

Policy Committee Update
Judy K., Chairperson
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The purpose of the update sent each quarter by the Chairperson of the Policy Committee is to report progress and provide information on the following:

- Topics that are generated by the fellowship and discussed by the Policy Committee, issues or concerns that need clarification or interpretation in light of the Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts of Service
- Policy motions to be presented to the World Service Conference (WSC)
- Policy motions passed by the WSC

The Policy Committee finalized its work on incorporating spiritual principles into the text portions of the “Financial Matters” section of the Policy Digest, pp. 95-99. This revised, proposed text will be presented to the 2017 World Service Conference (WSC) for consideration.

The Policy Committee also finalized its proposed revision of the text “Conventions and Other Events,” pp. 85-86, and pp. 123-124 of the Policy Digest. The revised text includes core spiritual principles that characterize Al-Anon events as well as suggested criteria by which these activities can be recognized or identified as Al-Anon. Guidelines for announcing conventions and events are also included in the proposed text.

The Policy Committee reviewed the Delegate feedback posted on AFG Connects about the “open” and “closed” designations for meetings. It will present the compiled comments to the WSC for Conference members to review and pursue any changes in terminology if desired. The discussion about “open” and “closed” has revolved around Tradition Five, the principle of being welcoming, and Tradition Twelve, maintaining anonymity of members.

The Open Policy Committee meeting at the 2017 WSC will address two topics important to Al-Anon’s future: electronic (on-line) Al-Anon meetings and Tradition Four and Warranty Four, understanding group autonomy.

Policy statements are interpretations of our basic guides, the Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts. They help clarify how a Tradition or Concept might apply to a new or confusing situation that arises in Al-Anon or Alateen. Changes and additions to the Policy Digest are made only as circumstances and our growth require, since anticipating and including every specific situation would be impossible. As always, the Policy Committee welcomes all questions and suggestions from any Al-Anon and Alateen member, group, or Area regarding issues that might need further clarification or interpretation in light of our Legacies.