

The Constitution of GraceLife Campus

A campus society of the University of Stellenbosch

A branch of GraceLife Ministries

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1 Preamble

1 1 Formal name

GraceLife Campus

1 2 Definition

GraceLife Campus is a branch of GraceLife Ministries, which is a church in Stellenbosch.

1 3 Vision statement

Our vision is to proclaim the Gospel, namely the Good News of God's unconditional love and grace through the finished work of Jesus. We desire to see people enjoy friendship with God and become established in truth as they embrace community with other believers. We also desire to see people discover, prepare for and fulfil their God-given purpose.

1 4 Values

1 4 1 The Word

We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments in their original writings are God's Word to us; fully inspired by God, and that it contains absolute truth, which is the supreme and final authority, and instruction for faith and all of life. The Scriptures make us wise unto salvation, lead us to faith in Christ and are profitable for doctrine, reproof, correction and instruction in righteousness.

1 4 2 One God

The Bible reveals that there is one true God, and that He expresses Himself in three Persons, namely as Father, Son (Jesus Christ) and the Holy Spirit. We believe that they are co-equal and co-eternal. Jesus Christ is God manifested in the flesh, and He is the Way, the Truth and the Life.

1 4 3 Relationship with God

This is the main purpose Jesus came, was crucified and rose from the dead, namely so that we could enter into and enjoy friendship with Almighty God!

1 4 4 God's goodness and love

God is good and God is love! God loves us unconditionally! God is good all the time no matter what happens. God is not angry, and is in fact at peace with the whole world. If it is good, then it is God; if it is bad, then it is the devil.

1 4 5 The Gospel

The Gospel is the message of God's grace. Grace is God's undeserved favour. It is everything He has done for us and provided for us through Jesus Christ. God does not treat us as we deserve to be treated, but rather He treats us better. The Gospel of the grace of God is the power of God unto salvation, which includes forgiveness of sins, healing, deliverance and prosperity. His grace is extended to every person and must be received to be enjoyed.

1 4 6 Church

The church is made up of all those who are truly born again believers in Jesus Christ. We value the international church family and we value the local church which exists for the purpose of community and mission. We are a community in which believers can connect with each other and grow together in their relationship with God. The local church should provide good Bible teaching in order to help encourage relationship with God, but is also a family where individuals can receive physical and emotional healing and be restored and equipped for a life of fruitfulness. We are a community on a mission to reach out to people with the Good News of God's unconditional love and grace through the finished work of Jesus, and see people born again and established in truth.

1 5 Aims and objectives

1 5 1 To be a blessing to the students and staff of the University of Stellenbosch, as well as the community of Stellenbosch in whatever ways deemed appropriate.

1 5 2 To facilitate and organise social functions geared towards fellowship in the church.

1 5 3 To facilitate and organise social functions geared towards creating awareness and interest in Jesus.

1 5 4 To equip people in order to fulfil their God-given calling.

2 Mission statement

Reveal Jesus(His unconditional love and grace) and His finished work to the world, while planting and cultivating grace communities(churches) which enables people to live the abundant life in Christ.

3 Definitions of certain concepts

3 1 Pastoral authority

Pastoral authority refers to the leaders (elders and pastors) of GraceLife Ministries.

3 2 Methods of communication

3 2 1 The primary method of communication shall be via email.

3 2 2 In addition, information may also be communicated to the members by way of other methods, such as landline telephone, mobile phone and electronic social networks.

4 Membership

4 1 Requirements for membership

4 1 1 Any person wishing to join the society with a sincere interest will be granted the opportunity to join.

4 1 2 At least 85% of the members must be registered students, enrolled at Stellenbosch University.

4 1 3 The remaining 15% may include – but is not limited to - staff members of the University and persons appointed by GraceLife Ministries' pastoral authority.

4 1 4 People can become members of the society at any time during the year, and not only during the usual sign-ups at the beginning of each year.

4 1 5 All members will be regarded as ordinary members, whether registered students or not.

4 2 Membership fee

4 2 1 Every member is liable to pay the full annual membership fee, regardless of what time of the year the person joins.

4 2 2 The annual membership fee shall be determined by the executive committee on a year to year basis.

4 2 3 If a prospective member is unable to pay his or her membership fee, the executive committee may none the less grant such person membership, based on whatsoever special arrangement made with such member.

4 2 4 If a member's membership is terminated during the year, either as a result of resignation or expulsion, such member is not entitled to the refund of his or her membership fee.

4 2 5 The society may also receive donations.

4 3 Termination of membership

4 3 1 If a member wants to voluntarily terminate his or her membership, he or she must notify in writing the executive committee of his or her decision to no longer be a member.

4 3 2 Membership can be terminated in terms of chapter 6.

4 4 Responsibilities of members

All activities of the society are voluntary.

5 The executive committee

5 1 General

5 1 1 The management of the society will be the responsibility of the executive committee as a whole.

5 1 2 The term of office for the members of the executive committee is from the beginning of October of one year up until the end of September of the next year.

5 2 Composition of executive committee

5 2 1 Chairperson

5 2 2 Vice chairperson

5 2 3 Treasurer

5 2 4 Secretary

5 2 5 Marketing

5 2 6 Social Co-ordinator

5 2 7 Any ad-hoc members appointed at the committee's discretion.

5 3 Responsibilities of executive committee

5 3 1 Chairperson

5 3 1 1 It is the chairperson's responsibility to ensure the effective realisation of the aims and objectives of the society in accordance with the society's mission statement.

5 3 1 2 The chairperson is responsible for convening meetings between members of the executive committee as well as general membership meetings, as he sees fit.

5 3 1 3 The chairperson will act as the chair of all meetings held, unless he appoints someone else.

5 3 1 4 The chairperson oversees all the functions of the executive committee.

5 3 1 5 The chairperson is responsible for all external communication, in other words communication between the society and GraceLife Ministries' pastoral authority, as well as communication between the society and the general public.

5 3 1 6 The chairperson will act as the representative on the societies council.

5 3 2 Vice chairperson

5 3 2 1 Whenever the chairperson is unable or unfit (as a result of disciplinary action in terms of section 6) to fulfil his or her duties, the vice chairperson is responsible to fulfil such duties.

5 3 2 2 The vice chairperson is responsible for providing administrative support to the chairperson.

5 3 2 3 The vice chairperson is responsible to assist the chairperson in any of his duties, as requested by the chairperson.

5 3 3 Treasurer

5 3 3 1 The treasurer is responsible for all financial matters relating to the society under the supervision of the chairperson.

5 3 3 2 The treasurer shall conduct all his duties in line with the University of Stellenbosch's prescribed rules regarding the financial affairs of campus societies.

5 3 4 Secretary

5 3 4 1 The secretary is responsible for internal communication, the taking of minutes and management of the office, if any.

5 3 4 2 The secretary is responsible for general administration of the society under the supervision of the chairperson and he or she shall do all administrative tasks required by the chairperson.

5 3 4 3 The secretary is responsible for the keeping of a record of all events organised by the society.

5 3 5 Marketing

The committee member responsible for marketing (“the marketer”) is responsible for all matters concerning the marketing and publicity of the society.

5 3 6 Social co-ordinator

The social co-ordinator is responsible for organising all social events of the society.

5 3 7 Ad-hoc members

5 3 7 1 The executive committee may, at its discretion, appoint ad-hoc members to the committee, as well as ad-hoc sub-committees, for any specific purposes relating to the society’s activities.

5 3 7 2 Ad-hoc members, are responsible for whatsoever duties they were appointed for, and in line with whatsoever reasons they were appointed for.

5 4 Election of executive committee

5 4 1 General

All members of the society are allowed to vote.

5 4 2 Nominations

5 4 2 1 All members are allowed to make themselves available for election to any position on the executive committee.

5 4 2 2 Members wishing to run for office must nominate themselves by the first day of August each year.

5 4 2 3 Such nominees must also indicate the positions they are running for.

5 4 2 4 All nominations must be approved by the pastoral authority of GraceLife Ministries. This must be done based on the society’s values in terms of section 1.4.

5 4 2 5 Reasons must be provided to a member who's nomination was rejected by the pastoral authority. If the member is unhappy with these reasons he or she may approach the executive committee in office. Should it deem the pastor authority's decision as unreasonable, the committee may overrule such decision by way of a majority vote.

5 4 3 Convening of elections

5 4 3 1 Elections shall be convened by a sub-committee appointed by the executive committee.

5 4 3 2 Such sub-committee must consist of at least three members of the society, none of which are themselves running for office.

5 4 3 3 Such sub-committee must also at least include one outgoing executive committee member.

5 4 3 4 Such sub-committee must appoint itself, from amongst themselves, a chairperson who will act as the lead convenor.

5 4 3 5 Such sub-committee and its chairperson must be in place before the start of the election process.

5 4 3 6 Such sub-committee is responsible for all administrative matters regarding the election process and may institute additional administrative measures as it deems fit for the purpose of having the elections run smoothly.

5 4 3 7 If necessary, and at the discretion of the convenors, any election may be conducted by way of electronic voting, as an alternative to the procedure explained below. In such case, the election must also be conducted in line with the normal procedure to the extent practically possible.

5 4 4 The election itself

5 4 4 1 The election of new executive committee members must be held at the annual general meeting.

5 4 4 2 The lead convenor must explain the election procedure to all the members present at the annual general meeting.

5 4 4 3 Each nominee must be allowed the opportunity to address the voters at the annual general meeting.

5 4 4 4 Members may pose questions to the nominees, at the discretion and under the chairmanship of the lead convenor.

5 4 4 5 All members present may participate in the vote.

5 4 4 6 At least 50% of all members must be present to constitute a quorum for the election.

5 4 4 7 A majority vote (50% plus 1) is sufficient to determine the successful nominees. 5 4 4 8 Each position must be voted for individually.

5 4 4 9 The convenors are responsible for supplying the voters with appropriate ballot sheets.

5 4 4 10 Voting shall occur anonymously and by secret ballot.

5 4 4 11 After the convenors have counted the votes, and after the pastoral authority of GraceLife Ministries have consented thereto, the lead convenor shall announce the results in any way he or she deems fit and within one week after the elections.

5 4 5 By-elections

5 4 5 1 In the event that one of the positions on the executive committee become vacant, a by-election must be held to fill such position for the remaining part of the term of office.

5 4 5 2 The remaining members of the executive committee shall act as convenors of such by-election.

5 4 5 3 A special meeting must be arranged by the convenors for the purpose of electing someone to the vacant position.

5 4 5 4 The by-election shall then occur in line with the way normal annual elections occur, to the extent that is practically possible.

6 Discipline

6 1 General

Discipline refers to any of the following:

6 1 1 Verbal warning.

6 1 2 Written warning.

6 1 3 Suspension for a specific period of time.

6 1 4 Expulsion.

6 2 Procedure

6 2 1 External discipline

6 2 1 1 The society is submitted to the disciplinary procedures in the Student Union Constitution, the Societies Constitution and the *Studente Reglement*.

6 2 1 2 The society accepts any judgment made by the Central Disciplinary Committee.

6 2 2 Internal discipline

6 2 2 1 Whenever a disciplinary issue arises that is deemed by the executive committee as less serious, such issue may be dealt with internally.

6 2 2 2 For this purpose the executive committee shall then appoint an ad-hoc disciplinary committee

6 2 2 3 Such committee shall then arrange a meeting with the members involved in order to find a solution to the problem.

6 2 2 4 Any decision made by such committee is subject to appeal under the external disciplinary procedures in terms of section 6.2.1.

6 3 Grounds for discipline

6 3 1 Members can be disciplined for any conduct contrary to the spirit of this constitution, including any conduct contrary to the vision, values, aims and objectives, and mission statement of the society.

6 3 2 Members can also be disciplined for any behaviour prohibited by the laws of the country, as well as the rules of the University of Stellenbosch.

6 4 Executive committee

6 4 1 Members of the executive committee can also be disciplined in the same way and for the same reasons normal members can.

6 4 2 In addition, members of the executive committee can be disciplined for not fulfilling their duties.

6 4 3 By a majority vote (50% plus 1) a vote of no confidence can be brought against a member of the executive committee, after which such member has to vacate his or her office.

6 4 4 After a vote of no confidence a dismissed office bearer can appeal to the Student Court, but only regarding the procedure.

6 4 5 A vote of no confidence must be undertaken at a meeting specifically called for that purpose, at which time the accused office bearer must be allowed the opportunity to address the members.

6 4 6 Such voting process must occur, as far as possible, in line with the procedure for electing members of the executive committee, as far as is practically possible.

6 5 Accusations

Any accusations or complaints regarding misbehaviour by members (including members of the executive committee) must be communicated in writing to the executive committee, who must then take the necessary steps as envisioned by 6 2.

7 Meetings

7 1 Annual General Meeting

7 1 1 The annual general meeting must be held during the month of September each year, the specific date being determined by the executive committee.

7 1 2 The election of the following term of office of the executive committee will take place at this meeting.

7 1 3 All members must be notified regarding the time and place of the meeting at least two weeks in advance.

7 2 Executive committee meetings

Meetings of the executive committee shall be convened by the chairperson at his or her discretion.

7 3 Other meetings

Further meetings, other than those provided for above, may be convened by the chairperson as the need arises.

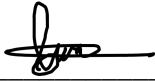
8 Amendments to the constitution

8 1 Procedure for amendment

- 8 1 1 Proposed amendments to the constitution must be voted for at the annual general meeting or any other meeting convened for such purpose, all members being made aware of the time and place of such meeting at least two weeks in advance.
- 8 1 2 Any member can propose an amendment to the constitution, such proposal being submitted to the executive committee.
- 8 1 3 The proposal shall then be made public to all the members of the society by way of electronic communication, indicating the reason for the proposed amendment, after which a period of at least two weeks must be allowed for comments.
- 8 1 4 A final proposal for amendment shall then be presented to the members at the meeting referred to above.
- 8 1 5 A 2/3 majority of the members present is needed for the constitution to be amended, the quorum necessary being the same as that with the election of the executive committee.
- 8 1 6 Voting must be conducted by way of secret ballot.
- 8 1 7 After the amendment has been assented to, it shall be submitted to the Registrar of Societies, who shall send the amendment to the Student Representative Council.
- 8 1 8 Proof of compliance with the procedural requirements must be affixed to the amendment.
- 8 1 9 The amendment has to be approved by the Student Representative Council.

9 Approval

9 1 Founding members of the executive committee



Chantelle Janse van Vuuren

Chairperson

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9 2 Pastoral authority of GraceLife Ministries

Shayne Holesgrove

Lead Pastor

Marna Holesgrove

Pastor