

Constitution October 2003

Clause 1. Name

The name of the Union shall be "Macquarie University Christian Union of Students" (CU).
CU will be affiliated with the "Australian Fellowship of Evangelical Students" (AFES).

Clause 2. Aims

1. To present students with the gospel as outlined in the Bible, in order to provide the opportunity for them to trust in the Lord Jesus Christ.
2. To strengthen Christians in their faith and witness, and to encourage them to continually submit every aspect of their lives to the Lordship of Christ, and thus to bring them up towards their full maturity in Christ.
3. To present the challenge of Christian service.
4. To uphold the fundamental truths of Christianity as contained in the Bible.

Clause 3. Doctrinal Basis

The Union affirms and upholds the fundamental truths of Christianity as contained in the Bible:

1. The divine inspiration and infallibility of the scriptures as originally given, and its supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct.
2. The unity of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit in the Godhead.
3. The universal sinfulness and guilt of human nature since the fall rendering humanity subject to God's wrath and condemnation.
4. The conception of Jesus Christ by the Holy Spirit and his birth of the virgin Mary.
5. Redemption from guilt, penalty and power of sin only through the sacrificial death as our representative and substitute, of Jesus Christ, the incarnate Son of God.
6. The bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.
7. The necessity of the work of the Holy Spirit to make the death of Christ, effective in the individual sinner, granting him/her repentance toward God and faith in Jesus Christ.
8. The indwelling work of the Holy Spirit in the believer.
9. The expectation of the personal return of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Clause 4. Membership

Membership of the Union shall be open to all students who are enrolled at Macquarie University, agree with the aims of the Union, and have paid any required membership fee. Membership may be conferred on persons other than students of the university at the discretion of the executive, subject to ratification at the first subsequent general meeting. The total non-student membership shall not exceed 20% of the total membership of the Union. Membership shall be renewed annually.

Clause 5. Government

1. General Meetings

- i) The Annual General Meeting of the Union shall be held annually at a time determined by the Executive.
- ii) The AGM shall elect the executive for the ensuing year, receive reports by the outgoing President, Secretary and Treasurer and transact any other business as the Union sees fit.
- iii) Extraordinary GM's shall be convened by the Secretary on the request of a 50% majority of the executive.
- iv) At least 3 weeks notice shall be given to all members of all GM's as well as notification of the purpose and major issues to be discussed.
- v)
 - a) The quorum for all General Meetings shall be the lesser of two-thirds of the current membership or fifty members.
 - b) Where the membership of the Union is greater than 250, a General Meeting dealing with amendments to this constitution shall require a quorum of 20% of the membership of the Union.
- vi) The president shall chair all GM's of the Union. In the absence of the President, he/she shall

elect another member to take the chair.

2. The Executive

- i)
 - a) The governing body of the Union shall be an executive elected at the AGM.
 - b) The outgoing executive shall determine the size of the incoming executive, subject to ratification at the AGM. There shall be a recommended maximum of 12.
 - c) The office bearers shall consist of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, and shall be elected from the executive at a General Meeting, with at least 50% of the vote.
 - d) The executive may create other positions they deem necessary to perform the work of the Union.
- ii)
 - a) The outgoing executive shall, in consultation with AFES staff, present a suitable number of godly candidates to the AGM for election. These candidates shall be required to agree with the aims and doctrinal basis of the Union, and shall be required to be students at Macquarie University for the term of their election. The candidature shall be elected by a two-third majority of the general meeting.
 - b) In the event the General Meeting does not elect sufficient persons to fill the executive, the general meeting may nominate suitable godly candidates to fill vacancies. These candidates shall be required to agree with the aims and doctrinal basis of the Union, and shall be required to be students at Macquarie University for the term of their election. They shall require a two-third majority to be elected.
- iii) All executive members shall agree wholeheartedly and sign their agreement with the Doctrinal Basis.
- iv) The executive shall have the power to fill casual vacancies at any stage.
- v) A member of the executive shall be removed from office by resolution of a General Meeting if they are in disagreement with or continually acting contrary to, despite reproach, the aims or doctrinal basis of the Union.
- vi) The quorum for executive meetings shall be two thirds of the number of elected members.
- vii) The committee may regulate the conduct of its member and GM's by the adoption of standing orders.

Clause 6. Governing Principles

1. The principles of the Union shall be entirely interdenominational.
2. The activities of the Union shall further its aims and shall not compromise the distinctly evangelical witness of the Union to the gospel of Christ.
3. The Union shall establish affiliation with A.F.E.S
4.
 - a) The Union may establish affiliation with Macquarie University Students Council.
 - b) The Union may establish affiliation with Macquarie University Union Ltd (SAM).
5. Persons may be asked to take part in any meeting of the Union or represent it only if their views are known to be in agreement with the doctrinal basis.

Clause 7. Relation with individuals and other societies

Activities may be arranged with other societies or clubs with a basis equivalent to that of the Union and with individuals and other societies when the executive has resolved :-

1. That the proposed activity furthers the objectives of the Union.
2. That the distinctive evangelical witness of the Union to the gospel of Christ is not compromised.
3. That the participants representing the Union both positively uphold the Doctrinal Basis and are publicly to represent the Union.

Other than activities of this kind, no joint arrangements are to be undertaken with societies or clubs who do not uphold the Doctrinal Basis.

Clause 8. Finance

1. The treasurer shall keep accounts of all monies received and spent by the Union. Such accounts are to be audited annually and presented to the AGM.
3. Bank accounts shall be opened in the name of Christian Union and any two of the Treasurer, President, Vice President and Secretary shall have the authority to operate the same.
4. The Union shall operate as a non-profit, religious organisation with respect to taxation law in Australia.
5. No member of the Executive of the Union shall be appointed to any salaried office paid by fees. No remuneration or other benefits in money or monies worth shall be given to any member of the executive of the Union, except as repayment for out-of-pocket expenses, proper rent for premises let to the Union, reasonable payment for professional services provided to the Union, or interest at a rate

not exceeding the standard cash rate for the duration of any loan provided by the member of the executive to the Union.

Clause 9. Reporting

1. The president shall table at each general committee of the AFES a report of the activities of the Union for the past year and a list of current members.
2. The secretary shall notify the AFES General Secretary of the names and addresses of the executive within 14 days of election. Additionally, the secretary shall notify the Australian Taxation Office of the names and addresses of the executive within 14 days of the start of their term.
3. The Annual Report for the AFES General Committee, a list of the current members and the names and addresses of the incoming executive shall be sent to the AFES Sydney Area Committee Secretary.
4. The president shall table amendments to this constitution at the first subsequent AFES general committee.

Clause 10. Amendments

This constitution shall not be altered unless the following requirements are complied with:

1. Notice of proposed alterations are circulated to members for at least one month prior to the general meeting called to deal with such alterations.
2. Amendments to this constitution shall require a two-thirds majority vote at a General Meeting.