

WJR

Distributed at Exec. Com.
Meeting 12/2/74

To: The Executive Committee
The Committee on Education

From: Meredith J. Sprunger

Date: 12/1/74

As you know we are conducting a general survey to solicit ideas which will help us in the reorganization of the Brotherhood School. It would be helpful if members of the Executive Committee and the Committee on Education would give their ideas on a more detailed projection of the school. Would you give me your ideas by January 1, 1975.

Guided by response from our general survey and your more specific ideas, I will construct a revised instrument from which we hope to get helpful suggestions from people who are most knowledgeable about education in the URANTIA Brotherhood. Hopefully, the Committee on Education will then be in a position to start making some decisions regarding the Brotherhood School.

Possible Objectives for Reorganizing the URANTIA Brotherhood School
Trial Edition - 12/1/74

I. Philosophy and Purpose

- A. Strive to develop personality and facilitate spiritual growth in harmony with Article II (Purpose) of the URANTIA Brotherhood constitution.

Comment: _____

- B. Strive to establish solid educational foundations for the viability and institutional effectiveness of the URANTIA Brotherhood.

Comment: _____

- C. Within the framework of the above objectives, strive to promote as much freedom and diversity as possible in the educational process.

Comment: _____

II. Name

- A. URANTIA University _____
B. URANTIA School of Religion _____
C. _____

III. Admission and Standards

- A. We are interested in potentials, growth, and achievement. The important consideration is not where the person is now or how long it will take him to develop. But more significant questions are: what are his desires? How sound is his will dedication to keep studying and growing; and, what are his reasonable potentials? Therefore, we propose an open admission policy.

Comment: _____

- B. Generally we should set our standards to get students working at college and graduate level quality.

Comment: _____

IV. Curriculum and Methodology

- A. A graduate of the URANTIA Brotherhood School should have background and

proficiency in the following areas: (The course titles are only to stimulate your thinking.)

1. The URANTIA Book

The Life and Teachings of Jesus (IV)
Religious Aspects of Man and His Institutions (III)
The Concept of God and Universe Cosmology (I & II)
Topical Studies in The URANTIA Book
Wisdom and Worship in The URANTIA Book
Science in The URANTIA Book I & II
URANTIA Doctrine I & II
A Study of the Master Universe

2. Religion and Culture

The History and Content of the Bible
The Harmony of the Gospels and The URANTIA Book
The History of Christianity
The History of Mysticism
Types of Contemporary Theology
The Religions of the World
Contemporary Religious Movements
The Sociology of Religion
Religious Issues in Contemporary Society
Religion and Futurology

3. Philosophy and Ethics

The History of Philosophy
Types and Problems of Philosophy
The Philosophy of Religion
The Origin and Development of Ethical Practices
Types of Ethical Theory
Contemporary Ethical Issues

4. Organization and Administration

The URANTIA Brotherhood Constitution and Organization
The History of the Urantia Movement
The Organization and Direction of Study Groups
Church Polity and Organization
Small Group Dynamics

5. Education and Communication

Principles of Religious Administration
Methods and Models of Religious Education
Multi-media Resources in Education
Strategies of Effective Speaking
Techniques of Group Discussion

- 6. Counseling and Ministry
 - Counseling Psychology
 - The Psychology of Religion
 - The Spiritual Foundations of the Total Person
 - Methods of Ministering to People
-
-

- 7. Art and Worship
 - The History of Worship
 - The Theory and Practice of Worship
 - Conditions Facilitating God-consciousness
 - Hymns and Music in Religion
 - Religious Drama
 - Religion and the Contemporary Arts
-
-

Comment: _____

- B. Specific textbooks and reading assignments will be selected for all courses approved by the Committee on Education. These references will be kept up to date. All examinations will be based on these reading assignments or approved alternate source materials.

Comment: _____

- C. The student may acquire knowledge in the designated curriculum through college courses, workshops, formal Brotherhood courses, or individual study.

Comment: _____

V. Faculty and Consultants

- A. Teachers will be selected for individual courses based on their qualifications in the course area. Eventually faculty members will be selected by speciality areas and they will assume responsibilities characteristic of faculties in educational institutions.

Comment: _____

- B. Consultants will be selected to advise in the various areas of the curriculum. They will keep us up to date in the literature of their

field, make recommendations and give assistance to the faculty and the Committee on Education.

Comment: _____

VI. Evaluation and Degree Requirements

- A. Students may take advantage of any workshops or courses offered by the Brotherhood School without any formal evaluation. They need not intend to apply for a degree.

Comment: _____

- B. A student must be formally accepted by the URANTIA Brotherhood School for a period of one year before applying for his first comprehensive examination. Application forms will be available from the Registrar.

Comment: _____

- C. When the student feels he is competent in an area he applies for an examination. Initial examinations in each area will consist of both objective and essay type questions. His exam will be evaluated by three faculty members and/or consultants. If he should not be approved as competent in any area, he must wait a minimum of one year before applying for another examination in this area.

Comment: _____

- D. Students in both the lower level and the higher level programs (which will be defined later by the Committee on Education) will complete a dissertation, a research project, or a creative project which is approved by their advisory committee.

Comment: _____

- E. When the student has successfully completed his preliminary written exams and has submitted his dissertation, he applies for his final oral examination. This final examination and evaluation will be conducted by a seven member committee selected by the Committee on Education.

Comment: _____

VII. Titles and Degrees

| <u>Title</u> | <u>Lower Level</u> | <u>Degree</u> |
|--------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------------|
| Accredited Leader _____ | | No degree _____ |
| Accredited Teacher _____ | | Th. M. _____ (Master of Theology) |
| Associate Teacher _____ | | Rel. M. _____ (Master of Religion) |
| _____ | | _____ |
| | <u>Upper Level</u> | |
| Teacher _____ | | No degree _____ |
| Master Teacher _____ | | Th. D. _____ (Doctor of Theology) |
| Ordained Teacher _____ | | Rel. D. _____ (Doctor of Religion) |
| _____ | | _____ |

(We should think in terms of the future. Some day the Brotherhood School will become a great center of learning training religious leaders of the world. In such an institution titles and degrees are almost inevitable. The idealist in us may shrink from titles and degrees but viable institutions must have stratified leadership.)

Comment: _____

