

DESTINY CAMPUS MINISTRIES

The Students Wing of Destiny Church

1. Preamble

- 1.1. Destiny Students Group hereafter referred to as “the society” is an open, faith-based, society. By open, membership is not limited to any by race, nationality, or religion. By faith-based, the society’s beliefs, values, and culture are defined by biblical Christian tenets.
- 1.2. The society is made up of (but not limited to) SU students from Destiny Church which has been operating in Stellenbosch since 2005, and holds church services within the university premises.
- 1.3. The aims and objectives of the society are;
 - 1.3.1. To provide a platform for religious, social and academic interaction within the Stellenbosch University (SU) community,
 - 1.3.2. Providing a social support system for members,
 - 1.3.3. Engaging in activities furthering the personal development of the society’s members.

2. Mission Statement

- 2.1. The society is established to be a meeting place for spiritually-inclined students and SU community members. As more people seek for a deeper engagement of their existence and life’s purpose, we aim to create an avenue whereby members can discover and actualize the balance between their day-to-day living and that inner desire for a purposeful life as exemplified by several patterns in the scriptures.
- 2.2. The society is committed to members being able to live a spiritually relevant life.
- 2.3. To achieve these, the society:
 - 2.3.1. Holds periodic social gatherings to create bonds among members. Such could be within the campus for instance coffee meets, or outdoor meetings organised by the society leadership.
 - 2.3.2. Holds weekly life group meetings. These meetings are interactive or leader-led sessions and are held in a participatory semi-formal mode.
 - 2.3.3. Engages with Destiny Church services as organised by the church.

3. Definition of Terms and Abbreviations

- 3.1. SU – Stellenbosch University

- 3.2. Executive Committee (DEC referred to as Destiny Executive Committee) – This is the society’s leadership committee as elected democratically by the members of the society.
 - 3.3. Destiny Advisory Board (DAB) – Comprised of the entire Destiny Church Leadership as put in place by the church. The Board is responsible for providing the DEC with advice and serving as the father of the society. This is also responsible for making sure the constitution is followed by the DEC and also making sure the long term goals of the society are met.
 - 3.4. Annual General Meeting (AGM) – A meeting arranged annually by the DEC in conjunction with the DAB. It is attended by all members of the society. During this meeting, the outgoing executive will present their progress and financial reports for the year ending. The chairperson will deliver the progress report and the treasurer will deliver the financial report. Members are free to ask questions and engage the executive on these reports. The Destiny Advisory Board will also conduct elections for a new executive committee that will serve for the rest of the year until the next AGM the following year at approximately the same time.
 - 3.5. Membership Register (MR) – A register of attendance taken by the secretary at every society meeting and taken by the life group leaders at the weekly meetings.
 - 3.6. Life Group – A meeting of members not exceeding 12 in number. When the number exceeds 12, the group is split into two new groups. It is of a semi-formal setting and prayers, spiritual, academic and social discussions are held. These meetings are held once a week and members are notified of the dates, times and meeting areas for each group.
 - 3.7. Life Group Leader – Coordinates and leads the programs during a life group meeting.
4. Membership
 - 4.1. Membership is open to registered SU students, and a minority of young people who may be interested in the society but are not currently enrolled in SU.
 - 4.2. However, aspiring members must be genuinely convinced by the values of the society and be interested in the furtherance of such objectives as the society identifies.
 - 4.3. Annual membership fees will be determined from year to year and communicated to members, and would be members as necessary.
 - 4.4. Membership termination can be communicated to the society’s executive in writing.
 - 4.5. Membership fees are not refundable.

4.6. The membership attendance register holds records of attendance at each of the:

4.6.1. Social outings.

4.6.2. Life group meetings.

4.6.3. Destiny Church activities.

4.6.4. Other special programmes organised by the society.

4.7. The membership attendance register may be used to determine the ability to nominate or be nominated for executive positions or grant certain rights.

4.8. It is the duty of every member to ensure that they sign the register each meeting they attend.

5. Office Bearers

5.1. Composition of the executive committee:

5.1.1. A total of five executive members will be involved in the running of the society.

5.1.2. The executive of the society comprises Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Treasurer, Secretary, and Publicity and Media officer. These executive members will be life group leaders.

5.1.3. The chief life group leader will be the chairperson.

5.2. Conditions for holding an executive office:

5.2.1. A candidate for an executive post must have been a member for at least one academic year.

5.2.2. A candidate must be in good academic standing (not repeating two or more modules).

5.2.3. A candidate must have attendance of over 75% of all activities as listed in 4.6.

5.2.4. A candidate must be of good reputation within the SU community and must not have had any involvement or record of unruly, unsocial, or criminal behaviour within or without the SU community.

5.2.5. Candidates must be familiar with the scriptures; they must be able to put the Bible to practical academic, social, and career applications. This will be tested by their motivation statement as written in a Life Application report.

5.2.6. Candidates will be required to submit a 350-words Life Application report on any problem (topic) where they must apply the scriptures to the benefit of mankind by establishing solutions within the Bible to such issues.

5.2.7. Must be born again (believe in Jesus Christ as the condition to accessing God).

5.3. Election of office bearers:

5.3.1. Candidates will be nominated by current executive members, or

5.3.2. Nominated by the general student membership of the society.

5.4. Election process:

5.4.1. Elections will hold on or before September each year, but no earlier than August.

5.4.2. Members will be notified of the elections at least two weeks before the elections.

5.4.3. Notification will be given at the Life group meetings and by email.

5.4.4. Voting will take place by a secret ballot.

5.4.5. A quorum of $\frac{1}{4}$ registered members of the society is acceptable for the election process to be valid.

5.4.6. Portfolios will be assigned in conjunction with Destiny Church leadership who acts as the Advisory Board to the DEC.

5.4.7. The Destiny Advisory Board will also be responsible for facilitating the election process. The Board will explain the voting process, conduct nominations, count votes and reveal the results to the members.

5.4.8. The DAB together with the current executive is also responsible for setting the date for the elections. This meeting will be the society's AGM.

5.4.9. The nominations must be done when the date for the elections is revealed to the members of the society. The members must send electronically all nominations as advised in the notifying email before the end of the first week after this email is received.

5.4.10. Then, the executive must send to each member that has been nominated, all the requirements. The members must bring these requirements no later than three days after notification is received.

5.4.11. Election statements of each nominee shall be published on social networks in the group's page and also sent to members via email, three days before the Election Day.

5.5. In the case of an executive seat becoming empty due to any circumstance, the executive and the Advisory Board will nominate members for the post and a voting process held. Society members will be eligible to vote for the nominated candidates.

6. Duties Of The Office Bearers

The office bearers as listed in 5.1.2 work together to see to it that the goals of the society are realised and they work together to create a suitable calendar or programme for each

year to have meetings, social events, learning opportunities and outdoor events to create the well rounded ideal student. They are all to take part as life group leaders.

6.1. Chairperson:

- 6.1.1. The chairperson convenes and heads of all meetings of the society and the DEC unless he/she appoints one person to do so from the DEC.
- 6.1.2. It is a responsibility of the chairperson to prepare for all meetings, venues, programmes, and agenda and coordinate all functions.
- 6.1.3. The chairperson also holds the position of Life Groups Coordinator on campus and reports directly to the Destiny Church Leadership.
- 6.1.4. It is the chairperson's primary objective to see to it that the constitution is followed, the aims and objectives of the society are realised as per the mission statement.
- 6.1.5. The chairperson is responsible for making sure that the DEC fulfils its duties.
- 6.1.6. The DAB will also use the chairperson as a link to the members and the DEC.
- 6.1.7. The chairperson will also act as the group's representative on the Societies Council.

6.2. Deputy Chairperson:

- 6.2.1. The Deputy Chairperson will work together with the chairperson and take over in his/her absence.
- 6.2.2. Whenever the chairperson is unable to fulfil his or her duties, the deputy chairperson is responsible to fulfil such duties.
- 6.2.3. The deputy chairperson is responsible for providing administrative support to the chairperson.
- 6.2.4. The deputy chairperson is responsible to assist the chairperson in any of his duties, as requested by the chairperson.

6.3. Secretary:

- 6.3.1. The secretary will take minutes at meetings, record attendance for each meeting and is also responsible for all correspondence with members and the DEC.
- 6.3.2. The secretary is responsible for internal communication, the taking of minutes and management of the office.
- 6.3.3. The secretary is responsible for general administration of the society under the supervision of the chairperson and he or she shall do all administrative tasks required by the chairperson.

6.3.4. The secretary is responsible for the keeping a full record of all events organised by the society.

6.4. Treasurer:

6.4.1. The treasurer is responsible for all financial matters relating to the society under the supervision of the chairperson.

6.4.2. The treasurer shall conduct all his duties in line with the University of Stellenbosch's prescribed rules regarding the financial affairs of campus societies.

6.4.3. The treasurer must also be available to give a financial report whenever required by the chairperson, DAB or the Societies Council.

6.5. Publicity and Media Officer (PMO):

6.5.1. The PMO is responsible for advertising and promoting the society's events, and services.

6.5.2. The PMO is also responsible for all outreach programs and events that aim at promoting the society and reaching out to the entire community of SU.

6.5.3. The PMO works with and answers directly to the chairperson to fit all events into the year calendar.

7. Discipline

7.1. Discipline of general members:

Discipline refers to any of the following:

7.1.1. Verbal Warning.

7.1.1.1. Misbehaviour during a service, meeting, or an event organised by the society could attest to one getting a verbal warning.

7.1.1.2. These can be administered by the DEC and must be recorded by the secretary.

7.1.2. Written warning.

7.1.2.1. Persisting in behaviour that has caused one to obtain more than three verbal warnings could attest to one getting a written warning.

7.1.2.2. Anyone who acts in conflict to the values of the group could get a written warning.

7.1.2.3. Anyone who exhibits a tendency to cause division through portraying a negative image of the society could get a written warning.

7.1.3. Suspension for a specific period of time.

7.1.3.1. Anyone who after two written warnings, persists to portray deviant behaviour befitting a written warning will be asked to not participate in any leading roles in the society for four weeks.

7.1.3.2. The DEC will execute all suspensions. A member is free to appeal to the DAB in case they believe they were unfairly treated.

7.1.4. Expulsion.

7.1.4.1. A member will no longer be able to participate in any of the society's lead roles, society meetings or events organised by the group for at least one year; but every member is allowed to attend worship services and life group meetings because the group's mandate is not to push away people from church but to draw them closer and help reform them in any ways possible.

7.1.4.2. Any plans of expulsion of a member must be reported to the DAB and the DAB can submit to the DEC its resolution of the matter at hand, before the individual is dismissed. The DEC can take the advice of the DAB or overrule it.

7.2. Procedure:

7.2.1. Whenever a disciplinary issue arises that is deemed by the executive committee as less serious, such issue may be dealt with by the executive but issues that could lead to written warnings and suspensions or expulsion is a responsibility of the DAB.

7.2.2. The DAB shall then arrange a meeting with the members involved in order to find a solution to the problem.

7.3. Grounds for discipline:

7.3.1. Members can be disciplined for any conduct contrary to the rules of this constitution, including any conduct that is not in line with the vision, values, aims and objectives, and mission statement of the group.

7.3.2. Members can also be disciplined for any behaviour prohibited by the laws of the country, as well as the rules and regulations of Stellenbosch University.

7.4. Discipline of the DEC:

7.4.1. If there is any complaint regarding any of the executive members, a letter signed by at least three members of the society must be handed to the DAB (or a member of the DAB).

- 7.4.2. The DAB executive will then handle the process of disciplining a member of the executive as well as perhaps proposing a vote of no confidence to the executive member in dispute for enquiry.
- 7.4.3. The same grounds and procedures are used in the discipline of members of the executive committee as outlined for normal members.
- 7.4.4. In addition, members of the DEC can be disciplined for not fulfilling their duties.
- 7.4.5. By a majority vote of 51%, with at least 50% members present a vote of no confidence can be brought against a member of the EC, after which such member has to vacate his or her office position.
 - 7.4.5.1. Grounds for motion of “no confidence”:
 - 7.4.5.1.1. Whenever a member of the DEC is found guilty of unbecoming behaviour of the Christian faith, then a vote of no confidence can be instituted against that individual.
 - 7.4.5.1.2. Secondly, a vote of no confidence can be put in motion if a member of the executive is found guilty of any state or university rules.
 - 7.4.5.1.3. Thirdly, the vote of no confidence can be moved in the case where a member of the DEC is guilty of mismanagement of funds of the society.
 - 7.4.5.2. The DEC and the DAB can choose to overrule the decision of a vote of no confidence, stating to the general membership the reasons of the overruling.
- 7.4.6. After a vote of no confidence a dismissed office bearer can appeal to the Student Court, but only regarding the procedure that was taken in their dismissal.
- 7.4.7. A vote of no confidence must be undertaken at a meeting specifically called for that purpose by the DAB together with the DEC, at which time the accused office bearer must be allowed the opportunity to address the members.
- 7.4.8. Such a meeting would have to be called by the DAB chairperson to all members of the group in the event that the individual in dispute being the chairperson of the DEC.
- 7.4.9. Such voting process must occur, as far as possible, in line with the procedure for electing members of the DEC, as far as is practically possible from elections for a new committee.

8. Meetings

8.1. Annual General Meeting (AGM):

- 8.1.1. The annual general meeting must be held at the beginning of September each academic year. The specific date will be determined by the DEC and reported to the DAB.
- 8.1.2. The chairperson must deliver the progress report and so must the treasurer deliver the financial report at this meeting.
- 8.1.3. The elections for the following term of office of the executive committee will take place at this meeting.
- 8.1.4. All members must be notified via email of the time, place and agenda of the meeting at least 2 weeks prior to the meeting.

8.2. DEC meetings:

- 8.2.1. Meetings of the executive committee shall be authorised by the chairperson.
- 8.2.2. Meeting of the sub-committees of the executive committee shall be authorised by the executive leader upon notification of the chairperson.

8.3. Other meetings:

- 8.3.1. Other necessary meetings not disclosed above, may be authorised by the chairperson as the need arises.
- 8.3.2. Meetings with the DAB can only be called and chaired by the chairperson of the executive of the group with request from the DAB, except in the case that the DAB wants to discuss the chairperson, then the deputy chairperson can authorize such a meeting.

9. Amendments To The Constitution

9.1. Procedure:

- 9.1.1. Any member can propose an amendment to the constitution. Such a member would have to submit a written letter (signed by five other members in agreement) to the executive committee, stating the reasons why these amendments must be made.
- 9.1.2. A meeting of the DEC must be convened by the chairperson to deliberate on a possible amendment of the constitution. Three out of the five DEC members must be in favour of this amendment after a vote before members are informed.
- 9.1.3. Proposed amendments to the constitution must be voted for at the AGM by all members of the society.

- 9.1.4. Should it be necessary that the amendment be made during a special meeting not at the AGM, the chairperson shall convene such a meeting following the same procedure of convening an AGM.
- 9.1.5. A majority of 2/3 of the members present at the meeting must vote in favour of the amendment as confirmation.
- 9.1.6. Members are to be notified electronically via email, in the agenda of the AGM (2 weeks prior) of such a possible amendment to the constitution, stating all reasons pertaining to it.
- 9.1.7. Any members wishing to send their comments are free to write to the DEC chairperson during the 2 week period before the AGM.
- 9.1.8. A 2/3 majority of the registered members of the society must be present to make quorum for the constitution to be amended.
- 9.1.9. Voting will be publically administered by the raising of hands.
- 9.1.10. After the amendment has been assented to, it shall be submitted to the Registrar of societies.
- 9.1.11. Proof of compliance with the procedural requirements must be affixed to the amendment.
- 9.1.12. The amendment has to be approved by the Student Representative Council.