

Resolution in Response to Letter from Craig Lentz

The delegates of the Council of Unitarian Universalist Camps and Conferences, an Independent Affiliate of the Unitarian Universalist Association, received a memo from Craig Lentz during our Annual Meeting indicating the desire of the Executive Directors of some landed camps to form their own organization. A copy is attached for reference.

We, the Council, are concerned about this proposal and are offering the following comments and recommendations.

The Council, including board members and staff of landed camps, recognizes that the distinction between landed and non-landed camps is not strong enough to classify our camps and conferences into separate organizations. For example, few of our landed camps have full-time Executive Directors and some of our non-landed camp staff are compensated. Some of our landed camps have few facilities. Some of our non-landed camps are heavily involved in facility concerns. On the other hand, all camps and conferences have interests in good programming, especially safe, excellent programming for children and youth. Some of our non-landed camps do more in terms of marketing, outreach, and staff training than some of our landed camps. Through our differences and similarities, we are able to compare notes across all of our programs and raise the bar across our denomination.

We believe it continues to be important for all the camps and conferences to remain in the same organization and to work together on our common and separate issues.

We see a distinction between the recognized need to form a new professional organization for Executive Directors and an initiative to form a separate organization for landed camps that is not completely supported, even by board members and staff of landed camps.

We understand that there are issues which the professional directors wish to address only with other professional directors. Therefore, we propose that there be a professional directors' caucus of CU2C2 which could caucus at our annual meeting or at other convenient times. Moreover, we would support an independently formed directors' organization, similar to the UUMA or LREDA, independently affiliated to the UUA through an umbrella organization for UU professionals.

We encourage the Board of Trustees, the President, and the Moderator of the UUA to support the camp directors in forming an organization (independent or otherwise) to meet their professional interests, and discourage applications to have this professional organization represent camps for the purposes of independent affiliation with the UUA.

We, the Council, are authorizing the board of CU2C2 to engage the UUA, the Executive Directors meeting, and member camps and conferences to strengthen service to the non-landed and landed camps and conferences through a continuing partnership that focuses on equitable dialogue and results for all.