

OXFORD HOUSE PATHWAYS

**Pathways is a publication of the
Oxford House World Council**

Makeba Casey, Chair

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THE WORLD COUNCIL WELCOMES RESIDENTS, ALUMNI, AND FRIENDS TO THE 9th ANNUAL OXFORD HOUSE WORLD CONVENTION

"Oxford House, What If?"

Message from the Chair

In behalf of the Oxford House World Council, I want to welcome you to the 9th Annual Oxford House World Convention.

For those of you unfamiliar with the World Council, we are a body of 12 elected members of Oxford House: 9 residents and 3 alumni members plus 3 alternate members (2 resident alternates and one alumni alternate). The Council meets every two months by teleconference to discuss matters that pertain to the operating system of Oxford House. The World Council is the only body who can make changes to that system and the only body who have authority to revoke Oxford House charters.

There are open seats this year on the World Council and we know there will be good candidates who want to run. For those who are interested, in running, you should carefully read the Council Bylaws on the back of this page and the World Council Manual in this packet to make sure you understand the purpose of the Council and can fulfill your commitment should you be elected.

Election Procedure: In order to run for World Council, you must fill out a nomination form which can be obtained at the Registration Desk on Thursday or Friday am and turn it in to an Oxford House Inc. Staff Member by noon on Friday.

At the Friday afternoon general convention session, all nominees will speak for two minutes to the delegates about why he/she wants to run. On Saturday morning, a resident ballot and an alumni ballot with all nominees listed will be available at the registration desk – no matter how many members of an Oxford House are attending, each house gets to pick up and vote on only one resident ballot and one alumni ballot – alumni can only vote on the alumni ballot.

Current members of the Council will be available to answer any questions you have. They are looking forward to meeting you and sharing in a wonderful experience of fun and fellowship in Washington DC this year.

Makeba Casey Chair, Oxford House World Council

Our current Council members are:

Residents:

Peter Barrilleaux, LA*
Jennifer Bodkin, WA*
Cleo Forward, Dallas, TX*
Terri Martin, TX*
Todd Holen, KS
Angela Jones, MD
Tony Perkins, WA
Norman Sanders, NC
Byron Merriweather, VA
Steve Perry, OR

Alumni:

Barbara Beymer Perez, OR*
Victor Fitz, KS
Makeba Casey, NC
David Lawson, WA*

Emeritus Members:

Myrna Brown, WA
James McClain, Clinton, MD

*Terms Expire this year

This year, the Convention will elect council members to the following seats:

-- Five Resident Members
-- Two Alumni Members

Three Alternates (Two Resident Alternates and One Alumni Alternate) will be elected from eligible candidates based on votes received.

**Current World Council Members will meet at
9:30 pm on Thursday, August 30 at the Hotel
– Room to be announced.**

WORLD COUNCIL BYLAWS

The Oxford House World Council is an elected membership subsidiary of Oxford House Inc. [a non-profit Delaware corporation and the 501(c)(3) umbrella organization of all Oxford Houses and Alumni Oxford Houses] whose principle place of business is 1010 Wayne Ave. Suite 400, Silver Spring, MD 20910. The following are bylaws for the Oxford House World Council.

ARTICLE I Incorporation of Oxford House, Inc. Bylaws

The bylaws of Oxford House, Inc. are hereby incorporated by reference to Oxford House World Council.

ARTICLE II Composition of Oxford House World Council

The Oxford House World Council shall be twelve (12) members of whom nine (9) shall be resident members and three (3) shall be alumni members. Each member shall serve for a term of three years except three of the initial members elected for three years, three for two years and three for one year. In addition there shall be three alternate board members [two resident and one alumni] each serving a one year term of office and determined by the candidate for election to the board receiving the highest number of votes to the election candidates in the respective class.

ARTICLE III Election Procedure

Election of council members and alternates shall be conducted annually at the Oxford House World Convention. Each house in attendance at the convention is entitled to one vote for three resident members and one alumni member. Alumni in attendance at the convention can vote for alumni members but not resident members. Geographic distribution shall assure for council members by requiring that no more than one council member and alternate council member may be from the same state or territory.

ARTICLE IV Member Responsibility

Council membership is conditioned on maintenance of sobriety and participation in World Council meetings. Unexcused absences from more than two meetings shall result in termination of the member and substitution to the first alternate from the same class of membership as the person leaving the council. An alternate assuming the responsibilities of a terminated member shall serve the remainder of the former member's term. A relapse [return to using alcohol and/or drugs] shall result in immediate disqualification of a council member or alternate.

ARTICLE V Council Offices and Standing Committees

The council at its first meeting following the election of new council members shall elect the following officers for a term to extend until the next annual Oxford House World Convention: Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Chapter Chairperson, Charter Chairperson, Alumni Chairperson, Convention Chairperson, Propagation Chairperson and Fundraising Chairperson. Each committee chairperson may select up to ten committee members at least two of whom should be council members or alternate council members.

Chapter Committee – Maintain and update the Chapter manual and maintain the list of the network of Oxford House Chapters.

Charter Committee – Work with Oxford House, Inc. on getting all Oxford Houses Chartered and be a part of the investigation in the event of revocation.

Alumni Committee – Establish and maintain a list of all active alumni. Receive and account for dues from alumni. Maintain contact with alumni and promote more involvement from alumni.

Convention Committee – Work with Oxford House, Inc. on the coordination and function of the Annual World Convention.

Propagation Committee – Establish and maintain avenues of promoting Oxford House as a whole taking into account the concept, traditions and system of operations of Oxford House.

Fundraising Committee – Establish and coordinate with all states, provinces or territories a means of raising funds to strengthen the local Oxford Houses.

The Chairperson of the Council may establish such select committees as he or she may deem to be appropriate. The outgoing Chairperson shall remain on the World Council as a parliamentarian for one year after his or her term of office is complete.

ARTICLE VI Coordination with the Oxford House, Inc. Board of Directors

The Chairperson of the World Council, during his or her term of office, shall also serve as a member of the Oxford House, Inc. Board of Directors. Twenty-five (25) percent of the Oxford House, Inc. Board of Directors shall be comprised of Oxford House resident or alumni members counting the two lifetime alumni members of the Oxford House, Inc. Board – Paul Molloy and James McClain. When necessary, because of the number of Oxford House, Inc. Directors, the World Council shall by majority vote elect from among its membership one or more representatives in addition to the Chairperson who shall serve during their term of office on the Council.

ARTICLE VII Mission of Oxford House World Council

The primary mission of the Oxford House World Council is to facilitate adherence to Oxford House Traditions, concept and system of operation by providing effective means of communication and mission focus between the various organizational structures of Oxford House as a whole. In carry out its mission the Council always keeps a focus on expansion of the network of individual Oxford Houses to provide all recovering alcoholics and drug addicts the opportunity to develop comfortable sobriety without relapse. The Oxford House World Council is the guardian of the manuals and traditions.

ARTICLE VIII Resolutions Considered at Annual Oxford House World Convention

The annual Oxford House World Convention, consistent with the bylaws of Oxford House, Inc. and the Oxford House World Council, has the authority to enact resolutions affecting Oxford House policies and procedures. Such resolutions must be approved by a majority vote of the World Council and publicly posted at the Convention at least 24 hours before presented for vote at a General Session of the Annual World Convention. The World Council shall be guided by welfare of Oxford House as a whole taking into account the concept, traditions and system of operations of Oxford House.

ARTICLE IX Amendment of Bylaws

The World Council may amend these bylaws by a two-thirds vote at any meeting of the council having a quorum. A quorum shall be at least nine members present at a meeting or attending the meeting via speaker telephone