

# **Solace Gospel Dance Crew Constitution**

University of Delaware

Newark, DE

November 10, 2008

We, the students at the University of Delaware, do hereby establish the organization known as the Solace Gospel Dance Crew. The purpose of this organization includes:

- Expressing spirituality through dance skills
- Developing dance skills
- Maturing and evangelizing our spirituality

## **Article I – The Organization**

The organization shall be known as the Solace Gospel Dance Crew.

## **Article II – Objectives of the Organization**

The purpose is to express spirituality through dance. The Solace Gospel Dance Crew will evangelize and encourage the student body of UD and surrounding community. We will use our talents and abilities to foster hope, confidence, spiritual strength and maturation of ourselves and others.

## **Article III – Affiliation**

The Solace Gospel Dance Crew does not recognize any affiliation with external organizations or national, regional, and/or local organizations.

## **Article IV-Qualification for Membership**

Members include full-time, matriculated students at the University of Delaware that adheres to the purposes and objectives of the Solace Gospel Dance Crew. In order to be considered a member there must be an attendance to the majority of practices. Any student at the University of Delaware can be a member of the Solace Gospel Dance Crew. Thus, there are no limitations on the size of the group. In addition, there are no restrictions on membership due to religion or level of dance skill.

## **Article 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.

## **Article VI – Duties and Privileges of Members**

- Members are required to attend majority of practices and events.
- Members will be granted three excuses if they are unable to attend practices and one event.
- Absences for special events must receive one week notification in order to be granted an excuse. There is exception for emergencies and death.
- Every fall semester members are required to pay dues. The amount of dues paid will depend on the upcoming events for the year. Thus, dues will vary depending on the activities planned for the year.
- Voting rights are granted to members who have at least in the Solace Gospel Dance Crew for one semester.

## **Article VII– Non-Voting Members**

Non-voting members include part-time or graduate students, alumni, community and honorary members. In addition to not being able to vote; these members cannot hold office, count towards the group's membership, or have any impact upon decision making of the Solace Gospel Dance Crew.

## **Article VIII-Absence Policies**

Any member who exceeds their three excuses will not perform at the upcoming event.

Any executive board member who exceeds their three excuses will, first, be given a warning. Afterwards the officer will be brought up before other executive board members for possible replacement given the circumstances.

## **Article X-Qualifications for Officers**

The following qualifications are required to be executive board members:

- A potential officer must be a full-time matriculated undergraduate student at the University of Delaware
- Candidates must complete one semester as a member of the organization
- Must have a minimum GPA of 2.25

## **XI. Officers**

The following sections will address the roles and duties of particular officers.

### *Section 1: President*

- Handle the daily affairs
- Runs meetings; which includes creating an agenda for every meeting
- Responsible for the registration of the Solace Gospel Dance Crew
- Responsible for handling the paperwork to enable the continuation of the organization (including Start-of-the-Year, Mid-Year and End-of-the-Year packets.)
- The President will receive all information from the Activities and Programs Office from an undisclosed email database
- Will help to appoint standing and special committees

### *Section 2: Vice-President*

- Must work closely with the President
- The Vice President will serve the role of President if the President is absent, unable to serve their duties, or resigns
- Responsible for checking the organizations' mailbox for updates about activities and business promotions

### *Section 3: Treasurer*

- Attend mandatory Registered Student Organization training session
- Responsible for maintaining the Treasure's book
- Responsible for reimbursements of members who utilized personal funds for Club events
- Responsible for requesting funds from the University of Delaware allocation board
- Keep all executive committee members informed of Club budget at executive board meetings at the beginning of each semester, the end of each semester, and after each fundraising event.

### *Section 4: Secretary*

- Record minutes at each executive board meeting
- Record attendance at each executive and general body meeting
- Should maintain e-mail list for the Solace Gospel Dance Crew
- Also assumes the role of a historian with the goal of being able to pass on accurate records of what the group has done over the past year and who was involved.

#### *Section 5: Public Relations Chair*

- Responsible for promotion of the group and their events
- Responsible for designing flyers, posters, brochures, and updating web pages

#### *Section 6: Webmaster*

- Maintain the Club website
- Maintain other Club internet accounts. For example, maintain facebook or myspace accounts

### **Article XII – Election of Executive Board Members**

#### *Section 1: Officer Election*

Election will take place every academic year during the spring semester. Officers must be elected at least three weeks in advance from the last day of the spring semester. This will allow for training and experience in their elected fields from previous elected officers. There are no nominations. Instead, candidates will volunteer to run for an official position. They would present speeches and members will vote on their preference. Members who have been active for at least one semester will be able to vote for the election. Voting will come in the form of secret ballots. If there is a tie, then, a candidate will be determined an officer by the residing executive board members. If there is a tie within the executive board's voting process, then, the President will decide which candidate will be elected into office the following year.

#### *Section 2: Procedure for Disciplining/Removal of Officers*

Officers will, first, be given a warning for their absences, disrespectful behavior, or lack of leadership. Afterwards, continuation of such a behavior would be brought up before the general body and a voting process will take place.

#### *Section 3: Officer Resignation*

If an officer feels the need to resign they must submit a letter to the President. The President will then conduct an executive board meeting where officers will vote on the approval of resignation. The opened position will then be presented to the general body for consideration. Afterwards, there will be an official election if there is more than one candidate interested in the position.

#### **Section 4: Officer Transition**

As stated in Article XII, Officers must be elected at least three weeks in advance from the last day of the spring semester. This will enable previous officers to train new officers. Officers are trained by reviewing the constitution, transporting old documents and important information, and planning for next years' possible future events.

#### **Article XIII-Meetings**

There must be a meeting for general body members at least once a week.

Executive board members are required to attend at two meetings per month.

The scheduling of these meetings will depend on availability of members and officers each semester.

The President or Vice President will meet with the advisor at least once a month.

#### **Article XIV-Dues**

The amount of dues collected will be determined by a majority vote of members. Dues will be collected through cash or checks. Dues will be collected at the beginning of every academic year. New members will be asked to pay their dues as soon as possible. If a member does not pay their dues a month into fall semester, than, they cannot participate in any event until their dues are paid.

#### **Article XVII- Procedures for decision-making**

Refer to the rules included in Roberts Rules of Order in accordance to this Constitution.

#### **Article XVIII- Committees**

Committees will be established as necessary by the President.

#### **Article XIX-Selection of an Advisor**

*Section 1:* The requirements for a club advisor include the following:

- Must be a full time professional faculty of staff person
- Cannot be a part time, salaried staff, or graduate student

*Section 2:* Advisor duties consist of the following:

- Must Attend an officer meeting at least once per semester
- Provide guidance and aid in the development of leadership skills
- Provide education of University policies and opportunities

*Section 3:* Election of Advisor

Members will be asked to suggest any potential advisors that they know could help guide our group. In a general meeting a list of potential advisors will be created. Afterwards, members will decide which advisors the Solace Gospel Dance Crew will seek out to fulfill the position. If the candidate accepts the invitation to be advisor, then, there will be an official election as indicated in Article XII.

### **Article XX – Disbursal**

The University of Delaware shall inherit the assets of any Registered Student Organization if the group should become defunct.

### **Article XXI – Quorum**

Seventy-five percent of executive board members must be present at officer meetings.

Fifty percent of members must be present at a general body meeting in order to conduct a meeting.

### **Article XXII – Constitutional Ratification**

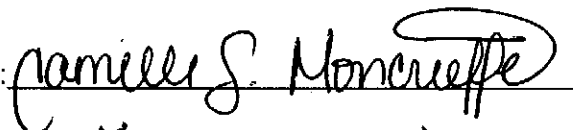
Approval of changes to the constitution requires a majority vote of both the entire organization and approval by the Activities and Programs Office.

### **Article XXIII – Constitutional Amendment**

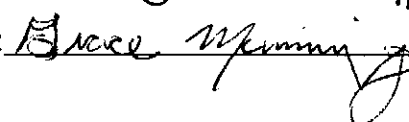
Adding articles/sections to the constitution requires a majority vote of the entire membership and advance notice to all members of the proposed change.

Signatures

President's Signature:



Vice President's Signature:



Treasurer's Signature: Cyrilse Foderick

Secretary's Signature: Cherise Strickland

Activities & Programs Staff: Clayton

Date: \_\_\_\_\_