

CONSTITUTION OF THE URANTIA BOOK FELLOWSHIP

PREAMBLE

Inasmuch as it is our most solemn conviction that the comfort, happiness, and well-being of all people will be enhanced by the creation of an organization devoted to the purposes hereinafter expressed, and inasmuch as it is our considered judgment that the purposes hereinafter expressed may best be accomplished through the mutual assistance and association of a body of people working together for a common cause, we do hereby unite together as a voluntary association and fellowship under the name of THE URANTIA BOOK FELLOWSHIP, and we do hereby adopt and establish this CONSTITUTION OF THE URANTIA BOOK FELLOWSHIP.

ARTICLE I

NAME

The name of this association shall be THE URANTIA BOOK FELLOWSHIP, hereinafter referred to in this constitution as “UBF”.

ARTICLE II

PURPOSE

The purposes of UBF are the study and dissemination of the teachings of *The Urantia Book*; the promotion, improvement, and expansion among the peoples of the world of the comprehension and understanding of Cosmology and the relation of the planet on which we live to the Universe, of the genesis and destiny of humankind and our relation to God, and of the life and teachings of Jesus; and the inculcation and encouragement of the realization and appreciation of the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of All -- in order to increase and enhance the comfort, happiness, and well-being of all people, as individuals and as members of society, by fostering a religion, a philosophy, and a cosmology which are commensurate with humankind's intellectual and cultural development, through the medium of fraternal association, ever obedient and subservient to the laws of this country and of all countries wherein UBF may extend.

ARTICLE III

COMPOSITION

UBF shall be composed of members associated together for the purposes expressed in this Constitution into local societies hereinafter referred to as "Local Societies," autonomous in conduct of their local affairs, but subservient to this Constitution, chartered by, and inseparably associated with, the integrant organization in this Constitution created and defined, and divided into such geographical groups and correlated by such integrated intermediary organizations as shall be provided to best serve an orderly organization.

ARTICLE IV

MEMBERSHIP

Section 4.1. Qualification: Any person who shall, as adjudged by a Local Society, evidence a desire and a willingness to learn and understand the teachings of *The Urantia Book*, and who shall declare willingness to accept this Constitution of UBF, shall be eligible for membership in such Local Society. Membership in any church, religious organization, or fraternal society shall not disqualify a candidate for membership in a Local Society. Any person, upon becoming a member of a Local Society, shall ipso facto become a member of UBF.

Section 4.2 Members-at-Large: Any person who declares a desire and a willingness to learn and understand the teachings of *The Urantia Book*, and a willingness to accept this Constitution of UBF, shall be eligible for membership in UBF as a Member-at-Large. Membership in any church, religious organization, or fraternal society shall not disqualify a candidate for membership.

Section 4.3 Transfer of Membership: Any Member-at-Large who becomes a member of a duly chartered Local shall have their Membership status transferred to that Local Society. A member shall have the right to transfer membership from any Local Society to another Local Society upon obtaining the consent of the latter and upon complying with the requirements of the By-laws of UBF.

Section 4.4 Expulsion: No member shall be expelled from membership in a Local Society unless, as adjudged by such Local Society, the attitude, conduct, or influence of such member shall be prejudicial to the interests and work of such Local Society. Members-at-Large hold their membership at the option of the Executive Committee. No Member-at-Large shall be expelled from membership in UBF unless, as adjudged by the Executive Committee, the attitude, conduct, or influence of such member shall be prejudicial to the interests and work of UBF. Upon the expulsion of a member, that individual shall cease to be a member of UBF and shall be disqualified for membership in any other Local Society or as a Member-at-Large except as hereinafter provided.

Section 4.5 Appeal from Expulsion: Whenever a member shall have been expelled from a Local Society or as a Member-at-Large, the member shall have the right to appeal to the Judicial Committee; and from a decision of the Judicial Committee confirming that expulsion, such expelled member may apply to the Executive Committee for a review of the decision of the Judicial Committee, and the Executive Committee may accept or reject such application. Appeals to the Judicial Committee and applications for review of decisions of the Judicial Committee shall be made in the manner prescribed by the By-laws of UBF. The Judicial Committee, upon appeal, and the Executive Committee, upon acceptance of the application to review the decision of the Judicial Committee, shall have the power respectively to confirm the expulsion or to determine that such expulsion was without prejudice. In the event of the determination by either the Judicial Committee or the Executive Committee that the expulsion was without prejudice, the disqualification for membership in any other Local Society or as a Member-at-Large of the person so expelled shall be rescinded thereby.

Section 4.6. Record of Membership: A permanent record of each member shall be made, kept, and preserved in the manner prescribed in the By-laws of UBF.

ARTICLE V

LOCAL SOCIETIES

Section 5.1. Organization: Whenever ten (10) or more persons shall have associated themselves together to establish a society for the accomplishment of the purposes expressed in this Constitution, and shall make application to the Membership Committee, in the form prescribed by the Membership Committee, to be chartered as a Local Society of UBF, and shall have paid to the Membership Committee the

application fee required by the By-laws of UBF, the Membership Committee, when it is satisfied that the applicants comply with the Standards of Admission of Local Societies, shall recommend to the Executive Committee that a charter be issued to such applicants; and upon the ratification and approval of the Membership Committee's recommendation by the Executive Committee, a charter shall be granted and issued by the Membership Committee and signed by the Chair and Secretary of the Membership Committee and by the President and Secretary of UBF, and UBF Seal affixed thereto.

Section 5.2. Installation: When a charter shall have been granted and issued, the Membership Committee shall cause the persons applying therefor to be installed as a Local Society pursuant to such formalities as may from time to time be established by the Membership Committee. Upon the installation of a Local Society the persons comprising such Local Society shall become and be members of UBF.

Section 5.3. Name of Local Society: The Membership Committee, subject to ratification by the Executive Committee, shall approve the name of each new Local Society.

Section 5.4. Local Government: Each Local Society shall have a congregational form of organization and government; its officers shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and such other officers as may be desired; and these officers shall be elected for a term of one (1), two (2), or three (3) years in accordance with procedures established by each Local Society. The Secretary-General of UBF shall be notified by the Secretary of each Local Society of the names of the officers of such Local Society within thirty (30) days subsequent to their election. Each Local Society shall have a Membership Committee and such other committees as may from time to time be established by the By-laws of such Local Society. The Secretary-General of UBF shall be provided by the Secretary of each Local Society with a current copy of the Constitution and By-laws of such Local Society and within thirty (30) days subsequent to any modification of change. Each Local Society shall be autonomous in all matters of its government and activities, including the determination of its membership, except as limited by this Constitution or delegated to the General Council, the Executive Committee, or one or more of the Departmental Committees.

Section 5.5. Tithes: Each Local Society shall remit to the Treasurer of UBF a tithe (ten (10) percent) of its gross receipts, and the tithe shall become a part of the treasury of UBF. Such tithes shall be remitted to the Treasurer of UBF at such time and with such reports as may from time to time be required by the By-laws of UBF.

Section 5.6. Revocation of Charter: Whenever the conduct of a Local Society shall contravene the spirit and purpose of UBF, the charter of such Local Society may be revoked. The charter of any Local Society shall not be revoked except upon (a) the filing by the Membership Committee of a petition with the Judicial Committee for the revocation of the charter of such a Local Society, (b) the summoning of the officers of such Local Society by the Judicial Committee to show cause why its charter should not be revoked, (c) an adjudication by the Judicial Committee, after a hearing on such petition to show cause, that the charter of such Local Society should be revoked, and (d) the affirmation by the Executive Committee of such adjudication. Such Local Society shall be notified of the revocation of the charter by letter transmitted by United States Registered Mail from the Chair of the Judicial Committee attested by the Secretary General. From an adjudication by the Judicial Committee, affirmed by the Executive Committee, revoking the charter of a Local Society, an appeal may be taken, in the manner prescribed in the By-laws of UBF, to the General Council. Such appeal shall be taken at the next meeting of the General Council if such meeting shall be not less than thirty (30) days from the date of the affirmation by the Executive Committee of the adjudication of the Judicial Committee, and if said next meeting of the General Council shall be less than thirty (30) days from the date of such affirmation, then at the next succeeding meeting of the General Council. The Executive Committee may suspend action on an adjudication of the Judicial Committee for a probationary period, but the failure of the Executive Committee to take any action within sixty (60) days after such an adjudication by the Judicial Committee shall constitute a disaffirmance. A disaffirmance by the Executive Committee shall constitute a final determination dismissing the petition to show cause. Any Local Society against which a petition for the revocation of its charter shall have been filed by the Membership Committee shall be entitled to representation by counsel in all proceedings relevant thereto. Upon the revocation of the charter of any Local Society, the persons comprising such Local Society shall automatically cease to be members of UBF, and such persons shall be disqualified for membership in any other Local Society except as hereinafter and hereinbefore provided.

Section 5.7. Special Dispensation to Members: Whenever the charter of any Local Society shall have been revoked, any member of such society may petition the Judicial Committee for special dispensation; and if the Judicial Committee shall determine that the loss of such person's membership in UBF should be without prejudice, and such determination of the Judicial Committee shall have been ratified by the Executive Committee, the disqualification of such person for membership in any other Local Society shall be rescinded thereby.

Section 5.8. Inactive Status: Whenever a Local Society shall fail to comply with the requirements of the Constitution and By-laws of UBF, such Local Society may be placed on Inactive Status by the Secretary-General with the approval of the Executive Committee and the members of such Local Society shall become Members-at-Large of UBF. The Local Society President and Secretary of last record shall be given notice of the change in Local Society status to Inactive by the Secretary-General of UBF and each Local Society member of last record shall be notified of change from Society Member to Member-At-Large. An Inactive Local Society is unable to participate in the Triennial Delegate Assembly unless all requirements are met no later than sixty (60) days before the date of the called Triennial Delegate Assembly. UBF Constitution and By- laws require a Local Society to do the following:

- (a) To hold elections every one (1), two (2), or three (3) years, according to the Local Society's constitution. (Section 5.4)
- (b) To have a minimum of four (4) officers including a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. (Section 5.4)
- (c) To notify UBF of the names of the officers within thirty (30) days subsequent to their election. (Section 5.4 and By-laws Paragraph 1.5)
- (d) To provide UBF with a copy of its current constitution and by-laws and within thirty (30) days subsequent to any modification of change. (Section 5.4)
- (e) To remit to UBF a tithe (ten (10) percent) of its gross receipts on or before the thirty first (31st) day of January. (Section 5.5 and By-laws paragraph 3.3)
- (f) To maintain a list of society members and provide such list to UBF when requested. (By-laws paragraph 1.1)
- (g) To provide UBF not later than the tenth (10) day of January of each year, the number of members in that society on the last day of the preceding calendar year and such other information as the Executive Committee shall from time to time require. (By-laws paragraph 3.2)
- (h) To record transfers of membership. (By-laws paragraph 1.4)
- (i) To notify UBF of Expulsions from the Local Society. (By- laws paragraph 1.6)

(j) To notify UBF within fifteen (15) days of the election of the Delegate and Alternate Delegate, the name of the Delegate and Alternate Delegate, and such notification shall be certified by the President of such Local Society. Each Delegate and Alternate shall certify that each has read *The Urantia Book* in its entirety. (By-laws Paragraph 7.3)

ARTICLE VI

TRIENNIAL DELEGATE ASSEMBLY

Section 6.1. Call: The first Triennial Delegate Assembly shall convene not less than six (6) months nor more than one (1) year after the expiration of nine (9) years from the date of the adoption of this Constitution and, thereafter, once every three (3) years, upon call by the Executive Committee. Notice of the call of the Triennial Delegate Assembly shall be given to each Local Society not less than six (6) months before the date of convention designated by the Executive Committee in the call of the Triennial Delegate Assembly, and such notice shall contain the names of the Program Committee, which shall be appointed by the President at the time of the call.

Section 6.2. Delegates: Delegates to the Triennial Delegate Assembly (Triennial Delegates) must be members in good standing of UBF and of any Local Society which they represent, and must have read *The Urantia Book* in its entirety. Triennial Delegates shall be elected in the manner provided by the By-laws of UBF. Equal representation shall be accorded to each Local Society at the Triennial Delegate Assembly.

Section 6.3. Proceedings: The President and Secretary of UBF shall preside at the Triennial Delegate Assembly. Subject only to the provisions of this Constitution, each Triennial Delegate Assembly shall determine its own membership. The Committee on Credentials shall consist of the Chair of the Judicial, Membership, and Interfaith Committees of UBF. This Committee shall meet at a time specified by the Executive Committee before the opening of the Triennial Delegate Assembly to receive, examine, and recommend to the President the approval or disapproval of the credentials of each of the delegates and alternates. Immediately following the seating of the delegates, the President shall appoint from the floor a Committee on Nominations and a Committee on Resolutions. The Triennial Delegate Assembly shall be conducted pursuant to Robert's Rules of Order except in respect to the order of procedure, which shall be as follows:

- (a) Assembly called to order and address of welcome.
- (b) Report of Credentials Committee and seating of delegates.
- (c) Appointment by the President from the floor of a Committee on Nominations and a Committee on Resolutions.
- (d) Reports of outgoing officers, Service Team Chairs, and chairs of Departmental Committees.
- (e) Report of Nominations Committee and election of members of General Council.
- (f) Report of Resolutions Committee.
- (g) Consideration of old business.
- (h) Consideration of new business.
- (i) Reading and approval of minutes unless Assembly votes to waive such reading or designates some other manner of approving minutes.
- (j) Adjournment.

Section 6.4. Quorum: A quorum of any meeting of a Triennial Delegate Assembly shall consist of a majority of the accredited delegates who shall have been seated by the Assembly after the report by the Credentials Committee, but a lesser number may meet and adjourn. Any question presented to the Triennial Delegate Assembly may be decided by a majority of the Triennial Delegates present at any duly constituted meeting at which a quorum is present except as otherwise provided in this Constitution.

Section 6.5. Ratification of Resolutions: All resolutions adopted by the Triennial Delegate Assembly, except resolutions pertaining to the organization and rules of

procedure of such assembly and to the election of Councilors, shall be referred to the General Council, which may either ratify and confirm such resolutions, refer the same to the Departmental Committees for further study or elaboration, or take such other action as the General Council shall deem necessary, appropriate, or proper: provided, however, that whenever a resolution adopted by the Triennial Delegate Assembly is not ratified and confirmed by the General Council, a full report of the action of the General Council with respect thereto shall be made at the next Triennial Delegate Assembly upon the request of any accredited delegate thereto.

Section 6.6. Expenses of Triennial Delegate Assembly: All expenses of the Triennial Delegate Assembly, except the expenses of the individual delegates, shall be paid by UBF.

ARTICLE VII

INTEGRATION OF LOCAL SOCIETIES

As Local Societies shall increase in number so that it shall be beneficial to the orderly administration of the organization of UBF, the General Council shall first group the Local Societies into state or district groups, or a combination thereof, and then, such state or district groups, into regional or national groups or a combination thereof, with such organizations as shall be prescribed by the By-laws. The expenses of the intermediary organizations established by the General Council shall be paid out of the treasury of UBF and shall be such portion of the tithes as shall be determined from time to time by the General Council. In the establishment of such intermediary organizations, the General Council shall provide for the holding of appropriate group assemblies and the election of delegates thereto and for the election of Triennial Delegates by the assemblies of the largest representative groups so established. The creation and establishment of such groups and their organization shall be by the affirmative vote in favor thereof at any regular meeting of three-fourths (3/4ths) of all duly elected and qualified Councilors.

ARTICLE VIII

THE GENERAL COUNCIL

Section 8.1. Organization: There shall be a General Council of UBF composed of thirty-six (36) Councilors.

Section 8.2. Election and Terms of Councilors: The members of the General Council shall be elected by the Triennial Delegate Assembly for terms as follows: At the first Triennial Delegate Assembly, twelve (12) Councilors shall be elected for a term of three (3) years, twelve (12) Councilors for a term of six (6) years, and twelve (12) Councilors for a term of nine (9) years; at each succeeding Triennial Delegate Assembly, twelve (12) Councilors shall be elected for a term of nine (9) years to fill the offices of the Councilors then expiring. Councilors shall be elected by secret ballot from nominations presented to the Triennial Delegate Assembly by the Nominations Committee and from the floor of the assembly with the prior consent of the individuals nominated, and a candidate receiving a majority of the ballots cast shall be declared elected. Each Triennial Delegate, in person and not by proxy, shall be entitled to cast one (1) vote for each Councilor to be elected but without right to accumulate any such votes for one (1) or more Councilors.

Section 8.3. Qualification of Councilors: Any member of UBF in good standing who has read *The Urantia Book* in its entirety shall be eligible to hold the office of Councilor, but only while such person remains a member in good standing. Loss of membership in UBF for any reason shall ipso facto terminate such person's tenure and status as a Councilor. Should a Councilor's membership in UBF be terminated by adverse judicial or administrative action, during the period between such action and the time such action becomes final, such person may not sit, speak, or vote as a member of the General Council.

Section 8.4. Removal of Councilors: A Councilor may be removed from office

- (a) for permanent incapacitation rendering the Councilor physically or mentally disabled for fulfilling the duties of a Councilor or
- (b) for conduct rendering the continuation of the Councilor's membership on the General Council prejudicial to the best interests of UBF, providing
 - (1) a resolution shall be adopted by an affirmative vote of at least three-fourths (3/4ths) of the members of the Executive Committee recommending the removal of such Councilor from office and stating the reasons therefor;
 - (2) a copy of such resolution, certified by the Secretary, shall be delivered to the Councilor in person or transmitted by United States Registered Mail addressed to the Councilor's last known address at least

thirty (30) days prior to the meeting of the General Council at which said resolution of the Executive Committee shall be presented; and

(3) on a secret ballot of the General Council, an affirmative vote of at least three-fourths (3/4ths) of the duly elected and qualified Councilors shall be cast in favor of such removal, the Councilor whose removal is being voted upon being disqualified to vote.

On the casting of such vote, the office of such Councilor shall become vacant.

Section 8.5. Filling Vacancies: Whenever a vacancy shall exist in the office of Councilor by reason of death, resignation, or removal, the General Council shall elect a temporary successor from among the members of UBF in good standing to fill such vacancy for the unexpired term thereof or until the next Triennial Delegate Assembly if the term of such vacant office shall not expire until thereafter, in which latter event the Triennial Delegate Assembly shall then elect a successor to fill such vacancy and to hold office for the remainder of such term.

Section 8.6. Development of Agenda: A proposed agenda for all meetings of the General Council, shall be developed by the President of UBF, approved by the Executive Committee, and presented to the General Council, at least fifteen (15) days prior to such meeting, for adoption at the opening session of such meeting as the first item of business to be acted upon.

Section 8.7. Quorum: A quorum at any meeting of the General Council shall consist of a majority of the Councilors, but a lesser number may meet and adjourn. The presiding officer at any meeting thereof may vote only in case of a tied vote. Any question presented at any meeting of the General Council at which a quorum is present shall be decided by a majority vote except as otherwise provided in this Constitution.

Section 8.8. Meetings:

(a) Regular Meetings: Regular meetings of the General Council shall be held once each calendar year in which there is no Triennial Meeting of the General Council. Regular meetings shall be held at the headquarters of UBF or at the place designated by the Executive Committee. The date and time of regular meetings shall be determined by the Executive Committee. Written notices shall be given to each Councilor at least fifteen (15) days prior to such meeting, stating therein the time and place of such meeting. Such notices may be delivered personally or may be sent by

telegraph or by United States Mail addressed to the Councilor's last known address. Regular Meetings shall include necessary elections of the members of the Service Teams and the Departmental Committees. At the Regular Meeting of the General Council in 2022, the election of the office of Vice President will be held, and held at every Regular Meeting three years thereafter. At the Regular Meeting of the General Council in 2023, the election of the offices of Treasurer and Secretary-General will be held, and held at every Regular Meeting three years thereafter.

(b) Special Meetings: Special meetings of the General Council may be called at any time by the Executive Committee or upon the written request of twelve (12) Councilors. Notice thereof shall be given as required in the case of regular meetings, but such notice shall also state the purpose or purposes for which such special meeting is called.

(c) Triennial Meetings: Immediately following the Triennial Delegate Assembly a meeting of the General Council, to be known as the Triennial Meeting, shall be held for the election of the offices of President and Secretary of UBF and as necessary the members of the Service Teams and the Departmental Committees. The President and the Secretary of UBF shall preside at the Triennial Meeting, whether or not either of them is then a member of the General Council, until their successors have been elected and installed at such meeting. No notice of such meeting shall be required except that the twelve (12) newly elected Councilors shall be notified by telephone or telegraph.

(d) Waiver of Notice: Notice of any regular or special meeting of the General Council may be waived by waiver in writing of all the Councilors.

Section 8.9. Powers: The General Council shall have the following powers:

(a) All powers which are not specifically conferred upon the officers, the Departmental Committees, and the Local Societies, and which are not prohibited to the General Council by this Constitution, may be exercised by the General Council.

(b) The General Council shall have the power to and shall adopt By-laws which shall be known as the "By-laws of UBF," to make effective the terms and provisions of this Constitution and the powers herein conferred upon the General Council and to regulate the conduct of the affairs of UBF.

(c) The General Council shall have the power by By-law to delegate its authority and power, or part thereof, to the Executive Committee and to revoke such delegation at any time.

(d) The General Council shall not enact any By-law limiting or restricting the autonomy of the Local Societies over the conduct of their local affairs.

(e) The General Council shall not enact any By-laws discriminating against any Local Society or group of Local Societies.

Section 8.10. Proxies: Proxy voting is not permitted at General Council meetings.

ARTICLE IX

OFFICERS

Section 9.1. Officers: The officers of UBF shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and a Secretary-General, and such other officers as may from time to time be established by the By-laws of UBF.

Section 9.2. Election: The officers shall be elected by the General Council from its membership at meetings of the General Council defined in Section 8.7. Starting at the Triennial Meeting of the General Council in 2018 and ending at the Regular Meeting of the General Council in 2022, the office of Vice President shall hold office for a term of four (4) years and until their successor is duly elected and qualified. Starting at the Triennial Meeting of the General Council in 2018 and ending at the Regular Meeting of the General Council in 2023, the offices of the Treasurer and Secretary-General shall hold office for a term of five (5) years and until their successors are duly elected and qualified. Officers at all other times shall hold office for a term of three (3) years and until their successors are duly elected and qualified. The election of officers shall be by secret ballot from candidates nominated for each office by the Executive Committee and from the floor with the prior consent of the individuals nominated, and a candidate receiving a majority of the ballots cast shall be declared elected. Whenever it shall be necessary to cast more than one (1) ballot, the candidates for office shall be restricted in each succeeding ballot to the two (2) candidates receiving the highest number of votes on the preceding ballot, or, in case of a tie by three (3) or more candidates, then to the candidates so tied.

Section 9.3. President: The President shall be the principal executive officer; and shall preside at all meetings of the General Council, the Executive Committee, and the Triennial Delegate Assembly, until a successor has been elected and installed at the Triennial Meeting of the General Council; and shall make periodic reports to the General Council and UBF and a final report to the Triennial Delegate Assembly on the status of the affairs and activities of UBF and such other reports as shall from time to time be required by the General Council or the Executive Committee; and shall have power to carry into effect all By-laws of UBF and all resolutions of the General Council and all rules and resolutions of the Executive Committee; and shall have such other powers and duties as may from time to time be conferred or imposed by the By-laws of UBF or by the General Council or by the Executive Committee.

Section 9.4. Vice-President: In the event of the inability of the President to act, the Vice-President shall perform the duties and exercise the powers of the President; and shall perform such other duties and exercise such other powers as may from time to time be imposed by the General Council, the Executive Committee, and the President.

Section 9.5. Secretary: The Secretary shall keep and preserve the records of the meetings and proceedings of the General Council and of the Triennial Delegate Assembly; and shall be custodian of UBF SEAL; and shall issue all notices required by the Constitution and By-laws of UBF; and shall keep and preserve the official record of the members of UBF, to be known as the Official Membership Census; and shall have power to certify to the correctness of any copies of records in the Secretary's custody and possession; and shall perform such other duties and exercise such other powers as may from time to time be imposed upon the Secretary by the By-laws. In the event of the inability of both the President and Vice-President to act, the Secretary shall exercise the powers and perform the duties of the President.

Section 9.6. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall be the principal financial officer and shall have general supervision and control over the moneys and properties of UBF; and shall collect and receive all moneys and property due UBF; and shall render reports to the President and Executive Committee at such times as either shall require; and shall have the custody and control of, and shall preserve, financial and property records of UBF; and shall render a full and complete final report on the financial affairs of UBF and the conduct of the Treasurer's office to the Triennial Delegate Assembly.

Section 9.7. Secretary-General: The Secretary-General shall be the principal clerical officer and the liaison officer between the General Council and each of the Departmental Committees; and shall be ex-officio a member of all such committees

but without power to vote thereon; and shall assist in the correlation of the work of the Departmental Committees; and shall keep and preserve the records of the meetings and proceedings and copies of all official reports, records, and documents of such Committees; and shall keep and preserve all records of the officers of Local Societies, and shall keep and preserve such other records of UBF as shall be directed by the By-laws of UBF. In the event of the inability of the Secretary or Treasurer, or both, to act, the Secretary General shall exercise the powers and perform the duties of Secretary or Treasurer, or both. In the event of the temporary inability of the Secretary-General to act, the President, by and with the consent of a majority of the Executive Committee, shall have power to appoint an Acting Secretary-General, who shall succeed to the powers and duties of the Secretary-General during the period of such temporary inability to act.

Section 9.8. Bonds: The officers shall give bond in such sums and with such sureties as may from time to time be required by the By-laws. All such bonds shall be payable to the Executive Committee of UBF.

Section 9.9. Vacancies: Whenever any vacancy shall occur in any of the foregoing offices, such vacancies may be filled at any regular or special meeting of the General Council, which may elect a successor or successors to such office or offices, to serve during the unexpired term thereof, from nominees submitted by the Executive Committee.

Section 9.10. Limitations of Officers: Except as in this Article provided, no person shall hold more than one office, nor shall any officer serve as an officer of any Departmental Committee.

ARTICLE X

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 10.1. Organization: There shall be an Executive Committee of the General Council, to be known as the "Executive Committee," which shall be comprised of the officers of UBF, the chairs of each of the Service Teams, and the chair of the Judicial Committee who will serve ex-officio with all participatory privileges as a non-voting member.

Section 10.2. Officers of the Executive Committee: The President shall be the Chair of the Executive Committee and shall preside at all meetings thereof. The Secretary-

General shall be the Secretary of the Executive Committee and shall make and preserve all records of the meetings, proceedings, and actions of the Executive Committee.

Section 10.3. Powers and Duties: The Executive Committee shall be vested with the power to actively manage all the affairs of UBF in accordance with this Constitution and pursuant to the By-laws of UBF. It shall have power to veto or modify any act of any officer of UBF or of any Service Team or Departmental Committee; it shall exercise the powers conferred upon it by this Constitution; and it shall exercise such other powers and perform such functions as may be conferred upon, or delegated to, it by the General Council. The Executive Committee shall have absolute control over all property of UBF, and complete legal title to all property of UBF shall be vested in the Executive Committee unless the Executive Committee shall direct that the legal title to any or all such property shall vest in one or more persons, corporations, or groups of persons as fiscal agents of the Executive Committee. The acts of the Executive Committee with respect to any property or property rights of UBF shall in all ways be final and conclusive and binding upon UBF, but the Executive Committee from time to time may delegate such powers or a part or portion thereof, or upon conditions and limitations, to one (1) or more persons, corporations, or committees.

Section 10.4. Members-at-Large: The Executive Committee shall be empowered to accept isolated individuals as members-at-large of UBF by a two-thirds (2/3rds) vote. The qualifications for the establishment and continuance of such membership shall rest in the sole judgment of the Executive Committee which shall, therefore, be empowered to terminate such membership at any time, by a two-thirds (2/3rds) vote, for any reason it deems sufficient for such action.

Section 10.5. Meetings: The Executive Committee shall meet regularly at least once each calendar quarter at a date and hour designated by the Executive Committee, at the headquarters of UBF in the City of Chicago, State of Illinois, or at such other place as shall be designated by the President and Secretary-General. Special or adjourned meetings of the Executive Committee may be held at any place or time upon the call thereof by the President and Secretary-General. A special meeting of the Executive Committee shall be called by the President and Secretary-General within thirty (30) days of receipt of written request for such meeting signed by three (3) or more members of the Executive Committee. Notice of special meetings, and of regular meetings where the place of such meeting shall be otherwise than the headquarters of UBF, shall be given not less than ten (10) days prior to such meeting, which notice shall contain the time and place of such meeting, and the purpose of any

special meeting. Notice of any meeting may be waived by waiver in writing of all the members of the Executive Committee.

Section 10.6. Quorum: A quorum at any meeting of the Executive Committee shall consist of a majority of the members of such committee, not counting the chair of the Judicial Committee, but a lesser number may meet and adjourn. No notice of an adjourned meeting shall be required. All questions presented to the Executive Committee may be decided by a majority vote of the members of the Executive Committee present at any duly constituted meeting. The Chair of the Executive Committee shall vote only in the event of a tied vote.

Section 10.7. Rules of the Executive Committee: The Executive Committee shall from time to time adopt rules for the conduct of the affairs of UBF, supplementing and interpreting the By-laws of UBF, which said rules shall be known as "Rules of the Executive Committee." The Executive Committee shall also adopt rules to govern the acts and procedure of the Executive Committee, which shall be known as the "Rules of Procedure of the Executive Committee."

Section 10.8. Compensation: Members of the Executive Committee shall serve without compensation, provided, however, that nothing herein contained shall prohibit the payment of just compensation for services otherwise rendered by any member. The Executive Committee shall have power to employ such persons as shall be necessary for the conduct of the affairs and the business of UBF and to cause just compensation for services rendered to be paid to them out of the treasury of UBF.

ARTICLE XI

SERVICE TEAMS

Section 11.1. Names of Service Teams: There shall be the following Service Teams:

- (a) The Worldwide Team.
- (b) The Fellowship Team.
- (c) The Media and Communications Team.

Section 11.2. Composition of the Service Teams: The Service Teams shall be composed of Departmental and other Committees as determined by a majority vote of

the members of the Executive Committee as long as all Departmental Committees are assigned to exactly one Service Team. In addition, the Service Teams may include other Committees as from time to time may be decided by the Executive Committee.

Section 11.3 Election and Term of Office: Each Service Team shall be composed of the Service Team Chair and the Chairs of the constituent Committees. The Chair of each Service Team shall be a Councilor elected by the General Council for a term of three (3) years. Each Service Team shall have a Secretary appointed by its Chair from among its members.

Section 11.4. The Role and Function of the Service Teams: The role of the Service Teams is to provide strategic coordination and information flow across a domain of organizational activity, and between that domain and the Executive Committee. Except as otherwise directed by the Executive Committee, decisions that relate entirely to the domain of the Service Team are made by the Service Team, or by its constituent Committees.

Section 11.5. Quorum: A quorum at any meeting of any Service Team shall consist of two-thirds (2/3rds) of the members of such team. Questions are decided by a majority vote of a quorum of the Service Team, or by the unanimous written concurrence of all members of such team without the necessity for a meeting.

Section 11.6. Chair: The Chair of each Service Team shall preside at all meetings of the Team and shall be ex-officio a member of the Executive Committee. Whenever required by any officer of UBF, by the Executive Committee, by the General Council, or by the Triennial Delegate Assembly, the Chair of each Team shall give a full and complete report of the Team activities.

Section 11.7. Secretary: The Secretary of each Service Team shall keep a full and complete record of the proceedings and activities of the Team and shall deliver certified copies thereof to the President upon request. In the absence of the Chair, the Secretary will preside.

ARTICLE XII

DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEES

Section 12.1. Names of Committees: There shall be the following Departmental Committees:

- (a) The Judicial Committee.
- (b) The Membership Committee.
- (c) The Interfaith Committee.
- (d) The Outreach Committee.
- (e) The International Fellowship Committee
- (f) The Education Committee.
- (g) The Publications Committee.
- (h) The Finance Committee.
- (i) The Youth and Young Adult Committee.

Section 12.2. Election and Term of Office: Each of the Departmental Committees shall be comprised of six (6) members who shall be appointed by the Committee Chair and approved by the General Council. At each regular and Triennial Meeting of the General Council, each Committee Chair shall appoint one (1) member of their respective Departmental Committee to fill the vacancy of the member whose term has expired, such member is to hold office for a term of six (6) years. Confirmation requires a majority of votes cast. One (1) member of each Departmental Committee shall at all times be a Councilor; the remaining members of each Departmental Committee shall be selected from members of UBF in good standing.

Section 12.3. Committee Officers: There shall be a Chair and Secretary of each Departmental Committee. The Chair of each committee shall be a Councilor elected to the committee and designated as Chair by the General Council. The Secretary shall be appointed by the Chair at the first meeting of each committee immediately following the annual meeting of the General Council. Vacancies in the office of Chair shall be filled by action of the General Council while vacancies in the office of Secretary may be filled by action of the Chair at any regular or special meeting of said committee.

Section 12.4. Vacancies in Committees: Whenever a vacancy shall exist in the membership of any Departmental Committee, the respective Committee Chair shall appoint an interim member to fill such vacancy. Said interim appointment will be confirmed by vote of the General Council so stated in Section 12.2 at its next regular meeting.

Section 12.5. Quorum: A quorum at any meeting of any Departmental Committee shall consist of two-thirds (2/3rds) of the members of such committee. All questions presented to any Departmental Committee shall be decided by a majority of the members of such committee participating in any meeting thereof at which a quorum is participating, or by the unanimous written concurrence of all members of such committee without the necessity for a meeting. The Executive Committee shall define a "meeting" of any Departmental Committee in the Rules of the Executive Committee.

Section 12.6. Chair: The Chair of each Departmental Committee shall preside at all meetings of the committee. Whenever required by any officer of UBF, by the Executive Committee, by the General Council, or by the Triennial Delegate Assembly, the Chair of each committee shall give a full and complete Departmental report of the Committee activities.

Section 12.7. Secretary: The Secretary of each Departmental Committee shall keep a full and complete record of the proceedings and activities of the Committee and shall deliver certified copies thereof to the President upon request. In the absence of the Chair, the Secretary will preside.

Section 12.8. Committee Rules: Subject to the rules and regulations adopted by the Executive Committee and to the By-laws of UBF, each Departmental Committee shall adopt such rules of procedure for the conduct of the affairs of such committee as shall be necessary, which said rules shall not be inconsistent with, or in derogation of, the Rules of the Executive Committee or the By-laws and the Constitution of UBF.

Section 12.9. The Judicial Committee: The Judicial Committee shall be the supreme arbitrating body of UBF, but, except as otherwise provided, their determinations and decisions shall be subject to the veto of, or modification by, the Executive Committee within the time allowed by the By-laws of UBF. The jurisdiction of the Judicial Committee shall extend to all matters pertaining to the affairs of UBF and to all differences between Local Societies or between any Local Society and any member thereof or between any members or groups of members. The Judicial Committee shall, upon the request of any officer of UBF, any Councilor, or the Chair of any Departmental Committee, render opinions on any matters involving a construction of this Constitution, of the By-laws of UBF, and of the Rules of the Executive Committee. A permanent record of such opinions shall be preserved. The chair of the Judicial Committee shall also serve as a non-voting ex-officio member of the Executive Committee.

Section 12.10. The Membership Committee: The Membership Committee shall have direct supervision over all matters pertaining to the application for charters as Local Societies and the installation of Local Societies. By and with the consent and approval of the Executive Committee, the Membership Committee shall make and establish and alter and amend: (1) Standards of Admission of Local Societies for the qualification of individuals making application to be chartered as a Local Society; (2) Standard of Admission of Members for the qualification of persons making application for membership in Local Societies; (3) the form of charter for Local Societies; and (4) a ritual for the installation of Local Societies and for the initiation of individual members into Local Societies. The Membership Committee shall promote the organization of Local Societies; shall assist interested persons in forming such societies; shall assist and cooperate with any Local Society in furthering the purposes of such society and the purposes of UBF; and shall also perform all other duties directly or indirectly imposed upon it by this Constitution and by the By-laws of UBF.

Section 12.11. The Interfaith Committee: The Interfaith Committee shall foster and develop fraternal relations, understanding, and good will with organizations devoted to the practice or study of religion, to the end that the purposes of UBF may be advanced.

Section 12.12. The Outreach Committee: The Outreach Committee shall promote knowledge of *The Urantia Book* and its teachings among the inhabitants of the United States; and shall encourage the dissemination of *The Urantia Book*.

Section 12.13. The International Fellowship Committee: The International Fellowship Committee shall promote knowledge of *The Urantia Book* and its teachings among the inhabitants of countries other than the United States of America; it shall encourage and assist suitable persons to interest themselves in securing funds for the translation of the English text into the various other languages; it shall encourage and assist in the dissemination of *The Urantia Book* among the inhabitants of countries other than the United States of America; it shall assist and foster the organization of Local Societies in all such countries; and it shall assist and co-operate with such Local Societies in furthering the purposes of such societies and the purposes of UBF.

Section 12.14. The Education Committee: The Education Committee shall foster the in-depth study of *The Urantia Book* by (various means including but not limited to) sponsoring gatherings of students and by providing study resources centered on universe educational ideals of encouraging the development of student-teachers.

Section 12.15. The Publications Committee: The Publications Committee shall have general supervision of the editing, printing, publication, and circulation of such publications as the Executive Committee shall authorize. By and with the consent and approval of the Executive Committee, it may employ editors, writers, translators, and other technical men and women, all of whom shall be employees of the Executive Committee, and the salaries of whom shall be paid out of the treasury of UBF.

Section 12.16. The Finance Committee: The Finance Committee shall devise and sponsor ways and means of raising and procuring funds for use by UBF in the carrying out of its activities; it shall supervise and assist in the raising and procurement of such funds; it shall prepare the annual budget in co-operation with other Departmental Committees and submit the same to the Executive Committee at least thirty (30) days prior to the December meeting of the Executive Committee; it shall recommend appropriations to the Executive Committee; it shall advise and inform the Executive Committee and the fiscal agents of the Executive Committee in matters pertaining to the investment of surplus funds; and it shall arrange for an annual audit of the books of the Treasurer. The Treasurer shall ex-officio be a member of the Finance Committee but without power to vote thereon.

Section 12.17. The Youth and Young Adult Committee: The Youth and Young Adult Committee serves UBF by recruiting and engaging youth and young adults to actively participate in the growth and health of our community. It is tasked with the development of programs that attract and encourage the involvement of youth and young adults within UBF.

Section 12.18. Additional Departmental Committees: The General Council may create other and additional Departmental Committees from time to time by amending this section of the Constitution.

ARTICLE XIII

FINANCES

Section 13.1. Treasury: All funds, including money and other property, received by UBF shall, upon the receipt thereof, become part of the treasury of UBF and shall be classed as (a) Income, (b) Capital Funds, and (c) Trusteed Funds, which shall be comprised as follows:

Income: Income shall include all money received from Local Societies as tithes and all earnings received from Capital Funds.

Capital Funds: Capital Funds shall include all other money and property received by UBF, except money and property received and accepted by UBF pursuant to the provisions of Section 13.2.

Trusted Funds: Trusted Funds shall include all money and property received and accepted by UBF for limited or restricted use pursuant to the provisions of Section 13.3.

Section 13.2. Gifts to UBF: A gift, devise, or bequest to UBF without specific limitation or restriction shall be a gift, devise, or bequest for the purposes for which UBF was created and established, and shall become part of the general funds of UBF and may be allocated in whole or in part to Income or to Capital Funds, or both, as from time to time determined by the Executive Committee.

Section 13.3. Restricted or Limited Gifts to UBF: A gift, devise, or bequest to UBF upon the condition or with the restriction or limitation that the property or earnings therefrom be used or devoted to a specific purpose may be received and administered by UBF only upon the acceptance thereof by the Executive Committee. A gift, devise, or bequest which by the terms of the instrument by which such gift, devise, or bequest is made limits or restricts the use of the property, or the earnings therefrom, so that the same may not be used, either perpetually or for a limited period of time, in any manner and for any purposes consistent with the objects of UBF as from time to time determined by the Executive Committee shall constitute a restricted or limited gift, devise, or bequest subject to the provisions of this Section. A gift, devise, or bequest so conditioned, restricted, or limited may be accepted by the Executive Committee only if the purpose for which such gift, devise, or bequest is so conditioned, restricted, or limited is consistent with the purposes as generally defined in Article II. The money or property received by UBF upon the acceptance of such a restricted or limited gift shall be segregated from the other funds and property of UBF and shall be held in the treasury as "Trusted Funds" so long as such restrictions or limitations shall apply. In the event that any such restrictions or limitations by the terms of the instrument by which such gift, devise, or bequest was made shall expire or cease to be applicable at a date subsequent to the date on which such gift, devise, or bequest was made, the funds or property then remaining shall become part of the general funds of UBF and may be allocated in whole or in part to Income or to Capital Funds, or to both, as shall be determined by the Executive Committee. To such extent that the instrument by which a gift, devise, or bequest is made does not

specifically otherwise provide, the money and property from time to time comprising such Trusteed Funds shall be administered, invested, and accounted for as provided in this Constitution.

Section 13.4. Determination of Income: The Executive Committee shall have the power to determine from time to time what constitutes Income and what constitutes Capital Funds and shall also have the power to determine what constitutes earnings from Capital Funds and from Trusteed Funds, and their determination shall in all respects be final.

Section 13.5. Disbursement of Funds: All moneys in the treasury of UBF shall be deposited in such banks or other institutions as the Executive Committee shall from time to time designate. No moneys shall be paid out of the treasury of UBF unless and until the same have been appropriated by the Executive Committee, and all disbursements from the treasury of UBF shall be by check or other written order. Any funds in the treasury of UBF, when deposited in any bank or other institution, shall be so deposited that such funds may be withdrawn at any time by check or other written order signed by the Treasurer and countersigned by the President; provided, however, that the Executive Committee may from time to time authorize the withdrawal of moneys in the treasury of UBF by check or other written order signed and countersigned by such other persons as the Executive Committee shall designate and appoint.

Section 13.6. Budget and Appropriations: At its last meeting in each year the Executive Committee shall adopt a budget for UBF for the next succeeding calendar year and on the basis of such budget shall make appropriations for the expenditures to be made by UBF during the ensuing calendar year, which said budget and appropriations shall be made and adopted in the manner provided in the By-laws of UBF. Appropriations for specific purposes, the expenditure of which shall extend over one (1) year, may be made in the manner provided in the By-laws of UBF. The total appropriations for disbursements to be made out of annual income shall in no event exceed ninety (90) per cent of the annual income, and the total of all appropriations for disbursements to be made out of Capital Funds shall in no event exceed ninety (90) per cent of the Capital Funds.

Section 13.7. Fiscal Year: The fiscal year of UBF shall be the calendar year.

Section 13.8. Investment of Funds: The Executive Committee, by and with the consultation and advice of the Finance Committee, shall have the power to invest and re-invest the funds and property of UBF as follows:

(a) To invest and re-invest such funds and property in bonds, notes, debentures, and certificates of the United States of America or of any subdivision thereof, and/or in bonds of any state or possession of the United States of America or any county or municipality thereof or any subdivision or authority of any such state, county, or municipality, and/or in bonds, notes, or debentures of any foreign government or any subdivision thereof, and/or in listed or unlisted stocks, preferred or common, bonds, or debentures of any firm or corporation, and/or shares in any investment trust, and/or real estate, improved or unimproved, and/or first mortgages on real estate improved or unimproved, provided such mortgage constitutes the entire first mortgage on any such parcel of real estate and not an interest therein or portion thereof.

(b) To retain as a part of the Capital Funds or Trusteed Funds, as long as the Executive Committee in their discretion shall deem it advisable, and notwithstanding any statutes or trust laws regarding the investment of trust funds or regarding the diversification of investments by trustees, all or any part of the property originally sold, assigned, transferred and set over unto UBF or which may thereafter from time to time be sold, assigned, transferred and set over unto UBF.

(c) To sell, transfer, convey or assign any and all property from time to time owned or held by UBF whenever the Executive Committee shall deem it advisable; and such sale or sales may be made at public or private sale and for cash or on such terms as the Executive Committee may deem advisable.

(d) To exercise in such manner as the Executive Committee may deem advisable, any or all rights, including voting rights, of, attaching to or accruing by reason of the ownership of any or all shares of stock, shares of beneficial interest or other securities or investments at any time owned by UBF; and to take such other or further action or to give or execute any proxy, voting trust agreement, plan of reorganization or consent which an owner of such shares, securities or investments could take, give or execute, with the same force and effect as though the Executive Committee were at the time the absolute owners of such shares, securities or investments; and to enter into any plan or scheme or organization or reorganization of any company, corporation, association or trust, the stock, securities or investments of which may be held by UBF.

(e) To buy or to join with any person or persons in buying any property which may be sold under the provisions of any mortgage, pledge or other security in which property or any part thereof UBF shall have an interest.

(f) To acquire industrial or commercial real estate and to construct improvements thereon for the exclusive use or benefit of a lessee in connection with the conduct of lessee's business and to invest the funds of UBF, or any portion thereof, in improved commercial or industrial real estate subject to a lease pursuant to which said improvements were constructed, and to purchase real estate and to construct improvements thereon to be leased to any firm or corporation, upon such terms and conditions as the Executive Committee shall deem proper.

(g) To lease any real estate at any time owned by UBF for any period of time not exceeding one hundred and ninety-eight (198) years; to use and apply any of the Capital Funds or Trusteed Funds of UBF for the purpose of paying or discharging any liens or encumbrances on such real estate or any part thereof or for acquiring any property which the Executive Committee may deem necessary or advisable for the protection of any of such real estate; to keep the buildings and improvements upon such real estate or any part thereof insured and in good repair; to alter or reconstruct any improvements on such real estate or to construct new improvements thereon in such manner and to such extent as the Executive Committee may deem advisable; to mortgage all or any of such real estate for the purpose of paying or renewing any encumbrance or other lien on the real estate or for the purpose of improving any property of UBF; to grant easements or charges of any kind upon or against such real estate; to make contracts or agreements for party walls or in relation thereto or otherwise, and to release, convey or assign any right, title or interest in or to such real estate, or any part thereof.

(h) To borrow money if and when the Executive Committee shall deem it proper for the purposes, or any of them, of UBF and to fix the terms of any such loans and to mortgage, pledge or hypothecate the property of UBF, or any part thereof, as security for all or any of such loans. All loans procured by the Executive Committee shall be used and applied by them solely for the purpose of executing any of the powers herein given to the Executive Committee or for the purpose of UBF.

Section 13.9. Delegation of Investment Powers: The Executive Committee may delegate the investment of the funds of UBF, or any part or portion thereof, to one or

more persons or corporations, with such limitations and restrictions as it shall desire or deem appropriate and proper.

Section 13.10. Distribution of Assets upon Dissolution: In the event of the dissolution of UBF, all its assets shall be distributed to the successor organization to UBF, if any, if the same shall qualify for exemption from federal income tax, and if there be no such successor to UBF, then all its assets shall be distributed to such qualified tax exempt organization(s) as shall be designated by the Executive Committee, acting directly, or in its capacity as the Board of Directors of any corporation(s) created under this constitution.

ARTICLE XIV

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Section 14.1. Insignia and Seal: The insignia of UBF shall consist of three (3) azure blue concentric circles on a white background, between the outer two (2) of which concentric circles shall be inscribed the words "UBF." UBF seal shall be a metal seal in circular form making an impression of three (3) concentric circles, between the outer two (2) of which shall be the words "UBF SEAL."

Section 14.2. Execution of Official Documents: Any document which shall be signed by the President and UBF seal affixed thereto and attested by the Secretary pursuant to the authority of the Executive Committee, either in the name of UBF or in the name of the Executive Committee of UBF, shall be the official act and deed of UBF for all purposes. The General Council may, by By-law, from time to time authorize the execution of documents also by other officers and persons; and when executed pursuant to such By-law and pursuant to the authority of the Executive Committee, such documents shall be the official act and deed of UBF.

Section 14.3. Recognition of Distinguished Service: If, in the opinion of the Executive Committee, any member of UBF shall perform or render some unusual, extraordinary, or distinguished service, the Executive Committee shall present to the General Council the name of such member with the recommendation that a suitable award or citation in recognition thereof be given. Upon the presentation of such recommendation, the General Council, by unanimous vote of all Councilors present at any duly constituted meeting, may give or confer on such member such award or citation in recognition of the unusual, extraordinary, or distinguished service of such member as the General Council may deem fitting and appropriate. The presentation

of such award or citation shall be made at the next succeeding Triennial Delegate Assembly.

Section 14.4. Corporate Fiscal Agent: The General Council may, by the By-laws of UBF, authorize and empower the Executive Committee to form and organize, under the laws of any state of the United States, corporations or associations which shall become the fiscal agents of the Executive Committee and of the Treasurer, to hold and administer a part or all the funds and properties of UBF and to have custody of the funds and property in its treasury. The members or stockholders of such corporations or associations shall be limited to the members of the Executive Committee. Said corporations or associations shall have such form and organization and such powers as the By-laws shall provide.

Section 14.5. Miscellaneous Corporations: The General Council may, by the By-laws of UBF, authorize and empower the Executive Committee to form and organize, or cause to be formed and organized, under the laws of any state or states of the United States or under the laws of any other country, other corporations or associations, for profit or not for profit, which shall be appropriate, expedient, or useful in carrying out or in assisting to carry out the purposes, functions, and affairs of UBF, and for holding, managing, operating, using, or placing to profit any part or portion of the properties of UBF, such corporations or associations to have such powers, names, and organizations as the By-laws shall provide.

ARTICLE XV

AMENDMENTS

Section 15.1. Procedure for Amendment: Amendments to the constitution of UBF may be submitted in writing to the General Council by:

- a) Six (6) members of the General Council or
- b) A majority vote of the entire Executive Committee; or
- c) Ten (10) members of UBF.

To be considered, amendments must be submitted at least sixty (60) days before the meeting of the General Council, and posted on a membership discussion forum for at least forty-five (45) days during the sixty (60) days. Eligible amendments must be

placed on the agenda of the next General Council meeting. Amendment adoption requires a favorable vote by secret ballot of:

- i) Two-thirds (2/3) of the General Council membership present, and
- ii) A majority of the General Council (19 of 36).

If there is unanimous consent for adoption, a secret ballot is not required.

Section 15.2. Amendments Affecting Local Autonomy: Whenever it is proposed to adopt an amendment to this Constitution limiting in any way the local autonomy of the Local Societies, such amendment shall not become effective until it shall have been ratified by the affirmative vote in favor thereof, by a secret ballot, of at least three-fourths (3/4ths) of the members of the Triennial Delegate Assembly: Provided, however, that not less than one (1) year nor more than five (5) years shall elapse between the adoption of such amendment and the submission thereof to the Triennial Delegate Assembly for ratification; and provided further that a copy of such amendment as adopted by the General Council shall be sent to all Local Societies within six (6) months after the date of the adoption by the General Council and shall be set out in full in the notice of the call of the Triennial Delegate Assembly at which said ratification of the amendment is to be voted upon.

ARTICLE XVI

AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

Section 16.1. Organization: Whenever five (5) or more persons shall have associated themselves together to establish an organization for the accomplishment of a purpose related to the purposes expressed in this Constitution, and shall make application to the Executive Committee, in the form prescribed by the Executive Committee, to be recognized as an Affiliated Organization of UBF, the Executive Committee, when it is satisfied that the organization complies with the Standards of Affiliation, shall issue a Certificate of Affiliation, signed by the President and Chair of the Membership Committee, and UBF Seal affixed thereto. Additional signatures may be affixed to the certificate at the direction of the Chair of the Membership Committee.

Section 16.2. Government: Each Fellowship Affiliated Organization shall be named, organized, and governed in a manner determined by its organizing members, as may be modified from time to time by its own governing process. Its officers shall include a President and a designated Fellowship Liaison, whose joint communications to the

Executive Committee shall be recognized by the Executive Committee as authoritative for determination of affiliation status.

Section 16.3. Revocation of Certificate of Affiliation: Whenever the Executive Committee shall determine that affiliation with an organization does not support the spirit and purpose of UBF, the Certificate of Affiliation of such Affiliated Organization may be revoked. Such revocation shall not affect the membership status of an individual who may also be recognized as a Member-at-large or a member of a Fellowship Society.

(Amended July 28, 2014)
(Amended February 21, 2016)
(Amended July 24, 2017)
(Amended January 28, 2018)
(Amended February 9, 2019)
(Amended June 29, 2019)
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(Amended February 24, 2023)
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