



STELLENBOSCH  
SOCIETY  
CONSTITUTION

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## **The name of the society is, Hillsong**

The Hillsong society is subject to the Student Constitution as revised in 2011 and the University rules and regulations

### **Article 1 Aims of the Society**

1.1 Hillsong's aim as a student society is to enhance the campus experience of any student of any colour or any background. Hillsong believes it should offer the student more than the daily routine of going to class and more than the spectrum of courses in their chosen field of study. Hillsong believes it should be the aim of a student society to strengthen the University of Stellenbosch and what it has to offer. Hillsong is a local church and our purpose is to form a community on campus of the students that come to Hillsong Church so that we can encourage each other in our day-to-day lives on campus, empower one another to live bigger lives and ultimately, to strengthen our relationship with Jesus Christ.

### **Article 2 Mission statement**

2.1 To reach and influence the world by building a large Christ-centered, Bible-based church, changing mindsets and empowering people to lead and impact in every sphere of life.

### **Article 3 Definitions**

3.1 "Active Member": A registered member of Hillsong Society who participates in at least one connect group per month.

- 3.2 “Annual general Meeting” (AGM): The annual Society meeting to discuss all of the general affairs with regard to the running of the Society.
- 3.3 “Connect Group”: a small relational group that meets once per week to do Bible study.
- 3.7 “Extraordinary general Meeting”: The Society meeting to determine or discuss matters of concern, other than those matters that are dealt with at the AGM.
- 3.5 “General or Ordinary Member”: A registered student or staff member of Stellenbosch University who fits the profile of membership to the Society.
- 3.6 “Majority”: represents 50% of the applicable group plus 1 active member who is voting therein.
- 3.9 “Public Notice”: A notification that gets send out to all society members via email.
- 3.8 “Quorum”: the minimum number of members necessary to conduct the business of the Society.
- 3.9 “Returning Officer”: A person who oversees the elections of the group.

#### **Article 4 Membership**

- 4.1 All students and members of staff of Stellenbosch University shall be eligible to become members of the Society.
- 4.2 Any eligible person shall become a member of the Society on signing their name to the official membership list of the Society.

- 4.3 85% of all the members of the society need to be registered students of Stellenbosch University.
- 4.4 Membership fees may be payable on particular occasions, such as bus transport fees as well as optional Society attire.
- 4.5 There are no levels or ordinary membership, except for the above-mentioned in Article 3.7 and Article 3.8.
- 4.6 Voluntary termination of membership is done in writing to an executive member of Hillsong Society.

#### **Article 5 The Executive Committee**

- 5.1 The committee shall conduct the business of the Society.
- 5.2 The committee of the Society shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting, or, if necessary, at an Extraordinary General Meeting. Please refer to 6.2 below
- 5.3 The committee shall consist of the following members: the Chairperson; the Vice- Chairperson; the Treasurer; the Secretary; the Event Coordinator; the Connect Group Facilitator. All members of the committee are required to be members of the Society.
- 5.4 Chairperson
  - 5.4.1 The Chairperson shall have overall responsibility for the affairs of the Society.
  - 5.4.2 She/he shall chair all meetings of the Society, save where decided otherwise by the committee or where otherwise provided for in this constitution.

5.5 Vice- Chairperson

The Vice-Chairperson shall assume the duties of the Chairperson should the Chairperson be absent or unable to fulfill his/her duties.

5.6 Treasurer

5.6.1 The Treasurer will manage the financial affairs of the Society, in consultation with the Chairperson.

5.6.2 She/he will maintain the financial records of the Society.

5.6.3 She/he will prepare and present to the Society and the University the end of year accounts and treasurers report for the Society.

5.7 Secretary

5.7.1 The Secretary shall keep the non-financial records of the Society, including the official membership list

5.7.2 She/he will manage the correspondence of the Society and submitting the end of year report.

5.8 Events Coordinator

The Events Coordinator shall be responsible for organizing and advertising the meetings and events of the Society.

5.9 Connect Group Facilitator

5.9.1 The Connect Group Facilitator shall be responsible for managing and overseeing Connect Groups.

5.9.2 She/he will also train new Connect Group leaders.

5.10 Committee Meetings

5.10.1 Meetings of the committee shall be held at least fortnightly during the academic year. All members of the committee shall be entitled to attend and vote at such meetings.

5.10.2 The quorum for a meeting of the committee shall be half of the committee members.

5.10.3 Meetings of the committee shall be convened by the Chairperson or Secretary. At least two days notice of a committee meeting shall be given by the Chairperson or Secretary to the members of the committee.

#### 5.12 Term of Office of the Committee

The committee shall hold office from the first day of the Academic year subsequent to their election, until the last day of that Academic year.

### **Article 6 General Meetings**

#### 6.1 Annual General Meeting

6.1.1 The Annual General Meeting of the Society shall take place in the second semester of the academic year, at a time to be determined by the committee of the Society.

6.1.2 No less than seven days notice of the Annual General Meeting shall be given. The date and time of the A.G.M. shall be advertised within the University by public notice.

#### 6.2 Extraordinary General Meetings

6.2.1 An Extraordinary General Meeting of the Society may be convened to:

- (i) Hold an election to fill a vacancy on the committee, should one arise;
- (ii) Consider a proposal to amend this constitution or any other governing instrument of the Society;

- (iii) Address any other circumstance not provided for in this constitution.

6.2.2 An Extraordinary General Meeting shall be convened:

- (i) By majority decision of the committee; or
- (ii) By submission of a petition signed by not less than ten members of the Society, to the committee of the Society

6.2.3 No less than seven days notice of an Extraordinary General Meeting shall be given. The date and time of the E.G.M. shall be notified to the University and advertised by public notice within the University.

## **Article 7 Election of the Committee**

7.1 The committee of the Society shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting.

7.2 The Chairperson shall act as returning officer for the elections. Where the Chairperson intends to be a candidate in any election, a returning officer who is not a candidate in any election, shall be appointed by the committee.

7.3 All active members of the Society shall be eligible for election to the committee.

7.4 Candidates for each position on the committee of the Society must be proposed and seconded by members of the Society at the A.G.M.

7.5 All members of the Society shall be entitled to vote in the election of the committee.

- 7.6 The election of members of the committee shall take place by secret ballot at the A.G.M. The voting process is as follows:
- (a) When one candidate receives a majority (50%+1) of the vote, he or she is elected.
  - (b) If no candidate receives a majority (50%+1) of the vote, the following steps are followed:
    - (i) A new election takes place.
    - (ii) For this election, the candidates who received the smallest number of votes in the previous election are removed, but the sum of the removed candidates' votes may not exceed fifty percent (50%) of the total number of votes in the previous election.
    - (iii) This process is repeated until one candidate receives a majority (50%+1) of the vote.
- 7.7 The Chairperson is voted for by the executive committee members, using the same voting process as the election of the committee members.
- 7.8 The filling of a terminated executive member's position is done via a secret ballot at the AGM or an Extraordinary General Meeting if necessary, in which the quorum of the voting is half of the executive committee.

## **Article 8 Resignations from the Committee**

- 8.1 The resignation of any member of the committee shall be effected by a letter of resignation to the Secretary of the Society. In the case of the resignation of the Secretary, resignation may be instituted by a letter of resignation to the Chairperson.

## **Article 9 Management of Finance**

- 9.1 The finances of the Society shall be managed by the Chairperson, and Treasurer of the Society.
- 9.2 No member of the committee of the Society shall receive remuneration from the Society, or use their office for personal financial gain.

## **Article 10 Amendments to the Constitution**

- 10.1 Amendments to this constitution may be made at an Annual General Meeting or an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Society at a reasonable time and place. Two thirds of the executive committee must approve the amendment and then two thirds of the society must approve it at the AGM.
- 10.3 At least two weeks' notice of the time and place for the voting of a constitutional amendment shall be given to all the members of Hillsong Society. This notice shall also include the reasoning for the voting of the proposed constitutional amendment.
- 10.3 Such amendments to this constitution as may be approved by an Annual General Meeting or an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Society shall require the formal approval of the Student Court before taking effect.

## **Article 11 Dissolution of the Society**

- 11.1 The Society may be dissolved by a two-thirds majority vote of its membership at a General Meeting. The Society may also be dissolved by decision of the University Student Council. The Society shall fall into

abeyance should it fail to validly elect a committee for two successive years.

- 11.2 On dissolution of the Society, its assets shall become the property of the University.

## **Article 12 Termination and Discipline of Ordinary and Committee Members**

- 12.1 Any member (Active, Ordinary or Executive Committee Member) may be removed from membership under the following conditions:

(1) By transferring membership to another church society on campus.

(2) By requesting to be removed from the Hillsong society.

(3) Exclusion by the Hillsong society in terms of a majority vote upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee members of the Hillsong society.

(4) Exclusion owing to unacceptable conduct in terms of Hillsong Society's Constitution. Unacceptable conduct according to Hillsong Society is in the form of any violence or discrimination toward the public or any member of the Society, as well as any illegal activities participated in by a member of the Society, during the course of the Society's activities.

- 12.2 Appeals of Termination of Membership

Any member whose membership has been terminated in terms of Article 12.1.3 or 12.1.4 of Hillsong Society's Constitution has the right to appeal his or her membership termination to the University Student Court, on the grounds that pertain to his or her membership termination only.