



Orthodox Christian Campus Ministries - Virginia

Constitution

ARTICLE I: NAME AND AFFILIATION

SECTION I: The incorporated organization shall be entitled: “Orthodox Christian Campus Ministries”. The Orthodox Christian Campus Ministries hereinafter may be referred to as “OCCM” or “The Organization”.

SECTION II: The Coptic Orthodox Patriarchate under Bishop Peter- Diocese of North Carolina, South Carolina, Kentucky and Papal Vicar of Virginia in the United States will serve as the Parent Organization of OCCM.

SECTION III: OCCM will serve as the Parent Organization to all Coptic Orthodox affiliated organizations at any university in the state of Virginia. The collection of these organizations will hereinafter be referred to as “Collegiate OCCM related organizations.”

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

SECTION I: Orthodox Christian Campus Ministries in Virginia is an organization that offers students a supplement to the secularism of academia, providing a safe space to pray, enjoy Christian fellowship, while bridging the campus to the church throughout their collegiate journey. It is an organization which looks to center itself on Christ and follows in the ancient faith and hopes to support the surrounding community by embodying the spirit of the Church on

campus, bridging students to the greater church community. Members are encouraged to integrate their beliefs as Christians into their lives as students by promoting cultural awareness, tolerance and fellowship, while nurturing their spiritual, emotional, mental and social needs. This organization is neither restricted to a singular race nor particular religion. Members are also encouraged to become persons of consequence and active members of the _____ Community as well as the greater Orthodox Christian Campus Ministries - Virginia Community. The main vision is to bridge students with the greater church.

SECTION II: To unite Oriental Orthodox Christian students from different college campuses in Orthodox worship and fellowship.

SECTION III: To deepen the spiritual and devotional life of university and college students across several campuses through study of Oriental Orthodox Christian doctrine and lifestyle.

SECTION IV: To evangelize on each member's respective campus the unique message of the Oriental Orthodox Church.

SECTION V: To further the welfare of students in body, mind, and spirit in harmony with the Christian purpose.

SECTION VI: To sponsor diocese-wide activities such as Christian services, conferences and lectures by specialists and fathers on topics relevant to Church doctrine and Academia.

SECTION VII: To increase involvement of youth in the Oriental Orthodox community through personal, professional, and spiritual development.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

Section I: Membership in OCCM shall be open to all students who share the purpose of this organization, and willing to contribute to the goals. Local chapters will determine eligibility of the member in relation to associated by-laws as established in Article VIII. Associate membership may be granted to students who do not fall into the above category under special circumstances to be determined by the OCCM Clergy advisor. In order for any member to be considered an active member, they must attend the majority (50%+1) of all greater OCCM events.

Section II: Length of term for membership is lifetime. In order to hold Committee positions for the following year, a member must be an active undergraduate student member. Only former OCCM members (OCCM Alumni) are eligible for advisory positions.

Section III: If an OCCM officer cannot attend a meeting or event, they must provide a notice to the meeting leader or the Committee sponsoring the event 24 hours in advance for the absence to be excused. All members are expected to demonstrate commitment to the organization and should show constant effort and enthusiasm for the organization.

Section IV: As ambassadors of Christ, if any member does not display an appropriate manner of behavior and shows ill-will toward other people or represents the organization in a manner that violates Christian expectation, then that individual's membership may be subject to revocation.

ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS

SECTION I: OCCM shall be supervised and coordinated by Clergy advisor and an elected OCCM President. This President is responsible for leading the organization, overseeing organization meetings and events, and maintaining communication with advisors. Elections and procedures are elaborated in the OCCM by-laws, established in Article VIII.

SECTION II: OCCM shall be governed by the overall OCCM officers, Clergy advisors and Bishop Peter, Patriarchate- Diocese of North Carolina, South Carolina, Kentucky and Papal Vicar of Virginia, or his designee, and in coordination with regional directors and administrative executive board. The regional officers will be responsible for facilitating communication across their chapters. The regional officers are selected by the procedure outlined in OCCM Rules of Procedure.

SECTION III: The primary advisor of this organization shall be the standing Bishop of the Coptic Orthodox Patriarchate - Bishop Peter-Diocese of North Carolina, South Carolina, Kentucky and Papal Vicar of Virginia, or his designee. The primary advisor has the authority to overrule all decisions made by the committees and members of OCCM.

SECTION IV: The secondary advisors of this organization include Administrative Executive Board and the Alumni Committee as per Chapter 5.6 of the OCCM Rules of Procedure

SECTION V: Officer positions, Roles and Responsibilities:

President

As Chief Executive Officer of OCCM, steward of Biblical leadership and strategic direction for the organization. Duties include calling and presiding over all business and e-board meetings, managing and ensuring all officers are on track, ensures organization events and goals aligned with OCCM mission, being the point of contact for campus and OCCM VA including incoming students and correspondence, encourages all OCCM-VA events and attends personally, leading by example as unified body of Christ, keeping E-board and organization members informed of progress in campus/OCCM events, connect members and incoming students, connect members to serve together, approve all communication and plans.

Vice-President

As second ranking, the VP plays a central role in coordinating OCCM events, projects with regional and chapter boards. Oversees committee activities and initiatives and ensures they align with organization vision and goals. As steward of organization, ensures all members participate and active role in member outreach. Splits responsibilities with the president, recruits and welcomes new members and leaders, keeps campus group updated, presides over meetings in absence of president, keeps organization informed of OCCM national and regional events, updates and news, and provides mentorship to new officers.

Secretary

Steward of all official records and communication of OCCM. Recording and disseminating minutes of each e-board meeting, ensures timely record within 1 week of meeting. Serves as historian to maintain progress and records for future organization members, manages correspondence with OCCM, keeps track of who will be present at each event, schedules room, speakers, topics. This role also functions to plan and conduct community service events for the OCCM.

Treasurer

Responsible for financial stewardship of OCCM. Determines and approves budget for OCCM events, ensures all funds are managed transparently and responsibly. Applies for funding on time, handles OCCM transactions, keeping accurate record of account receipts and expenditures, presenting financial reports as needed, ensures use all of allotted budget within fiscal year.

Event & Outreach Chairman

Steward of fellowship: Oversees and plans social gatherings and events in advance and publicizes and reminds the club of said events. Acts as communications officer: oversees and manages all OCCM communications, ensuring consistent, professional messaging across all platforms. Duties include editing and approving all official OCCM communications, including email, announcements. Overseeing and managing OCCM social media presence and official online platforms, working with E-board to maintain clear and open communications with members, collaborating with OCCM-VA to ensure all efforts are broadcasted and communicated with VA colleges and universities.

ARTICLE V-Meetings

SECTION I: OCCM shall hold a general business meeting with the OCCM administrative executive board at the beginning of each month.

SECTION II: OCCM shall hold a regional meeting with the respective OCCM regional officers and area presidents and notify and coordinate with chapter boards and members of updates and information.

SECTION III: OCCM should hold a local university chapter meeting each month, as outlined in the OCCM Rules of Procedure.

SECTION IV: executive board members at local, chapter, regional and administrative levels must attend annual training summit.

ARTICLE VI: ELECTIONS

Elections will be held near the end of every school year to elect the upcoming officers. Once elected, each officer will serve for one school year term (2 semesters). An officer can be reelected but no officer can serve for more than two years.

ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS

The club will meet a minimum of once per week for prayer, Bible study, and fellowship.

ARTICLE VIII: AMENDMENTS AND BY-LAWS

This constitution can be amended at any time; however, amendments must be voted on and approved by a majority of the members and approved by the administrative executive board.

ARTICLE IX: NON-DISCRIMINATION

Orthodox Christian Campus Ministries in Virginia does not restrict its membership, programs, or activities on the basis of age, color, disability, gender identity, marital status, national or ethnic origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sex (including pregnancy), sexual orientation, veteran status, and family and genetic information.