

Myths about Being on Committee

Myth 1: I need to have a clear vision as to where God wants CCF to be in the upcoming year. I need to make sure my goals and vision coincide with those of the other candidates

The first and foremost criterion for an Executive Committee candidate is a broken heart in obedience to God; the candidate is fully surrendering to God through serving on the Executive Committee. The Election Subcommittee is not looking for candidates with a specific vision or personal goals for the fellowship. It is believed that those candidates that demonstrate the above-mentioned attitude will willingly yield any pre-conceived ideas when the Executive Committee is formed in order to realize a unified vision as an Executive Committee.

If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus. Philippians 2:1-5

In realizing a unified vision for the fellowship and in the implementation of the vision, contrasting views and different backgrounds are beneficial. All Executive Committee members, however, must agree upon the vision, whereas the method of implementation allows more room for personal variance. In fact, contrasting views will allow for more representation, and will result in a stronger committee. In the past, there have existed Executive Committees where an outspoken person has dominated the discussions. It is believed that without sufficient consideration of all ideas and the challenging of ideas, there will exist weaker decision-making.

The members of the fellowship are expected to elect the candidate based on their personal interaction with the candidate, whether through a serving relationship or discussion. It is believed that the short statement given during the presentation of candidates does not accurately represent the complete views and attitude of the candidate. Though the candidate may share their visions for the fellowship, it is understood that these are nothing more than personal visions. The actual vision may change as God reveals more to them and as God guides the committee as a whole.

In the case where the candidate is adamant about their vision, with total disregard of the other committee members, one must question how the candidate is certain that the vision they have is from God and one must question whether the candidate honestly exhibits the above mentioned attitude.

Finally, from personal experience, we do not believe that the ultimate measurement of success for us or from God should be defined by the vision. God does not explicitly measure the success of a committee member by how much the person has produced. To every person, so many talents have been given to them. The only expectation from God is obedience in using what has been given to them. Achieving personal agenda do not impress God, merely obedience.

Does the LORD delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the voice of the LORD? To obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed is better than the fat of rams. 1 Sam. 15:22

Myth 2: I don't think I can take on some of the responsibilities of certain positions on the committee. I only want to be elected to certain positions.

The first and foremost criterion for an Executive Committee candidate is a broken heart in obedience to God; the candidate is fully surrendering to God through serving on the Executive Committee. In general, the strength of the Executive Committee as a whole is directly correlated to each committee member's demonstration of the above-mentioned attitude. For this reason alone, it is advantageous to have an election procedure that allows those candidates that best exhibit this attitude to be elected on the Executive Committee. It is believed that the persons that exhibit this attitude can easily learn the skills required to perform the administrative tasks.

For example, in the case where candidates are elected into a specific position, there could exist a situation where four candidates are running for Position A, whereas one candidate is running for Position B. Though the four candidates running for Position A may exhibit the above mentioned attitude better than the candidate running for Position B, three of the four will not be on committee. It would have been better to have elected the two best candidates and trained them to accomplish the task.

Furthermore, the foremost duty of the Executive Committee is to fulfill the purpose of the fellowship as stated in Article 2 of the [constitution](#). The administrative tasks defined in the [constitution](#) only indicate what the possible means to accomplish the purposes are. These administrative tasks have been delegated to different positions in the [constitution](#); however, there is flexibility within an elected Executive Committee to redistribute the administrative tasks as they deem appropriate.

For example, should a person in the secretary position have the skills of accounting, there is no reason why they could not be involved with the finances of fellowship, even though the [constitution](#) delegates the responsibility to the Vice-Chairperson.

Myth 3: I should be 100% sure I'll be here in the Fall and/or Winter term before I decide to run

Even if you are not certain that you will be in Waterloo during the Fall and/or Winter term you can still run for elections. Do not let this factor be a hindrance to your decision. When we put our trust in God, we plan our schedule around his schedule, rather than planning his schedule around our schedule. When we have faith that God is calling us to serve him, we must have faith that God is in control of all the circumstances.

For example, if you have a work term in the Fall, but believe that God is calling you to serve him by being on the Executive Committee. We believe that you should make the best effort to attain a coop placement in Waterloo, with faith that God will provide.

Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. Instead, you ought to say, "If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that." James 4:14-15

Myth 4: I should be very knowledgeable about the Bible

It is our understanding that we will spend a lifetime studying the bible, while never unraveling all the mysteries within it. We all feel that we do not have enough knowledge of the bible. It is for this reason that we continue to study the bible to search for truth. The criteria that we require of the candidates is that they have an understanding of their salvation through Jesus Christ and they are actively growing in their faith through study of the bible.

Myth 5: I should already have the necessary skills such as organizational skills

The election candidates running for the Executive Committee are not expected to have any specific sets. It is our belief that those that have the right attitude in serving will be able to acquire any skill set that may be required.

Skills like organization, time management and administration can be learned and developed. Respect and effectiveness as a leader will come as people see your servant attitude. It is our belief that people will not respect and follow your example not because of your skills, but by the Christ-like attitude that you exhibit.

Myth 6: I should know a lot of people in CCF

There is no specific number of people that you are required to know before you can be on the Executive Committee. Though there are advantages to knowing more people, one will find that with the right attitude, one becomes connected through the bond we have in Jesus Christ.

If you feel like you do know a lot of people in the fellowship, the question that one must ask is 'do you feel that you do not know enough people because you have not served, nor actively participated, in the fellowship before?'. It is through this service and participation in fellowship functions that one begins to develop relationships with other people.

Myth 7: I have to make sure I can afford the time for those infamous long meetings

The Executive Committee meetings are only as long as you want them to be. Through our experience, meetings only last long when the participants do not concentrate during the meeting, participants have not taken the time to prepare for the meetings and participants are not are slow to make decisions. High level planning meetings should not take more than 2 hours every month.

The Executive Committee members are not required to spend a specific amount of time per week serving on the committee. They can choose to spend as much or as little time depending on their schedule. It is our belief, however, that those who are called to serve on the Executive Committee will choose to spend the time and will make time to serve. This time commitment is part of their offering to God.

Myth 8: I will have to put myself under the spotlight, which I don't really like.

There is no doubt that being on the Executive Committee that you will be serving in a visible position and others will be critically analyzing you.

The role of the Executive Committee member is to serve the fellowship. Serving on the committee involved putting Jesus first and letting God be the center of the team. Leading will occur when others see your Christ like attitude in serving others and choose to serve beside you.

References

[CCF Constitution](#), Section 2, Article 8, 9, 12, 13