**Millersville University**

**Interfaith Council of Ministers**

**Charter**

1. *Campus Ministry at Millersville University*
   1. Campus ministry at Millersville University (MU) exists to meet the spiritual needs of the MU student community and is performed by professional or designated ministers from a variety of faith communities and religious organizations who commit themselves to the highest ethical standards in pursuit of their unique ministry in and to public higher education.
   2. In pursuit of the institution's educational goals and contributions to the goals of spiritual wellness and multiculturalism, recognized campus ministers and members of the MU community have worked together to establish relationships of mutual respect and regard so that the spiritual needs of the MU community may be supported.

###### *Relationship to the University and Student Organizations*

* 1. Recognized campus ministers at MU will receive their recognition from the Office of the Vice President of Student Affairs.
  2. The Vice-President of Student Affairs will designate a liaison between the university and the recognized campus ministers to serve as Interfaith Council of Ministers (ICM) Advisor.
  3. A recognized campus minister whose supporting faith community or religious organization is represented at MU by a recognized student organization will work in close conjunction with that organization's members and faculty advisor to bring about the stated goals of the student organization.
  4. Recognized campus ministers may actively seek to organize students of their religious expression into a recognized student organization following the university's stated procedures and practices for such activity.
  5. Recognized campus ministers will be eligible to participate in Student Affairs Professional Development Programs.

# *The Interfaith Council:*

# The purpose of the Interfaith Council is to:

* + 1. Publicize the breadth of religious programs that take place at MU and thereby provide interested students with a greater opportunity to participate in different programs.
    2. Enable students of different faiths to participate in programs together and provide information regarding their faith in order to learn from each other and dispel stereotypes.
    3. Assist new religious groups in obtaining official recognition as an MU student organization.
    4. Serves as a resource to the university.
    5. Provide memorial services to celebrate the lives of the deceased students and to provide comfort and closure to their friends.
    6. Provide MU students with support and resources in emergencies or crisis situations.
  1. Interfaith Council provides direction in the following ways:
     1. Short-term and long-term program planning.
     2. Facilitating communication, including the creation of an interdenominational directory on the Faith and Spirituality website consisting of religious clubs, participating campus ministers, the campus ministries calendar of events, and publicizing the Interfaith Council of Ministers.
     3. Working with the University to establish an appropriate and expedient flow of communication (for example, notification regarding a student death, what action to take in times of crisis, and requests by outside agencies for student address labels) so that the ICM may best serve the University, especially in times of crisis.
     4. Participate in Student Affairs initiatives such as:
        1. Maraudership
        2. First 6-Week Programming
           1. Sunday Fundays
           2. Red Zone
        3. Orientation
        4. MU Serves Project
     5. Interviewing prospective Campus Ministers.

###### *Responsibilities of ICM Ministers*

* 1. Attend all monthly meetings of the Interfaith Council each semester. If the campus minister fails to attend at least two monthly meetings of the Interfaith Council in a given semester, the renewal of that campus minister may be denied.
  2. Represent his/her supporting faith community to the MU community.
  3. Support and adhere to the MU Campus Ministers' Guidelines and to his/her sponsoring body's professional standards for ministers and/or code of ethics.
  4. Supervise the practices and activities of their affiliated recognized student organizations and/or their sponsoring body's practices and activities on the MU campus.
  5. Spend a major portion of his/her ministerial time providing for the pastoral and faith formation needs of the MU students who are of his/her respective faith expression.
  6. Submit his/her application for renewal to the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs every 4 years.
  7. Be available to the MU community, particularly to the students, at times when pastoral care is necessary and appropriate, i.e. crises on campus, memorial services.
  8. Provide worship leadership at university ceremonial functions.
  9. Provide religious/spiritual guidance and pastoral care for members of the MU community.
  10. Serve on university committees as requested and as appropriate.
  11. Participate in university meetings and programs when appropriate and commensurate with his/her recognized status.
  12. Notify the Office of the Vice President immediately of contact information changes and be aware of when all meetings of ICM are to be held.

# *Membership:* The Interfaith Council consists of Recognized Campus Ministers and unrepresented faith student group advisors. It is an interdenominational body where people of all faiths will be welcomed and included as equal partners. The Interfaith Council recognizes and affirms the spiritual part of every human being.

* 1. Recognized Campus Ministers
     1. Recognized campus ministers at MU commit themselves to serving the spiritual needs of the MU community. They fulfill their commitment to the MU community by:
        1. Providing pastoral care and services, faith formation opportunities and advocating spiritual growth and religious life within their varied faith traditions.
        2. Providing a forum for ecumenical concerns and programming, dialogue, cooperation and the fostering of mutual respect among the varied faith traditions that exist within the MU community.
     2. Recognized Campus Ministers are not asked to abandon their faith traditions, but rather to build bridges of respect and relationships with those from other belief systems.
     3. Persons eligible for recognition as a campus minister at MU are full- or part-time religious workers designated by a local, national or international faith community or religious organization whose primary ministerial responsibility (a minimum of 10 hours per week) is to serve the MU students of their faith expression.
  2. Faculty/Staff Advisors
     1. Faculty/staff advisors of faith based student organizations hold an ex-officio membership to the ICM.
     2. Faculty/staff advisors will be invited to attend ICM meetings once a semester, dialogue and plan for cooperative events, and build stronger relationships with the university community.

I support and agree to uphold the Interfaith Charter and the Campus Ministers Guidelines in my work and affiliation with Millersville University.

Print name:

Signature: Date:

Ministry Name: