

Profile Form for Nominees for President-elect

Regulation 3.6.26 (b) requires that the Assembly Standing Committee provide advice to the Church on the challenges and issues which may be faced by the President and the Assembly in the next seven years. This is to assist the discernment process as the Church nominates and elects the President – elect.

In July 2008 the ASC addressed itself to this responsibility and offers this guidance to the Church.

- ❖ Continuing significant relationships with wide sections of the Australian community through avenues beyond our congregations.
- ❖ The multicultural and inter-faith reality of Australia.
- ❖ The quantity and quality of our Ministers and matters relating to call and training of Ministers and lay leaders.
- ❖ The UCA has a willingness to experiment in new Christian communities and ways of being the church.
- ❖ The aging demographic within the UCA and the sense of disconnect with the church by younger generations.
- ❖ Ongoing need for discernment between the things that are of God and culturally supported ways of being an organisation.
- ❖ Need to relate with initiative across a wide range of constituencies including the diversity of the UCA, the media, inter faith and ecumenical leaders and internationally with other churches.
- ❖ Capacity to assist the UCA develop forms of evangelism appropriate to the theology and traditions of the UCA.

Name:

Ms Rosemary Hudson Miller

Nominated by:

Synod of Western Australia

Synod of residence:

Western Australia

Age range:

(under 30, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60-69)

50 -59 years

Personal Interests:

Rosemary is married to Greg, a community development worker and fine woodcrafter. They have four adult children. Rosemary enjoys spending time gardening, walking, riding, reading, cooking for family and friends and playing with grandchildren.

Personal

Placement / employment:

(relevant church experience)

2006 - current	Associate General Secretary - Mission Support Uniting Church Synod of Western Australia
1999 – current	Social Justice Consultant, Uniting Church Synod of Western Australia.
2000 – current	Executive Officer, Chaplaincy, Uniting Church Synod of Western Australia
2001	seconded for part of the year as Acting National Director, Social Responsibility & Justice, Uniting Church in Australia National Assembly
1975 – 2000	Rosemary worked in a variety of nursing roles including as Clinical Nurse Manager, and Remote Area Nurse in the Northern Territory.

Passion:

(Name up to three things you feel passionate about)

I have a passion for the gospel of Jesus and I understand the gospel imperative as being good news for the poor, the captive, the blind and oppressed. I have a passion for engaging children and young people in the joy of this good news. I am passionate about social justice especially the full social inclusion of Aboriginal and Islander people in Australia.

Vision for the UCA:

(limit of 400 words, can be provided on separate sheet)

My vision is for the church working together as people who seek to live out an authentic Christian faith in a multicultural and multi-faith Australian context. The Uniting Church, through its Basis of Union and Covenanting process offers us an opportunity to explore being the people of God here in this land. My vision is of the church engaged; in ministry and mission, in places of feast and places of famine, together with local and international partners and engaged in the public discourse at the local, national, and international arena. Called to carry out the mission of Jesus in the world my vision is of a church involved in both the doing and the telling of the good news gospel – proclaiming the Word and fleshing out the implications of that Word in the world.

In light of the advice provided by the ASC on the challenges and issues likely to be faced by the President and the Assembly in the next seven years I can/will

(limit of 400 words, can be provided on separate sheet)

See attached

1. **Continuing significant relationships with wide sections of the Australian community through avenues beyond our congregations.**
I bring a breadth and depth of experience in building and maintaining relationships with a cross-section of the Australian community. I have worked in a wide range of areas including in health, prison justice advocacy, Aboriginal and Islander communities, refugee and immigrant communities, government and community.
2. **The multicultural and inter-faith reality of Australia.**
The church continues to be challenged by the realities of a largely secular society with increasing numbers of people from other faith traditions. The church is faced with the challenge of engaging in the public discourse which needs to consider the reality of being a minority, and one of a number of minority faith traditions. I will continue the UCA's strong leadership in this area.
3. **The quantity and quality of our Ministers and matters relating to call and training of Ministers and lay leaders.**
For us in Western Australia many of the challenges of providing ministry have hit earlier than other states and this has necessitated our proactive approach. I will continue to work to see training for all involved in ministry as a priority to maintain and develop a flexible and responsive lay and ordained ministry with the Ministerial Education Commission and Presbyteries.
4. **The UCA has a willingness to experiment in new Christian communities and ways of being the church.**
I will encourage and enthuse congregations and faith communities to develop and grow innovative and creative responses within the environments in which they live.
5. **The aging demographic within the UCA and the sense of disconnect with the church by younger generations.**
Respecting the wisdom of elders in our range of faith communities, it is also imperative for the church to engage those in the first third of life. As always it was exciting and hopeful to be part of NCYC earlier this year. Part of the task of the leadership of the Church is to encourage brave and risk taking engagement by the Church with younger people.
6. **Ongoing need for discernment between the things that are of God and culturally supported ways of being an organisation.**
While being mindful of the church needing to operate within organisational and legal frame works, I will encourage the church to reflect on the scriptures, enter into dialogue with Congress, and multicultural members, ecumenical and partner churches and wait on the Spirit to discern God's leading.
7. **Need to relate with initiative across a wide range of constituencies including the diversity of the UCA, the media, inter faith and ecumenical leaders and internationally with other churches.**
Understanding one of the founding principles of the UCA as being called to 'bear witness to a unity of faith and life in Christ', I can and will work with the media and a diverse range of interest groups within the UCA, the wide spectrum of our ecumenical partners both within Australia and overseas. I will continue to build on the work of others to develop and strengthen relationships with inter- faith leaders.
8. **Capacity to assist the UCA develop forms of evangelism appropriate to the theology and traditions of the UCA**
The NCYC participants had an opportunity to practice a 'grace and holy mischief' model of witnessing to the city of Melbourne in January. These models of engagement with the community have the capacity to excite and engage young people – and older folk - with an enthusiasm for evangelism. It seems the Spirit is moving us to innovate and connect with the Australian community in new ways.