CONSTITUTION
for
Baptist Student Ministries
at
UTM

Article I - Name

The club shall be known as the Baptist Student Ministries or BSM. It may use the initials BSM where appropriate in publicity, hand-outs, etc. It shall be a cooperating chapter of the Baptist Student Ministries in Canada, which is a ministry of the Canadian National Baptist Convention, and may participate in regional and national activities. It may receive funds from UTMSU, UofT, Baptist entities or churches to aid in meeting the needs of students.

Article II - Purpose

The BSM shall provide a ministry to persons of the campus community, leading them toward faith in God through Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, guiding them in Christian growth and discipleship, and involving them in responsible church membership. It may plan activities of recreation, fellowship, and information as deemed appropriate by the Executive officers and BSM Campus Minister.

Article III - Membership

Membership shall be open to any students, staff, faculty and alumni at the University of Toronto. There is no membership fee.

Article IV – Executive

Duties of the officers shall be as follows:

President: preside at regular meetings, oversee the general conduct of the club activities, encourage spirituality through example and teaching, lead the Executive to plan and prepare to meet the needs of students, and to counsel with the executive of other clubs so as to avoid schedule conflicts. He/she shall promote participation in regional and national events.

Vice President Internal: Plan, promote and conduct activities that encourage spiritual outreach in evangelism, missions, concern for world issues, and ministry to individuals in need.
Finance: Shall handle funds for the club, including the UTMSU audit. Finances are to be spent for the club's purpose, upon the decision of the executives.

Finance Assistant: Helps the Finance Exec, and learns the process.

Outreach Coordinator: Helps lead the club to invite new participants.

Events Coordinator: Helps with planning and facilitating events.

Article V - Finances

BSM finances are to be spent only for the mission of the club, (as stated in this constitution.) Financial decisions will be made by the consensus of the Executives in consultation with the general members when possible, and then carried out by the Finance Officer through the BSM chequing account. The Finance Officer will keep a spreadsheet of BSM's finances and prepare the UTMSU audit.

Article VI – Meetings

BSM shall meet as often as necessary to fulfill the purpose of the club, with a weekly fellowship and Bible study as the primary activity, with a minimum of one meeting per year that is open to all members of the club. Other meetings may be planned by the Executive to meet the needs of the members. The Executive shall choose one member to represent BSM at UTMSU meetings.

Article VII – Elections

- Elections will be held by the end of February.
- Elections must be open to all interested candidates that are UTMSU registered members of the club. Advertising for elections are mandatory and are to take place over a period of a minimum of one week. Advertising must be visible throughout campus. Mass emails will be sent to all UTMSU registered members of the club as well as the Clubs Coordinator and VP Campus Life prior to the week of accepting nominations.
- Elections will have a CRO (Chief Returning Officer) supervising the electoral process. The CRO will be non-biased and approved by the club executive and the Clubs' Coordinator.
- A nomination period following the advertising period will be set for a period of at least one week.
- A campaign week will be held in the week following nominations' close.
- Elections will take place at a location designated for this purpose by the clubs' executive in the week following campaigning, consisting of a period of two or three days. In the case of a by-election, clubs must still follow the above regulations.
- If no one opts to run in the election for a particular position, the former executives have the right to collectively appoint a suitable candidate for that position. This candidate must be subsequently approved by the VP Campus Life.

Article VIII – Removal From Office

Removal from office can occur after the VP Campus Life has issued two verbal warnings and the Clubs Committee has issued one written warning. The warnings must clearly state the problem(s) and the steps to be taken to resolve them.

Alternatively, an executive member may be removed from office by the club itself for failing to perform his/her duties as defined by the club constitution and by-laws. Such removal will occur if, and only if, the following conditions are satisfied:

1. A request be submitted to the VP Campus Life which should:
   a. Be signed by at least 30% of the Club membership or two-thirds (2/3) of the club executive membership
   b. Specify the alleged incidents of neglect of duty.
2. Upon receipt of request, the council shall be required to hold a referendum within twenty days.
3. In case of a council member being removed from office, a by-election will be held if necessary, according to the election rules as previously described under "Elections Procedures".

Article IX – Amendments to the Constitution

Amendments can be made to this constitution by the following:
a) Any member may present a proposed amendment in writing to the Executive and general members at any regular meeting.
b) Upon receipt of a written proposed amendment, the Executive shall announce a vote on the amendment at a regular meeting within thirty-one days.
c) It then must be approved by a 3/4 majority of those present and voting.

Or, any single Executive Officer may make an amendment to comply with ongoing changes required by UTMSU or the UTM Administration for club status at UTM.

The Executive shall formally adopt the new constitution and submit the revised constitution to the respective University offices (i.e. Centre for Student Engagement, The University of Toronto Mississauga Students' Union, etc) within two (2) weeks of its approval by general members