

COUNCIL Report

Hudson River Presbytery

April 10, 2018

Gavin D. Meek, chair

Your HRP Council recommends the following:

1. Elect **William “Bill” Doescher** as **Treasurer** of HRP. Bill, a Ruling Elder from Hitchcock, Scarsdale, was recommended to the Council by the Budget, Finance and Property Committee/Trustees and possesses the skills, abilities and experienced needed.

Your Council reports the following for information:

1. HRU (Hudson River University) was a huge success as judged by the numbers and evaluations! Over 150 individuals – members, deacons, ruling elders and pastors from nearly all of our 79 congregations – gathered at Stony Point on March 17 to learn, grow and connect. A faculty of 16 was recruited from around the presbytery and beyond, sharing their knowledge and experience. There was a great deal of energy and excitement when the day started off with prayer, when we gathered together for lunch and throughout the five classes offered each session.

Mission giving from HRP congregations made this event possible. It is the desire of the Council to have another HRU next spring, possibly with additional and/or different classes most especially one on evangelism/church growth and being a welcoming congregation. It was also determined that Clerk Day should continue to be a part of this event as well as possibly providing on-site childcare.

2. Mission giving funds were used to video Gavin’s officer training, Susan’s Clerk of Session training and the presentation on Partnerships. Those videos will be placed on the new HRP web site for access by everyone.
3. The Council is considering changes to the presbytery docket: allowing a HRP Partnership to make a brief presentation annually and a new docket item that would be entitled “It works for us” where church leaders can briefly share a successful ministry approach or idea that they’ve developed.
4. An application for a scholarship to attend an event or training related to our HRP Ministry Goals has been developed and will be placed on our new HRP web site.
5. Given the new HRP Design for Mission and Ministry, all positions descriptions for support staff were reviewed and revised by the Personnel Committee and approved by Council. Note: all of our support staff is part-time, between 12 and 24 hours per week.
6. The Council received a request from Long Island and NYC presbyteries that HRP concur with their respective overtures concerning the Jarvie funds. The Council provided those overtures to our Faith and Order Committee for study and consideration.