

MIT Gospel Choir

Constitution

Article I. Name

Section 1. The name of this organization is the MIT Gospel Choir

Article II. Basis of Faith

Section 1. The basis of faith of this organization is as follows:

We believe in the:

- a. Unique, divine inspiration, entire trustworthiness, and authority of the Bible.
- b. Deity of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- c. Necessity and efficacy of the substitutionary death of Jesus Christ for the redemption of the world and the historic fact of his bodily resurrection.
- d. Presence and power of the Holy Spirit in the work of regeneration.
- e. Expectation of the personal return of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- f. Power of the gift of music, which God has given, to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Section 2. It is of the utmost importance that all officers of this organization, appointed leaders, and outside parties whom are invited to contribute to the mission of the choir, subscribe, without reservation to the above Basis of Faith.

Article III. Purpose

Section 1.

The primary purposes of this organization are:

- a. To witness that the Lord Jesus Christ is God Incarnate, and to seek to lead others to personal faith in Christ as Lord and Savior. This goal shall be accomplished through music, arts, and personal communications.

- b. To help Christians grow toward maturity as disciples of Christ by encouraging them to find a church home, by study of the bible, by prayer, and by Christian Fellowship.
- c. To present the call of God to the world mission of the church.

Section 2. The secondary purposes of this organization are to contribute to the educational, cultural and social climate of MIT by:

- a. Developing healthy human relationships.
- b. Being aware of opportunities for social justice.
- c. Encouraging the development of educational, personal, musical and vocational skills.
- d. Encourage members of the choir to agree with the overall purposes of the choir, as outlined in this entire article.

Section 3. It is of the utmost importance that all officers of this organization, appointed leaders, and outside individuals whom are invited to contribute to the mission of the choir, subscribe, without reservation, to the above purposes.

Article IV. Membership and Participation

Section 1. Membership in the MIT Gospel Choir is open to the MIT and non MIT community under the stipulation that the choirs makeup be such that the majority of the choir is MIT students (This is to conform with ASA regulations).

Section 2. Members of the choir are not required, but are highly encouraged, to subscribe to articles II and III of this constitution.

Section 3. Members consist of all those whom have filled out a membership form.

Article V. Leadership Team (LT) and Duties

The officers of this organization shall be as follows:

Section 1. President. This person shall oversee the administration of Gospel Choir affairs, including, but not limited to, spiritual issues, government, planning for appearances, meeting times and location, finances, UA relations, record keeping, publicity, web maintenance, document creation and/or reproduction, and the generation of special choir tasks (i.e., tasks that must be completed, but are not outlined in this constitution). This person may delegate certain responsibilities to members of the leadership team and/or other choir members as he/she sees necessary. The president shall have primary authority over the entire choir, including the leadership team.

Section 2. Vice president. This person shall oversee the administrative affairs of the choir as delegated to this person by the president. They shall work closely with the president on issues of planning, scheduling, government, prayer, and special choir tasks. This person shall have the authority of president in the event of the president's absence and/or when given such authority by the president or the advisor.

Section 3. Secretary. This person shall oversee administrative affairs as assigned by the President and/or the Vice President. This shall include, but not be limited to, document creation, attendance, photocopying, membership information administration, emailing, phone calling, room reservation, and special choir tasks. Also, this person shall have the authority to request additional help from members of the choir for issues related to their position. This process shall be reviewed by the Leadership Team.

Section 4. Treasurer. This person shall have the responsibility of handling the monetary issues of the choir as delegated by the President and/or the Vice President. This shall include, but not be limited the requesting and retrieving of checks, the writing of grants, the maintenance of relationships with current, and potential, sources of funding, the maintenance of the choir budget, and special choir tasks. Also, this person shall have the authority to request additional help, from the members of the choir, for issues related to their position. This process shall be reviewed by the Leadership Team.

Section 5. Devotions Leader. This person shall bear the responsibility of running the weekly devotional period. This person shall work closely with the choir advisor, the President, and the Vice President in order to determine a format for the devotional period which is suitable for the particular term and/or week. This person shall have the authority to request additional help from the members of the choir to run the devotional period or assist in other issues related to their position. This process shall be reviewed by the Leadership Team. This person shall also bear the responsibility of organizing prayer meetings as they see necessary. This person shall also have the responsibility of organizing and overseeing fellowship activities for the purpose of relationship building. This person shall also be responsible for the organizing of the "follow-up process" along w/ the help of the leadership team. This person shall also be responsible for special choir tasks.

Section 6. Historian. This person shall be responsible for the creation and/or administration of a choir scrapbook. This will include but not be limited to the taking of pictures at rehearsals, appearances, and fellowships, and the collection of historically worthy materials. This person will also be responsible for the administration of the choir homepage. If this person does not have the skills to do so, they shall have the responsibility of delegating this job to a willing party in the choir. Also, this person shall have the authority to request additional help from the members of the choir for issues related to their position. Both of these processes shall be reviewed by the Leadership Team. This person shall also be responsible for special choir tasks.

Section 7. Publicity Chair. This person shall have the responsibility of handling all publicity issues for the choir. This shall include, but not be limited to, creating flyers, sending out e-mail, fostering relationships and maintaining contact with current, and potential, publicity venues,

publicity material retrieval and distribution, and special choir tasks. Also, this person shall have the authority to request additional help from the members of the choir for issues related to their position. These processes shall be reviewed by the Leadership Team.

The following are other members of the leadership team not defined as officers:

Section 8. Choir Advisor. This person shall serve primarily as an advisor to the leadership team, making recommendations on whatever aspects of the choir he/she sees fit, and can assist in choir activities. This person shall also have the responsibility of appearing at a minimum of one leadership team meeting and one choir rehearsal per month. This rule is, however, overridden by special circumstances. The advisor shall also have the responsibility of being available for personal consultation by any member of the LT or the choir. In the event that the advisor must leave the choir he/she, must inform the leadership team as early before the date they must leave as possible. It is also the responsibility of the advisor, in the event of such a situation, to assist in finding a new advisor.

Section 9. Choir Director This person shall have the responsibility of musically directing the choir. Their responsibilities shall include, but not be limited to, song selection, the teaching of songs to the choir, the finding of additional musicians, as needed, the creation of tapes, for the choir to learn the current music from, and special choir tasks. The director will also have the responsibility of directing the choir at the biannual concerts, scheduled appearances, and the annual tour. In the event that the director must leave the choir, he/she must inform the leadership team as early before the date they must leave as possible. It is also the responsibility of the director, in the event of such a situation, to assist in finding a new director.

Section 10. The leadership team shall consist of the officers, the advisor, the director, and such others as the leadership team may add from time to time.

Section 11. It is of the utmost importance that those persons on the LT be committed to the basis of faith and to the purposes of this organization as outlined in Articles II and III.

Section 12. The further responsibilities of the leadership team are:

- a. To carry out the purposes, general policies, and programs of this organization as efficiently as possible.
- b. To call the annual meeting for the selection of new officers and for the submitting of reports of the various activities of the year.
- c. To be responsible for the continuance of this organization, and training, and advising of future leadership teams from year to year.
- d. Have at least one business meeting per year, during January or December, where each leader specifies what they believe the choir should be doing in the future, what can be improved for the

choir as a whole, and what can be improved in their position. Also at this meeting, the constitution shall be reviewed.

Article VI. Meetings

Section 1. Meetings for the transaction of business shall be called by the Leadership Team or upon the request of three members.

Section 2. Meetings for choir rehearsal shall be held at times decided by the members. Choir rehearsal, with a devotional period, shall be held weekly.

Section 3. Leaders Attendance. The prompt attendance of all leaders, mentioned in Article V, to Leadership Team meetings, rehearsal, all prayer meetings, and any other meetings, is mandatory. It is the responsibility of LT members to inform the President if an absence, or extensive lateness, is unavoidable. Further, it is the responsibility of the President to inform the Vice President if an absence, or extensive lateness, is unavoidable

Section 4. Members Attendance. The prompt attendance of choir members to all rehearsals and appearances is mandatory. It is the responsibility of the choir members to inform the Secretary if an absence, or extensive lateness, is unavoidable.

Section 5. Other meetings for the discussion and presentation of matters pertaining to the purposes stated in article III shall be held as occasion warrants.

Article VII. Selection of Officers

Section 1

A. The “Nominating Committee” shall consist of the choir. The process for nominating choir members for an office shall consist of the nomination of a choir member, by a choir member, the seconding of said choir member by a different nominating choir member, and the acceptance of this nomination by the nominated choir member. All nominations shall be presented to the members a week in advance of the annual election meeting for their prayerful consideration.

B. Multiple members can be nominated for a single position.

C. Any member can nominate themselves for a position.

Section 2. During the interim week, between nomination and election, those parties interested in running for an office must draft a vision statement for their position.

Section 3. On election day officers shall read their vision statements. In the case of single or multiple nominees there will be an election during which time each member of the choir shall

receive a secret ballot containing the names of all the nominees. The nominees are then, accordingly, voted for. Each choir member may only vote for one person for each position. At least 51% of the entire choir population must vote for said nominated choir member before they can be elected into office. All officers shall serve for a term of one calendar year.

Section 4. It is of the utmost importance that the LT see to it that all nominees subscribe to the organization's basis of faith and purposes as set forth in Articles II and III.

Section 5.

A. The officers reserve the authority to ask any leader in the choir to step down from leadership if it is felt that said leader is not conforming to articles II and III. If such a situation does occur, said leader must be unanimously voted out by the other officers.

B. In the event that a leadership team member must discontinue serving on the LT, the leadership team reserves the authority to call an emergency election which will be run according to the procedures outlined in sections 1-4, 7, and 8.

Section 6. The annual election meeting shall be held toward the end of the first semester of the school year.

Section 7. Once leaders are instated they shall be responsible for writing a vision statement for their position.

Section 8. The former leadership shall be in office until the beginning of the second term, and the new leadership team shall begin their official duties at the beginning of the second term.

Article VIII. Constitution and Amendments.

Section 1. This constitution was adopted upon receiving the approval of all the Leadership Team members whose names are listed at the end.

Section 2. In the event that the constitution must be amended, the members of choir, other than the LT, may appoint two members to represent the choir at the constitutional amendment meeting. The constitution may be amended upon a unanimous vote, of said amendment, by the officers, and 2 choir representatives, provided that no change is made in Articles II and III.

Section 3. Amendments to this constitution shall not become valid until a copy of the amended constitution has been reviewed by the advisor, and the director, and has been placed in the UA office.

Section 4. The constitution shall be reviewed once at the business meeting, which is either in December or January, and shall again be reviewed with the new leadership team upon their election.

Ratified on this day of January 1999 by:

(President)
(Vice President)
(Secretary)
(Devotions Leader)
(Publicity Chair)
(Publicity Chair)
(Historian)
(Advisor)
(Director)