

Constitution

EMU Y-Serve

Article I: Name, Purpose, Motto and Relationship

A. Name – The name of this organization shall be EMU Y-Serve

B. Purpose – The purpose of this organization shall be to enlist cooperation of all interested students in organized Christian service in order:

1. To promote growth in Christian character, fellowship, and devotion to Jesus.
2. To develop leadership abilities of students for Christian service.
3. To give an effective gospel witness in Harrisonburg, surrounding communities, and beyond.
4. To serve the body of Christ in whatever capacity possible.

C. Motto – The motto of this organization shall be:

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind,” and “Love your neighbors as yourself.” (Luke 10:27)

D. Relationship – This organization is organized under the umbrella of Eastern Mennonite University and while functioning as an autonomous student directed and facilitated organization, certain aspects of its functioning are directly dependent on the relationship to Eastern Mennonite University. These include:

1. Issuing of receipts for tax deductible donations.
2. Use of physical plant vehicles.
3. Handling a few aspects of cash/budget flow items.
4. Supplementary funding from EMU Student Government Association (SGA).
5. Acceptance of donations, reduced fees for services, and credits on EMU Y-Serve account.

E. This organization, under the direction of the Executive Committee, assumes full responsibility for budget credits and debits which are carried over into the year following that in which they were accumulated. Primary accountability for the functional nature of this relationship between EMU and the Y-Serve comes through the Campus Pastor(s).

Article II: Membership

The membership of this organization shall be composed of students of Eastern Mennonite University and Seminary. Upon registration, every student shall become eligible to participate in the Association. EMU does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity or any legally protected status in any of its school administered programs.

Article III: Organization

A. Executive Committee – The Association shall function under the general direction of one Executive Committee composed of four offices who:

1. Shall meet at least weekly during the academic year, or as often as deemed necessary by the Co-Presidents of the Y-Serve.
2. Shall define the nature of any duty of any commission or committee.
3. Shall have the authority to add, reform, or amend this constitution, by a two-third vote of the Executive Committee and the Commissioners at a duly called meeting.

B. Advisors

1. Shall be comprised of the campus pastor(s) by virtue of role; one or two faculty/staff members appointed by the Executive Committee of the Y-Serve.
2. Shall work in close cooperation with the Executive Committee in an advisory capacity giving direction and coordination to the work of the Association.

C. Commissions – The general organization shall function through the commission which

1. Shall be responsible for the major divisions of the work.
2. Shall be headed by a commissioner(s).
3. Shall, if necessary, be divided into one or more committees to facilitate the activities of that commission.

D. Commissioners Meetings

1. Shall be convened by the Executive Committee as deemed necessary.
2. Shall be a time of dialogue between commissioners and Co-Presidents of the Executive Committee.
3. The student body will be invited to at least one commissioner meeting a month, which will be announced at least 48 hours in advance.

Article IV: Officers, Their Elections and Duties

A. Officers – The officers of the Association shall be Co-Presidents, Secretary, and Treasurer, all four elected by the student body.

B. Term of Office

1. All officers shall serve for a one-year term beginning on Monday of the third week before the end of the regular academic year.
2. Any office vacated before September 30th shall be filled by special election. Vacancies occurring after this time may either be filled by appointment of the Executive Committee, or left vacant until the new annual elections.

C. Qualifications of Officers

1. Any person seeking office shall have demonstrated a personal commitment to Christ and the Church, as well as leadership abilities appropriate for the desired office.
2. It is desirable that nominees for Co-President and other offices have experience in either being a Y-Serve officer or Commissioner.

D. Nominations and Elections

1. Nominating Committee:
 - a. Shall be appointed by the Co-Presidents upon the recommendations of the Executive Committee before the end of January.
 - b. Shall be appointed by the Co-Presidents.
 - c. Shall evaluate the current job descriptions and familiarize itself with the roles of Co-Presidents, Secretary, Commissioners, and Treasurer. Changes to job descriptions shall be forwarded to the Executive Committee for approval.
 - d. Shall announce to the student body during the third month of the spring term, through adequate campus-wide publicity channels, that they are now receiving suggestions for

nominations for the roles of Co-Presidents, Secretary, Commissioners, and Treasurer. Shall publicly post the qualifications and job descriptions for the offices along with nomination/suggestion ballots.

- e. Shall receive suggestions either from persons who are themselves interested in a position, or from those recommending others.
 - f. Shall review all names submitted through procedure “d”.
 - g. Shall contact each of these persons and determine their interest in becoming a nominee.
 - h. Shall present to the current Executive Committee the names of up to three nominees for each executive and commissioner office.
 - i. Shall appoint a replacement for any member of the committee who expresses interest in or had been for a position and who therefore is required to outline the work done by the Association during the tenure of office. This report shall be submitted to the Secretary before the conclusion of the regular school year for permanent filing in the Y-Serve records and Eastern Mennonite University Archives.
 - j. Shall coordinate the fundraising efforts of the Association.
 - k. Shall be the official Y-Serve representative to the Student Government Association.
2. Secretary
 - a. Shall keep an accurate record of all the Executive Committee meetings.
 - b. Shall be responsible for arranging and preserving all records, including the constitution and by-laws of the Association.
 - c. Shall perform other tasks as designated by the Executive Committee.
 - d. Shall work in coordination with the commissioners.
 - e. Shall distribute notes and memos.
 - f. Shall post minutes where accessible to student body and send a copy of the minutes to the Officers and Campus Pastor(s).
 3. Treasurer
 - a. Shall coordinate the financial aspects of the Association.
 - b. Shall, in consultation with the Co-Presidents and advisors, upon the basis of estimations submitted by the commissioners, prepare a budget for the ensuing year and submit it to the Executive Committee for approval.
 - c. Shall be purchasing agent of the Association.
 - d. Shall present a financial report to the Executive Committee.
 - e. Shall present a financial statement to the Executive Committee before the close of their term in office. This report would be included in the end-of-year Co-President’s report to go on permanent file.

E. Transition – The outgoing Executive Committee will work cooperatively with their successors for the remainder of the school year in order that a smooth transition of all matters related to the functioning of the Association might occur.

Article V: Commissioners

A. Commissioners

1. Shall have demonstrated a personal commitment to Christ and the Church as well as abilities and interests appropriate for the tasks.
2. Shall be recommended to the incoming Executive Committee by the outgoing commissioners, subject to the advice and consent of the outgoing Executive Committee.
3. Shall be responsible to the Executive Committee.

4. Shall have full authority in and responsibility for the work of their particular commission.
5. Shall supervise and coordinate the work of commission members serving in their commissions.
6. Shall, at the beginning of their term of service, call a meeting of all members of their commission to acquaint them with their work, especially as outlined by the constitution and by-laws.
7. Shall facilitate the organization of committees within their commission if deemed necessary.
8. Shall be ex-officio members of all committees in their commissions.
9. Shall hold as many meetings each month as are required to provide inspiration and challenge to effectively perform the work of the commission.
10. Shall be available for consultation when questions of vital importance arise, and where matters related to other commissions require discussion.
11. Shall represent all committees under their direction and give a report of their commission's work when called upon to do so.

Article VI: Amendments to the Constitution

The following process may amend this constitution:

1. When approved by an unanimous decision of the Executive Committee
2. When approved by a two-thirds vote of the Executive Committee and Commissioners at a duly called meeting.