

From Barrington minutes:

Goal 2 (voice in the Order): In response to the Generalate's request, CCA communities gave suggestions for the Agenda for the Definitory Meeting in Korea, Fall, 2014. The Questionnaire of CICLSAL re. enclosure, autonomy, ongoing formation. We prepared a response to the Agenda sent out in preparation for the meeting with Generalate on February 3, 2016. Sr. Claire represented the U.S. at the General Chapter in May, 2015.

Goal 2: We have continued to work at achieving a representative voice in matters affecting our lives.

As I see it, there are six pathways to our achieving a greater voice, five representative and one creative:

- A. Promoting greater solidarity among the nuns by networking and collaborating allows us to speak more powerfully with a coherent and unified voice.
- B. Interacting, both in writing and in person, with church leaders from a posture of deep competency and mature spirituality will change attitudes and will help us with this goal
- C. Advocating for appropriate structures of governance that will facilitate the expression of our voice.
- D. Mentoring one another to become competent leaders who can advocate on our behalf and help carry Carmel into the future.
- E. Promulgating the understanding that all three branches of our order comprise an integrated collaborative structure. We need to hold ourselves accountable to one another.
- F. Using the internet to share the beauty of our charism and creativity of our members.

- A. Claire has already described all of the efforts we have made to promote unity in diversity.
- B. Interacting, both in writing and in person, with church leaders from a posture of deep competency and mature spirituality will change attitudes and will help us with this goal
 - a. General Chapter in Avila,
 - i. In response to an invitation to submit agenda suggestions to the Generalate about the Sr. Claire sent a letter to Fr. Rafal with suggestions from CCA on behalf of the Association
 - ii. We met in Darien to prepare for the General Chapter: CCA LT represented our viewpoint among the American Associations
 - b. The LT coordinated CCA's response to the CICLSAL Questionnaire (formation, enclosure, autonomy)
 - c. The LT submitted a response to the agenda sent to us for the meeting with Fr. General in Rome on Feb. 3rd.
 - d. Claire and BT attended the meeting of all contemplative nuns in Rome on January 28 – February 2. CCA went, participated, and advocated.

- i. This first time ever meeting of contemplatives is surely a sign in the shift in thinking about us.
- C. Promulgating appropriate structures of governance that will facilitate the expression of our voice.
 - a. I think it is significant that we could help change the nature of the nuns' input at the general chapter. As you know, in the past this used to be limited to a recitation of the membership statistics about each region. This time some of the nuns arrived early so that they could strategize about their presentation and the points to be made.
 - i. It is probably also significant that nuns and friars met together for discussion by language groups
 - b. At the CICALSAL meeting in Rome Fr. Paciolla said this about autonomy: "I believe that the monastic congregations of women as such and **federations with some added powers** can be the logical balance between the autonomy of the monastery and needs of centralism, making them interim instances between individual sui juris monasteries and the Dicastery." I believe that this demonstrates a significant shift in thinking.
 - c. I think that Fr. Saverio's call for an International Commission of nuns, although rejected at this time, signals another shift in thinking.
 - d. The appointing of an international committee of nuns to offer a formation plan also points to more movement in terms of giving the nuns voice.
- D. The need to mentor one another to become competent leaders who can advocate on our behalf and help carry carmel into the future.
 - a. It seems to me that all of the work done with MLC also supports this goal because, if accepted, it will would empower our own members to find their own voice as leaders in their communities, the Association and the Church
- E. Do we need to promulgate seeing all three branches of our order as an integrated collaborative structure? We don't necessarily hold ourselves accountable to one another.
 - a. Should we be working more collaboratively on setting goals for ourselves on an order-wide basis? This is a step beyond goal 2 and perhaps could be a dream for the future.
- F. Using the internet to share the beauty of our charism and creativity of our members.
 - a. Nada Te Turbe