

Preamble

We, Christian students following in the Lutheran tradition, recognizing our identity in the Christian faith as confessed by the Lutheran churches, and living in creative and dynamic relationship with those churches, frame this Constitution to create, empower, and encourage a faithful witness to the Good News of Jesus Christ in the ever-changing academic community. It is our purpose to enable and facilitate that faithful witness and service to which God calls local communities of faith in the world of higher education.

Article I-Name

The name of this organization shall be _____.

Article II-Purpose

The objectives of this organization shall be:

- A. To facilitate and enhance the understanding of the Gospel of Jesus Christ in its implications for the professional and occupational life of the believers in the world, and especially in the sphere of higher education;
- B. To enable and enlighten participation of believers in the serving ministry of Christ in the world;
- C. To encourage active participation in the life and mission of the Lutheran churches;
- D. To provide programs to meet the educational, fellowship, and recreational needs of members of the organization;
- E. To communicate and cooperate with fellow Christians in ecumenical concerns, and to provide opportunities for encounter with and witness to non-Christian persons and groups.
- F. To provide and encourage involvement with Lutheran Student Movement in the United States of America, referred to as LSM-USA.

Article III-Membership

Membership in this organization shall consist of:

- A. Any part-time or full-time _____ student, graduate or undergraduate, according to official records, shall be eligible as a voting member of this organization and may hold office.
- B. Associate members may be persons other than students, as this organization reaches out to all. However, the associate members may not vote nor may they hold office.

- C. Members, both official and associate, may be entitled to any benefits resulting from the objectives of the organization

Article IV-Officers

The make-up of the executive body of this organization shall be:

- A. The officers of this organization shall consist of a president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer; or as determined by the needs of the organization and the local staff.
- B. The presiding officer of the executive committee shall be the president, followed by the vice president, secretary and the treasurer.
- C. Officers will be elected by the voting members of the community, having first been nominated; casting one vote each and a majority shall constitute victory.
- D. The election of officers for this organization shall take place in the spring, prior to the end of the school year, with the newly elected officers taking office from the beginning of the fall semester until the end of the spring semester.

Article V-Meetings

The meetings of the members shall be handled as follows:

- A. The members of this organization shall meet at least once a year to elect the executive officers.
- B. Other meetings may be called by the staff or by the executive committee to vote on matters of finance, amendments and other matters.

The meetings of the elected members of the executive committee shall be handled as follows:

- A. Members of the executive committee shall meet as often as necessary to meet the needs of the organization.
- B. Meetings will include the staff of the local organization.
- C. Members of the executive committee may also serve as liaisons between students of the organization and members of the board of directors, which hire staff, etc.

In addition to formal meetings of the members, this organization may offer meetings of, but not limited to, the types:

- A. Fellowship (social) events
- B. Bible Studies
- C. Service Projects
- D. Retreats

Article VI-Sponsors, Advisors

The staff/sponsor of the organization will help to facilitate programs, plan events, and advise the executive committee. This will be achieved as follows:

- A. If at a partner congregation, this organization is sponsored through _____ Lutheran Church.
- B. If at a campus center, this organization is sponsored through _____.

Article VII-Committees

There will be, but not limited to, the following standing committees. Any official member of the organization will be eligible to serve on any committee.

- A. Evangelism and Outreach
- B. Program
- C. Service
- D. Communication

Article VIII-Dues

Dues will be collected on _____. The members of this organization will also commit to pledging financial support, as well as other means of support to the _____ region of LSM-USA, the national body of LSM-USA, and the national Church.

Article IX-Handling of Funds

All funds are to be handled through _____ Bank or _____ Church, with a specific designation for the organization.

Article X-Amendments

All amendments need to have a two-third's vote of the official member present. A reasonable attempt should be made to contact all members of the local organization.

September 25, 2000

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed document is a model constitution for local Lutheran Student Movement (LSM) affiliates. It is not a finite list of all the things a local affiliate might be required by their site to have in their constitution and by-laws. It is merely a document that is designed to be a catalyst for discussion on the needs of the local affiliate. Local chapters may wish to include other articles and exclude present articles listed within this document. It is the wish of the National Council that this will serve to begin discussions on the vision and mission of each local ministry.

In God's Name,

Thomas Saul
Rocky Mountain Region Representative
Reference and Counsel/Elections and Credentials Committee, Chairperson