

Young Life College at Elon University Bylaws

Revised May 1, 2019

Article I. Young Life College

The name of the community ministry shall be Young Life College at Elon University ("YLC"), affiliated with Young Life (www.younglife.org) and under the direction and oversight of Young Life's local area leadership in Alamance County ("ACYL").

Young Life College at Elon is an affiliate Community Ministry (not an Elon University program) that is authorized by Elon University to work on campus in accordance with Elon University policies.

YLC has been recognized by Young Life as having chartered status as a chapter of Young Life, has agreed that it will carry out the mission and present the messages of Young Life, and, therefore, has the right to use the name and materials of Young Life.

Article II. Purpose

The purpose of YLC is to participate in the Young Life mission of introducing adolescents to Jesus Christ and helping them grow in their faith. YLC achieves this purpose by offering a fun, accepting community for college students to be a part of while exploring or deepening their own Christian faith, providing opportunities for college students to engage in Young Life ministry to local middle school and high school students, and offering activities like weekly club meetings, small group Bible studies, and community service opportunities in an effort to positively impact the campus and surrounding community.

Article III. Statement of Faith

YLC affirms national Young Life's Statement of Faith (www.younglife.org/about/pages/statementoffaith.aspx). All staff, leaders, and volunteers are required to affirm and follow this Statement of Faith:

We the members of the Young Life mission — trustees, staff, instructors at Young Life schools and volunteers — join together in our affirmation of the following articles and our central purpose of proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ and introducing adolescents everywhere to Jesus Christ and helping them grow in their faith.

1. The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments being given by divine inspiration, are the Word of God, the final and supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct.
2. In the Scriptures, God reveals Himself as the living and true God, Creator of all things. Perfect in love and righteous in all His ways, this one God exists eternally as a Trinity of persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
3. God made man and woman in His image that He might have fellowship with us. Being estranged from God by our disobedience, we are, as sinful people, incapable of a right relationship with God apart from divine grace.
4. The only mediator between God and all human beings is Jesus Christ our Lord, God's eternal Son, who as man fully shared and fulfilled our humanity in a life of perfect obedience.

5. By His death in our place, Jesus revealed His divine love and upheld divine justice, removing our guilt and reconciling us to God. Having risen bodily from the dead and ascended into heaven, He rules as Lord over all and intercedes for us as our great high priest.
6. The Holy Spirit, through the proclamation of the gospel, renews our hearts, persuading us to repent of our sins and confess Jesus as Lord. By the same Spirit, we are led to trust in divine mercy, whereby we are forgiven all our sins, justified by faith through the merit of Christ our Savior, adopted into God's family as His children, and enabled so to live in the world that all people may see our good works and the gospel of grace at work in our lives, and glorify our Father who is in heaven.
7. God, by His Word and Spirit, calls us as sinful people into the fellowship of Christ's body. Thus He creates the one holy, catholic and apostolic church, united in the bonds of love, endowed with the gifts of the Spirit and summoned by Christ to preach the gospel and to administer the sacraments, to carry on the ministry of reconciliation, to relieve human need and to strive for social justice.
8. God's redemptive purpose will be consummated by the return of Christ to raise the dead, judge all people and establish His glorious Kingdom. Those who are apart from Christ shall be eternally separated from God's presence, but the redeemed shall live and reign with Him forever.

Article IV. Membership

Section 1. Participation

Young Life College is open to all full-time undergraduate students of Elon University in good standing, regardless of religious convictions or affiliations.

Section 2. Active Membership

Active members are students who attend at least two meetings or events each semester.

Section 3. Off-Campus Events

Any full-time undergraduate student in good standing with Elon may attend events and meetings on-campus. There may be certain restrictions for off-campus events, including events for local high school or middle school clubs, that may be set by ACYL. If necessary, Elon Young Life Leadership Team may decide by majority vote which club members will travel to certain off-campus events.

Article V. Leadership Team

YLC is led by a Leadership Team that includes professional staff and student leaders. Staff will work with Officers to lead meetings and to plan events and programs.

Section 1. Professional Staff

ACYL, or Young Life's national or regional office, may appoint professional staff to oversee YLC in collaboration with student leaders. All Young Life staff must be approved by the Elon University Chaplain as Community Affiliates before they begin work with students. Young Life staff are employees of Young Life, not Elon University. In their capacity as Community Affiliates, they are subject to all policies

of the University and the Truitt Center for Religious and Spiritual Life, which may review or revoke their authorization to work on campus with students at any time.

Section 2. Student Leaders

Student leaders are selected according to the process in Article VI to serve the on-campus college club and/or to serve as mentors and volunteers in Young Life clubs in local area high schools and middle schools, under the direction of ACYL. During the selection process, certain students will be designated to serve alongside staff as part of the core Leadership Team for YLC.

Section 3. Student Officers

The Leadership Team may assign as needed certain roles and positions to student leaders. One student leader will be designated as the primary student contact, one student leader will be designated as responsible for registering events and spaces according to University policies, and one student leader will be designated as the group's representative on the Truitt Center's Multifaith Council of Student Organizations and Community Ministries.

Article VI. Leadership Selection

Section 1. Criteria for Leadership

Student leaders are required to affirm (sign) and follow the Statement of Faith that can be found at www.younglife.org (Article III). Student leaders must also follow Young Life's Faith and Conduct Policies for Staff and Volunteers, which includes Young Life's understanding of appropriate sexual conduct as described in Addendum A to these by-laws.

Section 2. Leadership Training Course

Any student interested in leadership must first complete a multi-week training course led by Young Life staff. Any student is welcome to go through the training process. Because the course is designed to develop students in their faith and leadership, students are encouraged to take the course, even if they do not want to become a Young Life leader.

Section 3. Selection of Student Leaders

Upon successful completion of the training course (attending all sessions and completing assignments), students are invited to interview to be a leader. The interviews are conducted by Young Life staff members in ACYL, who then decide which students are qualified and able to lead, and who then assign student leaders to serve on campus and/or to serve specific local area schools. This selection process is almost entirely staff-led, although existing student leaders assist with training, share their leadership experiences, and recommend friends to go through the process. All student leaders pass a background check before serving with youth in area county schools.

Section 4. Officer Selection

Certain Student Leaders will be invited to serve alongside staff on the Leadership Team. The existing Leadership Team (staff and students) nominates and selects officers for the new Leadership Team from students who meet the leadership criteria

and who have completed the leadership training and selection process. The Officers for YLC will serve the functions described in Article V, Section 3 above.

Section 5. Leadership Term

Student leaders serve for one year, with new leaders selected in April each year. New positions may be created as needed by the Leadership Team, and vacancies may be filled mid-year by the Leadership Team.

Section 6. Removal of Student Leaders or Members

A. Student leaders may be removed for the following reasons:

1. Failure to fulfill the responsibilities of their office or leadership position as defined in these bylaws, and/or as defined at the time of their appointment by the Leadership Team or by ACYL.
2. Failure to affirm and follow Young Life's Statement of Faith and Young Life's Faith and Conduct Policies for Staff and Volunteers.
3. Failure to maintain good academic standing as defined by Elon University.
4. Engaging in behavior that goes against the Elon University Honor Code.

B. Procedure for removing student leaders:

1. Any active member, student leader, or staff member may bring charges against another YLC student leader by presenting their concerns to ACYL staff or the Leadership Team.
2. The accused YLC leader must be notified in writing of the reason for the proposed removal in advance of the meeting to consider removal.
3. The accused leader will be given the opportunity to present their case at a Leadership Team meeting and prior to any vote on their removal.
4. Two-thirds of the Leadership Team (staff and students) must vote to remove a student leader from YLC leadership.
5. ACYL may remove student leaders serving in area schools according to their policies and procedures at their discretion.

C. Active Members may be asked to leave the group if they fail to maintain good academic standing, engage in behavior that goes against the Elon University Honor Code, or otherwise engage in behavior that is disruptive to the group's purpose or violates Truitt Center or University policies.

Article VII. Meetings

Section 1. Regular Meetings

The club will generally meet weekly during the academic year. If any change in the regular meeting time is needed, members will be notified by the Leadership Team.

Section 2. Special Meetings

Active Members will be notified at least one week before any special meetings scheduled by the Leadership Team.

Section 3. Leadership Team Meetings

Most of the business of the club will be conducted by the Leadership Team, consisting of staff and designated student leaders, and all members of the Leadership Team are expected to attend Leadership Team meetings.

Section 4. Voting

The Leadership Team will conduct YLC business by majority vote, with the exception of the removal of student leaders and the amendment of these bylaws. From time to time, the Leadership Team may decide to call a special meeting of Active Members to discuss certain business and receive input. Active Members should be notified one week before any special business meeting.

Article VIII. Committees

Section 1 - Ad hoc committees

The Leadership Team may appoint Active Members to serve on committees to assist with special events such as campus programs or special club projects.

Section 2 - Social Committee

The Leadership Team May appoint Active Members to organize at least one social activity each semester.

Article IX. Advisor

ACYL staff serve as advisor(s) for YLC. If the group is without approved ACYL staff, then the Leadership Team will need to select a full-time Elon faculty or staff member to serve as an advisor, in consultation with the University Chaplain or Director of the Truitt Center, who may also appoint an advisor if needed.

Article X. Amendments

The Leadership Team may amend these bylaws with a two-thirds majority vote and the approval of the University Chaplain or Director of the Truitt Center.

Article XI. Parliamentary Authority

Robert's Rules of Order shall be the parliamentary authority of this organization.

Addendum A: Young Life Leadership Statement

Young Life welcomes everyone to our programs, meetings, and events. That is the case not just on the Elon campus but everywhere we have a presence. You can be part of Young Life regardless of belief, identity or background.

At the same time, we ask those who would be in a leadership role with Young Life to accept and support certain beliefs and standards of behavior. These standards include expectations in the area of sexuality, which we view as integral to individual health and thriving.

We believe that God created us as sexual beings with an inherent desire for relational intimacy. We also recognize the importance of the apostle Paul's teaching that our bodies are sacred vessels and are to be lived in and cared for accordingly.

As with all gifts of life, we desire to experience our sexuality as an expression of gratitude to God, love for others, personal integrity and alignment with scriptural teaching. We therefore ask those seeking leadership roles with Young Life to refrain from sexually intimate relationships outside of a heterosexual marriage covenant.

We articulate these standards with humility, understanding some will not agree, and also with a high view of what it means to be a leader representing our organization.