

**The Constitution  
of the  
Newman Theological College  
Students' Association**

Amended: April 9, 2008

## **Vision**

As followers of Jesus Christ, who are attending Newman Theological College, a Catholic post-secondary institution, our prime faith commitment is to serving the Trinitarian God whose mutual love we share. Second only to this is our faith commitment to serving one another, out of reciprocal love and respect. Our inspiration for this is from Matthew 22:37-40.

In Order to maintain this faith as a fresh and vigorous part of our lives, like salt that retains all the fullness of its flavor (Matthew 5:13), as a student body generally and as a students' association particularly, we adopt the goal of promoting and supporting an active participation in prayer and worship.

## **Mission**

In keeping with our Vision, we as a students' association will work together in a spirit of Christian consensus, characterized by an all-embracing inclusiveness, based upon mutual respect and acceptance. In this spirit, we give full recognition to the diverse and individual ways in which the light of Christ can shine within each of us to illumine and inspire the lives of those around us (Matthew 5: 14-16).

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## **Article I**

### ***Name***

- 1 The name of the organization shall be "The Newman Theological College Students' Association", hereinafter referred to as the NTCSA.

## **Article II**

### ***Interpretation***

- 2 In this Constitution, its bylaws, and any other official documents of the NTCSA,
  - (a) "College" refers to Newman Theological College;
  - (b) "member of the Executive" refers to any individual listed in section 15;
  - (c) "members" refers to all individuals included in section 4;
  - (d) "Council" refers to the NTCSA representative council;
  - (e) "Councillor" refers to a member elected to Council;
  - (f) "Executive" refers to the Executive Committee of the NTCSA as defined by **Article VII**;
  - (g) "students" means all individuals registered and enrolled at the College;
  - (h) "part-time" means all students in whose registration status is considered to be part-time by the College; and
  - (i) "full-time" means all students whose registration status is considered to be full-time by the College.

## **Article III**

### ***Objectives***

- 3 The objectives of the NTCSA shall be to
  - (a) provide official representation for members within the College and to external organizations;
  - (b) promote the general welfare of members;
  - (c) serve and further the spiritual, intellectual, cultural, community, and recreational life of members.

## **Article IV**

### ***Membership***

- 4 Membership in the NTCSA shall consist of the following individuals, as set out in the bylaws:
  - (a) all full-time and part-time students registered at the College and attending courses on campus;
  - (b) all part-time students registered at the College and not attending courses on Campus (including distance and online students and students on internship);
  - (c) all associate members as defined by the bylaws; and
  - (d) all honorary members as defined by the bylaws.

## **Article V**

### ***The Council of the NTCSA***

- 5 There shall be a Council of the NTCSA at which the resolutions and policies of the NTCSA shall be made.
- 6 The Council shall be responsible for:
  - (a) the general affairs of the NTCSA;
  - (b) all properties and funds of the NTCSA;
  - (c) the enforcement and interpretation of the Constitution, its bylaws, and motions of Council; and

- (d) the discipline of members of the NTCSA who do not abide by the Constitution, its bylaws, and motions of Council.
- 7 Council may delegate any of its powers, duties, and functions as it sees fit.
- 8 (1) Council shall consist of:
- (a) the Executive; and
  - (b) duly elected Councillors.
- (2) Councillors shall be elected annually and in accordance with the bylaws.
- 9 Council shall meet regularly in accordance with the bylaws.
- 10 (1) Quorum, as defined by the bylaws shall be present for any business to be conducted at a meeting of Council.
- (2) If quorum is not present at a meeting of Council, the Chair shall, after waiting a reasonable amount of time for a quorum to be present, adjourn the meeting.
- (3) Notwithstanding sections 10 (1) and (2), if at any meeting of Council a quorum is not present, the quorum for the subsequent meeting shall be the number of members of Council then present.
- 11 (1) All members of Council have the right to vote at meetings of the Council, except when a conflict of interest exists pursuant to the bylaws.
- (2) In any vote undertaken at a meeting of Council, each member is entitled to only one vote.
- 12 All members who are not members of Council have the right to attend all Council meetings as observers, except for executive sessions of Council.

#### **Article VI**

##### ***Meetings of the Membership of the NTCSA***

- 13 There shall be an annual general meeting of the membership of the NTCSA held in accordance with the bylaws.
- 14 An extraordinary general meeting of the membership of the NTCSA may be held if such meeting is called in accordance with the bylaws.

#### **Article VII**

##### ***The Executive Committee***

- 15 Only members of the NTCSA listed in section 4 (a) and (b) are eligible to be on the Executive.
- 16 The Executive shall consist of the following officers
- (a) President;
  - (b) Vice-President Academic;
  - (c) Vice-President Finance;
  - (d) Vice-President Spiritual Life;
  - (e) Vice-President Student Life.
- 17 (1) The duties of the Executive shall be outlined in the bylaws.
- (2) The Executive shall be empowered to act in place of the membership in dealing with routine business.
- (3) The members of the Executive, or their designates, are the sole representatives of the NTCSA.
- (4) The Executive shall hold regular meetings of the Executive in accordance with the bylaws.
- 18 The Executive shall be elected annually in accordance with the bylaws.
- 19 In the case of a vacancy on the Executive, a by-election shall be held, in accordance with the bylaws, as soon as reasonably possible.
- 20 Each member of the Executive shall hold office for the term provided for in the bylaws.
- 21 (1) A member of the Executive ceases to hold office when
- (a) he or she resigns; or
  - (b) is removed from office in accordance with section 22; or
  - (c) no longer meets the eligibility requirements under sections 4 (a) and (b).
- (2) A letter of resignation of a member of the Executive becomes effective at the time a written letter is sent to the Chair and to the membership, or at the time specified in the resignation, whichever is later.
- 22 (1) The President or Chair shall recommend to the membership for removal from office any member of the Executive who is absent during his or her term in office from three consecutive meetings unless prior notification was given to the President, the Chair, or their designates.
- (2) The membership has the right at any meeting, on seven calendar days Notice of Motion; to remove any member of the Executive by a two-thirds majority vote in favour of removal provided the motion passes at two consecutive meetings of Council.

- (3) For the purposes of sections **22** (1) and (2), any member of the Executive for which a vote for removal is to take place at a meeting, shall have a written Notice of Motion delivered to the individual at least seven calendar days prior to the meeting at which the vote will be held.
- (4) Any removal of a member of the Executive undertaken in accordance with sections **22** (1) and (2) shall take effect immediately.

#### **Article VIII**

##### ***The Speaker***

- 23** Council shall annually elect, in accordance with the bylaws, a Speaker to chair all meetings of Council and all general and special meetings of the NTCSA.
- 24** The duties of the Speaker shall be outlined in the bylaws.

#### **Article IX**

##### ***Committees of the NTCSA***

- 25** (1) The membership may, in accordance with the bylaws, establish any standing and *ad hoc* committees as it sees fit.
- (2) The Chair of any Committee who is not a member shall have speaking rights at meetings on matters pertaining to the Committee.

#### **Article X**

##### ***Fundamental Changes***

- 26** This Constitution may be amended by a simple majority vote of any duly constituted general meeting.
- 27** (1) The bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds majority vote in favour at any regularly constituted meeting or by a simple majority at any duly constituted general meeting.
- (2) For the purposes of section **27** (1), Notice of Motion must be sent to all members of Council at least seven calendar days prior to the meeting at which the amendment will be considered.
- (3) Amendments shall come into effect immediately upon being duly passed unless otherwise stated in the amendment.

#### **Article XI**

##### ***Appeal Jurisdiction***

- 28** (1) The membership may, with a simple majority vote in favour, decide to hear and vote on an appeal of any decisions made by the Executive and any committees duly established in accordance with this Constitution and its bylaws.
- (2) Notwithstanding section **33** (2), the membership shall be the final arbiter of all appeals concerning the:
  - (a) discipline of members who do not abide by the Constitution and its bylaws;
  - (b) interpretation of this Constitution, its bylaws, and motions; and
  - (c) enforcement of the Constitution and its bylaws, and motions.

#### **Article XII**

##### ***Finances of the NTCSA***

- 29** The fiscal year of the NTCSA shall be in accord with that of the College.
- 30** (1) The Vice-President Finance shall present a Financial Report to all members of the NTCSA at the annual general meeting.
- (2) The Executive shall submit for approval at the annual general meeting a budget for the coming fiscal year.
- (3) The approved budget shall be submitted to the College for its records after the annual general meeting.
- 31** (1) All budgeted and extra-budgetary expenditures by the NTCSA over one five hundred dollars must have the prior approval of Council.
- (2) All major extra-budgetary expenditures must be approved by a regularly constituted meeting of the Executive.
- (3) All minor extra-budgetary expenditures must be authorized by the Vice-President Finance and the Student Council President.
- (4) Honorariums are not to exceed \$150.00.
- 32** (1) The annual NTCSA membership fee shall be set out in the bylaws.
- (2) The annual NTCSA membership fee shall be collected by the College in September from each individual member.

#### **Article XIII**

##### ***Supremacy in Conflict***

- 33** (1) When a conflict arises between the Constitution and the bylaws or a motion of the membership, the Constitution shall reign supreme.
- (2) When a conflict arises between the bylaws and a motion of the membership, the bylaws shall reign supreme.
- (3) When a conflict arises between two or more provisions in the bylaws or between two or more provisions in motions of the membership, the membership shall have the authority, by a simple majority vote, to decide which provision shall reign supreme.