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Constitution

1. Name

1.1 The name of the society will be "University Fellowship of Christians", herein referred to as the Fellowship.

2. Affiliation

2.1 The Society is affiliated with the Tasmanian University Union (TUU) and anything in this constitution that conflicts with the constitution of the Student Union or with the Clubs & Societies regulations shall be null and void. In all matters not dealt with specifically herein, the constitution of the Student Union and the Clubs & Societies Regulations shall apply.

2.2 During the course of affiliation with TUU, this club shall comply with any requirements of the Activities Committee of TUU for provision of records and documents and shall be under a duty to apply any grant monies received from the Activities Committee in accordance with any conditions imposed by such body.

2.3 The Fellowship is affiliated with the Australian Fellowship of Evangelical Students (Incorporated), herein after referred to as the AFES.

2.4 The Fellowship shall take steps to encourage Christians in other tertiary institutions with whom its members may have close contact, and to maintain contact with other affiliates of the AFES.

3. Aims and Objectives

3.1 The objectives of The Fellowship, in agreement with AFES, are summarised as "mission to the university, missionaries to the world". This can be further explained as:

3.2 To empower students to thoughtful, creative, genuine and evangelistic mission to the University of Tasmania, Hobart.

3.3 To identify and cultivate Christian leaders, especially missionaries, church planters and pastors.

4. Doctrinal Basis

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4.1 The doctrinal basis of the Fellowship is taken from AFES and contains the fundamental truths of the Christian faith:

4.2 The divine inspiration and infallibility of the Holy Scripture as originally given and its supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct

4.3 The unity of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit in the Godhead.

4.4 The universal sinfulness and guilt of human nature since the fall, rendering humanity subject to God's wrath and condemnation.

4.5 The conception of Jesus Christ by the Holy Spirit and his birth by the Virgin Mary.

4.6 Redemption from guilt, penalty and power of sin only through the sacrificial death, as our representative and substitute, of Jesus Christ, the Incarnate Son of God.

4.7 The bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

4.8 The necessity of the work of the Holy Spirit to make the death of Christ effective in individual sinners, granting them repentance towards God, and faith in Jesus Christ.

4.9 The indwelling and work of the Holy Spirit in the believer.

4.10 The expectation of the personal return of the Lord Jesus Christ.

5. Clarity of Doctrine and Purpose

5.1 The Fellowship shall be an entirely interdenominational group, within the bounds of the aims and doctrine of the Fellowship and of AFES.

5.2 The activities of the Fellowship shall further its aims (Clause 3) and shall not compromise the distinctive evangelical witness of the Fellowship to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

5.3 Any persons may be asked to take formal responsibility for leading any Fellowship meeting or activity or to represent the Fellowship only if their views are known to be in whole-hearted agreement with the Aims, Objectives and Doctrinal Basis of the Fellowship, as specified in Objects 2.1 to 2.7 of the AFES Constitution.

6. Membership

6.1 Full membership of the Fellowship shall be open to all members of the University of Tasmania, on registering their name, email and student number with the Treasurer of the Fellowship the payment of the subscription fee. This fee may be waived at the discretion of the Treasurer.

6.2 Associate membership of the Fellowship shall be open to any persons who support the aims of the society, on the payment of the subscription fee. This fee may be waived at the discretion of the Treasurer.

7. Expulsion from Membership

7.1 The Fellowship shall have the power to expel any member from the society for:

(a) Misconduct of a nature opposed to the objects of the society, and/or

(b) Lack of attendance and communication for a prolonged period of time.

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7.2 The process is as follows:

- (a) The accusation must be put to the committee, recorded and received. The committee must deem it worthy of consideration.
- (b) Care must be taken to investigate the charge, with the member in question and others involved. Records must be kept of all steps taken.
- (c) Having received and investigated the charge, a motion to expell the member in question must be passed by the committee by at least two thirds (2/3) majority. Reasons for the motion must be recorded.
- (d) All members, including the member in question, shall be notified of the expulsion.

8. The Executive

8.1 The administration of the Fellowship shall be in the hands of the executive, hereafter called the committee, with the exception of those powers given to general meetings.

8.2 The entire management of the Fellowship shall be departed to the committee of at least five full financial members. These members shall be:

- (a) The President,
- (b) The Vice-President,
- (c) The Secretary,
- (d) The Treasurer,
- (e) The Delegate to Societies Council,
- (f) The Alternate Delegate to Societies Council, and
- (g) A number of General Representatives.

8.3 No more than half of the committee may be associate members.

8.4 A Quorum of the committee shall be at least one quarter (1/4) of the committee, one of whom must be an office holder.

9. Election of Members of the Committee

9.1 Every member of the Fellowship shall be eligible for election or appointment.

9.2 Candidates for an election shall be nominated by the committee or by two (2) members.

9.3 The nomination must be ratified by the committee.

9.4 To consent to nomination they shall declare in writing:

- (a) Their consent to nomination,
- (b) Their agreement with the Aims, Objectives and Doctrinal Basis of the Fellowship.
- (c) Their agreement to the values of the Fellowship and the requirements of a committee member.

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(d) A letter of recommendation from the pastor of the Hobart church where they are (formal or informal) member.

9.5 A full list of nominations must be made available to all members fourteen (14) days before the election.

9.6 A full election shall take place at the Annual General Meeting.

9.7 Members of the committee shall be elected by 2/3 of the members present.

10. Expulsion and Replacement of Members of the Committee

10.1 A committee position shall be declared vacant if that committee member is:

- (a) Absent from the three (3) previous meetings without an apology;
- (b) Absent from the five (5) previous committee meeting;
- (c) No longer in whole-hearted agreement with the Aims, Objectives and Doctrinal Basis of the Fellowship.

10.2 Vacant offices positions may be filled by election only, at a special meeting of the Fellowship.

10.3 Vacant non-office positions may be filled by:

- (a) Election at a special meeting of the Fellowship
- (b) Appointment by the committee.

11. Calling General Meetings

11.1 There shall be at least one General Meeting every calendar year.

11.2 Notice shall be given to all members at least fourteen (14) days before.

11.3 Special General Meetings of the Fellowship shall be called by the committee or at the written request of at least five (5) full members of the Fellowship who state the nature of the business they wish discussed, within four (4) academic weeks of such a request.

11.4 A Quorum shall be at least one half (1/2) of all full members.

12. At General Meetings

12.1 All decisions shall be decided by a majority vote of only full members and associate members on the committee.

12.2 At the Annual General Meeting:

- (a) Written reports shall be presented by the President and any other pertinent person;
- (b) Ratification of the club's current constitution;
- (c) Full financial report will be presented and adopted for the financial period from AGM to AGM;

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- (d) Elections will be held for a new committee, to take charge of the club from the close of the meeting;
- (e) Other moved motions may be discussed and voted upon, with preference going to motions of which notice was given before the meeting; and
- (f) Transact any other Fellowship business as it sees fit.

12.3 A General Meeting of the Fellowship has the power to:

- (a) Pass a resolution, censuring the committee,
- (b) Pass a resolution of No Confidence in the committee,
- (c) Added to, repealed or amended this constitution. If the amendment entails the annulment of a pre-existing rule the amendment must be passed by two thirds (2/3) of the financial members present, otherwise the majority shall be one half (1/2).

13. Finances

13.1 The bankers of the Society shall be the Commonwealth Savings Bank of Australia, University Branch unless another Bank is chosen by the committee.

13.2 All cheques shall be signed by the Treasurer and one other member of the committee.

13.3 The last executive of a society failing to re-affiliate shall undertake to close that society's bank accounts and transfer any remaining balance, plus any remaining petty cash, to the Societies Council.

13.4 The Societies Council Executive shall be entitled to request the bank(s), building society/building societies, or credit union(s) used by defunct societies (see Societies Council 'General Policy' section 10) to close such accounts and to transfer any accumulated funds to the Council.