

***OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS, INC.
BUSINESS CONFERENCE POLICY MANUAL***

A Summary of Continuing Effect Motions

1962-2011

***Adopted by the World Service Business Conference of Overeaters
Anonymous, Inc.***

***INDEX TO THE OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS, INC.
BUSINESS CONFERENCE POLICY MANUAL
A SUMMARY OF CONTINUING EFFECT MOTIONS***

NOTE: The Business Conference Policy Manual is arranged chronologically while the index is arranged alphabetically by topics. Under each main topic the arrangement is chronological and the subtopic of each motion is capitalized for cross-reference.

ABSTINENCE

- 1988b - Amended 2002, 2009 and 2011. STATEMENT on abstinence and recovery
- 1992b - Establish IDEA DAY as an EVENT
- 1995b - Remove abstinence as a tool and replace with a plan of eating (See also FOOD PLANS)

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS LITERATURE

- 1979a - Deleted 1989. Superseded by 1982b.
- 1982b - Rescinded 2010.
- 1992c - Amended 2002. STATEMENT on sale of Alcoholics Anonymous LITERATURE at WORLD SERVICE CONVENTIONS
- 1993e - Deleted 1998.

ANONYMITY

- 1980b - STATEMENT on anonymity

ANOREXIA – SEE EATING DISORDERS

BOARD COMMITTEES

- 1991a - Amended 2003. WSBC COMMITTEES and board committees restructured

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- 1980d - Two-thirds vote to remove non-functioning WSBC COMMITTEE chairman (See also WSBC PROCEDURES)
- 1982d - Rescinded 2001.
- 1982e - BOT meetings to be open to delegates before Conference and WORLD SERVICE CONVENTION (See also OA PUBLICATIONS and WSBC PROCEDURES)
- 1984d - Procedures for presentations/discussions (See also WSBC PROCEDURES)
- 1986b - Approved budget to be included in Conference delegate binder (See also FINANCIAL MATTERS and WSBC MATERIALS)
- 1987b - Leaves of absence
- 1988a - Amended 1989, 1992, 1996, 1998, 2001, 2002 and 2010. Minutes to be submitted to all DELEGATES, GROUPS (See also BUSINESS CONFERENCE POLICY MANUAL and WSBC PROCEDURES)
- 1992e - Include general service trustees' job descriptions on trustee application form (See also WSBC PROCEDURES)
- 1996b - Rescinded 2008. Superseded by 2008a.
- 2008a - STATEMENT on discontinuing Conference-approved LITERATURE (See also OA PUBLICATIONS and WSBC PROCEDURES)

BULIMIA – SEE EATING DISORDERS

BUSINESS CONFERENCE – SEE WORLD SERVICE BUSINESS CONFERENCE

BUSINESS CONFERENCE POLICY MANUAL

- 1987c - Should be updated every year and included in FINAL CONFERENCE REPORT (See also WSBC MATERIALS and WSBC PROCEDURES)
- 1988a - Amended 1989, 1992, 1996, 1998, 2001, 2002 and 2010. Business Conference DELEGATES (See also BOARD OF TRUSTEES, GROUPS and WSBC PROCEDURES)
- 1989b - Deleted 2003.
- 2005a - Business Conference policies passed their sunset date be removed from Business Conference Policy Manual (See also WSBC PROCEDURES)
- 2011b - Include TOOLS OF RECOVERY of OA in Business Conference Policy Manual

BYLAW AMENDMENTS

- 1980a - Amended 1989. Purpose of proposed amendments be clearly verbalized
- 1982f - WSBC PROCEDURES for unfinished amendments
- 1987d - Superseded by 2005c.
- 1988c - Superseded by 2005c.
- 1991b - Superseded by 2005c.
- 2005c - WSBC PROCEDURES for MOTIONS and bylaw amendments; Conference agenda questionnaire to include all MOTIONS and bylaw amendments; information packet to delegates regarding MOTIONS and bylaw amendments (See also WSBC MATERIALS)

COMMITTEES – SEE BOARD COMMITTEES AND WORLD SERVICE BUSINESS CONFERENCE COMMITTEES

COMMUNICATION

- 1980c - Amended 2002. GROUPS advertise EVENTS through OA PUBLICATIONS
- 2000b - STATEMENT on communications
- 2002b - Deleted 2005.

CONFERENCE – SEE WORLD SERVICE BUSINESS CONFERENCE

CONVENTION – SEE WORLD SERVICE CONVENTION

CREED – SEE ALSO PLEDGE AND PREAMBLE

- 1962 - Adoption of a basic creed for OA
- 1977b - Adoption of Responsibility PLEDGE
- 1984a - Amended 1990. Adoption of a PREAMBLE
- 1994a - Amended 2008. STATEMENT on outside issues

DELEGATES

- 1988a - Amended 1989, 1992, 1996, 1998, 2001, 2002 and 2010. Business Conference delegates (See also BOARD OF TRUSTEES, BUSINESS CONFERENCE POLICY MANUAL, GROUPS and WSBC PROCEDURES)
- 1993d - Rescinded 2001.
- 1997 - Rescinded 2001.
- 2001 - WSBC registration fee (See also FINANCIAL MATTERS)

EATING DISORDERS

- 1982a - Rescinded 1999.
- 1992d - Rescinded 1998.

EVENTS

- 1980c - Amended 2002. GROUPS advertise through OA PUBLICATIONS (See also COMMUNICATION)
- 1986a - Amended 1996 and 1998. OA UNITY DAY established (See also FOUNDING OF OA)
- 1992b - Establish IDEA DAY (See also ABSTINENCE)
- 1993a - STATEMENT on closings for meetings and events (See also GROUPS and PRAYERS AND CLOSINGS)
- 1995a - MEDIA Awareness Month established
- 2009b - TWELFTH-STEP-WITHIN DAY established

FINAL CONFERENCE REPORT

- 1979e - Amended 1989 and 2001. Names and addresses of delegates to be included
- 1987c - BUSINESS CONFERENCE POLICY MANUAL to be updated every year and included in Final Conference Report (See also WSBC MATERIALS and WSBC PROCEDURES)
- 2010c - Final Conference Report to be made available electronically. Delegates and service bodies will receive printed version unless otherwise requested. (See also WSBC MATERIALS and WSBC PROCEDURES)

FINANCIAL MATTERS

- 1979d - Finance FOUNDER to WORLD SERVICE CONVENTION
- 1984c - WSBC COMMITTEES may not raise or maintain funds (See also WSBC PROCEDURES)
- 1986b - BOARD OF TRUSTEES' approved budget to be included in Conference delegate binder (See also WSBC MATERIALS)
- 1993c - Amended 1994, 2001, and 2002. Annual letter to help fund Conference delegates (See also GROUPS, WSBC MATERIALS and WSBC PROCEDURES)
- 1993d - Rescinded 2001.
- 1997 - Rescinded 2001.
- 2001 - WSBC registration fee (See also DELEGATES)
- 2005b - Rescinded 2011.
- 2009c - Establish a special fund for translations

FOOD PLANS

- 1987a - Rescinded 2000. Superseded by 2000a.
- 1995b - Plan of eating (See also ABSTINENCE)
- 2000a - Amended 2005. STATEMENT on food plans

FOREIGN PUBLISHING

- 1978 - Permission to print OA LITERATURE granted to GROUPS outside the US

FOUNDER

- 1979d - Finance to WORLD SERVICE CONVENTION (See also FINANCIAL MATTERS)
- 2011c - Bestow the title of founder to Rozanne S. (See also FOUNDING OF OA)

FOUNDING OF OA

- 1986a - Amended 1996 and 1998. Establish OA birthday as an EVENT
- 2011c - Bestow the title of FOUNDER to Rozanne S.

GROUPS

- 1978** - Permission to print OA LITERATURE granted to groups outside the US (See also FOREIGN PUBLISHING)
- 1979b** - Deleted 1989. Superseded by 1980c and 1984e.
- 1980c** - Amended 2002. Advertise EVENTS through OA PUBLICATIONS (See also COMMUNICATION)
- 1982c** - Amended 1989. Definition of open and closed meetings
- 1983** - Amended 1989. STATEMENT on requirements for membership
- 1984e** - STATEMENT on SALE OF MERCHANDISE
- 1988a** - Amended 1989, 1992, 1996, 1998, 2001, 2002 and 2010. Business Conference DELEGATES (See also BOARD OF TRUSTEES, BUSINESS CONFERENCE POLICY MANUAL and WSBC PROCEDURES)
- 1990** - Amended 2011. STATEMENT on publishing names and titles (See also OA PUBLICATIONS)
- 1992a** - STATEMENT on unity with diversity
- 1993a** - STATEMENT on closings for meetings and EVENTS (See also PRAYERS AND CLOSINGS)
- 1993c** - Amended 1994, 2001, and 2002. Annual letter to help fund delegates to World Service Business Conference (See also FINANCIAL MATTERS, WSBC MATERIALS and WSBC PROCEDURES)
- 1993e** - Deleted 1998.
- 1994b** - Amended 2008. STATEMENT on SPECIAL FOCUS
- 1996a** - Amended 1999. STATEMENT on readings at meetings
- 1999** - Amended 2004 and 2005. STATEMENT on listing online/telephone meetings
- 2004b** - Amended 2009. STATEMENT on intergroup bylaws/statement of purpose conformance
- 2005b** - Rescinded 2011.
- 2010e** - Requirement for groups and service bodies to provide email contact and name when registering electronically with the WSO

IDEA DAY – SEE ALSO EVENTS

- 1992b** - Establish IDEA Day (See also ABSTINENCE)

INTERGROUPS – SEE GROUPS

LITERATURE – SEE ALSO ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS LITERATURE

- 1977a** - Rescinded 2001.
- 1978** - Permission to print literature granted to GROUPS outside the US (See also FOREIGN PUBLISHING)
- 1982a** - Rescinded 1999.
- 1982b** - Rescinded 2010.
- 1985** - Amended 1993. WSBC PROCEDURES for granting Conference seal of approval (See also WSBC MATERIALS)
- 1991c** - Use terms “compulsive overeater – compulsive eater” and “compulsive eating – compulsive overeating” interchangeably
- 1992c** - Amended 2002. STATEMENT on sale of AA LITERATURE at WORLD SERVICE CONVENTIONS
- 1993b** - Amended 2010. STATEMENT on SALE OF LITERATURE other than OA-approved literature
- 1996b** - Rescinded 2008. Superseded by 2008a.
- 1998** - Rescinded 2008. Superseded by 2008a.

LITERATURE – SEE ALSO ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS LITERATURE (CONTINUED)

- 2008a - STATEMENT on discontinuing Conference-approved literature (See also BOARD OF TRUSTEES, OA PUBLICATIONS and WSBC PROCEDURES)
- 2010a - STATEMENT on approved literature (See also SALE OF LITERATURE/MERCHANDISE)

MEDIA/PUBLIC INFORMATION

- 1995a - Media Awareness Month established as an EVENT
- 2007 - Rescinded 2009. Public Awareness Campaign established
- 2008b - STATEMENT on OA media policy
- 2008c - STATEMENT on OA public relations policy
- 2008d - STATEMENT on OA public service announcements policy
- 2008e - STATEMENT on OA paid ads policy
- 2011a - STATEMENT on public media

MEETINGS – SEE GROUPS

MOTIONS

- 1987d - Superseded by 2005c.
- 1988c - Superseded by 2005c.
- 1991b - Superseded by 2005c.
- 2005c - WSBC PROCEDURES for motions and BYLAW AMENDMENTS; Conference agenda questionnaire to include all motions and BYLAW AMENDMENTS; information packet to delegates regarding motions and BYLAW AMENDMENTS (See also WSBC MATERIALS)

O-ANON

- 1989a - STATEMENT on relationship between OA and O-Anon

OA PUBLICATIONS

- 1980c - Amended 2002. GROUPS advertise EVENTS through OA publications (See also COMMUNICATION)
- 1982e - BOARD OF TRUSTEES' meetings to be open before Conference and WORLD SERVICE CONVENTION (See also WSBC PROCEDURES)
- 1990 - Amended 2011. STATEMENT on publishing names and titles (See also GROUPS)
- 1996b - Rescinded 2008. Superseded by 2008a.
- 2008a - STATEMENT on discontinuing Conference-approved LITERATURE (See also BOARD OF TRUSTEES and WSBC PROCEDURES)

PLEDGE – SEE ALSO CREED

- 1977b - Adoption of responsibility pledge

PRAYERS AND CLOSINGS

- 1993a - STATEMENT on closings for meetings and EVENTS (See also GROUPS)

PREAMBLE – SEE ALSO CREED

- 1984a - Amended 1990. Adoption of OA preamble

RESCISSIONS – SEE APPENDIX A

REGIONS – SEE GROUPS

SALE OF LITERATURE/MERCHANDISE

- 1984e - STATEMENT on sale of merchandise (See also GROUPS)
- 1993b - Amended 2010. STATEMENT on sale of LITERATURE other than OA-approved literature
- 2008f - STATEMENT on sale of recovery coins
- 2010a - STATEMENT on approved LITERATURE

SERVICE BODIES – SEE GROUPS

SPECIAL FOCUS

- 1994b - Amended 2008. STATEMENT on special focus meetings (See also GROUPS)

STATEMENTS (ADOPTED BY CONFERENCE)

- 1980b - Statement on ANONYMITY
- 1983 - Amended 1989. Statement on requirements for membership (See also GROUPS)
- 1984e - Statement on SALE OF MERCHANDISE (See also GROUPS)
- 1987a - Rescinded 2000. Superseded by 2000a.
- 1988b - Amended 2002, 2009 and 2011. Statement on ABSTINENCE and recovery
- 1989a - Statement on relationship between OA and O-ANON
- 1990 - Amended 2011. Statement on publishing names and titles (See also GROUPS and OA PUBLICATIONS)
- 1992a - Statement on unity with diversity (See also GROUPS)
- 1992c - Amended 2002. Statement on sale of AA LITERATURE at WORLD SERVICE CONVENTIONS (See also LITERATURE)
- 1992d - Rescinded 1998.
- 1993a - Statement on closings for meetings and EVENTS (See also GROUPS and PRAYERS AND CLOSINGS)
- 1993b - Amended 2010. Statement on SALE OF LITERATURE other than OA-approved LITERATURE
- 1994a - Statement on outside issues (See also CREED)
- 1994b - Statement on SPECIAL FOCUS meetings (See also GROUPS)
- 1996a - Amended 1999. Statement on readings at meetings (See also GROUPS)
- 1998 - Rescinded 2008. Superseded by 2008a.
- 1999 - Amended 2004 and 2005. Statement on listing online/telephone meetings (See also GROUPS)
- 2000a - Amended 2005. Statement on FOOD PLANS
- 2000b - Statement on COMMUNICATIONS
- 2004b - Amended 2009. Statement on intergroup bylaws/statement of purpose conformance (See also GROUPS)
- 2008a - Statement on discontinuing Conference-approved LITERATURE (See also BOARD OF TRUSTEES, OA PUBLICATIONS and WSBC PROCEDURES)
- 2008b - Statement on OA media policy (See also MEDIA/PUBLIC INFORMATION)
- 2008c - Statement on OA public relations policy (See also MEDIA/PUBLIC INFORMATION)
- 2008d - Statement on OA public service announcements policy (See also MEDIA/PUBLIC INFORMATION)
- 2008e - Statement on OA paid ads policy (See also MEDIA/PUBLIC INFORMATION)
- 2008f - Statement on sale of recovery coins (See also SALE OF LITERATURE/MERCHANDISE)
- 2010a - Statement on approved LITERATURE (See also SALE OF LITERATURE/MERCHANDISE)
- 2011a - Statement on public media (See all MEDIA/PUBLIC INFORMATION)

TOOLS OF RECOVERY

- 2010b - Add a ninth tool: “Action Plan”
- 2011b - Include the tools of recovery of OA in BUSINESS CONFERENCE POLICY MANUAL

TWELFTH-STEP-WITHIN DAY - SEE ALSO EVENTS

- 2009b - Established as an EVENT

TWELVE CONCEPTS

- 1994c - Deleted 1998.

UNITY DAY – SEE ALSO EVENTS

- 1986a - Amended 1996 and 1998. Established as an EVENT

WEB SITE

- 2003 - Implement encryption program on Web site
- 2009a - WSO provide Web site templates

WORLD SERVICE BUSINESS CONFERENCE COMMITTEES

- 1980d - Two-thirds vote to remove non-functioning WSBC committee chairman (See also BOARD OF TRUSTEES and WSBC PROCEDURES)
- 1984c - WSBC committees may not raise or maintain funds (See also FINANCIAL MATTERS and WSBC PROCEDURES)
- 1991a - Amended 2003. WSBC committees and BOARD COMMITTEES restructured
- 2002a - Deleted 2005.
- 2006 - Change HIPM Committee to Professional Outreach Committee
- 2009d - Establish a Web/Technology Committee
- 2010d - Establish a Youth in OA Conference Committee

WORLD SERVICE BUSINESS CONFERENCE MATERIALS

- 1979c - Amended 1989. Treasurer’s report sent to delegates before Conference
- 1982d - Rescinded 2001.
- 1985 - Amended 1993. WSBC PROCEDURES for granting Conference seal of approval (See also LITERATURE)
- 1986b - BOARD OF TRUSTEES’ approved budget to be included in the Conference delegate binder (See also FINANCIAL MATTERS)
- 1987c - BUSINESS CONFERENCE POLICY MANUAL to be updated every year and included in FINAL CONFERENCE REPORT (See also WSBC PROCEDURES)
- 1988c - Superseded by 2005c.
- 1991b - Superseded by 2005c.
- 1993c - Amended 1994, 2001, and 2002. Annual letter to help fund delegates to Conference (See also FINANCIAL MATTERS, GROUPS and WSBC PROCEDURES)
- 2004a - Place proposal forms on OA Web site (See also WORLD SERVICE BUSINESS CONFERENCE PROCEDURES)
- 2005c - WSBC PROCEDURES for MOTIONS and BYLAW AMENDMENTS; Conference agenda questionnaire to include all MOTIONS and BYLAW AMENDMENTS; information packet to delegates regarding MOTIONS and BYLAW AMENDMENTS
- 2010c - FINAL CONFERENCE REPORT to be made available electronically. Delegates and service bodies will receive printed version unless otherwise requested. (See also WSBC PROCEDURES)

WORLD SERVICE BUSINESS CONFERENCE PROCEDURES

- 1980d** - Two-thirds vote to remove non-functioning WSBC COMMITTEE chairman (See also BOARD OF TRUSTEES)
- 1982e** - BOARD OF TRUSTEES' meetings to be open before Conference and WORLD SERVICE CONVENTION (See also OA PUBLICATIONS)
- 1982f** - Procedures for unfinished BYLAW AMENDMENTS
- 1984c** - WSBC COMMITTEES may not raise or maintain funds (See also FINANCIAL MATTERS)
- 1984d** - Procedures for presentations/discussions (See also BOARD OF TRUSTEES)
- 1985** - Amended 1993. Procedures for granting Conference seal of approval (See also LITERATURE and WSBC MATERIALS)
- 1987c** - BUSINESS CONFERENCE POLICY MANUAL to be updated every year and included in FINAL CONFERENCE REPORT (See also WSBC MATERIALS)
- 1987d** - Superseded by 2005c.
- 1988a** - Amended 1989, 1992, 1996, 1998, 2001, 2002 and 2010. Business Conference DELEGATES (See also BOARD OF TRUSTEES, BUSINESS CONFERENCE POLICY MANUAL and GROUPS)
- 1989b** - Deleted 2003.
- 1992e** - Include general service trustees' job description on trustee application form (See also BOARD OF TRUSTEES)
- 1993c** - Amended 1994, 2001 and 2002. Annual letter to help fund delegates to Conference (See also FINANCIAL MATTERS, GROUPS and WSBC MATERIALS)
- 1993d** - Rescinded 2001.
- 1996b** - Rescinded 2008. Superseded 2008a.
- 1997** - Rescinded 2001.
- 2004a** - Place proposal forms on OA Web site (See also WSBC MATERIALS)
- 2005a** - Business Conference policies passed their sunset date be removed from BUSINESS CONFERENCE POLICY MANUAL
- 2005c** - Procedures for MOTIONS and BYLAW AMENDMENTS; Conference agenda questionnaire to include all MOTIONS and BYLAW AMENDMENTS (See also WSBC MATERIALS)
- 2008a** - STATEMENT of discontinuing Conference-approved LITERATURE (See also BOARD OF TRUSTEES and OA PUBLICATIONS)
- 2010c** - FINAL CONFERENCE REPORT to be made available electronically. Delegates and service bodies will receive printed version unless otherwise requested. (See also WSBC MATERIALS)

WORLD SERVICE CONVENTION (WSC)

- 1979d** - Finance FOUNDER to World Service Convention (See also FINANCIAL MATTERS)
- 1982e** - BOARD OF TRUSTEES' meetings to be open before Conference and World Service Convention (See also OA PUBLICATIONS and WSBC PROCEDURES)
- 1984b** - Amended 1993 and 2001. Annual Convention to be determined by BOT
- 1992c** - Amended 2002. STATEMENT on sale of AA LITERATURE at World Service Conventions (See also LITERATURE)

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS, INC.
BUSINESS CONFERENCE POLICY MANUAL
A SUMMARY OF CONTINUING EFFECT MOTIONS
1962-2011

INTRODUCTION

It is noted that all motions appearing in this summary were adopted by the group conscience of the World Service Business Conference of Overeaters Anonymous. Furthermore, until changed, these motions set self-imposed limits on the Fellowship. According to the Bylaws of Overeaters Anonymous, Inc., Subpart B, Article X, Section 1a) which states:

“...The Conference shall serve as the collective conscience of the Fellowship of Overeaters Anonymous as a whole...”

CONTINUING EFFECT MOTIONS

1962 At OA’s first Business Conference, then called the National Conference, it was adopted that: We endorse as our only basic creed the only thing that OA in general subscribes to (from headquarters), the Twelve Steps and the Twelve Traditions. That this is the only basic program that OA (headquarters) believes as its creed. We acknowledge that these two things are the only creed that OA subscribes to, basically.

1977a Rescinded 2001.

1977b It was adopted to:
Adopt a responsibility pledge: Always to extend the hand and heart of OA to all who share my compulsion; for this I am responsible.

1978 It was adopted that:
Showing just cause, literature groups of OA from countries other than the United States may obtain permission to reprint OA literature from OA Board of Trustees. Reprinted literature should conform to existing Conference-approved literature.

1979a Deleted 1989. Superseded by 1982b.

1979b Deleted 1989. Superseded by 1980c and 1984e.

1979c Amended 1989. It was adopted that:
The treasurer’s report be prepared and sent out to delegates prior to the Business Conference to allow each person time to study, assimilate and prepare any questions they might have for the Board of Trustees.

1979d It was adopted to:
Pay founder Rozanne S.’s expenses to all future Conventions.

- 1979e** Amended 1989 and 2001. It was adopted to:
Include names, addresses, phone numbers and email addresses of delegates in the Final World Service Business Conference Report. “For Use Within OA Only” should appear at the top of this list.
- 1980a** Amended 1989. It was adopted that:
The purpose of each proposed amendment to the World Service bylaws be clearly verbalized by the proposing body.
- 1980b** An anonymity statement was adopted:
Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of our program, always ensuring principles before personalities. This means that OA itself is not anonymous, but its members are. There are no exceptions. While OA may be publicized, we do not break our individual anonymity at the level of press, radio, films and television; and the recognizable facial exposure of persons identifying as OA members at the level of press, films and television is a violation of our tradition of anonymity, even though the first name only is given or the entire name is withheld.
- 1980c** Amended 2002. It was adopted that:
All OA events sponsored by registered OA groups and service boards referenced in Bylaws, Subpart B, provided they do not violate the Twelve Traditions, be placed in the WSO publication calendars upon request of the sponsoring body.
- 1980d** It was adopted that:
A Conference committee member can petition the Board of Trustees to consider by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Trustees to remove a nonfunctioning chairman of a specific Conference committee. The vice chairman will then assume the chairmanship.
- 1982a** Rescinded 1999.
- 1982b** Rescinded 2010.
- 1982c** Amended 1989. A definition of open and closed groups was adopted:
Open group is a group which is open to anyone.
- Closed group is a group that is open to anyone with the desire to stop eating compulsively, or anyone who thinks they may have a problem with compulsive overeating.
- 1982d** Rescinded 2001.
- 1982e** It was adopted that:
Through announcements in *Lifeline* and *A Step Ahead* the Fellowship be invited to attend and observe the Board of Trustees’ meetings held prior to the annual Business Conference and Convention. The board is to make available sufficient facilities to accommodate all who choose to attend.
- 1982f** It was adopted that:
Future Business Conferences begin proposed bylaw amendments directly following the last completely debated article of the previous year.

1982f (continued)

(Note: The intent is to apply this recommendation only in a year following a Business Conference that was unable to debate and vote on all proposed bylaw amendments due to a lack of time.)

1983 Amended 1989. After a presentation/discussion on requirements other than the Twelve Steps, the following statement was adopted:

Overeaters Anonymous respects the autonomy of each OA group. We do suggest, however, that any OA group which imposes a special purpose, task or guideline should inform its members that this special purpose, task or guideline does not represent OA as a whole. The only requirement for membership is the desire to stop eating compulsively. Anyone who says they are a member is a member. We of Overeaters Anonymous welcome all members with open arms.

1984a Amended 1990. Upon the recommendation of the Literature Committee, a preamble for Overeaters Anonymous was adopted to read:

Overeaters Anonymous is a Fellowship of individuals who, through shared experience, strength and hope, are recovering from compulsive overeating. We welcome everyone who wants to stop eating compulsively. There are no dues or fees for members; we are self-supporting through our own contributions, neither soliciting nor accepting outside donations. OA is not affiliated with any public or private organization, political movement, ideology or religious doctrine; we take no position on outside issues. Our primary purpose is to abstain from compulsive overeating and to carry this message of recovery to those who still suffer.

1984b Amended 1993 and 2001. It was adopted that:

The World Service Convention will be held at a time and place to be determined by the Board of Trustees.

1984c It was adopted that:

Business Conference committees not raise or maintain funds.

1984d The following procedure for Business Conference presentations/discussions was adopted:

- 1) Items for presentations/discussions to appear on the Business Conference agenda questionnaire will be proposed to the board by the board Internal Information Committee or the Conference Agenda Committee. Topics are selected by the board. Selections for topics are made from recurring problems, topics of major interest and topics requested by the Fellowship.
- 2) Intergroups or regions who propose presentation/discussion topics will be sent a letter stating how topics are chosen and that their recommendation has been referred to the appropriate committee for consideration.
- 3) Topics requiring a motion to be brought to the floor will appear on the Business Conference agenda questionnaire for voting by the intergroups with a brief paragraph stating what the topic will be about.
- 4) Format for the presentation/discussion: Specific time will be allowed on the agenda. From one to three presenters will give their views. The presentation will be timed, but the time may vary based on topic and number of presenters. The presentation will be written out and included in the Final Conference Report. The remainder of the time will be for discussion from the floor.

1984d (continued)

- 5) Format for discussion from the floor: Speakers will speak from the podium microphone. Speakers will be timed and limited to three minutes.
- 6) If a committee is to be formed, the chairman will appoint a trustee to chair the committee. The committee members will be chosen with one representative from each region.

1984e After a presentation/discussion, a statement on the sale of merchandise was adopted:

It is the will of the Business Conference that sale of merchandise, per se, is not prohibited by the Traditions. With regard to sale of merchandise, "Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or OA as a whole." If you choose to sell merchandise, the following guidelines are suggested:

- 1) All sales be made by and for OA service bodies.
- 2) Each sale item be approved by group conscience.
- 3) Sales at OA events and functions should be conducted in such a manner so as not to divert or distract from our primary purpose to carry the message to the compulsive overeater who still suffers.

In accordance with our Traditions, each group, intergroup, region, world service and other OA service bodies may choose to sell or not sell merchandise as they determine. Overeaters Anonymous must be ever mindful of our Traditions, which warn against endorsement of outside enterprise.

1985 Amended 1993. Upon the recommendation of the Literature Committee, the following revised procedure for granting the Conference Seal of Approval was adopted:

The Conference-approved seal that appears on the back of our literature means that the material has broad application to the Fellowship as a whole and is intended primarily to distinguish OA literature, not to censor other literature.

The Board of Trustees oversees the production of literature at the world service level. The Conference Seal of Approval shall be granted to OA literature upon receiving a two-thirds vote from the delegates present and voting at the annual World Service Business Conference.

All refining will be processed by the Conference Literature Committee (CLC), Board Literature Committee (BLC), and the Board of Trustees (BOT), according to their procedures prior to recommending any literature for approval of the delegates.

Prior to the Business Conference, pamphlets that are recommended for the Conference Seal of Approval will be mailed to all registered Conference delegates in press proof form. Recommended books will be mailed in manuscript form. At the Business Conference, delegates will vote either to approve or reject, rather than to edit or refine the material.

(Note: Originally adopted in 1976; revised 1980, 1985 and 1993)

1986a Amended 1996 and 1998. It was adopted that:
Overeaters Anonymous celebrate an annual worldwide Unity Day on the last Saturday in February at 11:30 a.m. pacific standard time.

To designate the third Saturday of January as the annual celebration of the January 19, 1960 founding of Overeaters Anonymous.

1986b It was adopted that:
The annual World Service Business Conference delegate binders include a copy of the current fiscal year budget as adopted by the Board of Trustees.

1987a Rescinded 2000. Superseded by 2000a.

1987b It was adopted that:
One leave of absence for up to sixty days from all Board of Trustees activities and responsibilities may be claimed by any member of the Board of Trustees during each of her/his elected terms of office for any reason.

1987c It was adopted that:
All policies adopted by the Business Conference shall be placed in a document entitled "Business Conference Policy Manual" which shall be distributed to world service delegates as part of pre-Conference delegate materials and also updated and included in all final World Service Business Conference reports.

1987d Superseded by 2005c.

1988a Amended 1989, 1992, 1996, 1998, 2001, 2002 and 2010. It was adopted that:
The following be deleted from Subpart B of the bylaws and added to the Business Conference Policy Manual. These matters should be considered but are not binding upon intergroups and regions:

Intergroups:

1) Representatives

At a meeting of which members have been given notice, each group shall select its representative to the intergroup to be called "intergroup representative" or "IR."

2) Functioning

a) With prior notice to all members' groups, intergroups shall convene at least once a year for election of officers and selection, when necessary, of delegate(s) to the World Service Business Conference of Overeaters Anonymous.

b) For the purpose of numbers of Business Conference delegates or any other Conference business, only groups formally registered at the World Service Office will be counted.

c) Intergroups may meet more often if necessary for the purpose of conducting further business.

d) Intergroups may form service offices to assist them in communicating with the groups.

1988a (continued)

- e) Intergroups/national service boards/language service boards/general service boards may join together to create intergroup/national service boards/language service boards/general service boards, service associations and service offices in order to help carry the message, providing they adhere to the Traditions and do not alter, print or electronically transmit any OA-approved literature unless approved in writing by the World Service Office.
- 3) Business Conference Delegates
- a) Each delegate may be elected for a term of two years, and in addition to attending the annual Business Conference, should serve Overeaters Anonymous World Service Business Conference for such term.
 - b) A delegate should not serve for more than four consecutive years, except for reasons to be decided by the local intergroup with respect to its own delegate.
 - c) In addition to the requirements set out in Article X, Section 3c) of the Bylaws, Subpart B, it is suggested the delegates should be selected for judgment, experience, stability, willingness and for faithful adherence to living within the concepts of the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts of Overeaters Anonymous. It is further suggested a World Service delegate be a current or past regional representative.
 - d) Delegates may be instructed as to the desires of the intergroups they represent.
 - e) As participants, delegates shall not be bound by the wishes of their intergroups, but should not vote against these wishes unless situations arise at the Business Conference that make it necessary for the best interests of Overeaters Anonymous as a whole.
 - f) Communications concerning the Business Conference from the trustees and the World Service Office of Overeaters Anonymous to the intergroups shall be through the delegates, and each individual intergroup and regional office shall receive duplicate communications, unless otherwise instructed by each individual service body.
- 4) Regional Representatives
- a) At a meeting, of which all members' groups have been given prior notice, each intergroup shall select its regional representative(s).
 - b) Whenever possible the regional representative for an intergroup should also be the Business Conference delegate, with delegate qualifications.

Regions: (Deleted 2005)

Board of Trustees:

Minutes

The Board of Trustees shall submit written minutes to all World Service Business Conference delegates and service boards referenced in Bylaws, Subpart B.

1988a (continued)

Meetings of Delegates:

Annual Business Conference

- a) Oral committee and workshop reports shall be made on the final day of the Business Conference. Written reports are due in the World Service Office two weeks following the close of the Business Conference.
- b) Special meetings of delegates or committees of delegates during the Business Conference for any purpose or purposes may be called at any time by the chairman or by a majority of the trustees and/or delegates.

1988b Amended 2002, 2009 and 2011. The following policy statement was adopted:

Statement on Abstinence and Recovery

Abstinence in Overeaters Anonymous is the action of refraining from compulsive eating and compulsive food behaviors while working towards or maintaining a healthy body weight.

Spiritual, emotional, and physical recovery is the result of living the Overeaters Anonymous Twelve-Step program.

1988c Superseded by 2005c.

1989a The following policy statement was adopted:

In order to reaffirm the special relationship between OA and O-Anon and in keeping with the spirit of Tradition Ten—cooperation without affiliation—the following be adopted:

Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. recognizes the special relationship we enjoy with O-Anon groups, a separate but similar fellowship. OA wishes to recognize the contribution O-Anon has made and is making to friends and families of compulsive overeaters.

It is the desire of the Conference to affirm the relationship between OA and O-Anon, and it is also the desire of the Conference to acknowledge OA's appreciation for O-Anon groups.

1989b Deleted 2003.

1990 Amended 2011. The following policy statement was adopted:

The World Service Business Conference of Overeaters Anonymous suggests that intergroups, regions, individual groups or any other sponsoring service bodies refrain from publishing the names or non-OA titles of speakers/leaders at OA functions in any informational materials (flyers, newsletters, etc.). OA service titles (but not names) may be used when a speaker/leader is performing the service responsibility of his or her OA office.

1991a Amended 2003. It was adopted that:

The following Conference and board committees be restructured as follows, to begin with the 1992 WSBC:

- 1) The Conference committees listed in Subpart B, Article XI of the Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. Bylaws be combined with the corresponding board committees (except where special provisions for membership exist in the bylaws).

1991a (continued)

- 2) Committee membership will be limited to a delegate cochairman, a trustee cochairman and two or more delegates from each region, up to thirty members at WSBC. Additionally, a combination of up to six former trustees, current trustees, and non-delegate members may be appointed to participate in the work of the committee during the year.
- 3) Cochairmen consisting of a Conference delegate (elected by committee members at WSBC) and a trustee (appointed by the chairman of the BOT) will coordinate the efforts of the committee. The Conference delegate cochairman will preside over the committee meetings at WSBC. The trustee cochairman will act as liaison between the committee and the BOT and will report to the Board of Trustees regarding committee activities. The cochairmen will select the committee members from the delegates that have indicated interest on the committee preference form with input from the appropriate regional trustee based on involvement and experience in same/similar committee at local, regional and past world service levels.
- 4) Committee members not responding to two consecutive mailings of the committee which require answers will not receive future mailings unless the member has notified one of the cochairmen of a reason for a temporary absence from committee work.
- 5) The committee meetings at WSBC will be open; however, only committee members will have a voice and vote. The BOT may plan other Conference-related activities during the committee meetings at WSBC for delegates not serving on committees.
- 6) Delegates should be registered by March 1 and have submitted a committee preference form by April 1 in order to be considered for committee membership. Delegates will be notified at or prior to WSBC if they were selected to serve on a committee. The committee preference form will be updated to advise delegates that serving on a committee is optional.

1991b Superseded by 2005c.

1991c It was adopted that:

The terms “compulsive overeater, compulsive eater,” and “compulsive eating, compulsive overeating” be used interchangeably in OA literature, as determined to be appropriate by the Literature Committee during the regular literature writing, editing and approval process.

1992a The following policy statement was adopted:

“Unity with Diversity” Policy

THE FELLOWSHIP of Overeaters Anonymous recognizes the existence of individual approaches and different structured concepts to working our Twelve-Step program of recovery; that the Fellowship is united by our disease and our common purpose; and that individual differences in approach to recovery within our Fellowship need not divide us.

THE FELLOWSHIP respects the rights of individuals, groups and intergroups to follow a particular concept of recovery within Overeaters Anonymous and encourages each member, group, intergroup and region to also respect those rights as they extend the embracing hand of Fellowship to those who still suffer.

1992a (continued)

THE FELLOWSHIP encourages each duly registered group and intergroup and the various regions to affirm and maintain the Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous by allowing any member to share his or her experience, strength and hope in meetings regardless of the individual approach or specific concept that member may follow. Duly registered is defined as being in full compliance with Bylaws, Subpart B, Article V.

1992b It was adopted that:

The World Service Business Conference establish an International Day Experiencing Abstinence (IDEA) to be held annually on the third Saturday in November.

1992c Amended 2002. The following policy statement was adopted:

We, the 2002 Conference of Overeaters Anonymous, ask that AA literature sold by the OA World Service Office also be available for purchase at all World Service Conventions and Business Conferences.

1992d Rescinded 1998.

1992e It was adopted that:

The World Service Board of Trustees incorporates the job description of the general service trustee on the trustee application form.

1993a The following policy statement was adopted:

We, the 1993 Business Conference of Overeaters Anonymous, suggest that OA meetings and events be closed with one of the following: the Serenity Prayer, the Seventh-Step Prayer, the Third-Step Prayer or the OA Promise *I Put My Hand in Yours*.

1993b Amended 2010. The following policy statement was adopted:

It is the group conscience of the 1993 World Service Business Conference that the sale or display of literature other than OA-approved literature and AA conference-approved literature (as described in WSBC Policy 2010a) is an implied endorsement of outside enterprises, and therefore in violation with Tradition Six.

1993c Amended 1994, 2001, and 2002. It was adopted that:

World Service Business Conference 2002 adopt a policy that the World Service Office shall mail an annual letter to all regions, national/language service boards, and intergroups requesting donations to help fund delegates to attend World Service Business Conferences. Delegates selected to receive this fund will be those from intergroups and national/language service boards (in all regions). Priority will be given to those intergroups and national/language service boards that have not previously sent delegates to Conference.

1993d Rescinded 2001.

1993e Deleted 1998.

- 1994a** The following policy statement was adopted:
Our primary purpose in Overeaters Anonymous is to abstain from compulsive overeating and to carry this message of recovery to the still suffering compulsive overeater. Other addictions and problems may have contributed to the intensity of our disease; however, OA is not directly concerned with recovery from these issues. They should be shared in OA meetings only as they relate to compulsive eating. It is in our best interest to concentrate on our primary purpose and not be distracted by focusing on issues such as alcoholism, codependency, abuse or the treatment thereof. These and similar outside issues should be addressed in other programs or with professionals.
- 1994b** Amended 2008. The following policy statement was adopted:
The Fellowship of Overeaters Anonymous recognizes the existence of special focus meetings, (i.e., gay and lesbian meetings, women’s meetings, men’s meetings, 100-pounders, maintainers, old timers, and people of various cultural backgrounds, etc.) which have been formed of persons who can more readily identify with fellow OAers with similar attributes. According to the Traditions, bylaws and policies of OA, the only requirement for membership is the desire to stop eating compulsively. We ask each person attending a meeting to respect and consider the group conscience. All registered meetings shall welcome and give a voice to any person who has the desire to stop eating compulsively.
- 1994c** Deleted 1998.
- 1995a** It was adopted that:
Overeaters Anonymous designate January as “Media Awareness Month.”
- 1995b** It was adopted to:
Remove abstinence as a tool and replace it with a “plan of eating,” leaving abstinence as our primary purpose as outlined in the OA Preamble: “Our primary purpose is to abstain from compulsive overeating and carry the message of recovery to those who still suffer.”
- 1996a** Amended 1999. The following policy statement was adopted:
We, the 1999 WSBC of OA suggest that at the beginning of every meeting, OA’s Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions be read. In addition, we request that intergroups, national/language service boards, regions and WSBC read the Twelve Concepts of OA Service.
- 1996b** Rescinded 2008. Superseded by 2008a.
- 1997** Rescinded 2001.
- 1998** Rescinded 2008. Superseded by 2008a.
- 1999** Amended 2004 and 2005. The following policy statement was adopted:
An online or telephone group will be registered with World Service as long as the listed group meets the following criteria:
- 1) Take place in “real-time”;
 - 2) Is fully interactive; and
 - 3) Fulfill the definition of an OA group as contained in Subpart B, Article V, Section 1 of Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. Bylaws.

- 2000a** Amended 2005. The following policy statement was adopted:
No OA members shall be prevented from attending, sharing, leading and/or serving as a speaker at an OA meeting due to choice of food plan. Groups sharing food plan information must adhere to OA's policies on outside literature, as well as copyright law.
- 2000b** The following policy statement was adopted:
Terms used in the bylaws and policies that refer to communications, including report(s), response(s), document(s) and notice(s), shall be understood to include suitable electronic transmissions. The term "postmark" includes appropriate electronic date/time stamping.
- 2001** It was adopted that:
There will continue to be a delegate registration fee (\$65 for WSBC 2000) adjusted as deemed necessary by the BOT. A portion of this fee is nonrefundable based on cost.
- 2002a** Deleted 2005.
- 2002b** Deleted 2005.
- 2003** It was adopted that:
An encryption program be implemented no later than August 1, 2003 to allow for secure transmission of all meeting information submitted via the OA Web site. This program will safeguard the personal anonymity of members.
- 2004a** It was adopted that:
The WSO have proposal forms available on the OA Web site with detailed online instructions for submitting the proposals. The forms are to include an email address for the maker of the proposal.
- 2004b** Amended 2009. It was adopted that:
Appeals Process for Intergroups/Service Boards Denied Delegates Credentials at WSBC:
- Pursuant to OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article X, Section 3 – Delegates, the following appeals process will be utilized to provide affected intergroups/service boards a means by which their grievance may be heard in time to seat delegates at the WSBC in question, should they prevail upon appeal:
- 1) The Board of Trustees will notify the intergroup or service board of any challenges to delegate credentials within thirty days of receipt of delegate information by the WSO.
 - 2) Each region will provide, at the time they submit their delegate information, a list of up to five individuals willing to serve on an Appeals Committee in the event of denial of delegate credentials. The Appeals Review Committee shall be composed of two members of the Board of Trustees, two region chairmen, and two representatives of the region bringing the appeal.
 - 3) The Appeals Review Committee, via electronic and/or written communications, will consider relevant information and collectively decide the final disposition of each appeal with a deadline of one month prior to the first session of the upcoming WSBC.
 - 4) At the expense of the intergroup or service board, a telephone conference call may be scheduled to review the findings of the committee within two weeks of notification of the Appeal Review Committee's disposition.

2005a It was adopted that:
Business Conference policies that have been completed, or have passed their “sunset” date, be presented by the Bylaws trustee cochair to the chairman of the Board of Trustees for removal at the next Business Conference.

2005b Rescinded 2011.

2005c It was adopted to:
Combine WSBC Policies 1987d, 1988c and 1999b to read: The World Service Business Conference (WSBC) adopts as policy the following procedures for the submission and consideration of all a) new business motions, b) policy motions, and c) bylaw amendments to Subpart B of the Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. Bylaws.

- 1) All submissions of proposed new business motions, policy motions and/or amendments to Subpart B of the Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. Bylaws shall include a) a statement of intent; b) a statement of the procedures necessary for the implementation of the proposal (if necessary); c) a statement of estimated cost associated with the proposal; d) a history of related new business items or bylaw amendments that were voted upon by the WSBC in the past five years and the results of those votes; and e) up to one page of arguments in favor of each new business item or bylaw amendment submitted by the maker of the motion at the time of submission.
- 2) The Conference agenda questionnaire include all proposed new business and policy motions and bylaw amendments that have been submitted within the announced postmarked deadline, including those deemed out of order with the exception of those such motions and bylaw amendments that, based upon opinions from legal counsel, are deemed to be defamatory.

Proposals included in the agenda questionnaire that are deemed out of order must include within the “WSBC Motions Review Committee Comments” an explanation of this determination, and at the end of the “Proposed Wording” the parenthetical comment “deemed out of order: See WSBC Motions Review Committee Comments below.”

Additionally, the WSBC Motions Review Committee must also include an explanation of the general nature of the motion or bylaw amendment that resulted in it being deemed defamatory by legal counsel and therefore not printed in the Conference agenda questionnaire.

2006 It was adopted to:
Change the name of the HIPM (Hospitals, Institutions, Professionals and the Military) Committee to “Professional Outreach” Committee.

2007 Rescinded 2009.

2008a It was adopted that:
The Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees may discontinue printing Conference-approved literature for low-demand reasons when it is no longer cost effective to reprint and maintain in the OA literature inventory. Every August, an annual report of sales of Conference-approved literature will be provided to the Executive Committee. Discontinuation of printing does not remove the Conference Seal of Approval. Conference-approved literature which is no longer printed will be made available for downloading from the OA Web site.

2008a (continued)

WSBC delegates may remove the Conference Seal of Approval by a two-thirds vote. If the motion is approved by the Conference, the designated literature will not be reprinted. If the literature is discontinued for nonobservance of Traditions, sales of that literature will cease immediately; it will be removed from inventory and will not be distributed for any reason. Sales of literature that is discontinued for any reason other than noncompliance with Traditions will cease after the depletion of remaining inventory.

Notification to the Fellowship shall be through appropriate WSO publications, such as *Lifeline* and *A Step Ahead*.

A copy marked “discontinued” with the date the piece was discontinued will be maintained in literature archives for duplication by the WSO in case of special requests. An appropriate amount will be charged for the time and cost of duplicating, mailing, etc.

2008b It was adopted to:

Create an Overeaters Anonymous media policy.

To raise public awareness, Overeaters Anonymous and associated service bodies may send press releases to or make use of special events/promotions in newspapers, magazines, television, radio, Web sites, billboards and other means of public media, providing personal anonymity is maintained for members of Overeaters Anonymous. Contact names on media communication can include any special worker associated with public awareness as well as the first names of individual Overeaters Anonymous members.

2008c It was adopted to:

Create an Overeaters Anonymous public relations policy.

If Overeaters Anonymous is to continue to exist, it must continue to grow in order to fulfill its primary purpose of carrying its message to the compulsive eater who still suffers and to reach those who are not yet aware of the existence of our Fellowship.

We fulfill this primary purpose most effectively by attraction and cooperation—not promotion or affiliation. For the guidance of our Fellowship, here are definitions of those terms:

To Attract: To draw by other than physical influence; to invite; to draw to; to encourage approach

To Promote: To push forward; to further advance, as in a business venture (implies “hard sell,” advancement for profit)

Cooperation: Joint operation or action (implies coming together of two or more people to work together for a common goal or benefit or on a common problem)

Affiliation: Association or close connection; a uniting (implies lending one’s name, endorsement, legal or financial partnership)

Overeaters Anonymous is attracting when it tells people why we are, what we are, what we do and how; we let them know that we are available if and when help is needed. We state the facts, which are communicated via the press, radio, TV, Internet and films, always stressing personal anonymity at the public level.

2008c (continued)

Overeaters Anonymous is cooperating when it works with others*, rather than alone. Working with others broadens our scope and contacts and we reach more of those in need.

Hiring outside contractors or service companies is not considered an affiliation.

**Examples could include, but are not limited to, hospitals, doctors, nurses, clergymen, treatment centers, educators, dieticians, nutritionists, employee assistance programs and health spas.*

2008d It was adopted to:

Create an Overeaters Anonymous public service announcements policy.

To raise public awareness, Overeaters Anonymous and associated service bodies may make use of public service announcements in appropriate newspapers, magazines, television, radio, Web sites, billboards and other means of public media.

2008e It was adopted to:

Create an Overeaters Anonymous paid ads policy.

To raise public awareness, Overeaters Anonymous and associated service bodies may purchase ads in appropriate newspapers, magazines, television, radio, Web sites, billboards and other public media.

2008f It was adopted that:

The Overeaters Anonymous World Service Office (WSO) sell recovery chips marked with years from 1 to 20, 25, 30, 35, 40.

2009a It was adopted that:

The World Service Office provide Web site templates for optional use by OA service bodies and groups in creating or revising their Web sites.

2009b It was adopted that:

December 12 (12/12) each year be designated as OA's International Twelfth-Step-Within Day, the purpose of which will be to encourage OA service boards, meetings and individual members to reach out to those within the Fellowship who are still suffering from compulsive eating behaviors.

2009c It was adopted to:

Establish a special fund to assist in the translating of OA literature, forms, correspondence, Web site and other materials to languages other than English. Money in this fund is in addition to the translation committee's budget. The BOT will establish guidelines to allocate the funds.

2009d It was adopted to:

Create a Web/Technology Conference Committee starting at WSBC 2010.

2010a The following policy statement was adopted:

Statement on Approved Literature

In accordance with our Traditions, we suggest that OA groups maintain unity and honor our Traditions by selling and displaying only approved books and pamphlets at their meetings. This includes OA Conference- and board-approved literature; AA Conference-approved literature; and locally produced OA literature. Locally produced literature must be developed according to the *OA Guidelines for Locally Produced Literature*, and should be used with the greatest discretion. Local literature should be considered temporary and discontinued when OA literature approved for general use is available to cover the topic.

2010b It was adopted to:
Add a ninth tool: “Action Plan.”

2010c It was adopted that:
The WSBC Final Conference Report be made available electronically. All delegates and service bodies will continue to receive the printed version unless otherwise requested.

2010d It was adopted to:
Establish a Youth in OA Conference Committee.

2010e It was adopted to:
Require all groups (face-to-face and virtual) and service bodies (intergroups, service boards, regions) wishing to register electronically with the WSO to provide at least one email contact and name when submitting their registration request. The required email address is for use within the OA organization and will not be published.

2011a The following policy statement was adopted:

Statement on Public Media

While Overeaters Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues, including social media, the delegates of the 2011 World Service Business Conference recommend against any OA member, group or service body endorsing (sponsoring, creating, funding or using) *for OA purposes* any public media of communication where the personal anonymity of OA members cannot be maintained.

2011b It was adopted to:
Include the tools of recovery of OA in the Conference Policy Manual.

The following are the tools of recovery of OA: A Plan of Eating, Sponsorship, Meetings, Telephone, Writing, Literature, Anonymity, Service and Action Plan.

2011c It was adopted that:
Overeaters Anonymous Fellowship bestow the title of founder to Rozanne S.

****END****

Note: The World Service Office shall oversee that the Business Conference minutes are researched annually in order to update this summary with any Business Conference motions which have a continuing effect. This includes new, revised or rescinded motions adopted by the World Service Business Conference.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS, INC.
BUSINESS CONFERENCE POLICY MANUAL
APPENDIX A – RESCISSIONS AND DELETIONS

- 1977a** It was adopted that:
The price be put back on the literature. (*Rescinded 2001*)
- 1979a** It was adopted that:
AA-approved literature to be sold at the WS Convention, with list to be submitted from the Literature Committee to the board for approval. (*Deleted 1989*)
- 1979b** It was adopted that:
Any activity (i.e., marathons, conventions and retreats) not sponsored by a registered group, an intergroup, region or OA as a whole be considered an outside enterprise not to be endorsed or promoted by OA and as such not appear in a world service publication. Any marathon, convention or retreat that offers for sale any items that are not Conference-approved, be considered an outside enterprise and also not be publicized in OA publications. (*Deleted 1989*)
- 1982a** After a presentation/discussion on whether OA should produce literature on anorexia nervosa or other eating disorders, the following statement was adopted:
Overeaters Anonymous does not have any literature for specific eating disorders other than compulsive overeating. We welcome in love and fellowship all who have the desire to stop eating compulsively. (*Rescinded 1999*)
- 1982b** After a presentation/discussion on using an OA/AA-approved literature list which includes the 1976 Business Conference Statement on OA/AA-approved literature, the following was adopted that:

The current World Service Business Conference policy on literature be a list (to be updated as necessary) which includes the amended 1976 Statement on OA/AA-approved literature: “In accordance with our Traditions, we suggest OA groups maintain unity and protect our Traditions by selling only program books and pamphlets at their meetings. This would include AA Conference-approved literature and OA Conference- and board-approved literature. Intergroup or group prepared local literature should be used with the greatest discretion. Even then, we suggest that you submit it to the World Service Office for their information. This type of local literature should be considered temporary and discontinued when OA literature approved for general use is available to cover the topic.” (The complete list which includes this statement, literature and explanations is available from the World Service Office.) (*Rescinded 2010*)
- 1982d** It was adopted that:
The Board of Trustees presents a written Business Conference report of all Board of Trustees’ policies, to be updated for each Business Conference beginning May 1983. (*Rescinded 2001*)

1987a Amended 1997. A policy statement on food plans was adopted:
The OA 1997 World Service Business Conference, after careful consideration, believes that although many individual OA members choose to follow a plan of eating for their personal plan of recovery, offering food plans at OA meetings is a violation of Tradition Ten. While each OA member is free to choose a personal plan of eating to achieve abstinence, OA as a whole cannot print, endorse or distribute food plan information to members.

Nutrition is a most controversial outside issue; the hiring of professionals to produce food plans for use at meetings also violates the Eighth Tradition, as we need always remain nonprofessional. Groups endorsing any food plans by distributing them at their meetings affect OA as a whole. We ask all groups, intergroups and regions of OA to adhere to the above policy statement and discontinue the use of food plan information at meetings. We ought best concern ourselves with our suggested program of recovery—the Twelve Steps. (*Rescinded 2000*)

1988a Regions:
Regional Assemblies
Regions may meet more often for the conduct of business as necessary. (*Deleted 2005*)

1989b Changes and deletions in the Business Conference Policy Manual were adopted. See sections marked “Revised 1989” or “Deleted 1989.” (*Deleted 2003*)

1992d The following policy statement adopted that:
The World Service Business Conference resolves to welcome anorexics and bulimics in the OA Fellowship as full and equal members. (*Rescinded 1998*)

1993d It was adopted that:
Beginning 1994 the World Service Office will charge a twenty-dollar (\$20) nonrefundable fee to register a World Service Business Conference delegate. (*Rescinded 2001*)

1993e It was adopted that:
Until such time as the World Service Business Conference adopts concepts for OA, that all OA service bodies study and utilize AA’s Twelve Concepts as guidelines for their service. (*Deleted 1998*)

1994c The World Service Business Conference 1994 adopted:

- 1) The ultimate responsibility and authority for OA world services reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.
- 2) The OA groups have delegated to World Service Business Conference the active maintenance of our world services; thus, World Service Business Conference is the voice, authority and effective conscience of OA as a whole.
- 3) The right of decision, based on trust, makes effective leadership possible.
- 4) The right of participation ensures equality of opportunity for all in the decision-making process.
- 5) Individuals have the right of appeal and petition in order to ensure that their opinions and personal grievances will be carefully considered.
- 6) The World Service Business Conference has entrusted the Board of Trustees with the primary responsibility for the administration of Overeaters Anonymous.

1994c (continued)

- 7) The Board of Trustees has legal rights and responsibilities accorded to them by OA Bylaws, Subpart A; the rights and responsibilities of the World Service Business Conference are accorded to it by Tradition and by OA Bylaws, Subpart B.
- 8) The Board of Trustees has delegated to its Executive Committee the responsibility to administer the World Service Office.
- 9) Able, trusted servants, together with sound and appropriate methods of choosing them, are indispensable for effective functioning at all service levels.
- 10) Service responsibility is balanced by carefully defined service authority; therefore, duplication of efforts is avoided.
- 11) Trustee administration of the World Service Office should always be assisted by the best standing committees, executives, staffs, and consultants.
- 12) The spiritual foundation for OA service ensures that:
 - a) no OA committee or service body shall ever become the seat of perilous wealth or power;
 - b) sufficient operating funds, plus an ample reserve, shall be OA's prudent financial principle;
 - c) no OA member shall ever be placed in a position of unqualified authority;
 - d) all important decisions shall be reached by discussion, vote, and whenever possible, by substantial unanimity;
 - e) no service action shall ever be personally punitive or an incitement to public controversy; and
 - f) no OA service committee or service board shall ever perform any acts of government, and each shall always remain democratic in thought and action. (*Adopted into OA Bylaws, Subpart B 1998*)

1996b It was adopted that:

The Board of Trustees may discontinue reprinting low-demand pamphlets that are no longer cost-effective to reprint and maintain in the OA literature inventory.

Discontinuance of a pamphlet:

Conference-approved pamphlets that have broad application to the Fellowship and which fall within the lowest 20 percent of ranked total pamphlet unit sales shall be considered for discontinuance.

The World Service Office publications department will provide a quarterly report indicating the unit demand volume on each Conference-approved pamphlet for review by the Executive Committee.

1996b (continued)

Those pamphlets that consistently fall below the designated 20 percent of total unit demand for four consecutive quarters may be chosen by the Executive Committee for recommendation to discontinue reprinting.

The Executive Committee will submit a motion to the Board of Trustees for approval to discontinue reprinting those pamphlets.

If the Executive Committee motion is approved by the Board of Trustees, the designated pamphlets will not be reprinted and will be removed from the OA literature catalog when the remaining inventory is depleted.

Notification to the Fellowship shall be through appropriate WSO publications, such as *Lifeline* and *A Step Ahead*.

A copy marked “discontinued” with the date the piece was discontinued will be maintained in the literature archives for duplication by the World Service Office for special requests. An appropriate amount will be charged for the time and cost of duplicating, mailing, etc. Unauthorized duplication of copyrighted discontinued pieces is prohibited.

For withdrawal of any Conference-approved pamphlet that is no longer printed; that is the pamphlet shall no longer be available for distribution to the Fellowship in any language, will require approval of the World Service Business Conference. (*Rescinded 2008*)

1997 It was adopted:

Effective with the World Service Business Conference 1998, there be established an additional per-delegate registration fee of forty-five dollars (\$45) (adjusted annually for inflation as deemed necessary by the BOT). (*Rescinded 2001*)

1998 The following policy statement was adopted to:

Discontinue Conference-approved literature for reasons other than low sales, a two-thirds vote from the delegates present and voting at the annual World Service Business Conference is needed. (*Rescinded 2008*)

2002a It was adopted that:

There will be a special Conference committee consisting of four members of the Board of Trustees, four region chairmen, and up to ten delegates to develop a plan of action to either strengthen the current OA worldwide service structure or restructure it. The result will be presented to WSBC no later than 2004. The chairman of the board will choose committee members. (*Deleted 2005*)

2002b It was adopted that:

The Board of Trustees will investigate the feasibility of establishing a toll free line for the purpose of public information and publish its reports to all service bodies by October 1, 2002. (*Deleted 2005*)

2005b It was adopted that:
WSBC 2005 directs the Board of Trustees (BOT) to implement a matching grant program whereby service bodies may apply for and receive funds from OA, Inc. for projects enhancing unity and the ability to carry the message both within and outside OA. Total yearly funding for grants shall not exceed 1 percent of total donations to the World Service Office (WSO) for the prior year. (*Rescinded 2011*)

2007 It was adopted that:
Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. conduct a Public Awareness Campaign using the services of an outside agency. Expenses connected to this campaign will be supported by member contributions to a special public awareness campaign fund established by the Board of Trustees. The BOT may use up to \$20,000 of current reserves for “seed” money to initiate the campaign. Such funds are to be reimbursed from the special fund established for this purpose. (*Rescinded 2009*)