

TDA Resolution for Ongoing Support for Gatherings, Summer 2015:

Whereas there is growing interest in strengthening fellowship among the readers through gatherings, including local, regional, interest-based and outreach, and

Whereas conference venues often require up front deposits which exceed available resources of the organizing team, and

Whereas any one regional team may only organize an event once every several years, making it difficult to pass on learnings and maintain event expertise,

Be it resolved that the TDA requests that the General Council develop ongoing support for gatherings including, but not limited to:

- Funding, both grants and short term loans. Funding could be supported by regional events providing a percentage of registration fees as donation to the Fellowship, as well as general fundraising done by the Fellowship.
- Training materials. Text and videos on how to organize smaller conferences, venue selection, marketing, program design, mentoring, and so on.
- Providing a repository of lessons learned and basic templates for programs.
- Technology consulting and support for including remote attendees, providing wifi to attendees, etc.
- Raising awareness of events by making them easily discoverable on the Fellowship website.
- Registration assistance.
- Occasional symposia or summits for organizers and future organizers of these events.
- General assistance, consulting and mentoring.

It is suggested that these responsibilities be added to a permanent committee, perhaps Outreach, Education or Membership, and that an area on the Fellowship website be devoted to regional and alternative gatherings with area for attendees and for planners.

This resolution is co-sponsored by Orvonton Society, the Fellowship ad hoc How We Gather Committee, ABC Society and the Fellowship Membership Committee.