***Tzu Chi Collegiate Association at Ohio State***

***CONSTITUTION***

April 21, 2022

# ARTICLE I: NAME

1. The name of this club shall be “Tzu Chi Collegiate Association at Ohio State.”
2. Its abbreviation shall be “OSU Tzu Ching” (OSUTC). Tzu Ching means “youths with compassion and joyous giving”.
3. OSUTC is a chapter of the Buddhist Compassion Relief Tzu Chi America Collegiate Network.

# ARTICLE II: TZU-CHING MISSION

To practice Buddhist principles of compassion and wisdom through carrying out the charitable works of Tzu Chi (charity, medicine, education, culture, international relief, bone marrow data bank, environmental protection, community service). Through practice, purify others’ mind and bring positive influences to the community.

# ARTICLE III: PURPOSE

To carry out Master Cheng Yen’s teaching of compassion and wisdom from the bonding and interaction among individuals.

# ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP

1. Membership in the Ohio State University Tzu Chi Youth Buddhist Compassion Relief Organization will be equally available to all students.
2. Nondiscrimination Statement: This organization does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, protected veteran status, or any other bases under the law, in its activities, programs, admission, and employment.
3. Members should follow the 10 Tzu Chi Precepts listed below:
   1. Do not kill (any kinds of living creatures)
   2. Do not steal
   3. Do not fornicate
   4. Do not speak falsely
   5. Do not take intoxicants
   6. Do not smoke; do not take illicit drugs
   7. Do not gamble; do not speculate
   8. Be filial to your parents, be moderate in speech and attitude, and be correct and proper in manners and bearing
   9. Abide by traffic laws
   10. Do not participate in politics or demonstrations
4. To receive uniform, all members must have completed 10 hours of community service and 10 hours of humanistic culture. In addition, all members must attend a training session in order to receive the uniform, once received must follow the precepts listed in clause 2.
5. Clause 3 is true with exceptions to special circumstances, which must be reviewed and approved by OSUTC Advisor.
6. Any general member of this organization may be impeached if 25% of members sign a petition of impeachment. The accused will have a review meeting conducted by the Faculty Advisor and the other Executive Board members. After the review of the officer in question, the Faculty Advisor will present their recommendation. A final vote of 2/3 of all members would result in the removal of the individual or officer.

**ARTICLE V: OSUTC OFFICERS**

1. Follow all OSUTC members’ rules
2. Attend at least 80% of all local OSUTC activities
3. Be updated with Tzu Chi and OSUTC information (i.e. monthly Tzu Chi magazine and newsletter, tapes, books, Tzu Chi songs and sign language, etc.)
4. Recommended they attend a US national meeting, camp/training in the US and/or Taiwan

**ARTICLE VI: OSUTC OFFICERS’ RESPONSIBILITIES**

1. **President**
   1. The President shall be the official representative of the group to any other organization and to the Ohio State University.
   2. The President will preside over all meetings.
   3. The President will facilitate discussion between Tzu Ching members, alumni, advisors, and Columbus Tzu Chi members.
2. **Vice President**
   1. The Vice President will send out the weekly newsletter to all the students on the listserv each week.
   2. Should the President be absent for a period of time (ex. vacation, study abroad), Vice President will assume the President’s responsibilities for that time period.
   3. Assists Events Coordinator in creating activity sign up forms.
3. **Treasurer**

Responsible for all finances, record keeping and documentation of the meeting process.

1. **Secretary**
   1. It is the duty of the Secretary to keep updated minutes of all meetings of the organization.
   2. The Secretary will be responsible for maintaining a membership list of all official members.

5. **Social Media Coordinator**

a. Manages the social media accounts and advertises organization events.

1. **Events Coordinator**
   1. Responsible for coordinating events, and sending out event and transportation emails.
   2. Aid Vice President and Documentation Lead when needed.

**ARTICLE VII: ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

* + 1. All officer candidates must have received uniform. Exceptions can be made to this depending on the need and availability of uniformed members.
    2. Both president and vice president need to be a member for at least one semester, also participate in at least two Tzu Ching events.
    3. Elections of officers shall occur in March of the spring semester. The time and location of election meeting will be announced in advance. All candidates must prepare a brief speech to explain their qualifications.
    4. Quorum for elections is the executive board being present.
    5. Each member has only one vote per available officer position. The number of votes of nominated officers is announced at the end of election.
    6. Any members are elected if he or she wins a majority of the voting members.
    7. If more than two people are running and no one wins a majority, then the person with the fewest votes is dropped from the ballot and votes are recast.
    8. Absentee ballots can be cast only under special circumstances accepted by all officers.

**ARTICLE VIII: VOTING POWER OF OFFICERS**

1. Officers retain voting right.

**ARTICLE IX: RULES FOR ACTIVITIES**

1. Activities must be related to the eight missions of Tzu Chi; should include Tzu Chi spirit (have the purpose of bringing out Tzu Chi’s principles).
2. Should not hold social or religious events unaffiliated with Tzu Chi (i.e. karaoke, dance, party, religious ceremonies). Must consult with OSUTC advisor on controversial issues regarding activities.
3. Whenever the name OSUTC is used for club events, officers must wear uniform. Members without uniform should wear long pants with light color (white color) and light-blue polo shirt, or the Tzu Chi volunteer vest. (These clothing must be proper).
4. During Tzu Chi (or OSUTC) activities, the food served must be vegetarian.
5. Bonding activities should abide by Tzu Chi precepts.
6. Maintain activity report.

**ARTICLE X: REQUIREMENTS FOR WEARING THE TC UNIFORM**

1. Must wear white pants with uniform during formal events.
2. Must wear white shoes and white socks.
3. Should not wear excessive jewelry (big earrings, bracelets, ring, necklace).
4. Button all buttons on the shirt; the shirt (uniform) should be tucked inside the pants.
5. When wearing the uniform, should only eat vegetarian food.
6. Must not engage in improper acts.

**ARTICLE XI: AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION**

1. Amendments to the constitution should be approved by the OSUTC advisor.