

**CUS Executive Committee
May 29, 2024 (Virtual)**

Present: Lindsay Black (chair), Foluke Ola, Beth Herrinton-Hodge, John Hill, Tanae Murdic, Adrian Nelson, Steve Osborn, Tajuan Kyles, Monica Jones, Tammy Wiens (NCC),

Guests: Rebecca Davis, Union Seminary

- 1) Approval of March minutes** (March 5 Exec Com mtg, March 8 Exec Com mtg, Annual Mtg.)
Available here: <https://sites.google.com/site/uniformseries/about-us/executive-committee>

M/S/C to approve the minutes from the Annual Meeting as well as our March 5 and 8 Executive Committee meetings.

2) Update from Becky Davis re revisions to 2026-2027 Guide to Lessons

Becky shared on the progress being made on these revisions:

- Utilizing three of her students to help with the writing has been helpful in refining their skills in addition to benefitting CUS in the process.
- For each lesson: Unifying Biblical Summary, Propositional Statement (for each age level), Teaching Points (facts to be communicated), Instructional Strategies (Examine the What, Engage the How, Explore the Why for each age level)
- Added Quarterly Overarching Proposition as well as Unit Propositions (for each age level)
- Have finished Fall Quarter for all three age levels.
- May be helpful to move the Unifying Principle closer to the propositional statements.

Adrian asked about the potential need for updating design/presentation/formatting of the Lesson Guide. Becky pointed out that while this Guide goes to publishers and writers with each making their own choices as to how it will be presented to their users, it will be important for the Visioning Team to discuss what format will best meet the needs of CUS partners. Becky said if we would like her team to work on a refresh of the appearance of the Guide, they would be happy to provide something for us to review.

The plan is to produce an introductory piece, separate from the Guide, to explain the changes we are making and what propositional teaching looks like to help writers understand the new guide.

By next Wednesday (June 5th), Becky will provide the introductory piece and a sample formatted lesson for review. Executive Committee members will review and give feedback before Monday, June 10. Tammy and Becky will meet to review feedback on June 10.

Becky's three students will continue to work on the Winter Quarter while we finalize the Fall format. Tammy confirmed that we are providing a stipend to these three students for their great work on our behalf.

3) Date/Time of September meeting

Several members of the Executive Committee will be together with Rebecca Davis on the Union Presbyterian Seminary campus in Charlotte, NC at the time of our next scheduled meeting (September 11 @ 2 p.m. Eastern). Decided by consensus to go forward with the meeting at that time with those present gathering in person and the rest joining via Zoom.

4) Report from the Visioning Committee meeting May 23

Tajuan shared a summary of the Visioning Committee meeting from last week.

- Dr. Davis is doing an excellent job of facilitating this discussion. She is asking great questions to help the team think through the "Why" as well as "What" we are currently working on.
- The first meeting was structured around a review of feedback collected from those who attended the CUS Annual Meeting about CUS strengths, fear, priorities, etc
- Confirmed desire to expand reach without compromising our integrity and identity as a group.
- Do we need to be in touch with stakeholders to make them aware of what changes are being considered?
- Discussion about how we will roll out these changes.
- The Visioning Committee has agreed to meet monthly to provide enough meaningful discussion time and space for imagination of our future as an ecumenical partnership.

5) Summer Freedom Project

Tammy collected lessons from the archives of CUS publishers to be integrated into an NCC produced 6-week study on Luke 4:14-22. She provided a link to the acknowledgement page for us to review to make sure publishers are represented in the appropriate way.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1lqsSQvDvWD57_8AxJ-T24rTU6wAQcMTC0uZ029tyGFw/edit#heading=h.48wlnw294bkn

Action Items:

- **By next Wednesday (6/5), Becky will provide the introductory piece and a sample formatted lesson for us to review.**
- **Executive Committee members will review and give feedback before Monday, June 10.**
- **Tammy and Becky will meet to review feedback on June 10.**

- **Executive Committee members will review their organization’s representation on the Acknowledgment Page of the Summer Freedom Project (link provided) and send requests for changes to Tammy.**

Next Meetings: Wednesday, September 11 at 2pm Eastern;
Tuesday, November 12 at 2 pm Eastern.