

GENERAL CONFERENCE 2016 LEGISLATION
Petitions submitted by UMCMA Co-Comm

“Campus” to “Collegiate” Name Change

Discipline ¶ 232

¶ 232 – The Local Church: *Annual Report of Members Attending Colleges and Universities*

The pastor shall report annually the names and contact information for all professing and baptized members, attending colleges and universities to the district superintendent, the chairperson of the Conference Board of Higher Education and ~~Campus~~ Collegiate Ministry by one month before the start of the school term and to the charge conference. The Conference Board of Higher Education and ~~Campus~~ Collegiate Ministry has the responsibility to share the information with the appropriate UM-related ~~campus~~ Collegiate ministries.

RATIONALE: United Methodist Collegiate Ministry Association and the Collegiate Ministry office of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry has collaboratively realized the need for a more inclusive term than campus ministry to represent the fullness of the Church’s ministry with students. The phrase collegiate ministry is a term that fully includes campus ministries [Wesley Foundations and the like], college/university chaplains, ecumenical ministries, and church-based ministry with college students.

Campus Ministry Serves All Connected to the Local Church

Discipline ¶ 232

¶ 232 – The Local Church: *Annual Report of Members Attending Colleges and Universities*

The pastor shall report annually the names and contact information for all professing and baptized members, and all other individuals from their local church attending colleges and universities to the district superintendent, and the chairperson of the Conference Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry by one month before the start of the school term and to the charge conference. The Conference Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry has the responsibility to share the information with the appropriate UM-related campus ministries.

RATIONALE: The nature of collegiate ministry is such that we want to serve all that are connected to the local church not just those who are baptized and professing members.

Changing “Address” to “Contact Information”

Discipline ¶ 247.16

¶ 247.16 – The Local Church: The Charge Conference

The charge conference shall receive a report on the names and ~~addresses~~ contact information of college students to send ~~to the United Methodist campus ministers and chaplains~~. The campus ministry coordinator [para. 254] will send the information to the United Methodist campus ministers and chaplains [see para. 254].

RATIONALE: In this day and age, addresses are not always the most useful way to contact individuals, this change provides for a broader means to contact students. The responsibility for sending this information was not clear, this addition provides clarity about whose responsibility it is to ensure this information is handled properly.

Including Chaplains in Reporting

Discipline ¶ 254

¶ 254 – The Local Church: Specialized Ministries

Other Ministry Group Coordinators—In order to fulfill the mission of the local church, the charge conference may elect annually a coordinator or ministry group chairperson for any or all of these areas: Christian unity and interreligious relationships, church and society, community volunteers, education, evangelism, higher education and campus ministry, missions, prayer advocacy, religion and race, status and role of women, earth advocacy, stewardship, worship, advocacy for persons with special needs, and church media resources. Every local United Methodist Church may have a campus ministry coordinator, who may have membership on the church council. A primary responsibility of the campus ministry coordinator shall be to report the names and contact information (i.e., addresses, phone numbers and e-mail addresses) of all college students from their local church each semester to the appropriate United Methodist campus ministry, such as the Wesley Foundation and Chaplains of United Methodist schools. The campus ministry coordinator shall be encouraged to contact every college student from their church each semester by letter, e-mail, or phone and encourage the student’s active participation in United Methodist student ministry. The campus ministry coordinator in every church shall also promote financial and other support of United Methodist Campus ministries, such as the Wesley Foundations, within their local church.

RATIONALE: Chaplains, no less than Wesley Foundation Directors should receive college student contact information from local churches.

Collegiate Ministry Approved for Provisional Members

Discipline ¶ 326.2

Para. 326.2 - Service of Provisional Members

2. Provisional members planning to give their lives as elders, in full connection shall be in ministries of Word, Sacrament, Order, and Service in the local church or in an approved extension ministry, including collegiate ministry. A provisional member preparing for ordination as an elder shall be licensed for pastoral ministry (¶ 315).

RATIONALE: Ministries that provide opportunities for the regular proclamation of the word, the administration of the sacraments and the ordering of the life of the community should be fully considered as a valid appointment for provisional elders. The nature of collegiate ministry provides for all of these opportunities.

Collegiate Ministry Counts Toward Full Connection and Ordination as Elder

Discipline ¶ 335

¶ 335 – Requirements for Admission to Full Connection and Ordination as Elder

Provisional members who are candidates for full connection and ordination as elders and have been provisional members for at least two years may be admitted into membership in full connection in an annual conference and approved for elder's ordination by two-thirds vote of the clergy members in full connection of the annual conference, upon recommendation by two-thirds vote of the Board of Ordained Ministry, after they have qualified as follows. They shall have: (1) served full-time under episcopal appointment for at least two full annual conference years following the completion of the educational requirements specified in (3)(b) below. Years of service in any ministry setting requiring the regular proclamation of the word, the administration of the sacraments and the short or long-term ordering of the life of the community of faith ~~may~~ count toward the fulfillment of this requirement. Such ministry settings include ~~may~~ campus ministry, college and university chaplaincy, hospital and prison chaplaincy, military chaplaincy, overseas/mission work and other ministries so recognized by the Division of Ordained Ministry of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. . .

RATIONALE: Ministries that provide opportunities for the regular proclamation of the word, the administration of the sacraments and the ordering of the life of the community should be fully considered as a valid appointment for provisional elders. The nature of collegiate ministry provides for all of these opportunities.