

**Autobiographies of Candidates Running for the
Position of
Nominations Committee Member
(Under the proposed revised Constitution).**

Africa

Sussie Metu , Nigeria

Asia

Indraneela Fernando , Sri Lanka

Europe

Anca Roxana Ungureanu*, Romania

Linda Uzulina*, Latvia

Latin America

Patricia Gonzalez , Brazil

Middle East

Sherin Haddad , Jordan

North America

Darlene Bessey , Canada

Carol Burns , USA

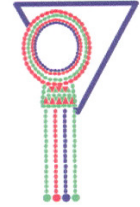
* Young woman of 30 years of age or under



Bessey, Darlene

For: Nominations Committee

National association : YWCA Canada



Questions completed by the national association making the nomination

1. Please describe the experience that qualifies this candidate for the position of Nominations Committee member:

As outlined in her submission, Ms. Bessey's active experience in both YWCA operations (former Executive Director of a YWCA Member Association) and YWCA Canada governance (former National President, member of the Nominating Committee), as well as other non-profit organizations is complemented by a significant breadth and depth of understanding of various governance models, and the skills and competencies required of board members to fulfill their duties and responsibilities. She is committed to diverse representation on Boards, and the importance of engaging young women in our movement at all levels. Ms. Bessey's analysis of situations and resultant recommendations respect immediate needs, but not at the expense of long term strategy and vision. We believe she would add immense breadth and depth to the work of the Nominations Committee.

Questions completed by the nominee

Language - English: Excellent

Other: Weak in French

Present occupation:

I am currently the immediate Past President of YWCA Canada and a member of the Governance Committee. I will also be a delegate to World Council in Nairobi. Professionally I work as a Consultant in the public and voluntary/non-profit sectors in the areas of organizational development, strategic planning, governance and program evaluation.

1. Have you ever served on a Nominations Committee?

I was a member of the Nominations Committee for YWCA Canada for a period of six years while serving as Vice-President (1999-2001) and President (2001-2005). I remain involved with the committee in an advisory capacity. I also served as a member of the Nominations Committee for Canada World Youth/Jeunesse Canada Monde for two years. This is an international development organization which facilitates educational exchanges between Canadian youth and young people from developing countries and Eastern Europe.

2. List 3 experiences you have had that would contribute to your effectiveness as a Nominations Committee member:

1. I have worked professionally and as a volunteer with a diverse group of organizations to develop and operationalize effective governance structures including the formation of nominations committees and development of terms of reference.
2. I have been engaged as both a staff and volunteer with the YWCA for a period of 18 years at a local and a national level. During this time I have managed election processes, developed criteria for board member recruitment and have been active in the process of recruitment, interviews and evaluation of both individual members and the board as a whole.
3. My involvement with Nominations Committees has included controversy and challenge and the need to work toward consensus with diverse viewpoints of committee members.

3. How will your experiences and skills help you as a member of the Nominations Committee?

My experiences and skills are based on both a theoretical understanding of the role of a nominations committee and its contribution to effective board governance as well as a significant amount of practical experience as a nominations committee member. I also have skills in the areas of group facilitation, mediation, consensus building and training which are important skills when involved in committee work. I have a broad base of experience with the YWCA. I was an Executive Director/General Secretary of a local association for six years, a local board member for two years and a national board member for 10 years. I also attended World Council in 1992 and 2003 and have attended international training sessions. These

experiences have provided me with a valuable understanding of not only the YWCA as an organization, but also the need for solid and appropriate criteria for board members and a transparent and effective recruitment and election process.

I have worked in a number of cross-cultural settings including my YWCA experiences and have developed expertise in the area of cross-cultural communication. This is an important asset for involvement in the nominations committee of an international organization working with representatives from various geographic regions of the world.

I also have a significant amount of experience in working electronically through my involvement with the National Board of the YWCA and several other national bodies.

4. What is your educational and professional background?

I have a diploma in Social Work and worked for many years in the fields of community development, organizational development and management both locally and internationally. My professional and volunteer involvement have provided me with the opportunity to live and work in India, Pakistan and the U.S.A. My current work as a consultant utilizes much of the knowledge I gained working and volunteering with voluntary/non-profit organizations and organizations committed to social justice issues.

5. How do you live out your faith in the YWCA?

I live out my faith in the YWCA through my commitment to and engagement with women's equality and social justice issues and in every human interaction based on respect, compassion and understanding.

6. What other organizations are you involved in? In what capacity? Please list.

1. Saskatoon Citizens' Centennial Committee - I have been the chair of this committee for 4 years with a mandate to plan and facilitate a celebration of the city's 100 years of history.
2. Canadian Crossroads International - I currently serve as Treasurer and board member of this Canadian international development organization which develops international partnerships committed to eradicate poverty, mitigate the impact of HIV/AIDS and achieve women's equality.

7. If elected, would you be able to work electronically with your Committee and attend at least 2 meetings?

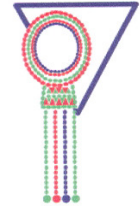
Yes



Burns, Carol

For: Nominations Committee

National association : YWCA USA



Questions completed by the national association making the nomination

1. Please describe the experience that qualifies this candidate for the position of Nominations Committee member:

For over 25 years, Carol Burns has served on various boards and committees holding almost every office possible, including nominations committee. As a member of our current national board, Carol brings a very clear understanding of the roles and responsibilities of the officers, committee chairs and members. From her first year on the Board in 2002, Carol began keeping a notebook of all official meeting minutes, which she carries to each board meeting. Her preparedness and concern has provided the board with information from previous meetings that normally would not have been available. I say this to exemplify the extra mile Carol takes in her volunteer duties and her dedication to the YWCA and our work.

Carol has also represented the YWCA USA internationally. She attended the World Council meeting in Brisbane where she made every effort to attend as many meetings as possible. From this experience, Carol gained a firm understanding of the election process at the world level. Additionally, Carol represented the YWCA USA in our delegation to China last year. Upon her return, Carol was eager to share her experiences and impressions of the work being done at the YWCAs in China with our board members and general population. She gave an informative and inspiring presentation at our annual meeting which helped to promote cross-cultural understanding and provided insight to the commonalities and issues we share with our sisters in other countries.

I feel confident in giving my recommendation for Carol Burns to serve on the Nominations Committee. Her longtime involvement with the work of the YWCA demonstrates a clear commitment to the mission and work of the organization both nationally and around the world.

Questions completed by the nominee

Language - English: Excellent

Other: none

Present occupation:

Member of National Coordinating Board of YWCA USA, small business owner

1. Have you ever served on a Nominations Committee?

I have served on the Nominations Committee of my local YWCA association as well as on nominations committees for several community organizations.

2. List 3 experiences you have had that would contribute to your effectiveness as a Nominations Committee member:

Experiences that would contribute to my effectiveness include: attendance at the 2003 World Council Meeting which gave me insights into the roles and responsibilities of officers and committee members on the world level; 5 years experience as a member of the National Coordinating Board of the YWCA USA including 5 years on the Executive Committee and 2 years as Treasurer; and serving as a long time board member and past President of my local YWCA.

3. How will your experiences and skills help you as a member of the Nominations Committee?

My experiences as a member of the NCB and numerous community boards has given me an ability to recognize the talents, abilities and leadership qualities needed to serve on boards, executive committees and other positions related to board membership.

4. What is your educational and professional background?

I have a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from Missouri Western State University and a Masters in Public Administration from the University of Missouri-Kansas City. Professionally, I have been a small business owner for over 25 years. In addition, I have been employed as an Instructor for general business and

management classes at the university level.

5. How do you live out your faith in the YWCA?

The mission of the YWCA is an expression of my Christian faith. My participation in YWCA programs and services and as a volunteer allows me to demonstrate the Christian foundation and practice of inclusion. The YWCA exemplifies my belief in the beauty, dignity and equality of all human beings regardless of race, creed, gender or nationality.

6. What other organizations are you involved in? In what capacity? Please list.

Noyes Home for Children, Board Member and Treasurer; Albrecht-Kemper Museum of Art, Foundation Board Member; Bishop LeBlond High School, Board Member; Women for Women International, Participant Sponsor; Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church, Youth Program Volunteer

7. If elected, would you be able to work electronically with your Committee and attend at least 2 meetings?

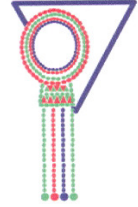
Yes, I would be able to work electronically with the Committee and attend at least 2 meetings.

Fernando, Indraneela

photo not available

For: Nominations Committee

National association : YWCA of Sri Lanka



Questions completed by the national association making the nomination

1. Please describe the experience that qualifies this candidate for the position of Nominations Committee member:

- At present, President of the YWCA of Sri Lanka
- Volunteer for 40 years
- Recording Secretary at National level and Chair-Child Care & Nutrition, Projects, Training at different triennium
- Has attended World Council in Vancouver (as a Youth delegate), Phoenix, and Brisbane
- Has attended Workshops, Training and Partnership Meeting in India, Bangladesh, Micro Credit Summit in New York, Norway and Nepal
- Has been a member of the YWCA of Zambia and Fiji
- Experience in Micro Credit, Management, a wide knowledge of the YWCA both nationally and internationally

Questions completed by the nominee

Language - English: Excellent

Other: Good in Sinhalese

Present occupation:

National President of the YWCA of Sri Lanka and Pre-School Teacher

1. Have you ever served on a Nominations Committee?

Yes

2. List 3 experiences you have had that would contribute to your effectiveness as a Nominations Committee member:

- Confidentiality maintained
- Correct and democratic procedure adhered
- To work as a member of a team

3. How will your experiences and skills help you as a member of the Nominations Committee?

To contribute positively and act fairly in accordance with the nomination procedures. To be punctual at meetings. To resolve amicably and work as a team to maintain confidentiality.

4. What is your educational and professional background?

G.C.E. Advanced Level
Diploma in Pre-School and Primary education

5. How do you live out your faith in the YWCA?

I have grown in the 'Y' movement from a member to a leader. The skills of leadership, relationships, problem solving, working together, dedication and faith in God were learnt from the YWCA. These qualities were the foundation for holding other responsible positions.

6. What other organizations are you involved in? In what capacity? Please list.

Church, Organization for the differently abled persons, Old Girls' Association - Ladies College, Gideons International, National Christian Council of Sri Lanka

7. If elected, would you be able to work electronically with your Committee and attend at least 2 meetings?

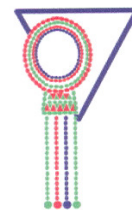
Yes
I am computer literate and have my personal e-mail



Gonzalez, Patricia

For: Nominations Committee

National association : YWCA of Brazil



Questions completed by the national association making the nomination

1. Please describe the experience that qualifies this candidate for the position of Nominations Committee member:

Patricia has worked with the YWCA of Brazil since 2002; first as a volunteer and became our National General Secretary in February, 2003. During this period she has revealed her capacity of leadership, administrative knowledge and her commitment. She has the competence to assume the position of Nominations Committee member.

Questions completed by the nominee

Language - English: Good

Other: Fluent in Spanish and Portuguese

Present occupation:

National General Secretary of the YWCA of Brazil

1. Have you ever served on a Nominations Committee?

Yes

2. List 3 experiences you have had that would contribute to your effectiveness as a Nominations Committee member:

Since 2003, I am in charge of all the events of the national association in my country including elections of the National Executive Committee.

3. How will your experiences and skills help you as a member of the Nominations Committee?

Because my work in the national association give me experience for the Nominations Committee.

4. What is your educational and professional background?

I am a Commercial Engineer. I was educated at the University of Chile.

5. How do you live out your faith in the YWCA?

My life is guided by ecumenism.

6. What other organizations are you involved in? In what capacity? Please list.

I cooperate with other organizations as a volunteer and work with the organization that have a partnership with the YWCA of Brazil like YMCA, Inter-Karitas, ICW and "Saúde da Família" (Family Health)

7. If elected, would you be able to work electronically with your Committee and attend at least 2 meetings?

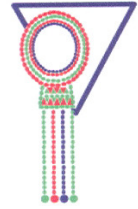
Yes

Haddad, Sherin

photo not available

For: Nominations Committee

National association : YWCA of Jordan



Questions completed by the national association making the nomination

1. Please describe the experience that qualifies this candidate for the position of Nominations Committee member:

Mrs. Sherin Haddad was a board member of the YWCA of Amman, Jordan. Later she became a council member of the YWCA of Jordan. Now, she also holds the position of treasurer. Sherin is disciplined, intelligent and performs her tasks well.

Questions completed by the nominee

Language - English: Excellent **Other:** Good in French

Present occupation:

Treasurer of the YWCA of Jordan

1. Have you ever served on a Nominations Committee?

No

2. List 3 experiences you have had that would contribute to your effectiveness as a Nominations Committee member:

Being a mother of four gave the patience to listen and help. Working as a volunteer for 25 years gave me the ability to think and analyse properly then take action quickly.

3. How will your experiences and skills help you as a member of the Nominations Committee?

My experience will help me to be objective, listen, think, analyse, and then take decisions.

4. What is your educational and professional background?

B. A. English Literature, and diploma in education. Teaching; English teacher (LA SALLE College) in media; T.V. announcer. Homemaker for 26 years as well as volunteer social worker.

5. How do you live out your faith in the YWCA?

Give from all my heart, work as a team, with the help of God, to build our community and country.

6. What other organizations are you involved in? In what capacity? Please list.

Women Federation (served for four years), Arabran Horseback Riding Club (vice president), A.B.S. Social Committee, Friends of Antiquities (board member), Ikebana.

7. If elected, would you be able to work electronically with your Committee and attend at least 2 meetings?

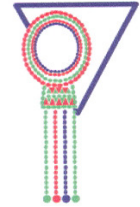
Yes.



Metu, Sussie

For: Nominations Committee

National association : YWCA of Nigeria



Questions completed by the national association making the nomination

1. Please describe the experience that qualifies this candidate for the position of Nominations Committee member:

Sussie Metu, in her capacity as the National General Secretary of our association, has played leading roles as member of our nomination committee for over twelve years. She has experience having served as an election clerk during the 1999 Nigeria elections. Sussie has attended an Election Observation course organised by the University of Ghana Legion in conjunction with other four international training institutes in November 2005. She is competent for the job.

Questions completed by the nominee

Language - English: Excellent

Other: Weak in French

Present occupation:

National General Secretary of the YWCA of Nigeria

1. Have you ever served on a Nominations Committee?

I have served in key positions within my National Association's Nominations Committee for twelve years.

2. List 3 experiences you have had that would contribute to your effectiveness as a Nominations Committee member:

Member of YWCA of Nigeria's Nominations Committee. I have served as a party representative during our national elections in 1999. I have participated in an Elections Observation and Good Governance course organised by UNFPA and University of Lagos, Ghana in 2005.

3. How will your experiences and skills help you as a member of the Nominations Committee?

My experiences and involvement in my association's elections predisposes me to function very well as a member of the Committee.

4. What is your educational and professional background?

Presently, I am the National General Secretary of YWCA of Nigeria. I hold a Masters degree in Public Administration and by end of summer 2007, I will be completing another masters degree in International Relations and Strategic Studies.

5. How do you live out your faith in the YWCA?

I strongly believe in Christianity. I am a Church worker in my local group. I am ready to give of my time in service.

6. What other organizations are you involved in? In what capacity? Please list.

I am a member of the Girls Brigade and Women of Vision International. I serve with the Counselling Department.

7. If elected, would you be able to work electronically with your Committee and attend at least 2 meetings?

Yes.



Ungureanu, Anca Roxana

For: Nominations Committee

National association : YWCA of Romania



Questions completed by the national association making the nomination

1. Please describe the experience that qualifies this candidate for the position of Nominations Committee member:

Anca Roxana Ungureanu is one of the board members of YWCA of Romania. She is also the initiator of a health project and coordinator of a few other projects that the YWCA of Romania is running. She has been volunteering for the YWCA of Romania since 1999 and she has experience in Human Rights Education, health issues and youth work. She participated in numerous YWCA and Council of Europe international study sessions.

Questions completed by the nominee

Language - English: Good

Other: Good French
Excellent Romanian
Weak Spanish

Present occupation:

Board member of the YWCA of Romania and surgeon at a Bucharest hospital

1. Have you ever served on a Nominations Committee?

No

2. List 3 experiences you have had that would contribute to your effectiveness as a Nominations Committee member:

- Working in an international environment during the YWCA Study Session.
- Preparatory team member of Budapest Study Session "Growing up smart: Working with Girls and Young Women in Communities"
- Initiator and Coordinator of "Awareness for your Health" project

3. How will your experiences and skills help you as a member of the Nominations Committee?

The experiences that I had, together with my skills, will influence my work as a member of the Nominations Committee in a positive way, by having the opportunity to show that I'm a good organizer and time manager, helpful and understanding person, easily adapting to different types of situations. I have good analyzing skills.

4. What is your educational and professional background?

I work as a surgeon at a Bucharest hospital and I'm preparing for my doctorate degree in Medical Sciences. I studied at the Bucharest Medicine and Pharmacy University "Carol Davila".

5. How do you live out your faith in the YWCA?

Since the moment that I joined the YWCA of Romania, I hope that my work there would influence the lives of a larger number of people that I can help as a doctor. My profession and volunteering for the YWCA of Romania will complement each other. The YWCA fulfills this and more, it's a real instrument that can change people's lives in many positive ways.

6. What other organizations are you involved in? In what capacity? Please list.

I'm also a member of the Romanian Surgery Society and, as a member of this organization, I'm participating in national and international medical conferences.

7. If elected, would you be able to work electronically with your Committee and attend at least 2 meetings?

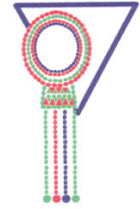
If I'm elected I'm able to attend meetings of the Nominations Committee.



Uzulina, Linda

For: Nominations Committee

National association : YWCA-YMCA of Latvia



Questions completed by the national association making the nomination

1. Please describe the experience that qualifies this candidate for the position of Nominations Committee member:

Linda Uzulina is working as the General Secretary of the YWCA-YMCA of Latvia. Previously she worked as the Project Manager and Politics Coordinator at the Marta Resource Center for Women, which is a member association of the European Women's Lobby. She has experience working with international teams and in leading election processes.
Linda Uzulina is a board member of the local YWCA-YMCA association of Riga, member organisation of the YWCA-YMCA of Latvia.

Questions completed by the nominee

Language - English: Good

Other: Excellent Latvian
Good Russian
Good German
Weak Italian
Weak Swedish

Present occupation:

General Secretary of the YWCA-YMCA of Latvia

1. Have you ever served on a Nominations Committee?

No.

2. List 3 experiences you have had that would contribute to your effectiveness as a Nominations Committee member:

- As Project Manager, experience in working with international teams
- Punctuality
- Great administrative and planning skills

3. How will your experiences and skills help you as a member of the Nominations Committee?

I am good in administrative work, which means that I am able to contribute to the nomination process for election of the members of the World Board, including the Officers and the Nominations Committee, to ensure that the candidates for election meet the eligibility requirements for World Board. I have experience in working with international teams. I am flexible and I have experience in solving problem situations. During the time that I worked with the Marta Resource Center for Women, I organised many international and national conferences.

4. What is your educational and professional background?

I am currently studying management. I worked at the Marta Resource Center for Women as Project Manager and Politics Coordinator. Since June 2006, I am working as the General Secretary of the YWCA-YMCA of Latvia. I participated in many trainings within nonformal education.

5. How do you live out your faith in the YWCA?

I left the Marta Resource Center for Women, where I held a high position, to work with the YWCA-YMCA of Latvia because work with youth is very important to me. They are the future. The Marta Resource Center for Women deals with gender equality. I continue to work on this issue with the YWCA-YMCA of Latvia. I always support young women to lead in positions within member associations of the YWCA-YMCA of Latvia.

6. What other organizations are you involved in? In what capacity? Please list.

- I am a board member of the local YWCA-YMCA association of Riga (member of the YWCA-YMCA of Latvia).
- I am a member of the Marta Resource Center for Women (my nomination was sent for board elections which will be held on 23 March 2007).
- As a representative of the YWCA-YMCA of Latvia, I am part of the Youth Council of Latvia and of the Women's Organisation Network of Latvia.
- Together with the President of the YWCA-YMCA of Latvia, we lead the Working Group on "Women in Politics" within the Women's Organisation Network of Latvia.

7. If elected, would you be able to work electronically with your Committee and attend at least 2 meetings?

If elected, I will be able to work electronically because I am a full time employee of the YWCA-YMCA of Latvia and have access to internet (this may be challenging if I am on a business trip). I can attend meetings if they are announced at least one month in advance.