

Constitution of The MIT Graduate Christian Fellowship

OUR VISION AND PURPOSE

Graduate Christian Fellowship (hereafter "GCF") is a faith community of Christians in the MIT community, primarily graduate students, who desire to know, love and obey God better and to reflect the love and presence of Jesus Christ. We strive to accomplish this in the following ways:

1. Encourage one another to deepen our individual relationships with Jesus Christ by emphasizing a foundation of prayer, study of the Bible, worship, obedience to God and involvement with local churches.
2. Be a community that addresses the unique needs of Christian graduate students and that cares for one another as part of God's larger family.
3. Think critically about the implications of the Christian faith on our academic disciplines. Bring our pursuits, careers, and all our work under the lordship of Christ.
4. Corporately and individually proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior to the MIT community.
5. Help meet the physical and personal needs of our neighbors at MIT and in the Boston area.

OUR FAITH

We affirm the historic Christian faith as expressed in the Apostles and Nicene Creeds, and we worship Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God. We also hold to the Doctrinal Basis of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, including:

- The unique Divine inspiration, entire trustworthiness, and authority of the Bible.
- The Deity of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- The necessity and efficacy of the substitutionary death of Jesus Christ for the redemption of the world, and the historic fact of His bodily resurrection.
- The presence and power of the Holy Spirit in the work of regeneration.
- The expectation of the personal return of our Lord Jesus Christ.

AFFILIATION

The MIT GCF is a graduate chapter of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, USA, and is not affiliated with any other particular denomination or church. We encourage all members to participate actively in the church of their choice. We also fully support all the other MIT Christian organizations which share our faith in Christ and seek to represent Him on this campus.

MEMBERSHIP

The vision of our group primarily focuses on Christian graduate students. However, membership is open to anyone in the MIT community, and does not discriminate based on any characteristic listed in the MIT Non-discrimination policy. Membership is also open to interested graduate students from other schools, and to families of GCF members.

ORGANIZATION, ELECTIONS, AND MEETINGS

The MIT GCF has two levels of organization: the Fellowship and the Executive Committee. The Fellowship consists of all members. The Executive Committee, consisting of five to ten members of the Fellowship, forms the leadership team who will serve and set a good example of our faith commitment. The Executive Committee must agree with the purpose of GCF and agrees to implement the above Vision and Faith statements in the activities of GCF.

The Executive Committee will include at least two officers, President and Treasurer, and as a group will plan and execute the activities of GCF. The committee will meet regularly as needed. Any member of GCF can nominate any fellow member for the Executive Committee. The outgoing Executive Committee selects successors in June to take office in July for a one year term. The president and treasurer, both of whom must be distinct current MIT students, are chosen from within the executive committee by mutual agreement of all members of the committee.

The duties of the Executive Committee members are as follows. The President directs and arranges Executive Committee meetings, keeps a current constitution with the ASA, and coordinates division of labor within the Executive Committee. The Treasurer handles all financial matters. Other members of the Executive Committee are responsible for: maintaining a list of current members, holding meetings of the Fellowship at least once a term, coordinating and leading small group Bible studies or choosing other GCF members to do so, and publicizing our activities to the Fellowship and the MIT community. Typically the Executive Committee will also coordinate other activities, such as social events, service projects, discussion groups, and prayer groups, as it feels will most effectively achieve our vision and purpose.

All business decisions are made by the Executive committee. The quorum is 60% of the Executive committee. Business decisions require simple majority approval.

ROLE OF STAFF

InterVarsity Christian Fellowship staff will serve in an advisory role, with a voice but no vote on the Executive Committee.

AMENDMENTS

Amendments to this Constitution, or a new Constitution must be proposed at least two weeks before voting. Any voting will require a quorum of 75% of the Executive Committee. An amendment or a new constitution will require two-thirds approval.

ASA CLAUSE

Graduate Christian Fellowship agrees to abide by the rules and regulations of the Association of Student Activities, and its executive committee. This constitution, amendments to it, and the by-laws of this organization shall be subject to review by the ASA Executive Committee to insure that they are in accordance with the rules and regulations of ASA.