

Coordinating Council — November 4–7, 2021

October 4, 2021

Dear Members of the Coordinating Council:

In a few short weeks, we will embark on a new session of the Coordinating Council (CC) – and we will gather in person! We welcome new members: Diane Brown, Gloria Rivera and Chuck VanVleet. Two Wisdom Circle representatives chose not to continue as representatives on the CC. No one from the Wisdom Circle chose to serve in this capacity. There will be 19 members of the CC. As we know, anytime a new member joins the group, the dynamics of the group changes. In reflecting on the next three years, the Leadership Council made a commitment to engage the CC around substantive issues as we face the future. You will notice a new format for the agenda that I hope indicates an emerging role of the CC. We desire to re-imagine the work of the CC as we look to the next three years and Chapter.

Some of the feedback we receive is whether we need the timeframe of Thursday – Sunday. The CC Agenda Committee is committed to letting the agenda drive the time not the time drive the agenda. Currently, we ask you to hold the Thursday – Sunday timeframe. This may be adjusted based on the agenda. We want to provide a spaciousness to the agenda, to allow time for contemplation and reflection. The intent, through various processes, is to engage the CC and not just have the CC respond to a specific topic. On Thursday afternoon, we are continuing the Stretching Experience, which will be open to anyone wishing to attend virtually. We invite you to reflect on the experience in November and offer feedback to us, as we continue meeting the purpose of the CC.

There are four reports included with the agenda. Three more reports (Outreach Team, Report from the OSP/IHM Governing Board and Financial Report) will be posted by Friday, October 22. All CC materials will be available on the private side of the web site, as well. Please review the reports and submit any questions you have to Barbara Childress (bchildress@ihmsisters.org) by Friday, October 29. Any questions will be addressed at the Coordinating Council. No specific time on the agenda will be given to raise questions. If questions are submitted prior to October 29, they will be addressed at the CC.

I invite you to recall the closing image that the Leadership Council used as part of their reflection during the Assembly. The images of the boat with the sail, picturing our sisters and associates. “We are the boat; we are the sea. I sail in you, and you sail in me.” Let us join together in this new moment as we sail into the next three years.



Jane Herb, IHM
President