**CONSTITUTION OF THE CHRISTIAN SOCIAL WORK FELLOWSHIP OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK**

**Article I-Name**

The name of this nondenominational organization shall be the Christian Social Work Fellowship (CSWF) of the University of Maryland School of Social Work.

**Article II-Statement of Faith**

This organization is committed to the following beliefs and tenets of the Christian faith, around which all meetings and activities shall be centered:

1. One true God, Creator of the Universe, Who always was and will be (John 1:1-3; Hebrews 13:8).

2. The Trinity: God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Matthew 3:13-17).

3. The virgin birth of Jesus Christ (Matthew 1:16-25), His death on the cross (Matthew 27:45-56), burial (Matthew 27:57-66), resurrection (Matthew 28:1-20), and ascension back to heaven (Mark 16:19-20).

4. God’s having sent His only Son Jesus to die on the cross in order to make a way of salvation from sin for all people (John 3:16).

5. Accepting Jesus Christ as Savior as the only way to eternal life in heaven after this earthly life (John 1:12; John 14:6; Acts 4:12).

6. The second coming of Christ to establish His new kingdom (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; 1 Corinthians 15:51-57; John 14: 1-3).

7. The Holy Bible (NJK, NIV, NAS, KJ) as the only inspired and infallible Word of God (2 Timothy 3: 16-17; Hebrew 4: 12-13; Revelation 22: 18-19).

**Article III-Purpose**

The purpose of CSWF shall be:

1. To promote the spiritual growth of members through prayer and Bible study during meetings.

2. To provide support, fellowship, and encouragement to social work students and any other interested persons or groups.

3. To help meet human and spiritual needs at the School of Social Work and the local community through volunteer outreach programs.

4. To help balance the spiritual needs and concerns of students with the demands of the social work profession.

5. To serve as a voice by which the issues and concerns of Christians in social work shall be addressed.

6. To follow Christ’s example in showing compassion without judgment, and in seeking social justice for those who do not have a voice.

**Article IV-Membership**

Any student or faculty member of the University of Maryland School of Social Work, regardless of religious affiliation, may join CSWF at any time during the year. Participants shall be aware of the organization’s statement of faith. The membership shall remain informal. School of Social Work alumni who wish to continue participation in CSWF may do so.

**Article V-Duties and Responsibilities of Leaders**

There shall be co-leaders who can either be appointed or elected to be responsible for upholding the Constitution of CSWF and interpreting and translating the contents of the Constitution of CSWF to the members of CSWF and to the University of Maryland community. Co-leaders duties shall be:

1. To conduct group meetings at least twice a month throughout the academic year consisting of prayer, Bible study and discussion, and any important business. Group leaders shall meet together as often as necessary.

2. To act as the official representatives/spokespersons for CSWF.

3. To maintain communication with the Student Government Association of the School of Social Work and attend monthly general SGA meetings. Leaders may alternate attendance at these meetings.

4. To delegate and appoint duties and responsibilities to other members.

5. To plan and coordinate special events, such as forums and outreach activities, for the School of Social Work and the campus.

6. To publicize all events and meetings to the student body using at least two forms of communication.

7. To have communication with other Christian fellowships within the University of Maryland.

8. To form partnerships with other Christian organizations with the approval of the CSWF Advisor and agreement of members.

9. To designate and document appropriate usage of organizational funds as approved by SGA, with input of members. Budgets should be proposed in writing to SGA at the beginning of each semester.

10. To revise CSWF Constitution as needed, with approval of Advisor and members, and submit to SGA at the beginning of fall semester.

11. To submit minutes from each CSWF meeting to SGA, if so requested.

**Article VI-Faculty Advisor**

Whenever necessary, the acting leaders shall have the power to nominate a faculty member to serve as Advisor to CSWF. A full membership majority (2/3) shall be obtained to approve the nomination.

Upon acceptance of the nomination, the Advisor shall act as an intermediary between the University of Maryland School of Social Work administration and CSWF. The advisor shall provide guidance for the group on spiritual and organizational matters. The Advisor is invited to attend all CSWF functions, events, and meetings. While not responsible for leading group meetings, the Advisor may do so periodically as willing and able.

**Article VII-Finances**

CSWF shall receive a designated amount of money each semester from student activity fees paid by each student of the School of Social Work. The CSWF may utilize their funds only if a proposed semester budget and current Constitution have been submitted to SGA. The SGA treasurer shall hold all CSWF funds until the organization submits appropriate documents (e.g. itemized receipts, attendance sheets, SGA reimbursement forms and agenda) for reimbursement. The members of CSWF shall be informed of fund usage, and a record of expenses will be kept.

**Article VIII-Amendments to the Constitution**

All members of CSWF are eligible to propose amendments to the Constitution. Proposed amendments to this Constitution shall be announced to the group prior to being voted upon. Voting shall be simple majority (2/3) of those present at the meeting.

**CHRISTIAN SOCIAL WORK FELLOWSHIP BYLAWS**

**UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK**

**Article I: Officer Duties**

1. Chair(s) – facilitate fellowship meetings, events, speakers; serve as SGA representative; correspond with CSWF advisor and community members to maximize the fellowship experience. CSWF can have more than one chair, making two or more “co-chairs.”

2. Secretary – take meeting minutes and email all members; keep updated records of membership and CSWF communications; coordinate event/meeting catering

3. Treasurer – coordinate all funding appropriations, fill out necessary funding paperwork and assist with funding updates regarding event proposals and other CSWF supplies and sponsorships

4. All officers can help the others out, but are primarily responsible for their duties as stated.

**Article II: Member Duties**

Members are expected to support one another, and actively participate in fellowship meetings, social events, and service projects.

**Article III: Miscellaneous Matters**

CSWF encourages interdisciplinary exchange between other fellowships and student groups on campus, and welcomes opportunities for community involvement.

**Updated Fall-2011**