

Constitution of the Orthodox Christian Fellowship at the University of Delaware

Preamble

We, the Orthodox Christian members of the University of Delaware community, wishing to establish a profound and lasting fellowship among the Orthodox Christians of the University of Delaware, and seeking ways to dedicate ourselves and each other and our whole life to Christ our God, do ordain and establish this Orthodox Christian Fellowship.

Articles

- I. **Name** — The organization shall be known as "The Orthodox Christian Fellowship at the University of Delaware."

II. **Aims and Objectives**

Section 1. To lead students to growth in the Orthodox Faith as revealed by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and as expounded by the Holy Orthodox Catholic and Apostolic Church, and to offer an opportunity to Orthodox Christian students to become more fully acquainted with and informed about their Orthodox heritage.

Section 2. To deepen the spiritual and devotional life of university and college students and to promote earnest study of Orthodox Christian doctrine, practice and living.

Section 3. To strengthen ties between students of the Orthodox Christian Faith, to develop a more fruitful fellowship among them, and to further cooperation with other Christian organizations with similar aims.

Section 4. To bear witness on campus to the unique message of the Orthodox Church by affirming its continuity in the course of history from the Apostolic beginnings.

Section 5. To further either directly or indirectly, the welfare of students in body, mind and spirit, all in harmony with the Christian purpose.

Section 6. To unite students in Orthodox worship.

Section 7. To sponsor activities such as study groups, Christian service, and lectures by specialists on topics of interest to the group.

- III. **Affiliation with any other group** – The Orthodox Christian Fellowship of Delaware shall be a chapter of the National Orthodox Christian Fellowship, which oversees all OCFs at over 180 Colleges and Universities in the United States and Canada.

IV. Qualification/Criteria for selecting membership

Section 1. Those eligible for membership must be full time, matriculated undergraduate students at the University of Delaware who agree with the theological and moral teachings of the Orthodox Church.

Section 2. Membership in this Fellowship shall be obtained by submitting an application to the Executive Committee; upon approval by the said committee and the meeting of obligations set forth in this Constitution and By-Laws.

Section 3. Dues, if adopted, shall be per semester payable at the beginning of the semester.

Section 4. The members of the Fellowship shall be those who have signed a membership card.

Section 5. Active membership shall consist in participating in one or more activities of the Fellowship per semester.

Section 6. The Executive Committee together with OCF President shall have the rights to determine the status of members in accordance with Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 of this Article. The list of active members shall be posted a week before any vote is taken and any member of the Fellowship may appeal to the Executive Committee on the question of personal status.

Section 7. Only active members shall have the right to vote. All other members shall have the privilege of attending meetings and of participating in discussion but not of voting.

- V. **Non-Discrimination Clause** — The organization agrees to adhere to all policies and procedures of the University and all local, state, and federal laws. Members will become acquainted with policies and procedures in the Official student handbook and other policies and procedures provided by the University. This organization is a viable, functioning organization, composed of at least six full time undergraduate students and we do not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, gender, age, religion, national origin, veteran, handicap status, or sexual orientation.
- VI. **Duties and privileges of membership** — Active members are allowed to vote for officers (as per article IV, section 7) and participate in National OCF activities
- VII. **Other types of non-voting or representing membership** — Associate membership shall consist of the members of the religious organizations in the university who shall accept the purpose of the Fellowship as stated in Article II of the Constitution and who have expressed their desire for such affiliation. Such requests shall be acted upon by the Executive Committee.
- VIII. **Absence Policies** — Members studying abroad who wish to maintain their membership shall make such requests to the Executive Committee.

IX. **Policies and Procedures for Disciplining/Removing members** — The Executive Committee together with OCF faculty advisor shall have the right to discipline and remove members.

X. **Officers**

Section 1: President — This organization shall have a President with the duties of calling and running meetings and handling day-to-day affairs. The President shall be responsible for the registration of the Registered Student Organization and all required paperwork for the continuation of the organization, including the End of the Year report (Annual Report), Summer Contact Information, Annual Survey, and RSO Questionnaire. The President will receive all information from the Activities and Programs Office from an undisclosed email database. The president will help to appoint all standing and special committees.

Section 2: Vice-President — The Vice-President shall serve the role of President if the President is absent, unable to serve the duties of President, or if the President resigns. The Vice President should also be responsible for checking the organizations mailbox and for disseminating information about other activities offered by the other Registered Student Organizations and business promotions.

Section 3: Treasurer — The Treasurer shall be responsible for all group expenditures and revenues. The Treasurer shall sign any checks written by the organization for the purpose of the organization and maintain all group ledgers. The treasurer shall also be responsible for requesting funds from the allocation board. The Treasurer will have checks co-signed by the appropriate administrator.

Section 4: Secretary — The Secretary shall record the events of all meetings of this organization and shall maintain minutes of those meetings. The secretary shall take attendance of those present at group meetings as necessary. The Secretary shall also maintain the membership list and email database.

Section 5: Qualifications for Officers — All Officers (or Executive Committee members) must be full time matriculated undergraduate students at the University of Delaware. Officers are expected to adhere to the theological and moral teachings of the Orthodox Church.

Section 6: Election of Officers — Candidates for officers of this organization shall be selected by a nominating committee appointed by the current Executive Committee. All officers and committee members shall be elected by secret ballot of the entire OCF active membership. In the event of a tie, officers will be appointed by the Executive Committee. The term of office shall be one year.

Section 7: Procedure for Disciplining/Removal of Officers — Officers can be disciplined or removed from office through the following procedure: a petition signed by at least three active members should be brought to the faculty advisor, who will then appoint an ad hoc committee to investigate the charges. Officers so charged will be given the opportunity to speak with the committee. If the committee feels that the charges warrant removal from office, the officer shall be removed and a new officer shall be appointed as soon as possible as described in Article X, section 6.

Section 8: Resignations — Should an officer resign before the end of his or her term, a new officer shall be appointed as soon as possible as described in Article X, section 6.

Section 9: Officer Transition — Officers should be elected by secret ballot in April of each academic year, and shall assume their responsibilities following installation, which shall take place the last week in April.

- XI. **Meetings** — At least one general group meeting per month shall be held on campus. Executive Committee meetings shall be held at least bi-monthly. The Executive Committee shall meet with the faculty advisor at least once per semester.
- XII. **Dues** — Should dues be collected, it is the responsibility of the treasurer to ensure members are notified and monies are collected. The policies, activities, and finances of the OCF are subject to the control of the majority of its voting membership.
- XIII. **By-Laws** — The organization shall establish by-laws to carry out the policies set forth in this constitution. A 2/3 vote is required to approve by-laws or changes in existing by-laws.
- XIV. **Procedures for decision-making** — Roberts Rules of Order will be used to govern the organization in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the by-laws or the special rules of order of this society.
- XV. **Establishment of Committees** — All committees shall be established by the Executive Committee. Committee chairs shall be appointed for one year terms by the Executive Committee.
- XVI. **Selection of an Advisor** — Each year, the faculty advisor will be chosen by the Executive Committee at its first meeting.
- XVII. **Disbursal of organizational assets should the group become defunct** — The University of Delaware shall inherit the assets of any Registered Student Organization should the group become defunct.
- XVIII. **Define a quorum** — A quorum shall consist of one half of all active members.
- XIX. **Rules for Ratifying the Constitution** — Requires a 2/3 vote of the active membership and approval by the Activities and Programs Office.

XX. **Rules for amending the Constitution** — Requires a 2/3 vote of the entire active membership and advance notice to all members of the proposed change.

XXI. **Signatures**

Jonathan S. Whelan 10/10/02
President Date

J. S. Bush 10/12/02
Faculty Advisor Date

Program Coordinator for Leadership Development Date