

FCO CONSTITUTION

Article I - NAME

Section 1. The name of this organization is Fellowship of Christian Optometrists in the Ohio State University College of Optometry.

Article II - DOCTRINAL BASIS

Section 1. The Basis of Faith of this organization will be the basic Biblical truths of Christianity:

The only true God, the almighty Creator of all things, existing eternally in three persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—full of love and glory.

The unique divine inspiration, entire trustworthiness and authority of the Bible.

The value and dignity of all people: created in God's image to live in love and holiness, but alienated from God and each other because of our sin and guilt, and justly subject to God's wrath.

Jesus Christ, fully human and fully divine, who lived as a perfect example, who assumed the judgment due sinners by dying in our place, and who was bodily raised from the dead and ascended as Savior and Lord.

Justification by God's grace to all who repent and put their faith in Jesus Christ alone for salvation.

The indwelling presence and transforming power of the Holy Spirit, who gives to all believers a new life and a new calling to obedient service.

The unity of all believers in Jesus Christ, manifest in worshipping and witnessing churches making disciples throughout the world.

The victorious reign and future personal return of Jesus Christ, who will judge all people with justice and mercy, giving over the unrepentant to eternal condemnation but receiving the redeemed into eternal life.

To God be glory forever.

Section 2. All officers of this organization, leaders of Bible study groups and speakers must subscribe to the above Basis of Faith.

Article III - PURPOSE STATEMENT

Section 1.

- To help optometrists and allied ophthalmic personnel become established in the type of mission work which combines eye care and the furtherance of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ as described in Luke 24:47 and Acts 1:8. This is the primary purpose for which the organization was founded. All activities serve to support this central purpose.
- To promote, further, and maintain fellowship among optometrists and others in the ophthalmic professions who believe in the Gospel of Jesus Christ as recorded in Scriptures.
- To encourage one another in accordance with Ephesians 4:11-13 and 1 Thessalonians 5:11-22.
- To foster handling of the Word in accordance with 2 Timothy 2:15
- To provide optometric and ophthalmic services for poor and needy persons in both the United States and foreign countries, on a charitable basis and not for pecuniary profit.
- To establish, maintain and operate educational training programs and clinics in optometry and allied ophthalmic fields for students of optometry and allied ophthalmic fields and who are members or or affiliated with FCO, International.

Article IV - MEMBERSHIP AND PARTICIPATION

Section 1. Membership and participation in this organization is open to all students and faculty members.

Article V - MEETINGS

Section 1. Meetings for Bible study and prayer will be held at times decided by the members.

Section 2. Other meetings for the discussion and presentation of matters pertaining to the life and purposes of the organization will be held as occasion warrants.

Article VI - ORGANIZATION LEADERSHIP

Section 1. Organization leaders represent both the Executive Committee and general membership. They are elected from the ranks of the organization's voting membership.

Section 2. The leadership of this organization will consist of an executive committee.

Section 3. The general responsibilities of the leadership of this chapter are:

- a. To carry out the purpose, general policies, and program of this organization.
- b. To call an annual meeting for the selection of new leadership and to evaluate the various activities of the year.
- c. To be responsible for the continuance of this organization from year to year.

Section 4. The required leadership positions for FCO include but are not limited to:

Primary Leader (President)

- Responsible for leading the organization, setting goals, and ensuring its overall vision aligns with both the profession of optometry and Christian values. The president ensures that the club maintains a strong sense of community, purpose, and commitment to both the optometry profession and Christian faith.

Secondary Leader

- Assists the president in leading the organization and plays a key role in ensuring the club's activities reflect both professional and Christian values. The secondary leader plays a vital role in ensuring smooth operation of the club while helping to create a supportive, faith-driven environment for members.

Treasurer

- Responsible for managing the club's finances and ensuring the financial health and accountability of the organization. The treasurer ensures that the club's resources are effectively managed, supporting the growth of the organization while maintaining financial integrity and alignment with the club's Christian mission.

Advisor

- Provides guidance, support, and mentorship to the club's leadership and members. The advisor provides invaluable support in maintaining the integrity of the club, offering both spiritual and professional advice to ensure the club fulfills its mission in a way that honors both God and the optometry profession.

Article VII SELECTION OF LEADERSHIP

Section 1. The Selection Committee will consist of the Executive Committee and any other leaders whom the Executive Committee feels would be helpful for the process.

Section 2. The Selection Committee will receive recommendations for new leaders from members of the chapter.

Section 3. The Selection Committee will be responsible to see that all prospective leaders subscribe to the organization's Doctrinal Basis and Purpose Statement as stated in Articles II and III.

Section 4. New leaders will be selected on an annual basis by the selection committee for a term of one year.

Section 5. Leaders who are not fulfilling their obligations to the detriment of the group may be removed by a general consensus of the leadership of the organization (or a two-thirds vote of the committed membership)

Article VIII - CONSTITUTION AND AMENDMENTS

Section 1. This constitution will be adopted with a general consensus of the leadership of the organization (or a two-thirds vote of the committed membership).

Section 2. This constitution may be amended by a general consensus of the leadership of the organization (or a two-thirds vote of the committed membership), providing that no change is made in Article II and Article III.

Section 3. Amendments to this constitution will not become valid until a copy of said amendment has been placed in the office of the OSU Student Union for the College of Optometry.

Article IX - NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

Section 1. This organization and its members shall not discriminate against any individual(s) for reasons of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, and protected veteran status.

Section 2. Any member who is not abiding by the general doctrine guidelines to the detriment of

the group may be removed by a general consensus of the leadership of the organization (or a two-thirds vote of the committed membership)

Article X MEMBER REMOVAL CRITERIA AND PROCESS

Section 1. If a member engages in behavior that is detrimental to advancing the purpose of this organization, violates the organization's constitution or by-laws, or violates the Code of Student Conduct, university policy, or federal, state or local law, the member may be removed through a majority vote of the officers in consultation with the organization's advisor.

Section 2. Any elected officer of the chapter may be removed from their position for cause. Cause for removal includes, but is not limited to: violation of the constitution or by-laws, failure to perform duties, or any behavior that is detrimental to advancing the purpose of this organization, including violations of the Student Code of Conduct, university policy, or federal, state, or local laws. The Executive Committee may act for removal upon a two-thirds affirmative vote of the executive board in consultation with the organization's advisor.

Section 3. In the event that the reason for member removal is protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) or cannot otherwise be shared with members (e.g., while an investigation is pending), the executive board, in consultation with the organization's advisor, may vote to temporarily suspend a member or executive officer.