Pat Herbst
Write-in Candidate for LDT member

I have been a member of UUAA since 2001. I have served on the Alpha House Coordinating Committee for some 8 years, including a 3-year period as Coordinator. I am a member of the 12th Men's Circle, served on the Men's Council for 3 years, chairing it for 1 year. I sing with the Chalice Singers. In my work I do research in education and have served as program chair and other leadership positions at the University of Michigan; hence, not only I am interested in talent development and have experience in program design and organization building, but I also have been on the receiving end of leadership development.

I am particularly interested in making sure that all members of the congregation have access to participation in the governance process. I want to create mechanisms for people to participate in nominations, for nominations to be open to the extent permitted by the bylaws, and that nomination proceedings are accountable to the congregation. This congregation is home to me. I am running as a write-in candidate because I want to serve and because I want to help improve the way in which candidates for elected office are selected and made public. I wish the congregation will see me running not against the candidate selected by the LDT but as running with that candidate, complementing their candidacy by offering the congregation an actual choice. Thus, while I would appreciate being chosen, my hope is that congregants will cast a vote for any of the two candidates, in the knowledge that, at least for this position, the congregation participated in making a choice.

It is my position that access to power has important moral challenges and that leaders are best supported in negotiating those challenges not when they are just trusted to do the right thing, but when their work is held under scrutiny. I will be open to that scrutiny. I value pragmatism and negotiation and I am ready to speak truth to power and to question groupthink. If elected to be a member of the LDT, I promise to bring these values to the role.