

COVENANT & CODE OF ETHICS OF
THE UNIVERSITY RELIGIOUS LIFE ASSOCIATION
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

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COVENANT

The University Religious Life Association (URLA) is an association of faith-based professionals serving the University of Georgia who covenant to support and enrich each other's professional commitment and competency in religious leadership; work together in an atmosphere of collegiality, inclusiveness, and tolerance; improve communications among members and the various religious groups which minister to the University community; speak to the University community on matters of religion, human values, morality, and individual and community rights; foster healthful religious practices in the University community; and serve as a resource to individuals and groups within the University.

CODE OF ETHICS

1. We are dedicated to the students, faculty and staff of the University of Georgia.
 - a. We affirm the University of Georgia's guarantee to students of the rights, privileges and freedoms of all citizens. In particular, we support the regulations and guidelines which emphasize fair treatment and respect for integrity, judgment, and contribution of the individual student, as presented in the UGA Student Handbook and the Personnel Handbook.
 - b. We affirm that any persuasive effort that restricts a student's freedom to choose is unethical.
 - c. We will be sensitive to the academic responsibilities of students in planning and promoting our student activities.
 - d. When promoting our ministry, we will clearly identify ourselves and our affiliation. We will be forthright in our goals in ministering.
2. We are dedicated to upholding the University of Georgia programs and policies:
 - a. We view ourselves as cooperative members of the University community and will act as a part of it.

b. When exercising our freedom to question or dispute the University program or policies, we will do so in a peaceful and professional manner.

c. We will encourage our religious student organizations to know and follow procedures and policies in the UGA Student Handbook and the "Guidelines" for recognized student groups.

d. All advertising will clearly identify our sponsoring religious organization.

3. We are dedicated to respecting other religious organizations at the University of Georgia.

a. We affirm the value of a collegial relationship between URLA members.

b. The URLA seeks to improve communication between the various religious groups which minister to the University community. As members, we will demonstrate respect for our colleagues in URLA and will take initiative in (1) raising questions when appropriate and in an appropriate manner, and (2) resolving misunderstandings which may arise. The Executive Committee may, if deemed necessary, facilitate resolution of such misunderstandings or problems which may arise between members through appointment of a committee charged with such a purpose.

c. The URLA endeavors to speak to the University community on matters regarding religion, human values, morality and individual rights. In circumstances such that an anticipated action of a member may compromise the integrity, image or efficacy of the URLA by reason of that member's affiliation with the URLA, that member is responsible for clarifying the anticipated action with the Executive Committee and/or with the URLA.

d. We will assume the sincerity and good will of URLA members. In case of reported misunderstandings, we will assume proper motives and investigate with such expectations. We will grant one another the benefit of the doubt.

e. We will seek to create dialogue with other URLA members in order to increase understanding and mutual support of our common mission to serve the University

community.

f. We will seek to represent the beliefs of other faiths accurately, but never in such a manner as to question the integrity of another faith or of a colleague in URLA.

g. Overall, we will seek cooperation whenever possible. We shall respect the agenda of each religious organization. And we will treat one another as we would like to be treated.