

1 **OVERTURE 10** from the Presbytery of Susquehanna Valley (to OC, AC)
2 “Appoint Study Committee on Role of Women in the Church”
3

4 **Whereas**, *The Book of Church Order* follows Scripture in forbidding the ordination of
5 women to positions of authority over men; and
6

7 **Whereas**, the PCA has faithfully held to this standard; and
8

9 **Whereas**, the PCA has struggled with the question of how women in the local church are to
10 exercise their God-given gifts within the framework of the *BCO*, and
11

12 **Whereas**, many PCA churches are uncertain about how to use appropriately God’s gifts
13 among the many capable women within the membership of those churches; and
14

15 **Whereas**, in many PCA churches those gifts are under-utilized;
16

17 **Now, therefore, be it resolved**, that the Susquehanna Valley Presbytery respectfully overtures
18 the 37th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America to authorize the
19 Moderator to appoint a study committee representing the diversity of opinion within
20 the PCA to study and report to the 38th General Assembly on the following questions:
21

- 22 (1) What sorts of roles may women fill in the life of the church?
- 23 (2) What are some models of local church practices that have developed as ways of
24 employing the gifts of women in the lives of their congregations that might be
25 exemplary and encouraging to other local churches?
- 26 (3) What elements of organization and accountability to ordained leadership can be
27 commended to PCA churches that are consistent with the *BCO*?
- 28 (4) Does our *BCO* unnecessarily hinder achieving the best utilization of the gifts of
29 PCA women in light of the teaching of Scripture?
30

31 **And be it further resolved**, that expenses of the committee, not to exceed \$10,000, be paid
32 out of private contributions.
33

34 *Adopted by the Susquehanna Valley Presbytery on the 21st day of February, 2009*

35 *Attested by: /s/ RE Charles C Miller, stated clerk*