

Report of the Commission on Nominations

During the 2021–2022 annual cycle, the Commission on Nominations met by Zoom video conference on November 16, 2021, and January 4, January 25, February 22, March 15, April 5, April 26, and May 17, 2022. In addition, three electronic votes were held by email on May 10, 25, and 26, 2022.

The 13 members of the commission include representatives named by the Reformed Church in America's eight regional synods and the three racial/ethnic councils, plus a member representing Native Americans/First Nations and the immediate past president of General Synod. The commission actively promoted the completion of profile forms by all individuals who are members of and wish to serve the Reformed Church in America (RCA) on a General Synod commission, agency, or board. Those profiles were carefully reviewed, and candidates and their references were vetted and discussed thoroughly. In this way, the commission sought to fulfill its responsibilities as stated in the bylaws of the General Synod—namely, “in consultation with the general secretary, [the commission] shall search the denomination for suitable nominees. In making nominations it shall consider the geographic location, occupation, and record of previous service to the denomination of persons suggested by classes, regional synods, and other sources. It shall consider this and other pertinent data in light of each commission's or agency's responsibilities, membership needs, suggested nominees, and place and schedule of meetings” (*Book of Church Order [BCO]*, Chapter 3, Part I, Article 5, Section 8c, 2 [2021 edition, p. 118]). The commission also worked in cooperation with the boards of trustees of the RCA-related institutions to fill openings and vacancies on their respective boards as directed by the various governing documents of those institutions.

The commission seeks to nominate individuals for service on commissions, agencies, and boards on the basis of their spiritual gifts, interests, heart (or passion), abilities, personality, experience, and special leadership abilities. Through its efforts, the commission has proactively fulfilled its responsibility to search the denomination. The commission is pleased to report that it has, to the best of its ability, fulfilled its responsibility for ensuring that the requirements of the *BCO* are upheld.

When the number of qualified candidates from which to choose increases, the commission's work is enhanced, and the work of the General Synod's commissions, agencies, and boards is carried out more effectively. Consequently, the commission encourages anyone interested in serving to submit a completed profile by emailing it to Angela Worthley, staff to the commission, at nominations@rca.org. A blank profile and brief descriptions of each commission, agency, and board can be found at <http://www.rca.org/nominations>.

The commission recommends to General Synod that it elect the following nominees for the terms identified, whom the commission believes have those qualities that make them well-suited for the positions to which they are being nominated. (Classes that include a beginning and ending year begin on July 1 and end on June 30. Classes that are noted by an ending year only conclude June 30. An asterisk in front of the name indicates that the new term will be the individual's final term. The *BCO* requires regional synod and/or racial/ethnic council nomination for various RCA bodies. These nominees are indicated by the regional synod or racial/ethnic council acronym in parentheses followed by a # sign.)

General Synod Council (GSC)

Class ending in 2025

- *Engel, Rev. Brian
- *Sullivan, Rev. Kjersten (Ecumenical – ELCA)

Class of 2022–2026

- * Brouwer, Calvin
- * Felker, Rev. Barbara (AABC)#
- * Karcher, Randy (RSA)#
- * Kautz, Rev. Bradley (RSFW)#
- * Kim, Rev. Yong Bok (CPAAM)#
- * Willock, Rev. Maudelin

Commission on Christian Action (CCA)

Class ending in 2023

- Ogden, Rev. Doug (Ecumenical observer – ELCA)

Class of 2022–2025

- Haveman, Rev. Rodney
- *Lungu, Rev. Edward
- Walston, Rev. Mashona

Commission on Christian Discipleship and Education (CCDE)

Class of 2022–2025

- Balk, Rev. Ellen
- Simmons, Rev. Patricia

Commission on Christian Unity (CCU)

Class of 2022–2025

- *Duensing Pearce, Rev. Stacey
- Pavlovich, Kim

Commission on Christian Worship (CCW)

Class of 2022–2025

- Grimm, Rev. Cory
- Rienstra, Rev. Ron
- Rivera, Rev. Irving

Commission on Church Order (CCO)

Class of 2022–2025

- *Moths, Rev. Howard

Commission on History (CoH)

Class of 2022–2025

- DeVries, Rev. Katlyn
- *Zomer, Rev. David

Commission on Judicial Business (CJB)

Class of 2022–2025

- Marriott, Brianne (RSFW)#
- *Parker, Erin (RSA)#

Vogel-Vanderson, Susan (RSGL)#

Commission on Nominations (CoN)

Class of 2022–2025

Gold, Rev. Linda (RSA)#
Moreno, Eric (RSFW)#
*Nelson, Rev. Judith (RSGL)#
*Serrano-Altamirano, Jael (CHM)#

Commission on Race and Ethnicity (CORE)

Class ending in 2024

Shaw Robinson, Rev. Riana

Class of 2022–2025

James, Earl
*Kim, Rev. Stephen (CPAAM)#

Commission on Theology (CoT)

Class of 2022–2025

Aviles, Rev. Fredy
Brumm, Rev. James Hart
Church, William Ruggles
van Maastricht, Rev. Matthew

Commission for Women (CfW)

Class ending in 2023

Brouwer, Rev. Kristin

Class ending in 2024

Spooner, Barbara

Class of 2022–2025

Nelms, Cedric
*Rensink, Rev. Debra
Waterstone, Rev. Mark

Board of Benefits Services (BOBS)—New York

Class of 2022–2025

*Barnes, Lynn
Bough, Leanne
Flavio Rodrigues, Lucio

Board of Benefits Services (BOBS)—Michigan

Class of 2022–2025

*Barnes, Lynn
Bough, Leanne
Flavio Rodrigues, Lucio

Church Growth Fund (CGF) Board

Class of 2022–2025

Arias-Lopez, Elba
Bouwens, Joel
*Rukambe, Ronald

Ministerial Formation Certification Agency (MFCA)

Class ending in 2023

Converse, Rev. Susan

Class of 2022–2024

*Cousins, Devonna (GSC representative)

Class of 2022–2025

Baraza, Gerald

*Coleman-James, Norma

*Si, Willie

*Wolff, Rev. Cathleen

Pastoral Formation Oversight Board (PFOB)

Class of 2022–2024

* Van Es, Kimberly (GSC designee)

Class of 2022–2025

*Coleman-James, Norma (MFCA Theological Agent designee)

Folkert, Rev. Victor

*Mutch, Carol (CPAT designee)

New Brunswick Theological Seminary (NBTS) Board of Trustees

Class of 2022–2025

*Arthur, Valerie

Davis III, Rev. Henry Pinckney

*McCarty, Therese

Miller, Rev. Steven

*Norton-Levering, Rev. Abigail (RSA)

Pearce, Rev. Zachary

*Rodriguez, Rev. Wilfredo

Western Theological Seminary (WTS) Board of Trustees

Class of 2022–2025

Bolt, Kate

Renner Anderson, Rebecca (RSGL)

*Van Andel, Carol

*Vander Wal, Lisa (RSA)

N 22-1

To elect the above-named nominees to serve as members of the General Synod commissions, agencies, and boards, and the boards of trustees of RCA-related educational institutions, for the terms identified; and further,

To elect Carol Mutch to serve as moderator of the Commission on Nominations for the annual term beginning July 1, 2022, and ending June 30, 2023.

Ad Interim Appointments

The General Synod Council (GSC) appointed two *ad interim* nominees at meetings held in January 2022. An *ad interim* appointment is a temporary appointment made by the GSC of an

individual to fill a mid-term vacancy on a commission, agency, or board. He or she typically serves less than one year until the next stated session of the General Synod (*BCO*, Chapter 3, Part I, Article 4, Section 3 [2021 edition, p. 112]).

(Classes noted conclude June 30. The *BCO* requires regional synod nomination for various RCA bodies. These nominees are indicated by the regional synod acronym in parentheses followed by a # sign.)

Nominee appointed *ad interim* on January 7, 2022 (GSC 22-01)

General Synod Council (GSC)

Class ending in 2023

Shan, Jidong

Nominee appointed *ad interim* on January 26, 2022 (GSC 22-04)

Commission on Judicial Business (CJB)

Class ending in 2024

Thornton, Edward (RSMAt)#

N 22-2

To elect the above-named appointees, who were appointed *ad interim* by the General Synod Council, to serve as members of the General Synod commissions, agencies, and boards indicated, for the remainder of the terms identified.

Nominees for College Boards of Trustees

The Commission on Nominations recommends to General Synod the following trustees for the terms identified.

Central College Board of Trustees

Class of 2022–2023

Mathonnet-VanderWell, Rev. Sophie

Sikkink, Steve

Vogel, Judi

Northwestern College Board of Trustees

Class ending in 2025

Hardeman, Rev. Michael

Class ending in 2026

Alemán, Rev. Eddy

N 22-3

To affirm the election of the above-named Central College nominees to serve as General Synod members of the Central College Board of Trustees for the terms identified; and further,

To approve the election of the above-named Northwestern College nominees to serve as General Synod trustees of the Northwestern College Board of Trustees for the terms identified.

Appreciation

The commission wishes to express its appreciation to Jeffrey Allen and EJ de Waard, whose one-year terms of service will conclude on June 30, 2022. We are particularly grateful to Rebecca Hudak, who completes six years on the commission and served this year as secretary. Her diligence, attention to detail, faithful participation, and positive attitude enhanced the work of the commission.

And to Angela Worthley, our staff support and the backbone of the commission, we extend our deep gratitude for the great depth, detail, caring, and commitment she brings to the work of the commission. We would be lost without her.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol L. Mutch, 2021–2022 moderator
Judy Nelson, 2021–2022 vice moderator