E-mail

david.kulieke@gmail.com

Phone

847-945-1812

Which Committee?

Education

This report covers what time period? (example: 'Year-end 2013')

January through June, 2013

What are your committee's accomplishments this year?

Activities of the Education Committee of the Urantia Book Fellowship, January Through June, 2013 Much of the Education Committee's work, as it is two of every three years, has been to prepare for the Summer Study Sessions. There is been a renewed and intensified emphasis on in-depth study on the part of the committee, focused on the theme of SSS13, "Our Gift to God the Father: Service to the Supreme."

Committee member Charles Olivea, a leading advocate for in-depth study, wrote an article on the topic that appeared in Fellowship publications, and in-depth study will be briefly highlighted as part of the conference opening. In the process of the work preparing SSS13, member and program chair Nick Stefero strove to include plenaries and workshops that not only fit the theme but also advanced part of the committee's mandate: to "...foster the in-depth study of The Urantia Book by sponsoring gatherings of students..." There is also an outreach strand of the Summer Sessions as well as a great deal of planned prayer and worship, organized by committee member Bobbie Dreier.

Another outcome of the planning is the development a planning timeline to serve as an adaptable tool for future seminars and conferences. Adjunct members Ken Keyser and Marilyn Kulieke created and are developing this resource. Part of the outreach strand of SSS13 is the first ever Study Group Conclave. This is the first effort of the Education field and study group subcommittee. The planning for this event was the responsibility of Bobbie Dreier, Jackie Koury (the Fellowship's study group coordinator but not a member of the Education Committee), and David Kulieke, chair of both the education committee and SSS13.

As a part of this event, these three also revised Fellowship study group material into a new booklet about beginning and organizing study groups; the booklet will be distributed at the conclave, the Society Conclave, and at the General Council meeting. It will also be available on the Fellowship website. The Study Group Conclave is a joint effort of the Education, Membership, and Outreach committees. These three committees plan to continue such conclaves in future years; the committees are also collaborating on a project to develop more study activity in the field via geographic definition. Another vehicle for in-depth study will be at IC14. Marilyn Kulieke is in charge of a strand of workshops at that conference that will utilize the principle of in-depth study.

Another subcommittee is Educational Materials. Committee member Daniel Glazer, together with members Katharina Becker and Charles Olivea, is investigating the parameters for such resources as well as what and what not to include. This endeavor reflects a further portion of the committee's constitutional mandate: "...providing study resources centered on universe educational ideals of encouraging the development of student-teachers."The committee has also devoted some time to investigating Standard Text Reference System and Citations. This has been spearheaded by Ken Keyser, who pointed out that, in the wake of the multi-organization work on the standard text, there is not yet consistency on citations of quotations from The Urantia Book.

Ken also has begun some archiving work for the committee on conferences and other things. The Education Committee website is a work in progress, and it has taken great steps forward under the leadership Nick Stefero. Finally, at the bequest of the meeting of representatives of the Urantia Association International, the Urantia Book Fellowship, and Urantia Foundation, the education committees of each organization have begun seeking opportunities for cooperative projects. UAI's Sheila Keene-Lund, the Fellowship's David Kulieke, and the Foundation's Gard Jameson, met over the phone recently.

Motivated by a sharing of the Fellowship Education Committee's sharing of its list of "Prime Education References," (available on our website), the group has decided as its initial project to have an intensive study seminar on what the book teaches us about education. This is in the tradition of the Foundation recent seminars and the Fellowship's Wrightwood Series, the subcommittee for which is lead by Katharina Becker. The group plans these seminars for late May of 2014.

The Summer Study Sessions of 2015 will begin on July 15 and focus on the first five papers of The Urantia Book and our relationship with the Universal Father.

Respectfully submitted,

David Kulieke, chair

Katharina Becker

Bobbie Dreier

Daniel Glazier

Charles Olivea

Nick Stefero, members

Ken Keyser  
Marilynn Kulieke  
Barbara Newsom, adjuncts

### **Education Committee Report, January, 2014**

The highlight for the Fellowship Education Committee in 2013, as it has been many years, was the 2013 Summer Study Sessions, held in July at Techny Towers near Chicago. SSS13 applied several new ideas of the committee, most of which reflected the committee's desire to foster in-depth study. Some of these approaches included moving plenaries to the evening to allow time for longer workshops; adding worship and silent communion time; presenting, both orally and in writing, our purpose in pursuing in-depth study; and the first ever Study Group Conclave. The nature of the feedback from participants in an online survey regarding SSS13 was extremely gratifying.

SSS15 will also be at Techny in July, 2015. It will focus on "God the Father" and seek to build on this year's emphasis on in-depth study. Most of last year's planning committee will remain intact while adding a committee member or two who will be in charge of SSS16. Building on the experience from 2013 to 2015, the planning committee also intends to create a booklet of suggestions for conference and seminar planning that can be flexibly applied by other groups in the future.

Despite the value the Education Committee places on in-depth study, its members also recognize the need for enhancement of its efforts in other approaches to developing excellence in education within the Urantia movement. Consequently, the committee utilizes a multi-faceted, sub-committee and multiple initiative approach with an individual or a small group reporting back to the main group with its progress. These are the sub-committees that exist after a full committee annual weekend in November:

#### **Study Group, Society, and Field Support Subcommittee**

This sub-committee seeks to help support study in the field, such as at study groups. It was responsible for the Study Group Conclave at SSS13, the booklet on study groups, "Community" (which can be found on the Fellowship website), and will participate with a presentation or workshop at the June Study Group Symposium in Wisconsin at the Study Group Conclave at IC14.

#### **Website Subcommittee**

Working with the Fellowship's Andrea Barnes, the committee's website will transform into a webpage on the main Fellowship website with a new look and additional content.

#### **Initiatives for In-Depth Study Subcommittee**

This group is building on discussions during the November weekend meeting that sought to be define and give the rationale and possible methodologies for in-depth study. It will continue its efforts to reinstate the Wrightwood Series and add in-depth study strands at IC14 and SSS15.

#### **Assessment Subcommittee**

Good education includes meaningful assessment, and this new group will work to improve on what the committee has done in the past, reflecting purpose and methodology.

### Educational Resources Subcommittee

There are wonderful resources to be had at all sorts of *Urantia Book* websites, so this sub-committee is gathering helpful resources that specifically relate to the goals of the Education Committee and belong on the Education Webpage.

### SSS15 Planning Committee

This group is described above.

### Other Initiatives , Both Functioning and Being Considered

- Archiving
- “Topical Working Interest Groups” TWIGS: Professionals sharing interests in, from *The Urantia Book*
- Liason and work with other Fellowship Committees, primarily Outreach and Membership
- Initial investigation and reporting of other educational endeavors in the Revelation, both past and present

**Finally**, the Education Committee is pleased to announce a joint project with the education committees of UAI and Urantia Foundation. First, members of the three committees will meet in June to discuss shared principles about education from *The Urantia Book* and in practice. This will help to lead to a shared workshop at IC14 entitled “Creating Excellence in Education for Readers of *The Urantia Book*.”

This upsweep in activity depends on the wise and creative input from several individuals. Members and adjuncts of the Education Committee include: Paul Anderson, Katharina Becker, Bobbie Dreier, David Fabe, Daniel Glazer, Ken Keyser, Marilyn Kulieke, Sherry Layton, Elizabeth Michal, Barbara Newsom, Andrew Story, Mahtab Tehrani

The Education Committee would like to express its deep and grateful appreciation for the many years of fine service of Charles Olivea and Nick Stefero.

Respectfully submitted,

David Kulieke

Chair of Education Committee

2014.2

Report of the Fellowship Education Committee, July, 2014

The most notable Education Committee Exercise of the past several months has been our planning for an participation in the Joint Education Committee Seminar, which included members of the committees from UAI, the Fellowship, and the Foundation, held at 533 Diversey, Chicago, from June 9-11.

Fellowship Committee participants included Paul Anderson, Katharine Becker, Daniel Glazer, Ken Keyser, David Kulieke, and Marilyn Kulieke.

At the Seminar, participants discussed a variety of common interests in education, produced a Joint Seminar Statement reflecting feelings shared at the Seminar, confirmed the intention to meet again, and committee shared its portion of a Joint Workshop entitled "Creating Excellence in Education for Readers of *The Urantia Book*," to be given at IC14. The Fellowship Education Committee's part of that workshop deals with "How To Study *The Urantia Book* Effectively." The workshop is a heavily participant oriented workshop meant to examine and apply references from the book regarding education, and it was prepared by the Field Subcommittee.

The Field Subcommittee also helped David Kulieke, committee chairman, to prepare a presentation and subsequent workshops for the Urantia Association International Study Group Symposium in Madison, Wisconsin, later that same June week. The topic of the presentation was "Effective Study Group Leadership." The booklet "Community," an Education Committee publication that is about study groups and is also on line, was distributed to everyone at the Symposium. The Education Committee is committed to working productively and cooperatively with the other organizations.

Also in the past 6 months:

#### Initiatives for In-Depth Study Subcommittee

This group produced its first draft statement of this important educational topic:

#### **A Working Definition of In-Depth Study**

April 23, 2014

In-depth study of *The Urantia Book* is a multifaceted process of learning in which individuals and groups voluntarily devote time and attention to mastering all of its teachings throughout a lifetime of progressive spiritual transformation and service as cosmic citizens in partnership with God.

In-depth study of the revelatory text guides truth-seekers in finding God, in understanding God as the Universal Father, and in doing God's will to achieve our Father's plan for each of his children and our universe of progress.

In-depth study is the first step in progressive levels of learning by doing, first by improving the student's quality of mind and then through reflection as the student acts and learns by doing. Further study is based on the new meanings gained at each step, up through the highest levels of spiritually transformed thinking, feeling, and action, as the student acquires increasingly balanced character, unified personality, fulfillment of life's purpose, and higher God-consciousness.

In Planning:

#### Website Subcommittee

Working with the Fellowship's Andrea Barnes, the committee's website should soon transform into a webpage on the main Fellowship website with a new look and additional content. It will also be accessible at its old address.

#### Educational Resources Subcommittee

There are wonderful resources to be had at all sorts of *Urantia Book* websites, so this sub-committee has gathered helpful resources that specifically relate to the goals of the Education Committee and belong on the Education Webpage as soon as it is ready.

#### Other Educational Initiatives Subcommittee

When the Webpage is ready, short descriptions of and links to some other educational initiatives of organizations and groups will be available. We will also include descriptions of worthy endeavors of the past.

#### SSS15 Planning Committee

This group has started planning for SSS15, which will be at Techny Towers beginning July 8, 2015.

#### Other Initiatives , Both Functioning and Being Considered

- Archiving
- "Topical Working Interest Groups" TWIGS: Professionals sharing interests in, from *The Urantia Book*
- Liason and work with other Fellowship Committees, primarily Outreach and Membership
- A subcommittee to address teacher training
- A subcommittee to support the creation of children's educational materials that relate to *The Urantia Book*

Members and adjuncts of the Education Committee include: Paul Anderson, Katharina Becker, Bobbie Dreier, Daniel Glazer, Ken Keyser, Marilyn Kulieke, Sherry Layton, Elizabeth Michal, Barbara Newsom, Andrew Story, Mahtab Tehrani

Respectfully submitted,

David Kulieke

Chair of Education Committee

**2015.1**

### **Education Committee Annual Report - January 2015**

The Education Committee moved its program forward in the latter half of 2014, and we are poised to begin seeing many of our projects and initiative bear fruit.

After participating in and helping to plan a Joint Educational Seminar in June in Chicago that included representatives from the education committees from the

Association, the Fellowship, and the Foundation, we joined together at IC14 to present a joint workshop. The workshop featured presentations from each group. Our Fellowship committee was especially well-represented at both events. Our presentation at the workshop was on "How To Educate Effectively."

The other highlight of our last six months was our annual weekend meeting from December 5-7 in Kent, Ohio. A dozen people attended as we discussed our plans and how to achieve them. Two highlights in addition to the committee's business were committee member Bobbie Dreier's presentation on "Spiritualized Study," something she is working on as a new approach to a kind of study group. Non member Jeff Wattles, who lives in Kent, made a presentation on "A Foray into Experiential Education."

A significant portion of our December meeting was spent studying sound educational procedures, methodologies, and pedagogies and applying them to sample workshops that have materials created by committee members in the past. These principles are drawn both from the philosophies of secular educators over the centuries as well as the many reference in *The Urantia Book* on education (a 20-page sampling of which will soon be available from our website).

The major focus of the Committee right now, as it has been for decades, two of every three summers, is the summer study session, the summer seminars that emphasize intensive study of *The Urantia Book*. The theme of SSS15 is "Our Relationship with God the Father." With a focus on Papers 1-5, the Education Committee is initiating a journey through major themes in *The Urantia Book*.

Four of the six planning committee members are holdovers from SSS13, which was so well received. They intend to use this repeat experience to better understand how to approach seminar and conference planning, both to improve this year's seminars and also to produce a booklet available to those planning conferences. The two new members will be in charge of SSS16, applying this year's experience to next year's meeting.

**The Education Committee continues to work on multiple projects through a subcommittee approach:**

**Website Sub-committee (Paul Anderson, chair):** Through the help of Fellowship consultant and Outreach Committee chair Andrea Barnes, our revamped website is up but not quite fully functional yet. It will soon be accessible both through the Fellowship website, along with other standing committee websites, and also through our Fellowship Education website address. Many of our other initiatives await the site being fully operational.

**In-Depth Study Sub-committee (Marilynn Kulieke, chair):** This sub-committee has wrestled with a definition of in-depth study, long a major priority of the Education

Committee, and it is nearing a publishable version. There will also be an IDS track at SSS15, which will include participants preparing ahead of time, attending a pre-Seminar retreat, and being a part of a full day of meetings.

**Educational Resources Sub-committee (Daniel Glazer, chair):** This sub-committee is in charge of deciding on and gathering resources that specifically relate to education that will be available on our website. After a time when the entire committee struggled to decide the criteria for these, a clear and accessible definition has emerged and generated several items already. The creation of shareable lesson plans is a part of this committee's efforts.

**Field Support Sub-committee (Bobbie Dreier, chair):** Over the past 18 months, this committee has created the study group booklet, "Community" (available on the Fellowship website), sponsored the first Study Group Conclave, designed the presentation for the Joint Education Workshop at IC14, and supported a talk and workshop at the UAI's June Study Group Symposium. Currently the group is working on an idea to generate lesson plans for study groups based on short introductory videos as well as actualizing its plan to create seminars in the field in concert with the Outreach Committee.

**Assessment Sub-committee (Marilynn Kulieke, chair):** This is beginning to emerge in the context of developing educationally-based workshop materials and lesson plans.

**Other Educational Initiatives Sub-committee (David Kulieke, chair):** The Fellowship Education Committee recognizes that as eager as we are to improve educational practices in the revelation, to help to train teachers and leaders, and to introduce readers to well-founded educational principles, we are alone; no one group should do everything. Consequently, we will support other groups and initiatives that further the cause of education of the teachings of *The Urantia Book*. In our "Resources" section of our website, we will provide both a link and a short summary of such endeavors as UBIS and other Foundation educational initiatives, any educational initiatives that the UAI is pursuing, Urantia University, Perfecting Horizons Institute, and the efforts of Dr. Jeff Wattles. We will also investigate what can be learned from worthy enterprises of the past, including the Brotherhood School and the Boulder School.

2015.2

Education Committee Report, July 2015

Since our full face-to-face meeting in Kent, Ohio, in December, the primary focuses of the Education Committee of the Urantia Book Fellowship have been threefold:

1) After a year off for IC14, it is a Summer Study Session year again. Six members and adjuncts of the committee, Bobbie Dreier, Ken Keyser, Jackie Koury, David Kulieke, Marilynn Kulieke, and Sherry Layton, have been working hard to provide strong study

and inspired worship of The Urantia Book at the sessions scheduled for July 9-12 at Techy Towers near Chicago. The theme of the sessions, "Our Relationship with the Father," continues the committee's long tradition of emphasizing high quality study of the book, which this year features an In-depth study track, a workshop investigating approaches to children's education, an introduction to new readers, a demonstration workshop illustrating educational principles as a part of the Study Group Conclave, and an array of strong workshops from which to choose. In addition, SSS15 once again provides a strong worship component.

Another highlight of SSS15 is the Saturday night 60th anniversary celebration, recognizing six decades since the original publication of The Urantia Book as well as of the establishment of Urantia Brotherhood, forerunner of the Fellowship.

2) The new website of Education Committee of the Urantia Book Fellowship can be found under "Study" on the Fellowship website; it is still being created under the leadership of subcommittee chair Paul Anderson. Soon it will include a plethora of education resources and lesson plans, news, descriptions of committee activities, and links to other educational initiatives in the movement.

3) The Committee is committed to enhancing study of The Urantia Book, including through expanding awareness of sound education pedagogy as revealed in The Urantia Book and developed over centuries in human education. Committee members and adjuncts are creating inventories of discussion about education and lessons using educational principles through the work of the In Depth Study Subcommittee (Marilynn Kulieke, chair) and the Educational Resource Subcommittee (Daniel Glazer, chair), as well as through the work of individuals working on developing the inventories and lesson plans for the website. The committee plans to bring these ideas to groups and individuals throughout the movement through the work of the Field Subcommittee (Bobbie Dreier, chair).

**Upcoming Goals:** The Education Committee is discussing with representatives of the Urantia Association

International the opportunity to bring SSS16 to Dallas as a part of the UAI's national conference which will focus on training teachers and leaders.

The newly created revised website, still under construction, is representative of the status of the entire committee: we are arriving at a clearer sense of who we are and where we would like to go. Much of the framework is in place, and we are ready to move forward.

## **Report of the Education Committee of the Urantia Book Fellowship**

*February 2016*

Since July, 2015, the time of SSS15, the Education Committee has been involved in planning SSS16 and developing services to be available on our website.

In August, with the approval of the Executive Committee, after support from the General Council, we had agreed to cosponsor this summer's San Antonio conference with members of the Urantia Association International. This significant step forward in the cooperative interactions with our fellow readers of *The Urantia Book* is not always smooth and easy, but plans are moving forward well. A core Program Planning Committee of four individuals includes two who are associated with the Education Committee, Sherry Layton (chair) and Neda Tehrani. Two

others from the Education Committee, Barb Newsom and David Kulieke, serve as advisors. While cooperating with ideas from people in the UAI, we are trying to do everything possible to maintain the momentum our committee has established and executed in previous Summer Study Sessions to provide high quality education and in-depth study that recognizes principles both from *The Urantia Book* and wisdom generally gained from centuries of education as well as a spiritual tone that includes prayer and worship. Before the conference we plan to sponsor a shorter version of our joint education committees from three organizations that we held for three days in 2014. One of our members, Bobbie Dreier, will again co-plan the pre-conference retreat as has been the case before the past several SSSs.

Our usual yearly, face-to-face weekend meeting became a weekend Zoom meeting this year due to unavoidable practical problems. We discussed what each ideally would like eventually to see happen in the committee's work, a comparison of our mandate, mission statement, and website description, and the creation of online material, complete with lesson plans, that will be made available very soon. This will include both workshop materials that are already made but can be adapted s any study groups leader sees fit as well as materials to help plan a new workshop or study group. We intend to add materials that can be generated by short films soon.

There are already several other materials that people might find useful. The Education Committee website can be easily reached under "Study" on the homepage of the Fellowship website. There, among other things, one will find a twenty-plus page, categorized compendium of "Prime Quotations" about education from *The Urantia Book* and our booklet "Community," which describes approaches to start and organize study groups.

In addition to adding workshop materials and lesson plans, we will soon be adding a link plus a descriptive page for "Other Educational Initiatives," such as Urantia University and the Foundations online site UBIS. We are happy to steer anyone who wants to study *The Urantia Book* to other avenues where something is happening educationally that we do not do. We also are about offer a new booklet detailing how we organized the 2015 SSS that we hope can be a reference for those planning conferences. In the fairly near future, we hope to offer online, live classes with individuals seeing each other and responding as they would in the same room.

## Education Committee Report

June 2016

During the first part of this year, two members of the Education Committee, Sherry Layton and Neda Tehrani have been heavily involved in the planning of the summer conference/summer study session as members of the program committee. Others have been more indirectly connected, including David Kulieke and Barbara Newsom in advisory capacities, as well as another full day presentation by the In-depth Subcommittee. The Education Committee was also instrumental in scheduling at the conference another joint meeting with the education committees of Urantia Foundation and Urantia Association International.

Otherwise the committee is in the process of developing programs and materials to be placed on the committee's website for utilization by study

group and workshop leaders and other individuals. New to the website are links to other educational initiatives, and soon several lesson plans of presentations that have been given successfully at past conferences, seminars, and study groups will be available for download. Within a few weeks, several such materials and other initiatives will be placed on the website; an announcement will be made at that time.

During the next few months, the committee will continue to create usable educational materials and continue its ongoing discussion to refine and cohere its statements of purpose, mission, and activities. It may also create a Wrightwood series type of seminar to be given as part of the Foundation Seminars.

Respectfully submitted,

Members of the Education Committee: David Kulieke (chair), Paul Anderson, Bobbie Dreier, Daniel Glazer, Jacquelyn Koury, Neda Tehrani  
Adjuncts: Katharina Becker, David Fabe, Sherry Layton, Ken Keyser, Marilynn Kulieke, Barbara Newsom, Andrew Story

**Report of the Education Committee of The Urantia Book Fellowship  
February, 2017**

The Education Committee took several forward steps this year, but its members still feel the need to step up our efforts during the coming year.

**Summer Study Session Summer Conference 2016**

In response to a request from the president of the UAI, the Education Committee agreed to combine forces into joint conference with the Urantia Association United States last June in San Antonio. While it is true that the planning had already begun and that the UAUS team controlled much of the logistical side of things, and that we made some concessions for the sake of harmony, it must also be made clear that the Education Committee was primarily in charge of the program, which was based on the theme "Jesus the Master Teacher."

Two members of the Education Committee, adjunct Sherry Layton, chair of program planning, and member Nadia Tehrani, were on the Program Committee for the conference. They did a superb job navigating their way through challenging issues to ensure our dedication to a high quality program. Four members of the Education Committee In-Depth Study Sub-Committee presented a another well-received two-day workshop, several other members gave workshops, and another member of the Education Committee was a plenary speaker.

Our highest priority as the Education Committee was to maintain a high quality, educationally relevant program, and, to a large degree, this goal was more than satisfactorily achieved. While we learned the importance of joint ventures starting with both groups together at the beginning, the great benefit of the joint conference was the discovery on the part of many of new friendships with Urantia Book readers from a different organization. We are all still benefiting from a new spirit of warmth and harmony.

## **Education in the Field**

One important objective of the Education Committee has been to complement our Summer Study Sessions, where people come to us, with ventures into the field, where we meet with individuals and groups where they are. It was noteworthy as we perused Education Committee Reports from decades past to see how often was mentioned the need to reach out to groups. We are trying to achieve this both in person and online. Our first in-person foray was during our yearly weekend which we held in Fort Wayne, Indiana. We met with the Fort Wayne Society and presented a workshop to a room filled with some very strong readers. Our goal is not just to make presentations but to emphasize pedagogical principles as well.

We intend to go to another group this spring and at next fall's annual meeting as well as to present two workshops at IC17. We are also putting workshop materials on our website. Anyone can download handout materials as well as lesson plans and participant outlines for currently three but soon many workshops. Any group can use these materials as they see fit. After a year or two of testing this approach, we will discuss how to do this in wider scope.

## **Website**

We went online with a newly reformatted website in 2015, and it is growing more functional. It is reachable on the Fellowship website under the "Study" tab. While we hope to develop this website a great deal soon, we invite you to take a look now. There are several valuable items that can be downloaded, including:

- "Prime Educational References from *The Urantia Book*" (Under Resources): 17 categorized pages of the best quotations in the book regarding teaching, teachers, learning, education, and other related topics
- "Community: How To Begin and Organize an Effective Study Group" (Under Resources/ Study Group Resources): A booklet filled with photos!
- Workshop Materials Adapted for Teaching (Under Resources)
- Links to Other Educational Initiatives (Under Resources)
- Several other articles and resources concerning education.

## **Archival References**

We are in the process of researching the reports and materials of the Education Committee from decades past to glean wisdom of these earlier workers. One such search will culminate in lessons learned from the Brotherhood School, which operated at 533 Diversey Parkway, Chicago, from 1955 to 1971, being derived from the Forum.

## **Cooperation with Other Educational Groups**

In addition to our links to these groups, thus far we have had four joint ventures:

- The June 2014 Joint Seminar: a four-day seminar at 533 organized by the chairs of the Fellowship, Foundation, and UAI Education Committees
- The July 2014 Joint Workshop, which was prepared for at the June Seminar: all three education committees worked together to give a joint workshop at **IC14**
- A June 2016 joint meeting of the three education committees to discuss future ventures together
- The Summer Study Session /Summer Conference 2016

We have two more joint experiences planned so far:

- From March 23-26 of 2017, the Foundation and Fellowship Education Committees are cosponsoring a seminar entitled "Giving of the Truth of Heaven: Using Our Talents." This will be observable through Zoom and will focus on ways to spread the Urantia Book teachings more widely to those who do not read the book.
- We will have a panel presentation of the three committees as well as other education groups at **IC17**. At that presentation there will also be a brief accounting of the lessons learned at the March seminar.

### Plans for 2017

- Our March seminar
- Our **IC17** panel presentation and two workshops sponsored our committee
- Two "in the field" presentations
- Refining and expanding our education in the field presentation
- Discussions about our current mandate
- Planning for **Summer Study Session 18**
- Finishing a booklet on conference planning
- Improving and adding to our website, especially through adding materials for more workshops for study groups
- More cooperative work with other education groups
- Using the internet more effectively

2017.2

July 2017

The committee has continued work on adding useful, downloadable tools for students of *The Urantia Book*. These include salient articles, educational study aids, study group support, and workshop materials with lessons and pedagogies attached which any group may use. The weekend of IC17 will mark the beginning of the committee's aggressive publicizing of its website, which can be found on the Fellowship website under the tab "Study."

The Education Committee has also begun a thorough reexamination of its constitutional mandate in order to make it broader, yet clearer, and more representative of our activities and objectives. We have looked closely at our original mandate and also explored the activities of the committee since 1955 in order to gain a better appreciation of good ideas that have been pursued or considered yet lost from the past.

We sponsored a joint seminar at Urantia Foundation in March entitled "Giving of the Truth of Heaven: Using Our Talents." Papers from this seminar as well as from all of the Wrightwood seminars of the 1990s can be viewed on our website under Resources/Seminars.

In fact, after this weekend we will have engaged in a total of six joint activities with education committees of the Foundation and/or the UAI. During the IC17 weekend, we jointly sponsored an "Education Forum" at which several educational entities were invited to share their activities.

We also had our first post-approval meeting of a new major endeavor, "The International Center for Urantia Studies," an initiative to help coordinate Urantia educational activities through having a physical

headquarters, at 533 Diversey initially, take advantage of the growing knowledge of strong education in parts of the movement, as well as benefit from the Internet and other expertise of many of our groups like UBIS and UU. The UAI, Fellowship, and Foundation have all approved initial support to this effort.

In the near future, we will continue to develop our resources, seek ways to bring our work to the field, improve our knowledge of excellent education, keep working with the other organizations, support the International Center for Urantia Studies, and plan for the 2018 Summer Study Session, to be held July 19-23 at Techny Towers, Northbrook, Illinois.