

## **GPUS PLATFORM COMMITTEE REPORT – 2006**

### **July, 2006**

The Green Party Platform is a consensus document, arrived at by a process involving submissions, input and feedback, based on the "4 D's" - democratic deliberation, discussion and debate - and open to members of all GPUS state affiliates. The Platform presents to Greens and to the general public the policy on which most Greens reasonably agree, and is the basis for the national Presidential campaign. The Platform is adopted by the presidential nominating convention, and goes through a vetting process designed to draw a broad population of Greens, not just the National Committee.

The Platform provides material for media releases, and has been used for "issues brief," found on our website, some position papers and brochures - you'll see it quoted in brochures created by G-PAX, Eco-Action, Lavender and Women's Caucuses, and more. The Platform also serves as a useful resource for questions on Green Party policy.

Most popular has been the Platform Summary: the booklet containing a condensed version of the Platform, designed to fit into a regular-sized envelope, easy for mailing. The cost \$1.25 apiece (which covers printing and mailing; less for bulk orders. During this annual meeting, we're offering a special: each delegate receives a free copy in your packet; you can also purchase more copies for \$1 apiece, or 12 for \$10. Get'em while they're hot!!

This past year, besides producing the summary, the Platcom considered creating some brochures and papers. This project didn't get off the ground, however. The Platcom did update our P & P's, and, most importantly, reviewed and set the Timeline and Process for the 2008 Green Platform.

#### **REVIEW PLATFORM TIMELINE and PROCESS 2008**

Starts this fall, with first submissions cycle, etc.

NEW this time: strengthening the "feedback loop," with a beefed-up ratings system and pledge by Platcom members to actively solicit feedback (approval, disapproval, suggestions) from states/caucuses.

PLATFORM KICK-OFF a year (not two) before the national nominating convention. As in 2002, we hope to hear "testimony" from constituents about what Greens want to see as Key Policy Points for the 2008 Presidential campaign. More news to come.....

Finally, the Platcom welcomes two new officers. Co-chair Howard Switzer, TN, will be joined by Jenefer Ellingston, DC, as newly elected co-chair. Jenefer has been a long-time active members of the Platcom, and provided crucial work and is, most conveniently, a foreign policy pit-bull. Mike Ewall, PA, is newly elected committee secretary. He has also been an active and productive Platcom

member, particularly in the area of energy policy.

Holly Hart, IA  
Co-chair, GPUS Platform Committee  
2002-2006