

Service System Project Update: May 2010

This update is to coincide with the Service System Project webpage going live, to give members a quick snapshot of what is going on with the project right now and what is planned for the immediate future. Most of this update reiterates information that conference participants already received in an eblast.

The 2010 World Service Conference marked a significant milestone for the work of the Service System Project. At the conference, the board offered several structural models and options for discussion, and participants provided input on these ideas. This website is going live not long after that conference, but neither the workgroup nor the board has met to discuss and factor in the input, so be aware that the material here will be added to and revised in the months ahead.

The Service System Workgroup is scheduled to meet at the end of June with the Executive Committee of the World Board. The full board is scheduled to meet in July. Shortly after that board meeting, we will post any revisions or additional material to help us begin a discussion throughout the fellowship about our service system. We have only begun to think about how to have that discussion, and our immediate plans are centered in the United States. Clearly, we need an international strategy and we will keep you informed through updates here and in *NAWS News* as we develop that approach.

To begin, we hope to hold a series of probably five informational workshops across the US to talk with members about the models and options presented at WSC 2010 and to get feedback about the ideas. We will have a revised report, session outlines, and Flash presentations for delegates and others to use in forwarding these discussions locally as well as some type of template to help you to provide us with your input.

These workshops, focused on the service system, would take the place of two worldwide workshops in the United States for this cycle and some zonal forum attendance. We aren't sure of what would work best to forward this discussion in communities not affected by these workshops, but we welcome your ideas about how to facilitate that discussion. The US workshops will most likely be scheduled between mid-August and mid-November. We are hoping to keep costs low and make the workshops as accessible as possible for people who want to attend. Right now, we are discussing the possibility of having workshops in places where there seems to be high fellowship density; perhaps Southern or Northern California, Texas, Florida, New York (within the greater metropolitan area), and a Midwestern metropolitan area such as Chicago or Detroit.

At our next meeting we will develop materials for these workshops and revise the materials already released. We heard much good input at the conference. For instance, some participants said it would be helpful to have something that better compares our current system to the proposed models. That's the sort of improvement we will be working on. We look forward to hearing any ideas you have about the project: worldboard@na.org.

We will update the service system webpage as we have more news and develop resources: <http://www.na.org/?ID=servsys>

Together we can!