

The Southwestern Unitarian Universalist Conference
Offers

A Faith Development Conference

June 3-6, 2010



Faith Development is All We Do
Unitarian Universalism is All We Teach
The Congregation is the Curriculum

- SWUUC leadership mantra

Four Tracks:

Curriculum Development Renaissance Module

Our Whole Lives: Jr and Sr. High

Our Whole Lives: Adult & Young Adult

**Our Unitarian Universalist Story: Theology, History,
and Real Life**

Curriculum Renaissance Module:

GAIA BROWN is a Credentialed Religious Educator, Master's Level, who served congregations in New Jersey and Illinois for 18 years before "semi-retiring" to write curricula. She has published two primary-level curricula, "Super Heroes--Bible People" and "UU Super Heroes", and recreated Ellen Schneider's wonderful "Treasure Hunting" as "Treasure Hunting--Take Two." Currently living bi-coastally between Manhattan and Reno, she is doing final preparation for a middle school curriculum, "Compass Points", written with Michelle Richards.

PAT KAHN is a Credentialed Religious Educator serving the UU Congregation of Atlanta for 11 years. She is a member of the LREDA (Liberal Religious Educators Association) Board, a former member of the LREDA Integrity Team and has served the Southeast LREDA chapter and the MidSouth District in several capacities. In the wider community, Pat is a member of the board of the Interfaith Disability Network.

OWL, 7-12 Grade:

DR. PETER D'ASCOLI has been sexual as long as he can remember and plans to continue for the time being. Peter has been involved with adult education for much of his professional career, teaching at the University of Minnesota in medical education. Developing a lecture on "Contraception, Reproductive Control, and Abortion" for medical school curriculum out of the OWL curriculum the avocation met vocation very nicely. Peter found the move to Unitarian Universalism driven to some degree by the sexual positions of the Church of his origin (Roman Catholic). The sexual positions are repressive and often demeaning in his mind, even in light of that Church's positive position on other social policies. Peter has raised two children to adulthood in the First Unitarian Society of Minneapolis (FUS) where they participated in the AYS curriculum as part of junior high school and the Senior High OWL Program. He has facilitated the Adult OWL curriculum personally. Peter has led Father/Son retreats he helped develop with other men through the local Planned Parenthood affiliate. Peter has been involved with the Religious Education at FUS and now the UUA for 15 plus years. Being a trainer for OWL curriculum has been a dream come true as avocation and vocation have met a central concern in his life. Peter feels that the OWL program is the best sexuality program in the country, being sex positive, designed with age appropriate content as well as active involvement by the participants. In his work life Dr. D'Ascoli was trained as an Obstetrician/Gynecologist many years ago and practices medicine now in Montana and Minneapolis.

OWL, Adult/Young Adult:

STEVE CALDWELL is an Our Whole Lives (OWL) trainer for the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) with experience in OWL at all age/grade levels in both Unitarian Universalist and United Church of Christ settings. He has been involved in the OWL program as a trainer and educator since 1999 at his Shreveport congregation, within the Southwest District, and throughout the UUA.

Steve has also provided OWL sexuality education training for the entire clinic and community center staff of Methodist Healthcare Ministries of South Texas. Steve's social justice work includes work with Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) in Shreveport and NW Louisiana.

Steve has called Shreveport, Louisiana his home since 1995 and was active in the Rapid City SD UU congregation from 1992-1995. He actively supports religious education and youth ministry at All Souls UU Church in Shreveport and also in the Southwest District. He has past involvement in UU young adult and campus ministry during his two year term on the UU Campus Ministry Advisory Committee. Steve shares his home life with his partner Susan, daughter Delia, son Charlie, one cat named Dakota and is providing a temporary home for a cat named Sassy (who belongs to Delia).

MARY CHAPMAN MCINTOSH has been a counselor and sex educator for 30 years and a Unitarian for 23 years. Mary started teaching About Your Sexuality in 1988 and has been teaching Our Whole Lives since it was published by the UUA. As an educator and counselor, human sexuality has always been an area of intense interest and study. Mary has trained at the Institute for the Advanced Study of Human Sexuality and had a private counseling practice specializing in the areas of human sexuality and sexual abuse. Her focus in this work is always sex-positive, that is it focuses on the life-enhancing aspects of sexuality while bringing attention to the negative aspects.

Currently, Mary is a Training Specialist and Special Projects Manager for the HIV/STD Services Branch of the Texas Department of State Health and works closely with youth related service providers to prevent HIV/STD and teen pregnancy. She lives with her husband near Austin, TX where she coordinates OWL programs and Adult Programming for the Live Oak Unitarian Universalist Church in Cedar Park, TX.

The logo consists of the word "STAFF" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font, centered within a rounded rectangular box with a reddish-brown background. This box is enclosed within a larger, blue, stylized bracket shape that is open at the top and bottom.

Our UU Story:

REV. DEBRA GARFINKEL is the Pastoral Care Minister at All Souls Unitarian Church in Tulsa, OK since 2006. She comes to this work with a deep and abiding appreciation and compassion for people of all ages, backgrounds, cultures, and abilities. She was a professional storyteller for more than 15 years. She believes that there is a great need for people to tell their stories and to feel that they have been heard. Her theology of compassion and mutuality in care move her to help people reframe and retell their own stories in order to reclaim a sense of wonder, joy, self-assurance, and peace.

Debra's personal spiritual journey began in the Methodist church but over the years determined that many of her questions required a broader search. Eventually, this led her to Unitarian Universalism. It was her involvement with Church of the Restoration UU that allowed her to hear her call to Unitarian Universalist ministry. In May 2006, Debra received her Master of Divinity from Phillips Theological Seminary in Tulsa, Oklahoma. She was ordained by All Souls Unitarian Church, Tulsa, in January 2007.

Debra has lived in the beautiful city of Tulsa since 1961. She and her husband have been married for twenty-two wonderful years. They have three incredible children and two amazing grandchildren. Living in community, living in family: right relationship is at the heart of Debra's ministry. Debra shares the belief with many that human beings only know themselves by their relationships.

PATTI WITHERS, Master Level Credentialed Religious Educator, is a self-admitted, life-long history nerd. She loves that the root of the word 'history' is 'story,' because people's stories fascinate her and telling stories makes her happy. Whether teaching high school math or religious education, she fed her students with high doses of history. Patti is a UUA-trained facilitator for the UU History Renaissance Module and developed an outline and bibliography for an adult UU history course as part of her work for the RE Credentialing Program. She served as DRE at the First Universalist Society in Rochester, NY, and the First UU Church of Houston before taking her current position at the HD Thoreau UU Congregation in Stafford, TX. She is the Vice President of the SWUUC Board and previously served on the LREDA Board and the RE Committees of the Southwest and St. Lawrence districts. She and her husband are the parents of two grown children and 3 grandchildren who all live entirely too far away.

NATALIE WOLC is the DRE at Horizon UU Church.

TRACKS

The Curriculum Development Renaissance module provides an opportunity for participants

- To clarify and expand our understanding of curriculum.
- To understand the total curriculum planning process and learn strategies to use it effectively in our congregations.
- To learn about a variety of curriculum sources and resources, including what is new, what is working well and where to find them.
- To work in teams to develop real curriculum projects that can be brought home to congregations.
- To practice evaluating and enriching curriculum plans.
- To feel nurtured by an affirming community of religious educators.

The Our Whole Lives Facilitator Training workshops will introduce the UUA/UCC sexuality education curriculum, and prepare male-female teaching teams to orient parents and to offer the course to specific grades (7-9 & 10-12, or young adult & adults). Although non-teachers such as DREs, youth advisors, ministers, and parents are welcome, teaching teams will have first preference to register. Each level is limited to 24 participants. If there are not at least 12 people registered 1 month before the training, that level will be cancelled.

Only congregations with facilitators who have completed the 25 hour Teacher Training and are affiliated with the UUA or UCC are authorized to buy or use the visual aids for OWL, Grades 7-9 (slides) and OWL Grades 10-12 (video).

Our Unitarian Universalist Story: Theology, History, and Real Life

This is a UU 101 course, of sorts. You will learn about the history of Unitarianism, Universalism, and Unitarian Universalism as well as the progression of theologies along the way. You will have time in small groups to process and talk about how this information is still used (or not) in our modern Unitarian Universalist lives. If you are new to Unitarian Universalism, never learned this stuff, or Sunday school was a long time ago – this will be a great workshop for you! If you have plans to attend Dwight Brown Leadership Experience in the future, this is all information you should be familiar with before attending. Presentation of the material will be as experiential as possible with limited lecture time. Stories and individual investigation along with small group ministry will be utilized.

GENERAL INFO

Date Thursday, June 3, 2010 thru Sunday June 6, 2010.

Who is This For? MRE, DRE, RE Chairs, RE Coordinators, Youth Advisors, teachers, parents, individual congregants.

Preparation Participants of the Curriculum module and Our UU Story will receive a reader in the mail, and are asked to prepare by reading it through before the conference.

What do You Need to Bring? Three-ring binder, some blank paper, pen, your reader, favorite worship materials, as well as examples of administrative forms, brochures, prospectus, etc. that your church uses. You may also want to bring a laptop for the Curriculum Module.

FOR OWL, you will need the following texts:

	OWL, 7-9 & 10-12	OWL, Young Adult/Adult
TEXT		
<i>Our Whole Lives</i>	Grades 7-9 & Grades 10-12	Adult
<i>Sexuality and our Faith</i>	Grades 7-9 & Grades 10-12	Adult
<i>The Advocacy Manual</i>	yes	yes

WHERE TO ORDER THEM? Call the UUA Bookstore at 1(800)215-9076 You and your teaching partner will each need your own copy of the books appropriate to your level. Allow six weeks for delivery. You may ask your Director of Religious Education to place this order for you. Additional teaching materials will be provided at the training weekend.

Site All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church of Tulsa will provide limited home hospitality, local transportation and meals on site.

If You Prefer a Hotel, some in the area for \$90 or less are:

Inn At Expo Square	E 21st Street, Tulsa, OK	918-858-3775	\$65
Tulsa Select	5000 E Skelly Drive, Tulsa, OK	918-622-7000	\$59.99
Trade Winds East Inn	3337 E Skelly Drive, Tulsa, OK	918-743-7931	\$45
Days Inn Tulsa Central	4724 S Yale I-44 Exit #229, Tulsa, OK	918-496-9300	\$48.00
Red Roof Inn Tulsa	4717 S Yale Ave, Tulsa, OK	918-622-6776	\$59.99
Baymont Inn and Suites	4530 E Skelly Drive, Tulsa, OK	918-488-8777	\$50.15

Scholarships To apply for scholarships, download the form online at www.swuuc.org or call Jennifer Nichols, District Director for Lifespan Faith Development, 1-800-737-9882.

Schedule - Arrive at Tulsa Airport by 6:00 p.m. Thurs., depart after 4:00 p.m. Sun.

THURSDAY – Arrive for prompt beginning at 7:00 pm. Meet 7-9pm

FRIDAY – 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

SATURDAY – 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

SUNDAY – 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Attendance Policy Full attendance at the conference is required for credit to be received. These are very intensive workshops. Please come well rested and ready to absorb a lot in a short time.

