



# URANTIA FOUNDATION'S NEWS ONLINE

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## GRATITUDE TO THOSE WHO SERVE THE REVELATION

Greetings, fellow readers of *The Urantia Book*. I hope this report finds you healthy and happy. As those of you who attended the UAI Conference in Malaga, Spain, know, it was a delightful conference. Urantia Foundation's Expanded Board of Trustees quarterly meeting was held two days before the conference and we thank the conference organizers for hosting our meetings. Special thanks go to Associate Trustee Olga Lopez for her logistical support which made our meetings comfortable and efficient. Beyond the work accomplished at the meetings, we'll treasure the new friendships established in Spain.

At the end of the Trustees meeting on Friday afternoon, Urantia Foundation hosted a Global Leadership Roundtable for leaders attending the con-

ference. Some 25 people joined in a 2 ½ hour exchange of ideas and experiences. The attendees came from Asia, North and South America, Africa, and throughout Europe. Board members and roundtable participants were truly inspired by the faith, loyalty, and devotion of these leaders. On behalf of the Expanded Board of Trustees, thank you, participants of the roundtable, for sharing your heart-felt stories. The Board has a renewed understanding of the difficulties and opportunities that readers face as the Urantia Revelation expands into their countries. Most of our Board members live in nations where the book is somewhat established. How quickly we forget those early struggles and limited successes when the book first gets launched. Words can hardly express the

thrill we felt as we heard details about the work these good people are doing as they bring this new revelation to their country. We stand in humble gratitude for their day to day efforts on this vital project. I suspect the angels rejoice as they watch them bring light to this world through their lives and their work for the Urantia Revelation.

A warm thank you goes to every member of the Board for their expenditure of volunteer time and money between and during meetings as they serve the Revelation and Urantia Foundation. If those of you reading this report could hear Associate Trustees Claire and Henk

*Continued on Page 2*

## PRE-CONFERENCE LEADERSHIP ROUNDTABLE



*By Samantha Nior, Hilversum, the Netherlands.*

*Editors Note: The April 2009 quarterly meeting of the Expanded Board of Trustees was held in Malaga Spain prior to the Urantia Association International Conference. At the suggestion of Ms. Irmeli Ivalo-Sjölle, Associate Trustee, a leadership roundtable was sponsored on Friday the 17th of April at five o' clock. Each person invited to attend was a*

*leader in their respective country and gave a short presentation about Urantia Book related activities. Samantha Nior (Netherlands) has written a brief summary of her perspective about the roundtable. The picture on Page 4 is of the attendees.*

It was a beautiful experience meeting these people who are bringing readers together and helping them to form study groups and associations. I

learned that the difficulties we have in the Netherlands are common to reader groups worldwide. It was wonderful to hear how in some countries there exist large communities of readers who regularly come together to study the book and to form local and national associations.

The presentation by Joel Chong Myula from Zambia

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Mylanus describe their trials and tribulations as they dramatically improve book distribution in Italy, France, Spain, and Holland, you'd stand up and clap. If you could see the smile on Trustee Georges Dupont's face as he showed us the new European Edition of *El Libro de Urantia*, you'd feel confident about our future! Then there are the unsung heroes, Jay Peregrine

and his team, who work tirelessly for the Urantia Revelation. I could go on about the day to day accomplishments of each member of our team because everyone is giving a tremendous amount of their life energy for this project. We're truly blessed to have this Expanded Board of Trustees and staff at Urantia Foundation.

We are all part of a long-

planned spiritual and intellectual unfolding aimed at bringing new understanding to the peoples of this world. The Trustees, Associate Trustees, and staff of Urantia Foundation deeply appreciate your support, work, prayers, contributions, and goodwill for the ongoing human efforts in behalf of *The Urantia Book*. Together we can and will plant seeds of truth that will someday enlighten and spiritually liberate all humankind.

Upward and inward,

Ma

Mo Siegel  
President Urantia Foundation

## NOTEWORTHY DECISIONS FROM THE APRIL 2009 BOARD MEETING

By Mo Siegel, President, Urantia Foundation, Colorado, USA

1. The meeting started with an emphasis on fostering the next generation of leadership for Urantia Foundation. Currently one Trustee position sits vacant, and two Associate Trustee positions will open after the Board's October 2009 meeting. With the aging of the current leadership, the Board of Trustees hopes to recruit and train young leaders for the future. In addition, the Trustees desire to find service-minded, qualified individuals who live in Mexico, Central, and South America. We would appreciate your recommendations for qualified candidates. Contact Mo Siegel at [Urantia@urantia.org](mailto:Urantia@urantia.org).

2. The Board reviewed a plan to host groups at Urantia Foundation's second floor facilities. The Foundation's building has a spacious conference room available with a large board-room table, which comfortably seats 16 persons. Adjoining the conference room is a small meeting room that works perfectly for break-out groups. The facility has a kitchen, three bathrooms, and four bedrooms that comfortably sleep up to 10 persons. Suggested mini-

mum donations for the meeting rooms are \$125.00 per day. Overnight accommodations can be used for a minimum donation of \$50.00 a room per night. If you are interested, please call 773-525-3319 to plan your event. All proceeds will go to upkeep and to the 533 Building Fund.

3. The Board re-instituted the youth internship program at Urantia Foundation. You will hear more about this program as it unfolds.

4. The Board reviewed Urantia Foundation's finances. With a significantly reduced 2009 budget, conservative spending, and generous donations, we will survive the "great recession" of 2009. After the outpouring of financial support in 2008, we know the readership cares and will help us pull through this year. A special thank you goes to our longest serving Trustee, Richard Keeler, for his wise and profitable investing on the Foundation's behalf during the last 12 months.

5. The Book Committee has been busy with four new translations that need printing in the next 12 to 24 months. Considering that we're in the

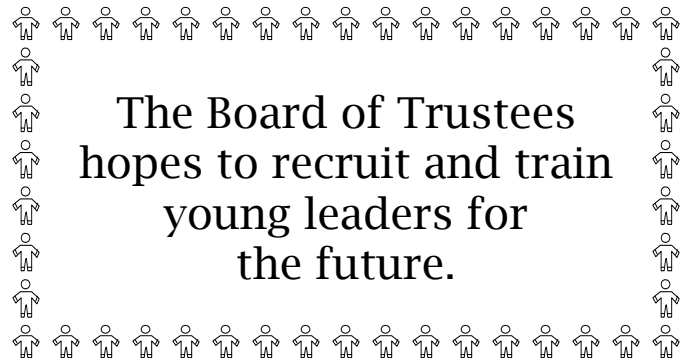
worst financial market in decades, the Board is moving cautiously forward when spending money. A translation is an enormous accomplishment requiring thousands of hours. Once a translation is printed, the time-consuming and expensive job of finding and maintaining book distribution begins. Complicating this job is the fact that outside the United States every national book-vendor system operates in an idiosyncratic way from every other country's system. After discussing various financial and logistic issues surrounding book printings, the Board approved the following priorities for book printing, storing, marketing, and distribution.

- The first priority of the book distribution program is to support the supply of Urantia Books already in a marketplace. Once a book is printed

and distributed, that book must stay in stock. Based on this decision, the 2009 re-printings will be Spanish, Portuguese, Lithuanian, Russian, and English.

- The second priority of the book distribution program is to print new translations that have been approved by the Board for printing, and for which a market, distribution, and warehousing plan has been established. Based on this criterion, the Polish translation has been scheduled for printing no later than mid-2010.

- The third priority of the book distribution program is to print books which currently do not have a defined market, distribution, and storage plan. The Board acknowledges the value of the



extraordinary work done by the translators and wants their work into circulation. Therefore, Urantia Foundation will make every effort to establish a plan to print, store, market, and distribute these translations as soon as possible. The Hungarian, Swedish, and Estonian translations fall in this category and will be made available in an electronic format, including on the internet and on CD in 2009 and printed soon after.

- The fourth priority of the book distribution program is to coordinate the completion of translations which are not ready for printing but which are past first-draft.

6. The Translation Committee, chaired by the Manager of Translations, Georges Michelson-Dupont, presented a plan for improving the translation process over the next decade. The translation committee has an enormous number of projects currently underway. Those projects include new translations, revisions, computerization of the translation process, and more. Intensive revision efforts are focused on the 1993 edition of *El Libro de Urantia*

and the new Portuguese translation.

The committee is seeking individuals who speak and read Chinese to review the Chinese translation of *The Urantia Book*. Contact Georges Michelson-Dupont for more information at [georges.michelsondupont777@gmail.com](mailto:georges.michelsondupont777@gmail.com).

7. The Governance Committee has embarked upon the process of creating committee charters for the 9 Board committees. Those committees are the finance, governance, public relations, education, books, fund raising, translation, compensation, and planning committees. As the work of the Foundation expands, it has become critical that the growing work load with our mainly volunteer team gets accomplished as efficiently and pleasantly as possible. The committee charters articulate the roles and responsibilities which help insure the work gets done with redundancies eliminated. The Board approved the Committee's recommended charters for the Finance and Education Committee.

8. The Board heard plans to improve Urantia Foundation's website during the next 12 months.

In March of 2009, the Foundation's website had over 125,000 unique visitors. The internet search engines naturally steer people to our website for information, education, and validation of the "Urantia Revelation." We

must keep improving the relevancy, ease of access, and educational quality of the Foundation's website. The site must provide an easy way for people to learn about the book's teachings, to have basic questions answered, to connect to the Foundation's educational efforts such as UBIS, and to find out about Urantia Foundation.

9. The Fellowship recently inquired if Urantia Foundation would share its mailing list with them. While the Board appreciates the search for cooperative efforts, we graciously decline sharing our mailing list with any groups because the list was developed

with the implicit understanding of the privacy rights of individual readers. We were never given the right to share our mailing list and we will honor that agreement.

10. The Board initiated an Information Technology (IT) Roundtable for Oct. 17th and 18th, 2009 at our Chicago office. We're inviting 12-14 of the best and brightest internet/tech minds who read and work with *The Urantia Book* via IT/Web technology.

Numerous individuals and groups approach Urantia Foundation with their technology ideas for UBIS, search engine optimization, standard digital text referencing, software for hand held devices, common data bases for secondary works, social networking, internet study groups, and much more. The growth of the internet and digital technology has fundamentally changed the distribution of *The Urantia Book* and its

teachings. During this session we'll share best practices, experiences, strategies, and new ideas for serving the community of potential and current Urantia Book readers via IT/internet technologies. We'll spend time discussing various strategic IT/internet alternatives that maximize reader benefits while minimizing redundancies, over expenditures, and conflicts. If you feel you should be one of the 12-14 individuals invited to attend, please contact Jay Peregrine at [Urantia@urantia.org](mailto:Urantia@urantia.org).

11. Anticipating growing interest in *The Urantia Book*, a team headed by Trustee Richard Keeler has been drafting answers to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) about the book and Urantia Foundation. The work on this project is continuing and now the Education Committee has agreed to share the load by writing answers to questions about the book's teachings.

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Bottom from left to right: Claire Mylanus (France); Samantha Nior (Netherland); Nemias Mol (Brazil); Ricardo Machado (Portugal); Rogerio Reis da Silva (Brazil)

Top from left to right: Byung Seo (South Korea); Rick Lyon (USA); Seppo Kanerva (Finland); Gaétan Charland (Canada); Joel Chongo Mvula (Zambia); Gary Rawlings (United Kingdom); Werner Sutter (Germany)

Not Pictured: Michael Maclsaac (Sweden)

From Page 1

was especially intriguing to me and the other attendees at the roundtable. Most Zambian readers range from high school age to people in their 40's. To speak freely about *The Urantia Book*, one has to register with the government as an association and be acknowledged as a religion. Joel introduces the book to young people and fosters study groups by visiting them once a month.

All the participants at the roundtable gained an understanding and insight as to how the community of readers is slowly moving forward and coming together. I feel blessed to have been able to participate in this learning experience and to have met such wonderful people.

## GOD CONSCIOUSNESS - A LIVING UNIVERSITY



By Paula Thompson, Administrative Director, Urantia Fellowship, Arvada, USA

Oh, My God Consciousness!

I hope you don't my saying it, but, "Your God-consciousness is showing!"

Have you noticed that *The Urantia Book* places defini-

tions of God-consciousness conspicuously in the last sentence of the Foreword and the first sentence of the last paragraph in the entire book?

*"...the ever-progressing reality of personal religious experience—God-consciousness."*  
(0:12.12)

*"And god-consciousness is the equivalent to the integration of the self with the universe..."*  
(196:3.32)

The entire teachings are held in the arms of God-consciousness. At every level of our progress, it is the continuous effort to push the envelope of self, soul and spirit consciousness that constitutes God-consciousness. It is the experience and fact of becoming more real.

Do you feel more real today than you did yesterday? Perhaps it's time to get more real. Come to the Fellowship's Summer Study Session 09, "God Consciousness - A Living University" Friday, July 31st through Sunday August 2nd, at Dominican University, River Forest, Illinois. There is a pre-conference retreat and other activities beginning on Wednesday evening, July 29th through Thursday, July 30th.

In this session we will explore avenues to reach heightened states of God-consciousness no matter what 'level' we are on, or think we are on. This includes:

\* Revelatory-inspired learning methods, action study and immediate application of what is learned.

\* Expanded pre-conference day with choices of:

- (1) Spiritual Retreat
- (2) Education Workshop or
- (3) Chicago City Tour

\* Launch of an ongoing program of in-depth study of the teachings that begin with an exciting new program of pre-study for the 2009 meeting.

To register online click here: [https://www.regonline.com/Fellowship\\_SSS\\_09](https://www.regonline.com/Fellowship_SSS_09)

To request a paper registration form or for more information send an email to: [Fellowship@urantiaBook.org](mailto:Fellowship@urantiaBook.org) or call 1-877-288-3772

We hope to see you there!



*“...the Father is not very far from any one of you; he dwells within you, and in him do we all literally move, actually live, and veritably have our being.”*

*The Urantia Book, Page 139 (12:7.12)*

## UPDATE FROM THE URANTIA BOOK INTERNET SCHOOL (UBIS)

*By Dorothy Elder, Chair of the Board of Directors of UBIS, California, USA*

UBIS is like one big wheel that continues to turn throughout the year! As soon as one semester is underway, planning for the next one begins. During the summer months the annual Fall Teacher-Training course is planned, so the board, staff, and teacher-facilitators all have a hand in keeping the wheel turning smoothly during the 12-month cycle. Here are a few notes on our recent activities.

### UBIS BOARD MEETING HELD March 14 and 15, 2009

After two months of in-depth planning and preparation, seven of the nine-member UBIS Board of Directors met in March in Chicago at Urantia Foundation headquarters for our annual "in person" meeting. This was an important meeting in which we laid the foundation and focus for the next ten years. We covered a lot of ground and many topics during the two-day meeting, but the main focus concentrated on these three areas:

1. Curriculum. Polly Friedman

presented an excellent and detailed plan for a new four-part Basic Core Curriculum program to be initiated by UBIS. After much enthusiastic discussion the plan was eagerly endorsed, and implementation of the plan is targeted for the September 2010 semester.

2. Website. Early in 2009, UBIS received a generous gift for enhancing the UBIS website. After considerable examination of options in preparation for the meeting, and consequent meeting discussion, four priority upgrades were decided upon. The upgrade proposal is currently being finalized with additional input from the designer, and the work completion date is targeted for the September 2009 semester.

3. Organization. It was decided that the UBIS volunteer work force will be enlarged with six additional staff members within six months. In addition, our volunteer program is rapidly growing, and ways to enhance our annual operational schedule were identified and decided upon. The need for operational funding was evaluated. In this respect, an annual budget and fund-raising activities will be established for the immediate future.

### OTHER NOTEWORTHY NEWS

The April 2009 semester is currently underway, and for the first time UBIS is presenting a course designed as an introductory course for new readers. Polly Friedman is the Teacher-Facilitator for this course titled, "An Intro-

duction to *The Urantia Book*." This culminates a year of our UBIS team's contemplation and discussion on the subject, and we are enthusiastic about its potential and as a learning experience. The course was fully enrolled with 18 students, including new and experienced readers



*Top left to right: Susan Flacks, Pauline Friedman  
Bottom left to right: Pam Maunakea, Dorothy Elder, Jane Ploetz*



from Russia, Brazil, South Africa, and Spain, as well as readers from the USA.

THANKS TO THE TEAM!

In closing, I want you to know that, without the dedication of such devoted volunteer board members, The Urantia Book Internet School

would not exist. Each one fills a vital job that keeps UBIS functioning year in and year out. Thank you, Pam Mau-nakea, Susan Flacks, Georges Michelson-Dupont, Polly Friedman, Jay Peregrine, Jane Ploetz, and Betty and

Ralph Zehr for all that you do and especially for the wonderful "Team Spirit" you bring to UBIS.

## LOOKING FOR A FRENCH DISTRIBUTOR



By Claire Mylanus, Associate Trustee, Bretagne, France

*Editors Note: Claire joins her husband Henk Mylanus as they work to open up the channels of distribution for The Urantia Book in Europe.*

After weeks of searching on the internet and talking to distributors and publishers, my husband Henk, and I made some appointments and went to Paris. The book market in France is well regulated and *Le Livre d'Urantia* has been distributed by a few different distributors. The last distributor charged so much for storage that Urantia Foundation could not make a profit on the sale of the book.

In France, distributors do not want to distribute a book that is published by a "single-title" publisher, that is, a publisher which publishes only one book. So the solution had been to go to a "diffuseur," which is an intermediary between a publisher and a distributor. The "diffuseur" adds



Henk Mylanus

your book to many other books that he provides to distributors. The "diffuseur" advertises your book in newsletters and catalogues. The Foundation's "diffuseur" in France went bankrupt, and the resulting litigation prevented the Foundation from reclaiming some 1,800 copies of *Le Livre d'Urantia*.

Thanks to the team at the head office in Chicago and especially to Marcel Urayeneza, whose tenacity and persuasiveness on the phone dislodged *Le Livre d'Urantia* from the legal log-jam, the Foundation retrieved all 1,800 copies of the French translation. Alas, we had to find a new "diffuseur" or a distributor.

The French system of book distribution allows a bookstore to accept a book from a distributor and return it after two months if it is not sold. To avoid "returns" and

high storage costs would be ideal.

We contacted one distributor after another. We were a foreign publisher, contracts with other distributors forbade it, it was a single title publisher. We were facing a wall but were not discouraged. There had to be a solution. We continued our search, trusting the help of our unseen friends. Finally, through a distributor we found a gentleman who owned a bookstore in Paris which carried thousands of titles of the religious, spiritual, and esoteric genres. His bookstore was located in the center of Paris, and he and his team had experience in the book market for more than thirty years. He offered to carry *Le Livre d'Urantia*.

After discussing the matter, Henk and I decided to recommend that Urantia Foundation accept his offer. Through his bookstore - [la Librairie de l'Inconnu](#) - *Le Livre d'Urantia*

will have independent distribution, no storage costs, and no returns because there is no time limit for having the book in his bookstore. He has his own internet site, sells through fax orders and through his newsletter, and distributes to other French bookstores, as well as to bookstores in Belgium and Switzerland. He will accept books on consignment and when sold, order more.

Finding distributors for *The Urantia Book* in Europe will be a challenge, as we have discovered in France. *The Urantia Book* is a special book, a "single title" from a foreign publisher, and a book which appeals to a small segment of the book market. But what a book, and what an adventure we have the privilege to participate in!

**LE LIVRE D'URANTIA  
WILL HAVE  
INDEPENDENT  
DISTRIBUTION,  
NO STORAGE COSTS,  
AND NO RETURNS.**

# THE URANTIA BOOK AND CHRISTIANITY



By Richard Keeler, Trustee,  
Urantia Foundation, Wyoming,  
USA

*Editor's Note: Richard Keeler shared an article from Wikipedia on The Urantia Book and Christianity. Kristina Stoianova, (London, United Kingdom) and Paul Tsekar, (Yaounde, Cameroon) comment on the article.*

Do you know that if you go to Wikipedia at [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Urantia\\_Book](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Urantia_Book) on the Internet, you can read a comparison between *The Urantia Book* and Christianity? If you want to know what it says, please read on.

*The Urantia Book* shares the following general concepts with most Christian faiths:

- God is the creator of all reality
- God is omniscient, omnipresent, omnipotent, infinite, and eternal
- God is described as a loving personality – "God is love"
- God is a single deity that exists in a Trinity of three persons
- God has a vast "heavenly host"
- Believers who have a personal relationship with God

are "born of the spirit"

- Those having faith in God survive death
- Angels and divine personalities exist and are sent to guard and minister to people throughout their lives.

Some differences with Christianity include:

- Jesus' crucifixion is not considered an atonement for the sins of humanity. The crucifixion is taught to be an outcome of the fears of religious leaders of the day, who regarded his teachings as a threat to their positions of authority.
- God is never wrathful or angry. He is a personality entirely motivated by Father-like love.
- Jesus is the human incarnation of "Michael of Nebadon," one of more than 700,000 "Paradise Sons" of God, or "Creator Sons." Jesus is not considered the second person of the Trinity as he is in Christianity. The book refers to the Eternal Son as the second person of the Trinity.
- Jesus was born on earth through natural means of conception instead of a virgin birth.
- Jesus did not walk on water or perform some of the miracles that are attributed to him in *The Bible*.
- Jesus commissioned twelve women (and later more) as religious teachers, who were permitted to travel about with Jesus and his apostles on their preaching missions.
- Jesus rose from the dead in a "more glorified form", reflective of a transitional state between material and spiritual existence known as "morontia". As with all mortals, his physical body was subject to decomposition, but

celestial beings removed his body from the tomb for the dissolution of his remains through a process of "accelerated time."

- The book states that Jesus may return to the world many times. This contrasts with traditional Christian eschatology, in which Jesus returns only once.

RESPONSE TO WIKIPEDIA by  
*Kristina Stoianova from London, United Kingdom*

I consider myself to be a new reader of *The Urantia Book* as I have been reading the book for only four years. But for me, this book is everything.

We can compare *The Urantia Book* with the sacred books of other religions, and I agree that, of all of them, Christianity is most closely associated with it. This is mainly because of the importance of Jesus in and to both of them.

I think that the Wikipedia article will help many people who are searching for the truth. It will help them see that Jesus – Michael of Nebadon – is more than what *The Bible* says he is. He loves not only Christians but all of us, regardless of our religion, even persons with no religion. I hope this article will make people more curious and encourage them to discover *The Urantia Book*.

RESPONSE TO WIKIPEDIA by  
*Paul Tsekar (Yaounde, Cameroon)*

Christianity is an organization established by Jesus' followers after his departure from this world and was founded with the good intention to perpetuate Jesus' teachings and to make them popular in

the world. Christianity has suffered much over the years, first from persecution by Jewish leaders and later by some political and religious leaders. Some religious leaders have used Christianity – and even made changes to *The Bible* – as a means to exercise power over their believers.

These manipulations of Christianity and the twisting of Jesus' teachings have continued to this day. Take the Jehovah Witnesses for example. Their *Bible*, which is called the *New World Version*, is about 50% different from the Bible. Why? In order to make the Bible agree with their beliefs and doctrines. Numerous Christian denominations exist, each with its own doctrines, which explains why there is so much disunity among Christians.

In my opinion, *The Urantia Book* contains the only accurate account of the life and teachings of Jesus.

He loves not only  
Christians but all  
of us, regardless  
of our religion,  
even persons with  
no religion.

# PRINTING OF *EL LIBRO DE URANTIA* EUROPEAN EDITION

By Georges Michelson-Dupont, Vice President of Urantia Foundation, Recloses, France

Editors Note: Trustee Georges Michelson-Dupont has provided pictures of the printing of the new El libro de Urantia European Edition which is being marketed in Spain. The 1993 Edition of El libro de Urantia is currently under revision by a team of readers, with hopes for completion in the near future.



Rotabook Printing Mill



Pre-press operation and plates flashage



Preparation and checking first pages



Preparation and checking first pages



The large roll sheet is cut and folded





SIMSON Press upper level



SIMSON Press ground level



Folios are conditioned for the binding mill



Binding operation



Shrink-wrapping the books for distribution



# THE SECOND MILE AS A COMMUNITY EXPERIENCE



By Chris Wood, Johnson City, New York, USA

*Editors Note: Chris Wood, a second generation Urantia Book reader, describes how he and two friends decided to embark upon a service project for the Greater Urantia Community.*

I remember last August at the Kansas City Farmer's Market, eating spring rolls and talking about the Kansas City youth conference that had just finished, about what we liked, and what we didn't like. And why aren't there more conferences? And Noah, my brother, said, "We should do it again next year." And because we thought that people would prefer a change of venue, we agreed that Boulder would be an excellent choice.

So the seed was planted. In October I called Shane C, who lives in Boulder. Shane liked the idea of having a conference in Boulder, and he said that he would help. In fact, he volunteered to be the impresario of the conference. Then we communicated with Mike Maclsaac and infected him with the Boulder youth conference bug. In January we signed a contract with the University of Colorado at Boulder.

*Urantia Boulder: The Second Mile and Beyond* will be an experiment that we are running for the Greater Urantia Community from June 25 to 28. Can three persons plan, organize, and put on a conference? If so, then it opens up a whole new world of possibilities. We raked the leaves of our conversation into a pile of the following guidelines for the experiment:

First, keep it inexpensive. We reasoned that we needed to balance higher travel cost with lower conference cost.

Second, make no money. Mike, Shane, and I are not an organization. We have no need to fundraise. Conferences can be ends in themselves, not means to an end.

Third, aim small with room for expansion. We think fifty people is a great conference size. Don't get me wrong. I love a good, five-hundred person conference, but during the off years, when large conferences are not being held, we need small, local conferences. At the same time, if 150 people show up, we've

got to be prepared, and we are.

Fourth, allow for unscheduled time. The most important event at a conference is often the hour-long conversation you have in a hallway, not the hour-long plenary speech. We want to balance a good program with enough time to allow for these conversations.

Fifth, experiment with the program. A small local conference is a great place to try different plenary lengths and different workshop styles. It's a great place to get new people up on the stage for ten, twenty, or thirty minutes. We can balance the established with the emerging talent.

Finally, believe and trust that a small, dedicated team can put on a conference. Three of us made a six-month commitment, six people made a one-month commitment, and two dozen people made a one-weekend commitment.

We truly believe that if you assemble fifty readers of *The Urantia Book*, they will make their own fun. Our job is not to get in the way. The Boulder conference is an experiment. Success for the conference will be fifty people walking away saying, "That was good." Success for the experiment will be small groups walking away saying, "We could do that. Heck, we could do that better." And hey, there is no big conference in 2010. If we can plant that idea in your mind in June, well then you're already two months ahead of schedule.

Register on-line at: <https://www.regonline.com/63367694721J>

For more information, visit: <http://www.myspace.com/urantiaconferencekc>

Questions? Contact Chris Wood: [cwesquire@hotmail.com](mailto:cwesquire@hotmail.com)



Mike Maclsaac and Shane C in Boulder, Colorado.

Can  
three persons  
plan, organize,  
and  
put on  
a  
conference?

