

Mystery UNFOLDING



2011 - 2012 ANNUAL REPORT
LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE OF
WOMEN RELIGIOUS

Annual Report of the
Leadership Conference of Women Religious
2011 — 2012

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Mystery: The Predominant Genre

Our LCWR annual assemblies are bookends, holding between them a variety of texts. A theme connects the volumes, but each is penned with the distinct flavor of a specific region. Sometimes, as was the case this year, there is a turn of events that leads to a surprise ending, or more accurately, to a still-evolving story line that we construct together. Mystery is the predominant genre.

“Mystery Unfolding: Religious Life for the World” framed the beginning of this year’s LCWR story with a tone of contemplative depth and palpable solidarity among us. That assembly theme was an invitation to continue deepening our capacity for letting go and perceiving the new, two intertwining movements weaving an unfolding narrative.

The letting go happened in very concrete ways. We mourned the death of Jane Burke, SSND and bid farewell to other national staff members who had served LCWR for many years: Marie Lucey, OSF; Pat Cormack, SCSC; and Marianne Benson. *Women & Spirit* concluded with a wonderful final showing in Sacramento and was laid to rest with fitting celebration and ceremony.

The new we are perceiving is equally tangible. In the national office we experience the freshness and energy

of Janet Mock, CSJ; Ann Scholz, SSND; Chris Costello; and Mary J. Novak. The contemplative reflection process continues to take us to deeper places within regions, congregations, and LCWR processes. It is more challenging to discern the unfolding mystery in the doctrinal assessment. Though the path is unclear and certainly not one we would have chosen, God is doing something new in our midst in ways we never would have imagined. We have witnessed an overwhelming outpouring of support for LCWR and for women religious in general.

In the pain and the promise, something new is being called forth from us even as we wait for the way ahead to make itself clear. We pray for discerning minds and courageous hearts.

Pat Farrell, OSF
LCWR President

Florence Deacon, OSF
LCWR President-Elect

Mary Hughes, OP
LCWR Past President

In the pain and the promise,

something new

is being called forth from us even as we wait for the way ahead to make itself clear.



Mary Hughes, OP; Pat Farrell, OSF; Florence Deacon, OSF

How Will We Invest Our Equity for the *Renewal of the Church?*

In preparation for the 2012 LCWR assembly, the Contemporary Religious Life Committee struggled through several meetings to articulate a title that would capture a theme for this moment in LCWR's history. "Mystery Unfolding" came easily; LCWR has been engaged in the contemplation of God as Holy Mystery for several years. Slowly, "Leading in the Evolutionary Now" emerged. The title captured the challenging ambiguity of our times. Even as leaders attend to the demanding practicalities of now, they must be attentive to what is evolving locally, globally, and within the new frontier of human consciousness. On one level, this has been the work of good leadership at every point in history. What makes our times unique is the rapidity of change, locally and internationally. In addition, we seem to lack adequate structures to contain and manage the flow of information that is shaping our societies within the global context.

It was an unexpected grace, then, in the midst of the turbulent, unsettling months since LCWR received the mandate from the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith to experience the spontaneous outpouring of support from laity in the United States and abroad. Learning from our critics is important;

the appreciation for our work, however, has been overwhelming. These letters are not simply words of support; they are stories of faith - stories that must help shape our response to the mandate. Laity want to stand with us as together we develop structures to navigate today's terrain. One woman said to me, "You sisters may never again have the equity in stature and credibility that you have now. How are you going to invest it for the renewal of the Church?"

As we gather in St. Louis for the 2012 assembly, this is the question before us. Welcome to the evolutionary now!

Janet Mock, CSJ
LCWR Executive Director



Even as leaders attend to the demanding practicalities of now, they must be attentive to

what is evolving

locally, globally, and within the new frontier of human consciousness.

2011 LCWR ASSEMBLY

Mystery Unfolding: Religious Life for the World

Presentations by:

Barbara E. Reid, OP



Maricarmen Bracamontes, OSB



2010-2011 LCWR President
Mary Hughes, OP



The LCWR assembly participants promised to call their elected officials and urge them to reform US immigration law after hearing a panel of immigrant women describe the plight of immigrants in this country. The members also unanimously approved a resolution to strengthen bonds with sisters throughout the world.

Throughout the assembly the participants engaged in communal contemplative processes to discern how they may best respond to the needs of the world and what this may require of women religious at this time.



Outstanding Leadership Award

LCWR conferred its highest honor, the Outstanding Leadership Award, on **Carol Keehan, DC**, president and CEO of Catholic Health Association, a lifelong advocate for healthcare that provides adequate attention to the nation's most vulnerable citizens.



Approximately

650

LCWR members and associates attended the LCWR assembly.



Garden Grove, California

Call for Civil Discourse

LCWR issued a public statement calling for “a return to civil discourse that promotes the common good, reaches out to others, engages in constructive dialogue, and seeks together the way forward.” The statement was issued as a press release and shared with the House and Senate leadership of both parties, and President Barack Obama.



*Behold, I am Doing Something New ...
Do You Not Perceive It?*

The Contemporary Religious Life Project



As religious life in the United States continues to experience dramatic changes and shifts, women religious are called to not only engage in the challenges of the present moment, but also to prepare their religious institutes for a vastly unknown future. Women religious across the country recognize that the life as they have known it in recent decades will most likely not continue much longer, and that religious life is about to be brought forth in new ways. What these ways are is not yet clear.

As a conference, LCWR has chosen to move through these times together - reading the signs of the times and listening from a space of communal contemplation for what seems to be emerging. For this reason, LCWR has been building into its assemblies, regional meetings, national board meetings, and other committee meetings time for its members to engage in communal contemplation of the realities of the world today and what those movements, shifts, and trends may be asking of women religious. The suggested process for this communal contemplation centers around the passage from Isaiah 43:19 - "Behold, I am doing something new... Do you not perceive it?" Insights that arise as the members engage in the process are posted on the LCWR website. All members and leadership teams are encouraged to pray with those reflections.



The LCWR national board engages in the contemplative process at its February 2012 meeting in Tucson, Arizona



The LCWR Contemporary Religious Life Committee shepherds the contemplative process by preparing the materials for use of the process in regional meetings and analyzing and responding to the insights that emerge. Much of what arises from the process impacts the committee's planning of upcoming LCWR assemblies.

The Contemporary Religious Life Project

MAXIMIZING LCWR'S LIFE & EFFECTIVENESS

Given the changing demographics and economic realities of LCWR and its member congregations, the conference established the Strategic Operational Planning Committee to explore ideas for maximizing LCWR's life and effectiveness.

The committee directed its work for 2011-2012 on the following goals:

1. To propose a viable national structure for LCWR that is able to serve its membership going forward.
2. To foster ongoing dialogue between the regions and the national board on issues significant for the whole conference.
3. To engage the regions in conversation about regional viability



and the deeper questions facing their congregations and religious life today.

LCWR Executive Committee

The LCWR executive committee met in person and by conference call, and at times jointly with the executive committee of the Conference of Major Superiors of Men.





The LCWR National Board

The 21-member national board of LCWR met three times this year -- August, February and May.

Among the topics included on the agenda of the post-assembly meeting in August were:

- An evaluation of the assembly
- Connecting on regional levels with women religious from other countries living in the United States
- The ministry of corporate responsibility for congregations of women and men religious
- Report from the gathering of members of the International Union of Superiors General following the assembly.

Included on the agenda for the February meeting were:

- The need for a context statement for both religious life in these times, and for LCWR as it continues to operate now and into the future
- Healthcare reform and the HHS mandate
- The need to encourage LCWR members to consider service as an LCWR officer
- The LCWR resolution process and its purpose for the conference
- The experience of the apostolic visitation
- Initiatives to assist Catholic sisters living and working in Haiti
- Ways of supporting Catholic sisters who have immigrated to the United States

In May the board gathered for a special session to discuss the report that the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith issued in April.

The board and staff concluded each of these meetings by engaging the LCWR “Behold, I am Doing Something New Contemplative Process” to corporately reflect on the meeting proceedings in light of what they may be calling women religious to in the future.

Joint Meeting with CMSM

In February the LCWR board spent some of its meeting time with the board of the Conference of Major Superiors of Men. Among the agenda items discussed jointly were:

- Review of and suggestions for how the USCCB may update its “Guidelines for Receiving Pastoral Ministers in the United States”
- Plans for a workshop on palliative care sponsored by the Catholic Health Association, LCWR, and CMSM
- An effort being undertaken by LCWR, CMSM, the Religious Formation Conference (RFC), and the Resource Center for Religious Insti-

tutes (RCRI) to explore ways of collaborating more closely

- The feasibility of holding concurrent assemblies with other organizations serving women and men religious

In addition, Janice Bader, CPPS, executive director of the National Religious Retirement Office, and Dan Ward, OSB, executive director of the Resource Center for Religious Institutes, attended the joint meeting and shared current data on religious institutes in the United States. The data show a precipitous decline in the number of religious in compensated ministry, an increase in the average age of those serving in leadership, the number of institutes that will run out of funds within the next five to 10 years, and the growing complexity of the decisions that institutes are now facing.



Leadership Development



Given LCWR's diverse population and varying needs, the conference offers a variety of resources aimed to assist members with their spiritual and professional development as leaders. These include the following programs.

New Leader Workshop

Approximately 90 LCWR members attended the March 2012 LCWR New Leader Workshop held in Mundelein, Illinois.

Through presentations and small group processes, the participants engaged in sessions focused on spiritual leadership, canon and civil law, human development, team-building, and effective collaboration with staff. During each day of the workshop, participants also met as teams to explore the implications of the presentations for them as a group and for their congregations.

Leadership Retreat

Twenty-four LCWR members participated in LCWR's leadership retreat offered in Tucson, Arizona in February. The retreat centers on pertinent themes for religious life leaders today and provides input, contemplative space, rituals, and opportunities for spiritual direction and sharing.

Annotated Bibliography

In an effort to keep members apprised of resources, LCWR provides members with an annotated bibliography. Compiled by the LCWR Contemporary Religious Life Committee, the online listing includes readings that can help inform the shaping of religious life as it moves into the future.

'Leadership Pathways'

With the assistance of current and former LCWR members, LCWR staff, and outside consultants, LCWR created the framework for a multifaceted program that offers leadership formation through a variety of modalities.

Currently called Leadership Pathways, the program design includes online learning on a number of topics pertinent to religious life leadership, the formation of peer learning groups, and the creation of mentoring opportunities for leaders.

LCWR will hire a program director

to coordinate these efforts who will begin later in 2012.

Leadership Development Collaborative

LCWR is part of a collaborative initiated by the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas to create a multi-congregational, international leadership development program for vowed members, associates, and co-members of religious congregations who are under 60 years of age.

The leadership collaborative seeks to prepare younger women to assume leadership in the church and in civil society, recognizing that the future will require leadership expertise within religious congregations and their formally established associations, and in external ministerial, ecclesial, and societal arenas.



Communicating the Message

L CWR uses a variety of modalities for communicating with its members. These include:

- a newly-redesigned website
- a Facebook page
- an electronic messaging system
- *Occasional Papers*, a bi-annual journal
- *Update*, the monthly newsletter
- Resolutions to Action, a quarterly publication on justice matters
- a daily reflection book



LCWR website: lcwr.org



LCWR Facebook page: facebook.com/lcwr.org



LCWR electronic messaging system



Relating with the Church



LCWR Officers Meet with CICLESAL Secretary

Archbishop Joseph Tobin, CSsR, secretary of the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life invited the leadership of the Council for Major Superiors of Women Religious (CMSWR) and LCWR to a meeting in March to discuss the response of women religious in the United States to the apostolic visitation. LCWR past-president Mary Hughes, OP and LCWR executive director Janet Mock, CSJ joined CMSWR chairperson Mother Regina Marie Gorman, OCD and assistant chairperson Mother Ann Marie Karlovic, OP for the meeting at the apostolic nunciature in Washington, DC. The new apostolic nuncio, Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano, also attended the meeting to strengthen his understanding of religious life in the United States.

The meeting provided an opportunity for the leaders of the two conferences to share the experiences of their members with the apostolic visitation and voice insights about the process and its impact on the lives of US women religious.

All present at the meetings shared their concerns about preserving religious life as it moves into the future at a time when many institutes are rapidly decreasing in size. Mary and Janet were able to share what LCWR is doing to study the trends occurring within US religious life and some of the relationships being

established among various congregations as a way of supporting one another in these critical times.

Officers Travel to Rome for Annual Consultation

The LCWR presidency (Pat Farrell, OSF; Florence Deacon, OSF; and Mary Hughes, OP) and executive director (Janet Mock, CSJ) represented the conference on its annual visit to Rome. This year's schedule included visits with:

- The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith
- The Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life
- The Pontifical Council for Inter-Religious Dialogue
- The Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace
- The Pontifical Council for the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Immigrants
- The Pontifical Council for Social Communications
- The Pontifical Council for Promoting the New Evangelization
- The US Ambassador to the Vatican
- The leadership of Union of Superiors General and the International Union of Superiors General
- The superiors general of religious institutes

with members in the United States

Some of these visits were made jointly with the officers of the Conference of Major Superiors of Men.

CDF Calls for Reform of LCWR

During LCWR's annual visit on April 18, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith (CDF) informed the LCWR officers that it had called for a reform of the organization. The communication was delivered by the CDF prefect Cardinal William Levada and members of the CDF staff.

Cardinal Levada shared with the officers the document, "The Doctrinal Assessment of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious," which outlines the findings of the CDF-initiated doctrinal assessment of LCWR which CDF began in 2008.



Florence Deacon, OSF; Pat Farrell, OSF, Archbishop Joseph Tobin, CSsR; Janet Mock, CSJ; and Mary Hughes, OP

Relating with the Church

The document indicates that CDF named as its apostolic delegate for this initiative Archbishop Peter Sartain of Seattle, who will be assisted by Bishops Leonard Blair and Thomas John Paprocki. According to the CDF document, the apostolic delegate's role is to provide "review, guidance and approval, where necessary, of the work of the LCWR."

The mandate for the delegate "will be for a period of up to five years, as deemed necessary," the document notes. It also calls for additional advisers - "bishops, women



Pat Farrell, OSF on CNN Español

religious and other experts - to work with the LCWR leadership to achieve the goals necessary to address the problems outlined in this statement." It also called for a formal link between the delegate and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).

The mandate of the delegate is to include the following:

- To revise LCWR statutes to ensure greater clarity about the scope of the mission and responsibilities of this conference of major superiors.
- To review LCWR plans and programs, including assemblies and publications, to ensure that the scope of the LCWR's mission is fulfilled in accord with church teachings and discipline.
- To create new LCWR programs for member congregations for the development of initial and ongoing formation material that provides a deepened understanding of the church's doctrine of the faith.

- To review and offer guidance in the application of liturgical norms and texts.
- To review LCWR links with affiliated organizations.

Media in the United States and in other countries followed the CDF-LCWR story closely and, as a result, thousands of individuals, organizations, and groups contacted the LCWR national office to express their support. Among the themes noted in their messages were: gratitude, solidarity with Catholic sisters, and the identification of this moment as an important time in the history of the Catholic church. Many people also found creative ways of expressing their solidarity including prayer vigils in numerous cities across the country, social media campaigns, publication of statements of support in newspapers, letter-writing efforts, and the creation of bumper stickers, magnets, pins, and more with slogans of support for Catholic sisters.

The LCWR national board called a special session at the end of May to review the CDF report and plan a response to it. Following the meeting, LCWR released a statement where it noted the board's concerns about the report which it felt was "based on unsubstantiated accusations and the result of a flawed process that lacked transparency." The statement noted as well that "the sanctions imposed were disproportionate to the concerns raised" and that it "caused scandal and pain throughout the church community and created greater polarization."

Following the board meeting, LCWR president Pat Farrell, OSF agreed to a limited number of interviews with the media. She appeared on CBS Evening News and CNN Español, and spoke with reporters from the *New York Times*, Associated Press, *National Catholic Reporter*, and Catholic News Service.

On June 12 Pat Farrell and LCWR executive director Janet Mock, CSJ returned to Rome for a two-hour meeting with CDF prefect Cardinal William Levada and Archbishop Peter Sartain. The LCWR officers had requested the time with CDF to express the board's concerns about the report.

The LCWR officers later briefed the national board via a conference call on their meeting. Following the call, LCWR released a statement where it acknowledged that the meeting with CDF was difficult because of the differing perspectives the CDF officials and the LCWR officers hold on the matters raised in the report.

The statement also addresses the claims made by some Vatican officials and US bishops that the CDF report is not a reflection on all US Catholic sisters and is directed only to LCWR. The board noted in the statement that "the actions of CDF are keenly felt by the vast majority of Catholic sisters who have elected, and therefore feel a close identity with, their leaders. Moreover, the statements and gestures of solidarity from men religious and from conferences of Catholic sisters in other countries, as well as the letters and petitions from thousands of lay supporters worldwide, indicate



Janet Mock, CSJ and Pat Farrell, OSF speak with reporters outside the Vatican

that many others are also concerned about how to live as people of faith in the complexities of these times. The concerns they have shared with LCWR will be part of the conference's discernment of its response to the CDF report."

Awards to LCWR



Catholic Charities USA

Catholic Charities USA honored LCWR with a Centennial Medal during a luncheon held during the 2011 LCWR assembly.

The Centennial Medal recognizes the valuable contributions of individuals and organizations to poverty reduction in the United States. Through their work and life, recipients of the medal have shown an extraordinary commitment to the vision and mission of Catholic Charities USA.

California State Assembly

On January 23, California Assemblyman Jim Beall introduced a resolution into the California State Assembly honoring women religious. The ceremony took place at the state capitol building in Sacramento the day before the *Women & Spirit* exhibit opened at the California History Museum, located just blocks from the capitol.

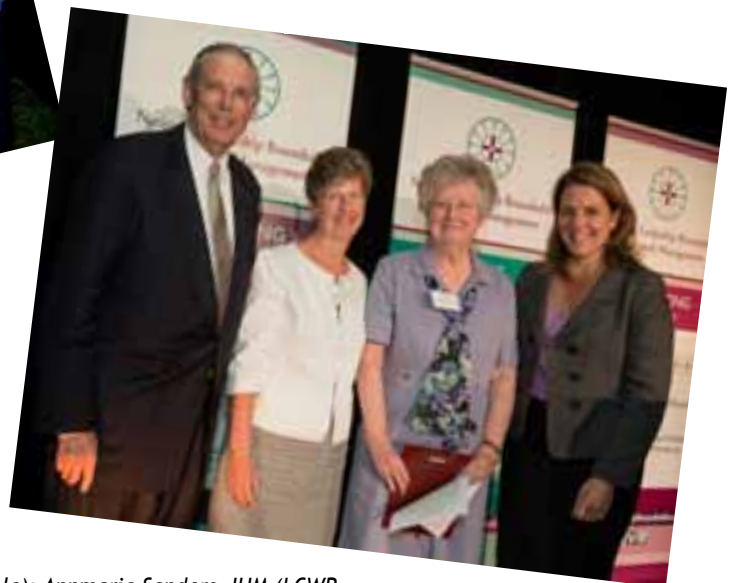
National Leadership Roundtable on Church Management

The National Leadership Roundtable honored LCWR with its 2012 Best Practices Award for *Women & Spirit: Catholic Sisters in America*. The recognition was given to honor LCWR's "outstanding commitment to excellence and visionary leadership" and noted how the exhibit was "a powerful example of how to evangelize in the modern world."

The exhibit director, Helen Maher Garvey, BVM received the award on June 27 at a banquet held on the campus of Georgetown University.



Mary Katherine Doyle, RSM, docent coordinator for the exhibit in Sacramento; and Helen Maher Garvey, BVM; accept a copy of the resolution from Assemblyman Jim Beall during a ceremony at the California state capitol building.



Geoff Boisi (chair, National Leadership Roundtable); Annmarie Sanders, IHM (LCWR staff); Helen Maher Garvey, BVM (LCWR staff); Kerry A. Robinson (executive director, Leadership Roundtable)



Women & Spirit: Catholic Sisters in America

From June 2011 to June 2012 LCWR's *Women & Spirit: Catholic Sisters in America* exhibit traveled to Mount St. Mary's College, Los Angeles, California; The Center for History, South Bend, Indiana; and the California Museum of History, Women & the Arts, Sacramento, California.

Following the closing of *Women & Spirit* in Sacramento, the exhibit was deconstructed. Usable parts of the exhibit were donated to appropriate groups, and every effort was made to deconstruct in a green way.

Recognizing that the exhibit would have a three-year life span, LCWR decided that the legacy of *Women & Spirit* would live through a documentary of the same name. Using rare archival photographs, video, film, and new history unearthed through the research process, the documentary is narrated by political commentator and author Cokie Roberts.

LCWR sells the documentary on a DVD which includes a film study guide, a digital catalogue of the exhibit, and videos from the exhibit.



Los Angeles



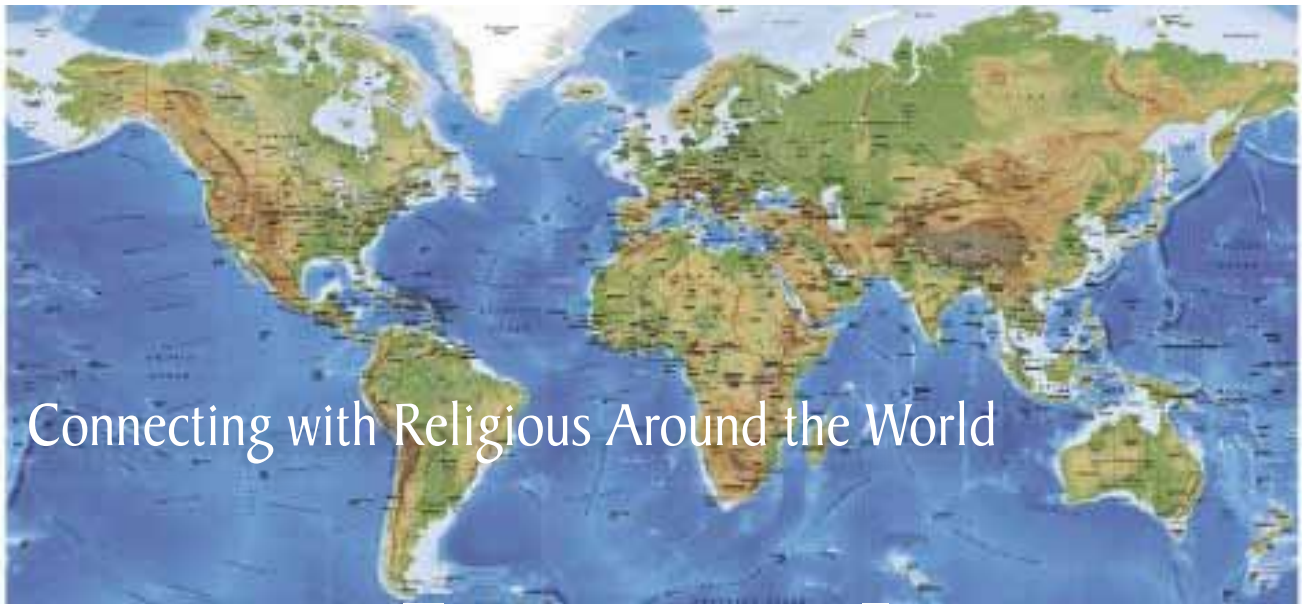
South Bend



Sacramento



Cokie Roberts narrates the documentary



Connecting with Religious Around the World

National Catholic Reporter and Hilton Foundation

The *National Catholic Reporter* invited LCWR president Pat Farrell, OSF and president-elect Florence Deacon, OSF to serve as part of a think tank to explore ways to report more broadly stories about the lives and ministries of women religious globally.

NCR, with the help of a planning grant from the Hilton Foundation, is in the midst of an eight-month study in preparation for a grant from the foundation with the intention of significantly increasing its coverage of women religious around the world.

Several other women religious attended the gathering including former LCWR president Camille D'Arienzo, RSM; LCWR member Anne Shephard, OSB; former LCWR member Esther Fangman, OSB; and LCWR associate director for communications and NCR board member Annmarie Sanders, IHM.



InterAmerican Committee

In June 2011 LCWR and CMSM hosted the InterAmerican Committee meeting in Silver Spring, Maryland. The committee, made up of the leaders of the conferences of women and men religious of the United States, Canada, and Latin America, began with an update from each conference since the committee's previous meeting in March 2010 in Quebec. The recovery efforts in Haiti since the 2010 earthquake occupied much of the meeting agenda. LCWR 2011 president Mary Hughes, OP and executive director Jane Burke, SSND represented LCWR.

In February 2012 the InterAmerican Committee met in Colombia, beginning in Bogota, and moving to Cartagena. At the meeting, the officers

exchanged information on key issues, activities, concerns, and experiences. LCWR president Pat Farrell, OSF and president-elect Florence Deacon, OSF represented LCWR.

The leaders also had the opportunity to participate in the Second Congress of New Generations of Religious Life held in Medellin. More than 160 young women and men religious from 18 Latin American countries gathered for this three-day event.

Mary Hughes, OP (standing, 3rd from left) and Jane Burke, SSND (seated, left) at the 2011 InterAmerican Committee meeting at the LCWR and CMSM offices in Silver Spring, Maryland



Pat Farrell, OSF and Florence Deacon, OSF at the 2012 InterAmerican Committee meeting in Colombia

LCWR's Social Mission Efforts

Priorities and Public Witness

The LCWR associate director for social mission, Ann Scholz, SSND, with guidance from the LCWR national board, has set priorities for LCWR's social mission efforts. These include: promoting economic justice especially in the development of US domestic and foreign affairs policies, urging Congress to take up comprehensive immigration reform, monitoring the implementation of the Affordable Health Care Act, encouraging Catholics to participate in election 2012 and to vote for the common good, and ending the scourge of human trafficking.

By focusing more clearly LCWR hoped to increase the quality and efficacy of its efforts. Since August 2011 LCWR has authored or signed 15 statements and two amici curiae briefs outlining its position on these issues in the public square. All flow from its commitment to the intrinsic value of all life, the dignity of each person, and the common good.

Regional Commitment to Social Justice

A survey of regional chairs revealed that there was some very important work for justice being accomplished at the regional level of LCWR. A number of regions have well-established justice committees. The associate director had the opportunity to meet, via conference call, with groups in Regions 2 and 7 and to work with Region 9's legislative network on the election 2012 project, "Catholics Vote for the Common Good."

Other efforts underway to link justice work across regions include: The Bakhita Initiative: U.S. Catholic Sisters United against Human Trafficking, LCWR immigration coalition, and an immigration mapping process.

Assembly Resolution

At its 2011 national assembly, LCWR members passed a resolution calling for continued engagement with women religious around the world. The resolution invited members to listen to the experiences of their sisters, to share stories, and to identify ways to strengthen mutual support in living out the Gospel mission. The 2011 resolution built on the efforts made by members to implement the 2010 resolution which focused on building relationships.

LCWR/CMSM Justice and Peace

The Justice and Peace Committee of the Conference of Major Superiors of Men (CMSM) joined the LCWR Global Concerns Committee for their annual joint meeting on June 1. Committee members shared reports detailing the efforts of each throughout the year and determined to undertake a joint project focused on immigration reform. Initially the two groups plan to map the immigration work already being done by members of each conference.

Resolutions to Action

The LCWR Global Concerns Committee continued to use its quarterly publication, *Resolutions to Action* to encourage study and reflection on justice concerns. This year's publications included "US Muslim Interfaith Dialogue" (Summer 2011) by Saadia Khan; "Economic Justice Advocacy" (Fall 2011) by Marge Clark, BVM; "Civility in Discourse: A Franciscan Approach" (Winter 2012) by Christy Elliot; and "We are the 99%: The Occupy Movement" (Spring 2012) by Kathleen Desautels, SP and Liz Deligio, FSPA.

External Partners

As the associate director, Ann Scholz represents LCWR on a number of USCCB staff committees including: the Justice for Immigrants Core Group and its Advocacy Committee; the Catholic Coalition on Climate Change; Catholics Confront Global Poverty; and the Catholic Coalition against Trafficking. She also serves on the boards of the Catholic Health Association and NETWORK.

There is also a very active interfaith community with which LCWR regularly collaborates including: the Heads of Faith-Based Washington Offices; Interfaith Immigration Coalition Steering Committee; Jubilee USA; and Bread for the World.



Jan Novotka; Simone Campbell, SSS; and Ann Scholz, SSND at the think tank

Systemic Change Think Tank

In March congregational leaders and justice and peace coordinators met at the Bethany Retreat Center in Lutz, Florida to engage in a contemplative process which invited participants to explore ways of perceiving the social landscape from a place of communion and to explore how this might alter their approach to the current politics of polarization. Presenters Simone Campbell, SSS, executive director of NETWORK and Jan Novotka, retreat director and composer, guided the group in deep meditation and careful analysis of what is and what could be.

The Unfolding Mystery of Religious Life

The 15 LCWR regions respond to the question: What new insights has your region gleaned about the unfolding mystery of religious life as it moves into the future?



Region 14



Region 8

Region 1

At our fall meeting, we were blessed with a DVD presentation -- a gift to one another, from one another! Each team submitted photos along with reflections on the following questions: How do you see yourselves unfolding as a religious community in this 21st century? What have you done new to address the new signs of the times? What are your current ministry involvements? These reflections were shared in booklet format while the DVD captured the region in action through pictures and quotes. It was a wonderful collaborative effort reinforcing the unity felt in our common mission. At this meeting, we experienced the emerging new as being grounded in our contemplative stance. We claimed our unity and collaboration as gifts to effect systemic change and better the lives of the poor.

At our spring meeting, under the theme of "Seeing Anew," Mary Daly, RSM explored "Creation as the Book of God," drawing us into the universe story and its implications for a spirituality for today. Mary's sharing of the enduring outpouring of God's love from the beginning of time, so evident throughout the cosmos, was met with a collective sense of wonder and awe. Our reflections led us to a renewed sense of the interconnectedness of all things calling us to a mission of hope.

Collaborative efforts continue throughout Region 1 with Wisdom's Way, the Institute for Community Economics, the Boston Unit of LCWR's Anti-Trafficking Coalition, and the Connecticut-based Collaborative Center for Justice.



Region 2

Region 2 met in October at the Carondelet Hospitality Center in Latham, New York. Caroljean Willie, SC and Sally Dunne, Lorreto Community co-member, shared their experience of working at the United Nations as NGOs. They emphasized their work with and for women in the international community and deepened our understanding of our unity with our sisters throughout the world.

Kitty Hanley, CSJ addressed the assembly the second day. She spoke to the importance of nourishing leadership and the challenges to keep newness alive and zeal aflame as well as listen carefully and with discernment. Kitty gave us practical

suggestions and time for quiet reflection and conversation.

Our April meeting was at the Stella Maris Retreat Center in Skaneateles, New York. Simone Campbell, SSS spoke on "Prophetic Vision for the Common Good." She emphasized the importance of reframing and made clear and practical suggestions on how to speak to people with radically different views by focusing

on underlying values. We share:

- A deepening appreciation of our global unity and the need to broaden our awareness
- A desire to focus on new life in the midst of managing diminishment
- A longing for continued conversation and contemplation
- An attitude of openness to journeying together



Region 3

During the course of this past year, our region continued to engage the process, "Behold, I am doing something new, do you not perceive it?" Each time we experienced this contemplative time together, there was a felt sense of going deeper, listening closer, speaking clearer, and hoping fuller. Clearly, these experiences are shaping us into the individuals and communities God needs us to become as we seek wisdom and direction into our emerging future.

At our fall meeting we welcomed Nancy Schreck, OSF as we prayed, discussed and discovered what it means to lead in these unfolding times. We realized the importance of practicing "thick speech", that is, the levels of conversations within our Congregations that match the depth of the realities we are facing. This kind of speech takes time

and attention in order to cultivate it among our members and it is vital as we continue to try to faithfully respond to where God is inviting us to journey. We also realized that the scope of skills needed for the ministry of elected leadership in these times differs from previous times. We must initiate and sustain multiple levels of conversations while we are tending to issues for which we are responsible.

selling of motherhouse land, buildings, and ministry sites as we heard one congregation's experience of such decisions and process.

We are strengthening our solidarity, across charisms and beyond present challenges, to increase our capacity to see the vision God is holding for us as we move together into our future.

In the spring we sought the wisdom of three member congregations as they shared with us some of the practical ways they are leading in these unfolding times. We listened to experiences of external impacts like diocesan planning on our congregations and members. We journeyed through the discernment process used by a congregation to engage their members in the decision to merge with another congregation. And we felt the complexities involved in the



Region 4

Region 4 members agreed that the insight they wish to share is the statement that emerged as a result of the Contemporary Religious Life Process:

This is a moment of creative opportunity. We will respond from a position of:

- fidelity to the call of who we are;
- fidelity to the Gospel;
- fidelity to our contemplative stance of naming the NEW that is emerging among us.

We will respond in dialogue with:

- each other
- the People of God
- the hierarchy

Our response calls us to solidarity with one another that will lead us more deeply into transformation and risk.



Region 5

Our region is more deeply aware of the fragility, as well as the strength of religious life and our members in Region 5.

On the Feast of All Saints, November 1, 2011, the region gained a saint. Constance Hummel, DC, a vital presence in our region's Lake Providence Project died at the Sarah Community near St. Louis. A lively, compassionate woman, Connie tutored students, visited the elderly, and taught line-dancing to seniors in Lake Providence. With Bernadette Barrett, Shsp, Connie ministered to the poorest of the poor in Lake Providence. Her funeral, attended by rich and poor, African-American and white, gave witness to the loving service and commitment to justice revealed by women religious in this area since 1995. Recently, we were able to hire Catherine Killoran, Shsp to assist Bernie.



We experienced beauty in the diversity of our religious life.

During our spring meeting, an excellent panel presentation by Theresa Marie Tran, SCC, (from Vietnam) and Cecelia Dimaku, SSH (from Nigeria) deepened our understanding of women religious from other areas of our world. Maria Elena Ferrer-Lopez, SSND (from Cuba) served as a respondent and Rose Weidenbenner, RSM acted as facilitator. Our awareness of the power of telling one's

story and hearing another's story was heightened.

Attention from the media can be a blessing even when evoked by a crisis.

We gained skills in handling media relations during a crisis. Linda and Bill McDonald guided us through this very practical learning experience. Not quite adept yet, we did realize how good media relations can help us articulate our stories in a more accessible manner.

Region 6

As we in Region 6 explored the mystery unfolding within and around religious life, we embraced the notion of the charge to actively perceive the new unfolding among us. The theme that permeated our time and conversations together reflected again and again the power of collaboration. Our speakers - on the Coalition for Responsible Investment and the International Union of Superiors General (UISG) - reminded us of the significant impact for change that is possible when we stand together. When the region met this spring, less than one week after the announcement of the doctrinal assessment mandate, we adjusted our agenda. Using a modified contemplative reflection process we reflected, shared, and supported one another within our

realization of and examination of the implications of the doctrinal assessment mandate. At the conclusion of our prayerful time together, we members acknowledged our fears, committed ourselves to continued hope and faithfulness to our charisms and our call to serve the people of God, and urged the LCWR officers to stand firm in non-violent response and to be “wise/shrewd as serpents and simple as doves” as they move forward with this new reality. We acknowledge this continues to be a time of Spirit-led listening and learning and teaching for each of us.



Region 7

Reflection on the unfolding of religious life as it moves into the future drew us to delve into the reality of intercultural living and the commitment and skills it calls forth. The future of religious life and the global community require us to give prophetic witness that intercultural living is possible. Anthony Gittins, CSsP, challenged us, reminding us that intercultural living is a work of faith. With courage we can take our culture into the Gospel and let the Gospel convert us in the process.

Desiring to ponder more deeply Barbara E. Reid’s address to the 2011 LCWR Assembly, “Embodying Holy Mystery,” we viewed the DVD and entered into a reflection on the following questions:

- What do I/we need to mourn/ let go of?

- What has been silent in me/us?
- What question(s) are stirring in me/us?
- What is coming to birth in me/us?

The depth of sharing that took place affirmed our conviction that moving from contemplative reflection to dialogue is an essential dimension of our lives now and as the future unfolds.

Our work for justice focused on the 2012 Super Bowl Anti-Trafficking Initiative of the Coalition for Corporate Responsibility for Indiana and Michigan (CCRIM). We devoted time, energy, and resources to support this effort.

Coming together as a region energizes us for mission!



Region 8

Region 8 members have experienced first hand what it means to be a community of one mind and heart as we acknowledge that together, we will indeed help shape religious life in the future and not merely settle for the question: "Is there a future for religious life?" Our collective engagement in the Apostolic Visitation has united us and helped us recognize not only our need for one another, but how this interdependence is foundational in making us stronger leaders in our individual congregations. We believe that the practice of using the contemplative process is integral to the way we face our present challenges and receive the Spirit's guidance for our future.

Our fall meeting speaker, Madge Karecki, SSJ-TOSF, helped us explore our role in carrying out the mission of Jesus Christ. We recognize how the sharing of our diverse charisms and congregational experiences expands our global worldview and prompts us to respond with deeper engagement. Under the direction of

Rose Mary Meyer, BVM, we continue to support the work of Project IRENE in advocating for legislation to benefit women and children in Illinois.

The regional meetings are more than business and fun. They provide graced moments of God's tangible presence.



Region 9

One of the things we are discovering is that the new insights of the unfolding mystery of religious life happens little by little. We need to be open to and aware of the many ways God uses to speak to us and draw us into "something new."

We viewed the DVD "Women & Spirit," which portrays bold, courageous women of yesterday and today who lived out the Gospel by answering the needs of the times. Many of our members presented copies of the DVD to their local bishops, priests, parishes, their sponsored high schools and universities, and their formation directors.

We adopted a policy on public statements in order to disseminate our

positions and perspectives on significant issues and stand with those in need.

We sent letters to Green Bay Packer leaders, players, the Super Bowl planning committee, and the Wisconsin bishops, asking them to stand against human trafficking. We also encouraged other regions to consider similar actions.

Margaret Ormond, OP spoke to us on "Strengthening the Bonds Among Women Globally." Following her talk, a panel of three sisters from Zambia, Vietnam, and India

introduced us to the life and ministry of their congregations and told of the challenges our culture poses for them.



Region 10

Exploring what it means to be contemplatively prophetic and prophetically contemplative has been part of the work of Region 10 members this year. Our efforts have been enriched by a formational experience at both regional meetings. In the fall, Judy Schroeder, OP led the group in a day of retreat on this topic. In the spring Jean Durel, CCVI and Anna Sandidge assisted us in exploring “Consciousness and the Political Campaigns -- Spirituality and Politics Beyond Dualism.” As a group we are seeking ways to live into a new consciousness in every aspect of our lives.

The strength we are receiving from this work lies in our realization that we are all one and that unity frames our future. We are growing in our under-

standing that this oneness includes the global reality of religious life as well as unity with all that is. In our reflection together we know that we are coming to a spiritual maturity that frees us to let go, to embrace our vulnerability and our needs. We are embracing collaboration as never before.

Our efforts to be contemplatively prophetic and to foster an awareness of oneness have included a variety of campaigns regarding immigration. One of many efforts is a billboard campaign throughout Iowa and Missouri with the message: “I was a stranger immigrant, and you welcomed me.” (Mt. 25:35)



Region 11

At our spring meeting, Laura Fenucci led a dynamic exchange on the characteristics and spirituality of Generation X and Millennial young adults, with sharing by newer guest sisters. We find this encourages openness to change, to “let go.” We welcome their expertise with media, providing quick connections with LCWR and others. Valuing diversity we see the Hispanic population soon becoming the majority in the US church. We encourage learning the Spanish language in our congregations. We will invite Latina sisters or other immigrant members to tell their stories at the fall meeting.

We continue communication and visits with our bishops; our e-news bulletin is one way of keeping them informed of major activities.

The second Region 11 biannual conference for congregational members and associates will be July 14 at the College of St. Benedict, St. Joseph, MN. Dr. Richard R. Gaillardetz will speak on “Renewal of our Call as Members of a Vatican II Church.”

Collaboration and solidarity among regional members is enriching our inter-

change in formal and informal ways which strengthens us to face the future with hope. The contemplative process/prayer times reveal how the Spirit is strengthening us to be authentic and faithful through new challenges and opportunities.



Region 12

Region 12 continued the contemplative process of “Something New” and searched for ways to respond to new realities. As a region, we expressed our desire to continue in our contemplative stance; to live our spirituality in light of the Gospel; to collaborate on the regional and national level, and more broadly to include the laity; to restructure our mission for justice as we develop partnerships among congregations and with others; and to focus on the dignity of all.

At our fall meeting we listened to an immigration attorney from South Texas on “Welcoming the Stranger.” There was conversation on responding to the needs of our migrant brothers and sisters. Immigration is a topic dear to Region 12; as

a border State, immigrants are part of our population. We continue to support “Border Projects” that impact women, immigrants, and education. At the spring meeting we were able to process feelings, reactions, and responses to the news from the CDF. We pledged support and prayer, for the LCWR presidency, board, and national staff. We also continued with sharing the values and gifts that Region 12 offers to the conference. Our multicultural, bicultural, and bilingual population is a gift that we cherish, both for the church and for the nation.



Region 13

As the members of Region 13 reflected on what we experience emerging among us given the reality of the world in which we are immersed, we found the Gospel calling us to be advocates of nonviolence and a voice for the immigrant. At both meetings we developed statements and discussed action plans that would challenge us and our members to give these issues top priority. The statements express our insights the best:

“As ecclesial women, formed by the Gospel of Jesus, our lived experience as women religious and the call of Catholic social teaching, we, as advocates of nonviolence, are committed to our own conversion to this value while urging others to find nonviolent ways to confront the violence that permeates all levels of

society - individual, political, social, ecclesial, and environmental.”

“Having heard the Gospel call to welcome the stranger, we, the Region 13 members of LCWR, commit ourselves to advocate for the immigrant. This may be done through prayer with and for the

immigrant, by promoting policy reform at the national, state and local levels, by giving voice to current injustices and by companioning those who live among us. We pledge ourselves to action, individually or in collaboration with other groups.”



Region 14

Region 14 had an energizing 2011-2012.

At our fall regional meeting, Pat Farrell, OP, from San Rafael guided us through the world of the internet, the complexities of computers, and the many ways to be connected and stay connected! The energy in the room elicited much laughter, “wows”, “oh, my!” -and the addition of the girls from the Sisters of the Presentation High School in San Jose added to our energy and invited their patience to grow. Being surrounded by the beauty of God’s creation at Presentation Center, Los Gatos, added to the contemplative process we experienced with the guidance of Gloria Marie Jones, OP.

This spring we gifted ourselves with Rose Mary Dougherty, SSND who invited us into a quiet, contemplative stance to gaze, wonder, appreciate the day of peace and care for our spirits. On our second day together, we renewed our relationships with our sisters who had been with us in spring 2011, sharing their journey from other countries and cultures to the United States. We were updated by the women immigrants who are working for immigration reform for themselves as well as for the thousands of

other immigrant sisters and brothers. Our sisters have been working in many ways for justice – immigration reform, anti-trafficking advocacy, eco-justice, and the many other ways we strive to walk with the voiceless and vulnerable.



Region 15

The collaborative spirit of the Northwest is a major source of grace and blessing for us in Region 15. Collaboration comes easily as we discuss issues and explore ways to attend to the pressing needs of the church and of our world.

One of the highlights of our meetings is a visit from Linda Haydock, SNJM, executive director of the Intercommunity Peace and Justice Center, a collaborative venture of several congregations. Linda updates us on the projects the center has taken responsibility for in responding to the many issues of our day.

At our most recent meeting, our touching-in with one another evolved into a deep faith sharing around our personal and congregational challenges as we

plot our course through myriad issues such as care of our frail elderly, desire to respond to critical issues in the world with fewer resources, assuring that the voice of our younger members is heard, financial realities, and dialogue with the hierarchical church. Our discussion of possible candidates for LCWR president-elect gave us great hope as we discussed the fine qualities of these faithful and courageous women.

Much to our dismay, our annual meeting with the bishops of the Northwest was cancelled for the first time in years because the bishops are attending the canonization of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha. Respectful and honest dialogue have always been hall-

marks of these meetings and so, given recent developments, we will be pursuing an alternate date to engage with our brother bishops in the dialogue that is so essential today.



Stewardship of LCWR's Financial Resources

During 2011, the LCWR Finance Committee and the office staff have worked diligently to ensure the careful stewardship of LCWR's resources. Mergers and reconfigurations continue to affect membership. Both the number of members and the number of units declined by 1% in 2011. Preliminary counts for 2012 indicate a 3.5% decline in members and a 1.8% decline in units.

Auditor's Report

LCWR policy requires an audit every four years; 2011 was the fourth year since the financial statements were last audited. Linton, Shafer, Warfield and Garrett, PA completed an audit of LCWR's financial statements, noting that they present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of LCWR as of December 31, 2011.

Stewardship of Assets

The LCWR Finance Committee met with Christina Hennessey, representative of Christian Brothers Investment Services (CBIS), to review investment performance. The loss in our investments in 2011 resulted primarily from the underperformance of one particular manager. We have requested a follow-up report and have been assured that CBIS is actively working with the manager.

Budget

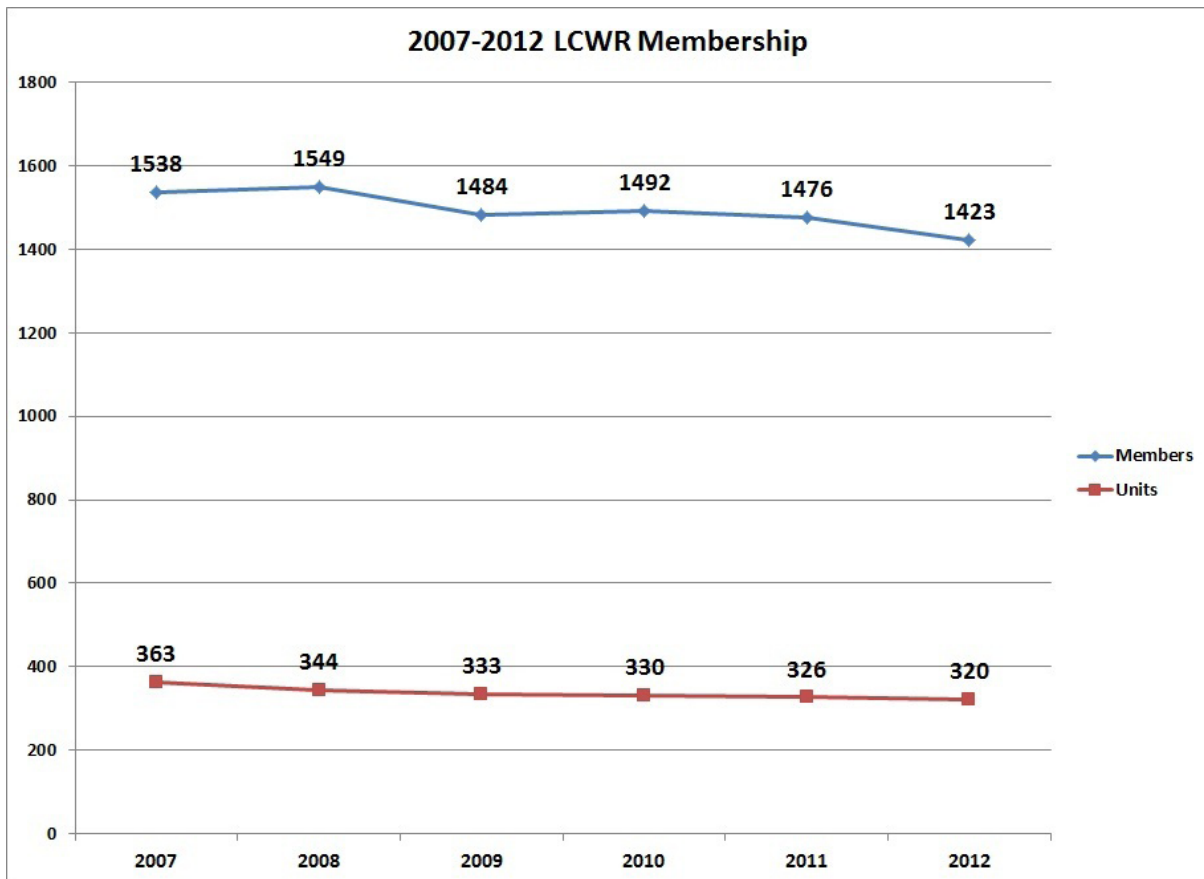
Budget targets for expenses and revenues were carefully monitored. Income was 6% higher than projected while expenses were reduced by 5%. Membership dues accounted for 39% of all gross revenues in 2011.

History Project

The *Women & Spirit* exhibit tour concluded in June 2012. Donations for the project will cover all remaining expenses. The *Women & Spirit* DVD is now being marketed and sold. Proceeds from its sale contribute to LCWR revenue.

LCWR Building

The Cameron Street building, jointly owned by LCWR and CMSM, includes offices for their own staffs as well as for the Religious Formation Conference and the Resource Center for Religious Institutes. The income from rent continues to cover expenses and to provide necessary capital improvements. In 2011 a structural and operational assessment of the building was completed. Long and short-term capital improvement goals suggested by the assessment have been prioritized and the projects will be completed in the coming years.





Members of the LCWR Finance Committee. (Standing) Nora Hahn, PHJC; Sheila Megley, RSM; Pat Eck, CBS; and Helen Ingles, IHM; (seated) Bea Hernandez, OSF; Pat Cormack, SCSC (staff) and Karin Dufault, SP.

LCWR Statement of Financial Position

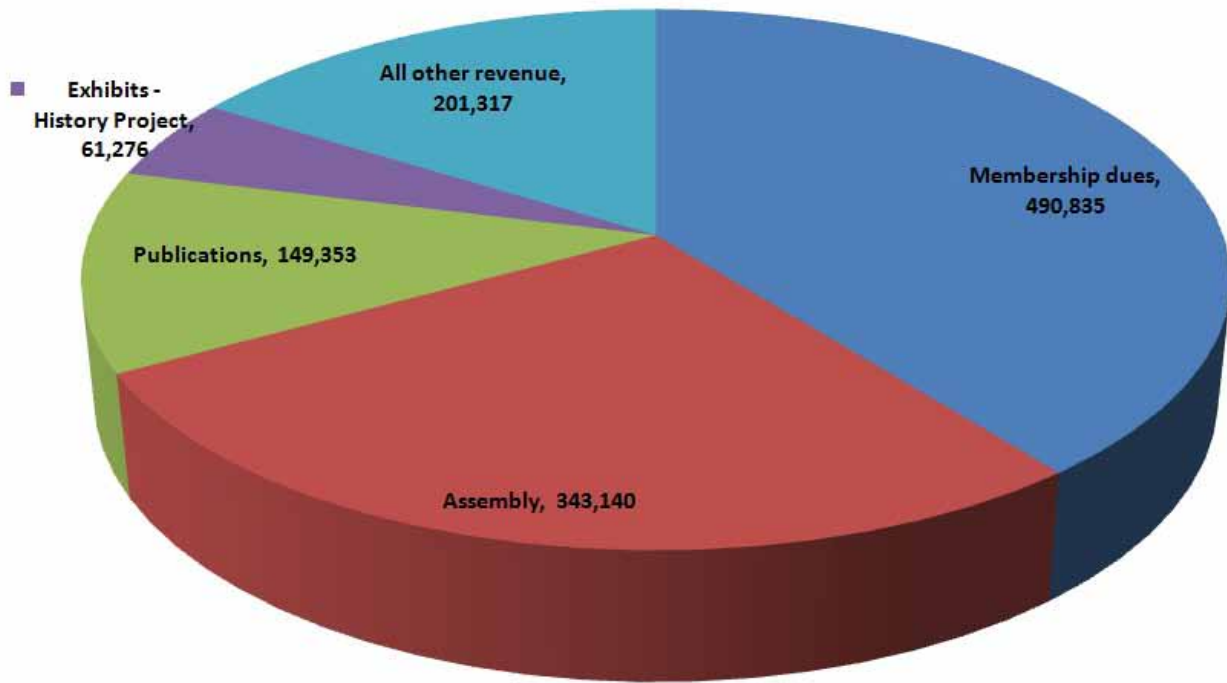
December 31, 2011 and 2010

	2011 (Audited)	2010 (Reviewed)
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash	371,847	1,015,753
Account receivable-other	4,203	37,309
Promises to give	-	5,000
Prepaid expenses and other	27,222	25,191
Total Current Assets	403,272	1,083,253
Furniture & Equipment at cost		
Furniture and equipment	13,578	13,578
Less: accumulated depreciation	(11,171)	(8,701)
Furniture and equipment, Net	2,407	4,877
Other Assets		
Investments	4,413,430	4,116,087
Investments in real estate - net	442,801	401,256
Total Other Assets	4,856,231	4,517,343
TOTAL ASSETS	5,261,910	5,605,473
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	17,777	48,486
Deferred revenue	627,030	622,017
Total Current Liabilities	644,807	670,503
Fund development loan payable	304,050	304,050
Total Liabilities	948,857	974,553
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted		
Undesignated	1,105,358	851,967
Board designated - support fund	2,573,260	2,591,499
Total Unrestricted	3,678,618	\$3,443,466
Temporarily restricted	634,435	\$1,187,454
Total Net Assets	4,313,053	\$4,630,920
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	5,261,910	5,605,473

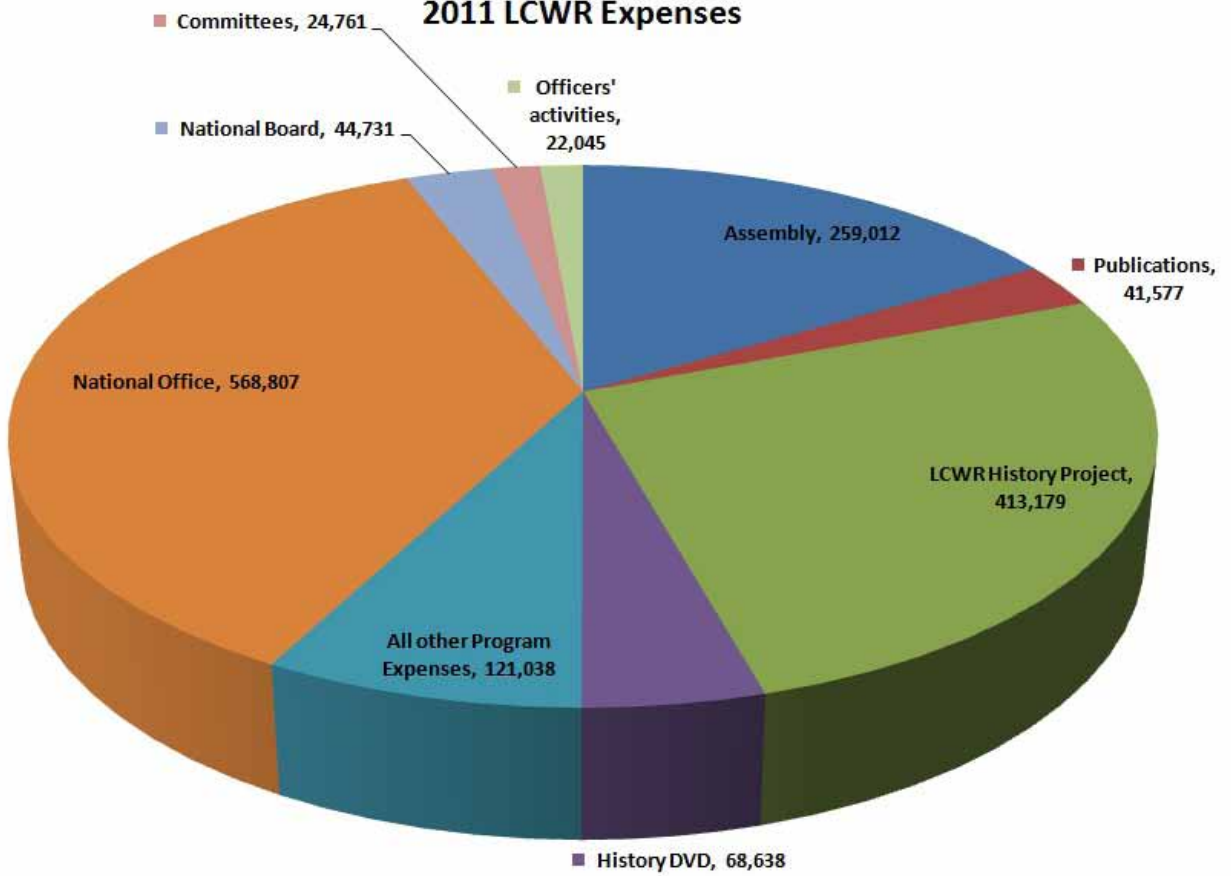
Statement of Revenues and Expenses

REVENUE	2011	2010
Membership dues	490,835	460,000
Assembly	343,140	377,007
Workshops	70,770	72,396
Contributions	6,676	500,229
Publications	149,353	117,490
Exhibits - history project	61,276	51,161
Interest and dividends	73,612	73,374
Appreciation (depreciation) on fair value of investments	(54,557)	290,349
Realized gain (loss) on sale of investments	7,027	1,010
Other	97,789	24,162
Net assets released from restrictions	-	-
TOTAL REVENUES	1,245,921	1,967,178
EXPENSES		
Program Services		
Assembly	259,012	191,274
Workshops	67,404	70,416
LCWR History Project	413,179	506,935
Leadership Development	27,845	-
FADICA (New Orleans Recovery Project)	-	1,594
NCCHCM	10,826	3,098
CCUSA (Grant for NO Recovery Project)	-	402,033
Committees/Commissions	9,080	7,436
Liaison Relations	5,763	9,258
Special Projects	120	1,889
History DVD	68,638	100,805
Publications	41,577	38,227
TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICES	903,444	1,332,965
MANAGEMENT & GENERAL		
National Office	568,807	578,832
National Board	44,731	43,392
Standing Committees	24,761	32,878
Officers' Activities	22,045	25,576
TOTAL SUPPORTING SERVICES	660,344	680,678
TOTAL EXPENSES	1,563,788	2,013,643
Changes in Net Assets	(317,867)	(46,465)
Net Assets - Beginning of Year	4,630,920	4,677,385
Net Assets - End of Year	4,313,053	4,630,920

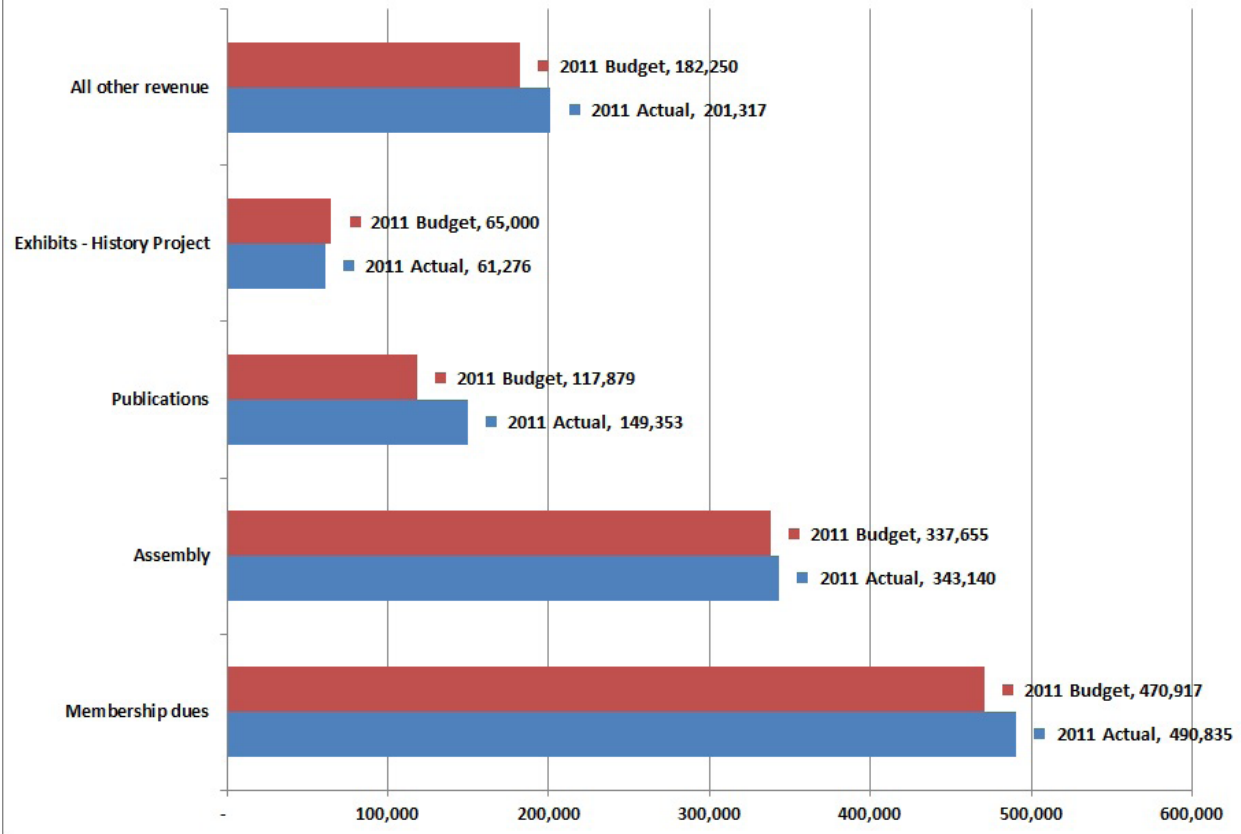
2011 LCWR Revenue



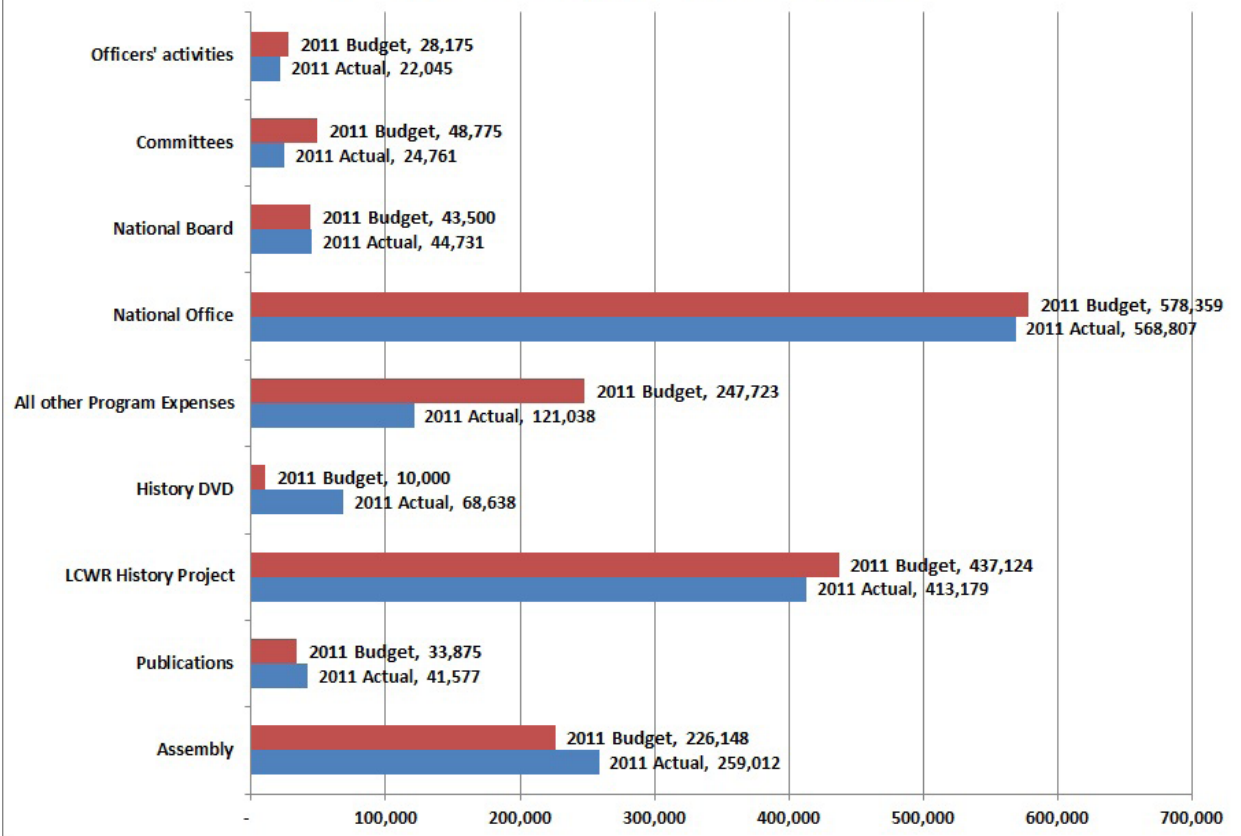
2011 LCWR Expenses



2011 Revenue Budget to Actual Comparison



2011 Expenses Budget to Actual Comparison



Collaborating for the Mission of Religious Life

LCWR works closely with other organizations serving women and men religious in the United States.

These organizations describe how, since 2011, they have explored “the new” that may be happening within religious life.

Conference of Major Superiors of Men

*John Pavlik, OFM Cap
Executive Director*

Cooperation and collaboration have characterized the relationship of the Conference of Major Superiors of Men and the LCWR for many years. The past year is no exception to that story of women and men in religious life. The two conferences jointly work for justice, manage office space for the sake of our respective missions, and participate in meetings with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops on religious life and ministry as well as on projects reviewing the protocols for welcoming to the United States religious from other countries and cultures. Our executive committees and national boards meet jointly to inform one another of our individual efforts and to posit further cooperation deemed helpful and advisable. We assist our fellow religious in need through review and recommendations to the National Religious Retirement Office, as well as keep one another informed on developments in our own conferences.



Religious Formation Conference

*Violet Grennan, MFIC
Executive Director*

The Religious Formation Conference held a second round of five national convenings across the United States titled “The Transformation of Religious Life in North America: An Action-Oriented Initiative.” Approximately 500 members from 106 US and Canadian religious congregations participated. Participants included formation and vocation ministers, general membership, temporary professed members and leadership. In response to the program, which included keynote presentations, processes, communal prayer, liturgy and contemplative time, participants raised soul-searching questions

related to various dimensions of congregational life and mission. They also named desires they experience at this particular time in the history of religious life in North America. Among those expressed was the deep desire to experience individual and communal transformation so as to radically live their commitments for the sake of communion and mission in God’s church and world.



Resource Center for Religious Institutes

*Donna Sauer Miller, JD, JCL
Associate Director*

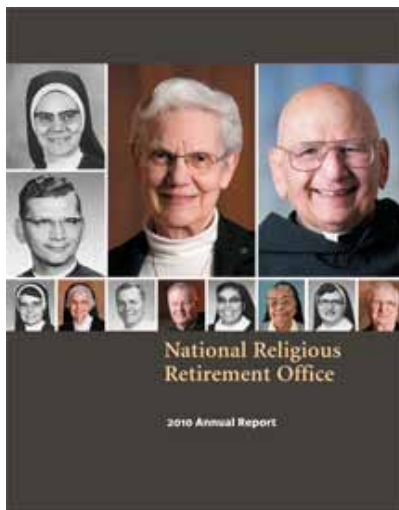
The Resource Center for Religious Institutes (RCRI) has gleaned many new insights about the unfolding mystery of religious life in the

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Resource Center for Religious Institutes

(continued from page 29)

last year. We presented a one-day-version of our “Alternatives to Reconfiguration” workshop to a group of women religious institute leaders in New York in March. Our search continues for a director of administration and finance to assist our members, while our national conference in November 2011 was a success in St. Louis. We recently began a new service for our members -- monthly webinars on timely topics. The first two webinars have been well-received. Our staff continues to provide resources to our members as we all seek new insights about the unfolding mystery of religious life as it moves into the future.



National Religious Retirement Office

*Janice Bader, CPPS
Executive Director*

Deep faith, strong hope, and remarkable resilience are evident to the NRRO staff in our privileged role of accompanying religious institutes in their planning efforts. As the median age of religious continues to climb, sustaining ministries and providing dignified care for elder members becomes ever more challenging. We note leaders who are “re-chosen” to serve additional terms, sometimes at great cost to their own personal stamina. We witness institutes facing complex decisions about property and care delivery with seemingly few viable options. We observe the great respect and gratitude that radiates from those who benefit from the ministries of religious. In light of all of this, we see religious moving forward in trust, knowing that God is ever faithful.

National Religious Vocation Conference

*Paul Bednarczyk, CSC
Executive Director*

Since the NRVC mission promotes religious life by preparing institutes to attract and to receive new members, the mystery of religious life continues to unfold in the resilient passion, commitment, and zeal of the men and women who attend our programs desiring a vibrant future for their congregations. We saw this in the committed participants of the “Keys to Future” program and DVD, and we anticipate we will see this again in those attending our “Women Religious Moving Forward in Hope” programs later this year. That is why our 2012 convocation theme is “Vocation Ministers as Ambassadors of Christ: A Reconciling Presence.” In their hope and work with potential, new members, vocation ministers bridge the present with the mysterious, unfolding future that awaits us.



Generous Service to the Leadership Conference

LCWR thanks all who have contributed their time and talent to the conference through service on its national board and committees and as liaisons to other organizations.

National Board

Officers

Pat Farrell, OSF* -- President
 Florence Deacon, OSF* -- President-Elect
 Mary Hughes* -- Past President
 Barbara Blesse, OP* -- Secretary
 Sheila Megley, RSM* -- Treasurer

Regional Chairpersons

Joan Van der Zyden, SJC -- Region 1
 Judy Justinger, SSJ -- Region 2
 Carol Zinn, SSJ* -- Region 3
 Vivien Linkhauer, SC -- Region 4
 Beth Fitzpatrick, OCarm -- Region 5
 Sharon Sullivan, OSU -- Region 6
 Joan Marie Steadman, CSC -- Region 7
 Rebecca Ann Gemma, OP -- Region 8
 Linda Szocik, SSJ-TOSF -- Region 9
 Nancy Schreck, OSF -- Region 10
 Penny Bingham, OSB -- Region 11
 Miriam Mitchell, SHSp -- Region 12
 Eileen Hurley, SCL -- Region 13
 Patricia Rayburn, OSF -- Region 14
 Anne Amati, OSF -- Region 15

Executive Director

Janet Mock, CSJ*

*Members of the Executive Committee

Committees

Assembly Resolutions Committee

Alice Gerdeman, CDP
 Nancy Schramm, OSF
 Patricia Reid, OSF
 Ann Scholz, SSND (LCWR Staff)

Contemporary Religious Life Committee

Janet Mock, CSJ (Chair)
 Rebecca Ann Gemma, OP
 Marie McCarthy, SP
 Patricia Rayburn, OSF
 Susan Schorsten, HM
 Rosemary Smith, SC
 Annmarie Sanders, IHM (LCWR Staff)
 Catherine Bertrand, SSND (Facilitator)

Finance Committee

Karin Dufault, SP
 Pat Eck, CBS
 Nora Hahn, PHJC
 Beatrice Hernandez, OSF
 Helen Ingles, IHM
 Sheila Megley, RSM (Treasurer)
 Pat Cormack, SCSC (LCWR Staff)

Global Concerns Committee

Sharon Altendorf, PBVM
 Vicki Bergkamp, ASC
 Kathleen Bryant, RSC
 Maureen Foltz, CCV
 Judith Justinger, SSJ
 Dorothy Pagosa, SSJ-TOSF
 Ann Scholz, SSND (LCWR Staff)

Leadership Pathways Committee

Janet Mock, CSJ (Chair)
 Eileen Campbell, RSM
 Nancy Conway, CSJ
 Ellen Dauwer, SC
 Sara Dwyer, ASC
 Barbara Hagedorn, SC
 Christine Koellhoffer, IHM
 Sheila Lemieux, CSJP
 Mary Jo Nelson, OLV
 Mary Pellegrino, CSJ
 Nancy Schreck, OSF
 Marlene Weisenbeck, FSPA
 Annmarie Sanders, IHM (LCWR Staff)

Nominations and Elections Committee

Marcia Allen, CSJ
 Nora Hahn, PHJC
 Grace Hartzog, SC (Chair)
 Margaret Perron, RJM
 Gemma Doll, OP

Occasional Papers Advisory Board

Eileen Campbell, RSM
 Nancy Conway, CSJ
 Lynn Jarrell, OSU
 Nancy Schreck, OSF
 Mary Ann Zollmann, BVM
 Annmarie Sanders, IHM (LCWR Staff)

Strategic Operational Plan Committee

Janet Mock, CSJ (Chair)
 Kathleen Durkin, CSJ
 Beatrice Hernandez, OSF
 Patricia McDermott, RSM
 Theresa Sandok, OSM
 Sharon Sullivan, OSU
 Pat Cormack, SCSC (LCWR Staff)
 Ann Scholz, SSND (LCWR Staff)
 Janet Roesener, CSJ (Facilitator)

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Generous Service to the Leadership Conference

(continued from page 31)

Liaisons to Other Organizations

Catholic Health Association Board

Ann Scholz, SSND (LCWR Staff)

National Communicators Network for Women Religious

Annmarie Sanders, IHM (LCWR Staff)

National Religious Retirement Office Grant Review Board

Maryanne Fitzgerald, SC

NETWORK Board

Ann Scholz, SSND (LCWR Staff)

Resource Center for Religious Institutes

Janet Mock, CSJ

USCCB Accounting Practices Committee

Geraldine Hoyler, CSC

Maureen Geary, OP

USCCB Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development

Janet Mock, CSJ

USCCB Committee on International Justice and Peace

Janet Mock, CSJ

USCCB National Advisory Council

Lynn Jarrell, OSU

Yolanda Tarango, CCVI

e, the members of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious, believe that God's call is written in the signs of our times.

LCWR National Office Staff



Janet Mock, CSJ
Executive Director



Chris Costello
Executive Assistant



Pat Cormack, SCSC
Associate Director for
Business and Finance



Mary J. Novak
Special Assistant to the
Executive Director



Annmarie Sanders, IHM
Associate Director
for Communications



Carol Glidden
Administrative Assistant
& Membership Coordinator



Ann Scholz, SSND
Associate Director for
Social Mission



Christabel Lartey
Receptionist