

# CONSTITUTION OF ISU CHINESE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

## ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of this campus organization shall be ISU Chinese Christian Fellowship; here and after referred to as ICCF. We are a religious organization at Iowa State University.

## ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

### Section 1: Purpose

The purpose of ICCF is to fulfill the Great Commission of Jesus Christ (Matthew 28:19-20) by:

- 1) Sharing the Christ-centered, grace-and-faith-based gospel in the Bible with the Iowa State University community, particularly Chinese-speaking students, faculty, staff, and their family members and friends;
- 2) Helping Christians grow into Christlikeness to glorify God and Jesus Christ;
- 3) Helping Christians face challenges in all aspects of their lives by the grace of God and the power of the Holy Spirit;
- 4) Helping Christians and non-Christians connect to the local church.

### Section 2: Statement of Faith

- 1) We believe in the one, true and living God, eternally co-existing in three persons: God the Father, God the Son Jesus Christ, and God the Holy Spirit.
- 2) We believe in God, the Father, the Creator, Ruler, and Sustainer of the heavens and the earth and everything therein.
- 3) We believe in God, the Son, Jesus Christ, conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He is fully God and fully man. He died, resurrected on the third day, and ascended to heaven to sit at the right hand of God. We believe in the personal return of our Lord Jesus Christ to reign on the earth, to defeat Satan's power over earth, and to establish his eternal kingdom in the new heaven and new earth.
- 4) We believe in God, the Holy Spirit, co-existent with the Father and Son. His ministry is to convict man of sin, to regenerate believing sinners, to indwell believers, to lead God's children into the Truth, and to empower Christians to witness the supernatural life of Jesus Christ on earth.
- 5) We believe that the Holy Bible is the divinely inspired infallible Word of God, the complete revelation of God's salvation for man, His eternal purpose, and the divine and final authority for all aspects of the Christian life.
- 6) We believe that the Church is the Body of Christ and His Witness on earth, and Christ is the head of the Church.
- 7) We believe that man was created in the image and likeness of God, but in Adam, all men have fallen into sin and death, and can be saved only through the salvation of Jesus Christ.

### Section 3: The Christ-Centered, Grace-and-Faith-Based Gospel in the Bible

- 1) We believe that God has completed salvation for mankind through Christ's birth under the Law, growing up as a man, obeying everything required of the Law, dying on the cross, resurrection, ascension into heaven, and sitting at the right hand of God as the high priest on behalf of those who believe in Him. The central purpose of this salvation is for man to receive God's image and likeness through Christ and, as a result, to live the life of the Son of God to glorify the Father.

- (Eph 1:10; Gal 4:4; Matt 5:17-18; John 19:28-30; Rom 4:25; Gal 5:24-25; Rom 5:18-19; Heb 5:1; Heb 10:12-14; Heb 9:24; Eph 2:5-6; Heb 2:10-11; Gen 1:26)
- 2) We believe that, to receive the salvation from God, man has to be enlightened by the Holy Spirit; he/she also must be willing to forsake the fallen, self-centered adamic life. Spiritual regeneration happens when a person receives God's Word by heart instead of merely intellectually. (John 16:7-8; 1Cor 12:3; Matt 4:17; Rom 3:19-22; Luke 9:23-24; John 5:24-25; 1Pet 1:23; Rom 10:9-10; Rom 10:17; John 1:12-13; 1John 5:18; John 10:27)
  - 3) We believe that the inner life (i.e., the born-again spirit) of a born-again Christian is completely renewed at spiritual regeneration. The born-again spirit is one with Christ and has the perfect life and power of the resurrected Christ. However, the mind, emotions, external life, and habits of the Christian need to be renewed over time according to God's Word and Spirit. (Rom 8:15; Gal 4:6; 1Cor 6:17; 2Tim 1:7; Col 2:9-10; John 1:12-13; John 3:6; 1John 3:9; 2Cor 5:17; Gal 2:20; Rom 12:1-2; Col 3:9-10)
  - 4) We believe that, because Christians are joint-heirs with Christ, God has bestowed on them every spiritual blessing (i.e., grace, including righteousness from God, all blessings, holiness, godly nature, unconditional love and acceptance of God, healing, wisdom, power, etc.) (Gal 4:6-7; Eph 3:6; Rom 8:32; Gal 3:7-9; John 1:16-17; 2Cor 8:9; 1Pet 1:10-11; Eph 1:3-4; 2Pet 1:3-4; 1Cor 1:30; 2Cor 6:2; Heb 8:12-13; Matt 4:23; Heb 13:8; Ps 103:2-3; Matt 8:16-17; Acts 10:38)
  - 5) We believe that true faith comes from God and Jesus Christ and is received by the human heart when a person receives revelation of the Word of God by the Holy Spirit. True faith is not a product of human will power but supernatural work of the Holy Spirit in the human heart. We believe that only by God-given faith can a Christian receive and experience God's grace. True faith will produce fruit promised by God's Word in a person's thoughts, words, deeds, and external life. (Heb 12:2; Eph 6:23; 2Pet 1:1; Rom 10:17; Rom 10:8; Rom 10:10; Eph 1:17-19; 1Cor 2:13-14; Matt 8:13; Heb 6:12; Heb 4:1-3; Jas 1:5-8; Rom 4:16-24; Matt 17:14-21; John 15:5; Col 1:6; Phil 1:11; Heb 4:9-11; Luke 6:45)
  - 6) We believe that God establishes relationship to and interacts with man through Jesus Christ, according to the faith of Christ and the faith of Christians that is received from God and Christ, not according to their works. True faith, however, brings good fruit to a Christian's life naturally. (John 14:6; 1Tim 2:5; Rom 5:1-2; Eph 2:8-9; Heb 11:6; Heb 10:38; Rom 3:22-23; Gal 2:16; Rom 11:6; Rom 14:23; 2Tim 1:9; Jas 2:17; Gal 3:23-25; Phil 3:9)
  - 7) We believe that the growth of a born-again Christian happens through the revelation of God's Word by the Holy Spirit in the heart. The faith produced by the revealed Word of God will enable him/her by the power of the Holy Spirit to live out the perfect life of Christ that he/she received at spiritual regeneration. (Rom 12:1-2; John 16:13-14; John 15:1-5; John 17:17; Heb 11:6; 1Cor 13:13; 1Tim 1:5; Rom 1:16-17; 1Cor 6:11; 2Pet 1:3-7)

### **ARTICLE III. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE**

#### **Section 1:**

ICCF abides by and supports established Iowa State University policies, State and Federal Laws and follows local ordinances and regulations.

#### **Section 2:**

ICCF agrees to annually complete President's Training, Treasurer's Training and Advisor Training (if required).

### **ARTICLE IV. NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT**

ICCF does not discriminate on the basis of genetic information, pregnancy, physical or mental disability, race, ethnicity, sex, color, religion, national origin, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender

identity, or status as a U.S Veteran. However, as a religious organization, we operate with a Statement of faith and do allow for and encourage discussion and debate of issues surrounding our statement and the grace-and-faith-based gospel.

## **ARTICLE V. MEMBERSHIP**

### **Section 1: General Membership**

All meetings and activities of ICCF are open to all registered students, faculty, and staff at Iowa State University, as well as their spouses and interested members of the community. Anyone who desires to participate in the meetings and activities may become a general member.

### **Section 2: Voting Membership**

A. **Voting privilege** The voting membership consists of all general members who have accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Savior, who subscribe without reservation to the organization's Statement of Faith, and who have been in regular attendance of ICCF for at least six months.

B. **Unbecoming behavior or views** Voting members who exhibit behavior unbecoming of a Christian, or who maintain or advocate points of view regarding Christian belief and practice that are contrary to ICCF's Statement of Faith or the grace-and-faith-based gospel, will be dropped from voting membership until the behavior and/or views are corrected. The Executive Committee is responsible for revoking and reinstating voting membership privileges pursuant to this section. The Executive Committee members are authorized to identify whether a voting member's behavior is unbecoming of a Christian or whether such person's points of view are contrary to ICCF's Statement of Faith or the grace-and-faith-based gospel. Removal and reinstatement require a 2/3 majority vote of the Executive Committee members.

C. **Withdrawal of membership** Any member of ICCF can, at any time, voluntarily withdraw his/her membership from this campus organization.

### **Section 3: Regular Meetings**

Regular meetings of ICCF will be held weekly throughout the year at a time and place to be announced. Meetings are open to all students, faculty, staff, and members of the community.

### **Section 4: Special Meetings**

Special meetings the ICCF may be scheduled by the Executive Committee of ICCF.

### **Section 5: Quorum**

A quorum for committee and organizational business meetings shall be a majority of the existing qualified members.

## **ARTICLE VI. RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Executive Committee of the organization will appoint a risk management officer in conformity with the standards set forth by Iowa State University and Student Activities Center.

The role of the risk management officer is to [a] help minimize potential risks for club activities, [b] recommend risk management policies or procedures to ICCF, [c] to submit documentation to ISU's Risk Management Office and [d] to ensure that Iowa State University policies are followed at all of the

organization's events and [e] to ensure that proper waivers and background checks are on file with Risk Management for events (if applicable).

## **ARTICLE VII. OFFICERS**

### **Section 1: Executive Committee**

This committee shall consist of a President, a Treasurer, Adviser(s), and up to 10 additional executive committee members. A person may serve dual roles as an officer (or adviser) and executive committee members at the same time. All executive committee members are required to be in sincere agreement with the Faith Statement of ICCF and the grace-and-faith-based gospel of the Bible. Executive Committee members are obligated to conform to the Christian standards of conduct of ICCF, and to maintain and advocate views that are consistent with ICCF's Statement of Faith and the grace-and-faith-based gospel, to maintain their offices. The duties of the executive committee members are as follows:

#### ***President***

- Preside over all meetings
- Represent organization on campus
- Ensure that the organization is operating in conformity with the standards set forth by Iowa State University and Student Activities Center
- Maintain communication with organization adviser(s) and executive committee members

#### ***Treasurer***

- Maintain accurate record of organization transactions
- Develop organization budget and present to membership for  $\frac{3}{4}$  vote
- Cosign organization checks along with the Adviser
- Association in conjunction with the President

#### ***Adviser(s)***

- Maintain communication and meet with officer(s) regularly
- Awareness and approval of financial expenditures
- Ensure that the organization is operating in conformity with the standards set forth by Iowa State University and Student Activities Center

#### ***Executive Committee Members***

- Maintain communication and meet with officer(s) regularly
- Awareness and approval of financial expenditures
- Provide guidance to the organization according to purpose and Statement of Faith of ICCF

### **Section 2: Election of Officers and Term of Service**

The executive committee members (other than officers and faculty advisers) may be permanent or have a term of service designated by the executive committee by  $\frac{2}{3}$  vote. The existing Executive Committee will identify and nominate candidates of election from the voting membership for the President and Treasurer of ICCF. A person needs to receive  $\frac{2}{3}$  vote of the Executive Committee to be an eligible candidate. A majority vote of voting members is required for election. The term of office shall be one academic year. Elections for the upcoming year shall be held near the end of Spring semester at a meeting to be announced two weeks in advance.

### **Section 3: Removal of Officers, Adviser(s), or Executive Committee Members**

Officers, advisers, or executive committee members may be removed from office by  $\frac{2}{3}$  vote of the Executive Committee or  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the voting membership if his/her actions are deemed inappropriate by the

Executive Committee or voting membership. The officer is permitted to speak before the Executive Committee and the general membership about charges made regarding his/her performance. The officer is not permitted to participate in the deliberation of the Executive Committee regarding the charges.

#### Section 4: Replacement of Officers

Should an officer resign or be removed, a special election shall be held in a reasonably short period of time for the purpose of electing a replacement. The special election shall follow the procedures outlined above in Article VII, Section 2.

#### Section 5: Academic Requirements for student officers

The student officers of this organization must meet the following requirements:

(a) Be in good standing with the university and enrolled: at least half time (six or more credit hours), if an undergraduate student (unless fewer credits are required to graduate in the spring and fall semesters) during the term of office, and at least half time (four or more credits), if a graduate level student (unless fewer credits are required in the final stages of their degree as defined by the Continuous Registration Requirement) during their term of office.

(b) Have a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) as stated below and meet that minimum GPA in the semester immediately prior to the election/appointment, the semester of election/appointment and semesters during the term of office. For undergraduate, graduate, and professional students, the minimum GPA is 2.00. In order for this provision to be met, at least six hours (half-time credits) must have been taken for the semester under consideration.

(c) Be ineligible to hold an office should the student fail to maintain the requirements as prescribed in (a) and (b).

### **ARTICLE VIII. ADVISER(S)**

ICCF may have up to three faculty advisers. The term for an adviser will be three full years. The nomination, election, replacement of an adviser shall follow the procedures described above in Article VII. Sections 2–4. The duties of the adviser are as follows:

- 1) Maintain communication and meet with officer(s) regularly
- 2) Awareness and approval of financial expenditures
- 3) Ensure that the organization is operating in conformity with the standards set forth by Iowa State University and Student Activities Center

### **ARTICLE IX. FINANCES**

Section 1: Freewill offerings will be received for expenses.

Section 2: There will be no special assessments or dues.

Section 3: All monies belonging to this organization shall be deposited and dispersed through a bank account established for this organization at the Campus Organizations Accounting Office and/or approved institution/office (must receive authorization via Campus Organizations Accounting Office). All funds must be deposited within 48 hours after collection. The Adviser to this organization must approve and sign each expenditure before payment.

## **ARTICLE X. AMENDMENTS & RATIFICATION**

Amendments may be made to this constitution provided that the amendments are approved by the Executive Committee of ICCF, and subsequently receive 2/3 vote of the voting membership. A notice of such vote shall be posted two weeks in advance. By-laws may be added by the same procedure. Amended or ratified constitution will be submitted within 10 days to Student Activities Center for approval.