

INTERVARSITY CHAPTER CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I. NAME & AFFILIATION

Section 1. Name of Organization

The name of the organization will be the InterVarsity Christian Fellowship at Rollins College (the "Chapter").

Section 2. Organizational Affiliation

The Chapter has applied for and been granted Chartered status as a Chapter of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship/USA ("InterVarsity/USA"). As long as the group fulfills the requirements described in its charter from InterVarsity/USA, it has the right to access InterVarsity/USA resources (e.g., training materials, conferences, resources, and staff). The requirements include carrying out the Chapter's purpose and mission (as defined in Article II) consistently with the Doctrinal Basis (defined in Article III) and with messages of InterVarsity/USA (as defined by InterVarsity/USA's Core Values and national and regional leadership).

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE AND MISSION

In response to God's love, grace and truth:

The Purpose of the Chapter is to establish and advance at Rollins College witnessing communities of students and faculty who follow Jesus as Savior and Lord: growing in love for God, God's Word, God's people of every ethnicity and culture and God's purposes in the world.

ARTICLE III. DOCTRINAL BASIS

We believe in:

The only true God, the almighty Creator of all things, existing eternally in three persons Father, Son, and Holy Spirit--full of love and glory.

The unique divine inspiration, entire trustworthiness and authority of the Bible.

The value and dignity of all people: created in God's image to live in love and holiness but alienated from God and each other because of our sin and guilt, and justly subject to God's wrath.

Jesus Christ, fully human and fully divine, who lived as a perfect example, who assumed the judgment due sinners by dying in our place, and who was bodily raised from the dead and ascended as Savior and Lord.

Justification by God's grace to all who repent and put their faith in Jesus Christ alone for salvation.

The indwelling presence and transforming power of the Holy Spirit, who gives to all believers a new life and a new calling to obedient service.

The unity of all believers in Jesus Christ, manifest in worshipping and witnessing churches making disciples throughout the world.

The victorious reign and future personal return of Jesus Christ, who will judge all people with justice and mercy, giving over the unrepentant to eternal condemnation but receiving the redeemed into eternal life.

To God be glory forever.

ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership Eligibility

Membership in the Chapter is open to all registered students. An active member is a currently enrolled student at the Rollins College who has attended at least 75% of the meetings of the Chapter (this would include attending a specific weekly small group, not several different weekly small groups) for at least one semester and have attended at least one InterVarsity sponsored retreat or conference in the past year (unless the student has been in a study abroad program, an internship, or was involved in another InterVarsity/USA chapter.) Employees (Staff) of InterVarsity/USA assigned to the Chapter may partner with the Chapter.

Section 2. Membership Removal

Members of the Chapter may be removed by a majority of the Leadership Team (after consultation with the InterVarsity/USA Staff) under the following circumstances:

1. If the individual is causing disruption to the group, is engaged in disorderly conduct, or is making threats.
2. If the individual poses a physical danger to other students.
3. If the individual's conduct rises to the level of harassment of another member of the group.

Section 3. Non-Discrimination Policy

It is the policy of Rollins College not to discriminate on the basis of sex, disability, race, age, religion, color, national or ethnic origin, ancestry, marital status, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, genetic information, physical characteristics, or any other category protected by federal, state, or local law, in its educational programs, admissions policies, financial aid, employment, or other school-administered programs. The

policy is enforced by Rollins and, where applicable, federal laws such as Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975. The College is an equal opportunity educational institution. Single-sex organizations are permissible to the extent allowed under Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, 20 U.S.C. § 1681.

Section 4. Anti-Hazing Policy

Anti-Hazing Policy In the State of Florida, “Hazing means any action or situation which recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student for the purpose of initiation or admission into or affiliation with any organization operating under sanction of a university or college... [Hazing] shall include, but not be limited to any brutality of a physical nature, such as whipping, beating, branding, forced calisthenics, exposure to the elements, forced consumption of food, liquor, drug, or other substance, or any other forced physical activity which could adversely affect the physical health or safety of the individual, and shall include any activity which could subject the individual to extreme mental stress, such as sleep deprivation, forced exclusion from social contact, forced conduct which could result in extreme embarrassment, or any other forced activity which adversely affects the mental health or dignity of the individual Any activity as described above upon which the initiation or admission into or affiliation with a university or college organization is directly or indirectly conditioned shall be presumed to be forced activity, the willingness of an individual to participate in such activity notwithstanding.” [Florida Statue 240.262] The Chad Meredith Act makes dangerous hazing a crime in Florida. The bill, named for a University of Miami freshman who drowned in a campus lake while trying to join a fraternity in 2001, makes hazing that results in serious injury or death a felony punishable by up to five years in prison, even if the victim consents. To report any suspected hazing behavior, please contact Campus Safety. For more information and resources relating to hazing prevention please visit: Hazing Prevention - www.hazingprevention.org University of Maine Hazing Study – www.hazingstudy.org Stop Hazing – www.stophazing.org Hank Nuwer – www.hanknuwer.com

ARTICLE V – LEADERSHIP

Section 1. Officers and Other Leaders

- A. The officers of this organization shall be the following:
1. President
 2. Secretary and/or Treasurer (as required by College)
 3. Other officers as deemed necessary by ministry function (e.g., small group coordinator, large group coordinator, small group leader, outreach coordinator, etc.)
- B. Term of office: An officer shall serve for one academic year from the start of his/her term or until his/her successor is elected. The officers will be responsible for organizing and providing leadership for all meetings, activities and events of the Chapter, including religious

activities related to worship, prayer, Scripture study, evangelism, and discipleship – or any other activity intended to further the purposes and to communicate the messages of the Chapter.

Section 2. Values and Expectations

A. All Active Members are eligible to stand for election and to be placed on the ballot *whether or not they meet the Chapter's religious expectations for leaders described in Subsection B*, as required by Rollins' non-discrimination policy.

B. Rollins' non-discrimination policy also intends to affirm students' identities -- including religious identities – and, by implication, to honor, to protect, and to accommodate their religious convictions. Therefore, because the Chapter's leaders are religious leaders who are guardians and representatives of the Chapter's religious traditions, it sets forth on principle these values and expectations which would preserve the religious identity and integrity of the Chapter:

1. Knowledge expectation: Chapter leaders must be able to demonstrate their familiarity with both the meaning and the ethical implications of Articles II and III. Leadership candidates should be able to articulate their understanding of InterVarsity/USA's foundational positions in their Personal Statement. (2 Timothy 1:13-14; 2 Timothy 2:2 Titus 1:9; etc.)

2. Alignment expectation: Leaders should commit to lead consistently with the Chapter's charter, purpose, and beliefs as described in Article I, Section 2; Article II; and Article III. To avoid hypocrisy, they must be able lead in a manner that communicates the mission and messages wholeheartedly and with integrity for both the leader and the Chapter. (Romans 12:9-16; Galatians 5:19-26; Titus 1:7-8;

3. Skill expectation: Chapter leaders must be able to communicate (i) the Chapter's faith-based messages so as to invite non-adherents to examine and to consider accepting the Christian faith as their own and (ii) the religious precepts of the group to others, encouraging others to grow in their faith. They will do this through leading Bible studies, helping to lead worship and prayer meetings, and training members how they can communicate the messages that are central to the Chapter's mission (1 Timothy 4:11-16; 2 Timothy 2:2; 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5)

C. InterVarsity/USA reserves the right to revoke the Chapter's Charter if, in its sole discretion, a Chapter leader is no longer leading in manner consonant with Chapter's charter as described in Article I, Section 2 or a Chapter leader cannot or will not affirm the Chapter's Purpose and Beliefs as described in Article II and III. In the event of revocation, the Chapter shall relinquish its Charter, give up the right to use the name "InterVarsity Christian Fellowship", and forfeit access to InterVarsity/USA resources (including training materials, conferences, and the advice and counsel of InterVarsity/USA staff.) In this situation, a representative of

InterVarsity/USA shall be given an opportunity to invite all Active Members to leave the de-chartered group to form a new group that will seek a charter from InterVarsity/USA.

Section 3. Nomination/Election Process

A. Only Active Members are eligible to be nominated for leadership positions. Leadership will be voted on by Active Members only; the group's advisor(s) and ministry staff may be present at the election and may speak, but they may not vote. The nomination process shall occur in the first full month of each semester. However, a majority of the Chapter's officers may call for new elections at any time during the year at their discretion, after consultation with the InterVarsity/USA staff.

B. The selection process for leadership in the Chapter shall take place as follows:

1. The nomination process begins with a nomination meeting. Officers of the Chapter (or, when there are not yet any officers, a simple majority of the Active Members) will provide all Active Members one week's notice of a nomination meeting for Active Members. In order to achieve quorum, at least 50% of the Active Members must be present at the nomination meeting. In order to become a candidate and placed on the ballot, an individual must be nominated by two other active members.

2. After the nomination meeting, nominated individuals will be asked to complete a Personal Statement (See Appendix I), to be completed over the course of one week, in which applicants will be asked about their faith journey; the values and expectations (as described in Article V, Section 2, Subsection B); their views on matters that are necessary for advancing Chapter's mission (as described in Article I, Section 2; Article II; and Article III); and their willingness and ability to affirm Articles II and III as required by the Chapter's charter. The personal statements of all nominees will be sent to all Active Members at least one week prior to the election, along with a cover letter which explains Article V, Section 2, Subsections B and C.

3. Chapter leaders shall call an election no later than two weeks from the submission of Personal Statements. Quorum shall be 50% of Active Members. Candidates will be given the opportunity to give a statement of no more than three minutes describing their qualifications for leadership. Candidates will also accept questions from the floor which may include questions about religious identity and belief to the extent that Active Members believe this is information which may influence their voting decision. The vote will be taken by secret ballot. The offices of President and Treasurer will be decided by a simple majority. All other positions must receive two-thirds of the vote in order to win the position.

4. If they have not done so already, leaders-elect will go through a training period under the current leadership, with guidance from InterVarsity staff. Leaders-elect assume their positions as leaders at the end of this training period.

5. InterVarsity/USA staff and the Chapter's advisor may serve an advisory role in the nomination process, working with the current leadership team and/or active members.

Section 4: Removal of Leaders

A. Leaders may be removed from their position by a simple majority of the Leadership Team. Any Active Member of the Chapter may make a complaint against any leader in the Chapter including a member of the Leadership Team. Following the complaint, the Leadership Team (or a member(s) of the Leadership Team) shall meet to confer with the Chapter's InterVarsity/USA Staff for advice and counsel. They will also meet with both the complaining individual and the accused leader. No leader may be removed without first receiving a full and fair hearing from the Leadership Team. A leader complained against may only be removed by at least a simple majority agreement of the remaining members of the Leadership Team.

B. Grounds for immediate review of a leader's position by the Leadership Team include: any misrepresentation on the leadership application or nomination process; inability or unwillingness to continue to support Articles II and III; inability or unwillingness to communicate the messages of the Chapter accurately; or, inability or unwillingness to consistently lead in a manner that communicates InterVarsity/USA's mission and messages with integrity.

C. All decisions regarding removal of a leader must be communicated to, investigated, and approved by The Dean of Religious Life (and/or designee from the Office of Diversity and Inclusion) prior to being finalized.

ARTICLE VI. FINANCES

The Chapter will consider obtaining funding in the following ways:

1. Through private donations and other fund-raising activities
2. Through funding provided to organizations by the College

A member of the Servant Team will be responsible for the Chapter's finances and for administering any segregated fee grants.

ARTICLE VII. AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Proposal

Amendments can be proposed verbally at a Leadership Team meeting or may be submitted in writing to any Leadership Team member by any Active Member of the Chapter.

Section 2. Passage

Amendments will be considered by Leadership Team members and must pass by a 3/4th vote of the Leadership Team.

Section 3. Limitations

The Chapter may not amend Articles I, II, III or V of this Constitution without the express, written permission of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship/USA.

Section 4. Expectations of External Advisors

All external advisors must submit the proper Human Resources paperwork to the Dean of Religious Life (or designee) prior to assuming their role on campus. It is mandatory that all advisers participate in quarterly retreats, trainings, interfaith/ecumenical programming, and monthly meetings as set forth by the Dean.

