



PROSPECTIVE RELIGIOUS STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Religious student organizations may be chartered by Baylor University, effective fall 2008. This privilege has been granted by the Baylor University Board of Regents in compliance with a newly created policy (*available online at www.baylor.edu/student_activities/organizations/index.php?id=49954; in the Student Organization Policy & Procedure Guide, page 52; on reverse of this page*).

Prospective religious organizations applying for charter must submit the following documentation to the Department of Student Activities for review:

- An Application for Student Organization Charter
- A Constitution (signed by Advisor(s) and the President)
- A Roster
- A Statement of Faith (see below)
- A signed Affirmation of the Statement of Common Faith form (see next page)

Statement of Faith*

A statement of faith is a summary of the core beliefs of a religious group. Religious organizations without a formal affiliation with a particular church or church tradition are required to submit a statement of faith stating their core beliefs in concise language.

Your organization's statement of faith should address items including, but not be limited to:

- Jesus Christ and the role of His life, death, and resurrection
- The Trinity
- The role of the Bible
- Salvation
- The Church

Please ensure that your organization's statement of faith is a minimum of 100 words. Include your organization's statement of faith with the above listed documentation when submitted to the Department of Student Activities for consideration.

**Please note that your organization's materials, including the statement of faith, will be reviewed by the Baylor University Religious Affairs Committee, the Department of Student Activities, the Dean for Student Development, the Chaplain, the Vice President for Student Life and the President of the University.*

Baylor University Policy for Religious Organizations

Baylor University is controlled by an all-Baptist Board of Regents and is operated within the Christian-oriented aims and ideals of Baptists. Baylor also is affiliated with the Baptist General Convention of Texas, a cooperative association of autonomous Texas Baptist churches. As such, Baptist Student Ministries is the foundational religious organization of Baylor University. Additionally, understanding that members of the Baylor student body are members of other Christian denominations or seek Christian fellowship in a general way, Baylor may charter and grant official recognition to other Christian groups according to the process outlined below.

Process for chartering religious organizations:

The potential organization must submit an application for recognition, a constitution, a registration form, and a roster (i.e., the same requirements as all student organizations). Additionally, religious organizations requesting charter must:

- 1) affirm their consonance with the basic tenets of the Statement of Common Faith included herein

and

- 2) submit a statement of their faith.

Requests for charter will be reviewed by the Religious Affairs Committee. After reviewing all of the materials submitted, the Religious Affairs Committee will make a recommendation to the Vice President for Student Life concerning the approval or disapproval of charter. If the Religious Affairs Committee recommends a charter, the Vice President for Student Life will consult with the President of the University before making a final decision.

In order to maintain a charter, the leadership of the organization must operate the organization in a manner consistent with the policies and procedures of the University, including submission of a registration form and current roster each year (i.e., the same requirements for all student organizations). Additionally, the campus minister affiliated with the organization or senior officer of the organization must be an active member of the Community of Campus Ministers (CCM).

Statement of Common Faith

We believe in the one living God, the Creator of heaven and earth, revealed in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We believe in Jesus Christ, the Word become flesh, fully God and fully human, who died for us and was raised from the dead and ascended into heaven. Christ's return will complete God's redemptive mission. We believe in the Holy Spirit, God's presence with us, who leads us to grow in faith.

We believe that the Bible is the divinely inspired authority for life and faith. We believe that humans were created in the image of God. Because humans have sinned from the beginning, they are separated from God and stand in need of redemption. Salvation comes by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. We believe that the church is the gathered community of believers, serving as the body of Christ in the world.

Approved by the Baylor University Board of Regents 2/8/08



AFFIRMATION OF THE BAYLOR UNIVERSITY STATEMENT OF COMMON FAITH

Organization Name (printed): _____

Affirmation of the Baylor University Statement of Common Faith

We believe in the one living God, the Creator of heaven and earth, revealed in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We believe in Jesus Christ, the Word become flesh, fully God and fully human, who died for us and was raised from the dead and ascended into heaven. Christ's return will complete God's redemptive mission. We believe in the Holy Spirit, God's presence with us, who leads us to grow in faith.

We believe that the Bible is the divinely inspired authority for life and faith. We believe that humans were created in the image of God. Because humans have sinned from the beginning, they are separated from God and stand in need of redemption. Salvation comes by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. We believe that the church is the gathered community of believers, serving as the body of Christ in the world.

By signing below, you are making a formal affirmation that the proposed religious student organization's statement aligns with the Baylor University Statement of Common Faith and will not, in any future renditions, depart from the spirit of the Statement of Common Faith.

We affirm that the tenets and theological beliefs of our religious student organization align with the Baylor University Statement of Common Faith.

Advisor Name (printed): _____

Advisor signature: _____ Date: _____

President Name (printed): _____

President signature: _____ Date: _____

Chaplain (or equivalent) Name (printed): _____

Chaplain signature: _____ Date: _____