

**EASTERN CHINESE BIBLE CONFERENCE, INC.**

P.O. Box 1038, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156



Eastern Chinese Bible Conference, Inc.

**Constitution & By-Laws**

Teen / College & Career / Women's Conference  
All Contributions are Tax Deductible

# **EASTERN CHINESE BIBLE CONFERENCE, INC.**

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## Background

The Eastern Chinese Bible Conference (ECBC) was first organized and established in 1950 as the Chinese Young People's Bible Conference (CYPBC) when a group of young Chinese believers from Philadelphia and New York saw both the need and potential for fellowship and spiritual growth among Chinese Christians along the Eastern seaboard.

## Aims & Objectives

ECBC's aims set forth and upheld throughout the years are as follows:

- *To present Jesus Christ, our Savior, King of Kings and Lord of Lords*
- *To present Jesus Christ in His redemptive work*
- *To offer facilities for Christian growth and maturity*
- *To bring Chinese young people together in Christian fellowship*
- *To extend evangelical work among the Chinese*

## Beginning History

Attending the first conference at Harvey Cedars, New Jersey, were young people from New York, Philadelphia and New Jersey, along with several pastors from the Chinese churches represented. Prayer for the ongoing ministry of the CYPBC was foremost during this first conference and God heard and honored those petitions throughout the years. Today, ECBC still exists and is functioning through the grace and help of God.

## A Multiple Conference Ministry

Attendance at the conference, in its early stages, was small. Young people from Boston soon heard of ECBC and several began to attend. Conferees have come from as far as Connecticut, Western Pennsylvania, Chicago and California. Eventually attendance at the Conference held on Labor Day weekend approached 200 conferees during the early 1970's. Because of the large size and the wide differences in age (High School, College, and Career), it was decided to establish a distinct conference ministry for those in Junior/Senior High and early collegiates with the first Teen Conference in 1975. As conferees grew older, married and began having children, the ECBC conference ministry expanded again in 1981 with the first Family Conference for married couples, with or without children, and engaged couples.

## Current Conference Activities

Today, the original Labor Day conference, now referred to as the College & Career Conference, has attendance of about 150. Teen Conference held at the end of the school year in June, is now over 100 strong in attendance with Family Conference ending the Conference year in October with about 50 in attendance.

While all three ECBC Conferences work towards the same overall goal and aims, they each have unique characteristics and specific ministry objectives.

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## *College & Career Conference*

*College & Career* provides opportunities for collegiates, post graduate students, and those already in their career to study God's Word, to fellowship with Him and with His people, and to enjoy the beauty of His creation. Speakers are invited to present God's Word on specific topics of significance and often conference themes may span a number of years. In addition to small group Bible studies, there are workshops for more detailed study and discussion of a specific topic of interest. Organized social activities are provided to allow additional interaction and fellowship. Over the years music has proven to be a very effective forum for worship, praise and encouragement to conferees.

## *Teen Conference*

*Teen Conference* provides very specific ministry to those from age 13 to 18 presenting Biblical material of interest and appropriate for this age group. Like the *College & Career Conference* speakers are invited to present God' Word on specific significant topics and often conference themes may span number of years. Small group Bible studies, workshops are all provided to address the specific needs of this age group. Organized social activities are provided to allow additional interaction and fellowship with music playing very effective role in the worship, praise, and encouragement of the Tee conferees.

## *Women's Conference*

*The Women's Conference* provides a very specific ministry to women, presenting Biblical material of interest and appropriate for this group. Like the *College & Career Conference* speakers are invited to present. Typically, the Women's Conference is held once every two years.

## *The Family Conference*

*The Family ECBC* was first held on the Columbus Weekend in October 1981 with the goal of promoting spiritual growth of Christian couples an their families. Designed from the beginning to include *both parents and children* in this ministry experience, *Family ECBC* aims to provide spiritual nourishment for husband and wife and their family by improving communication and reaffirming their love and respect for their spouse an children. *Family ECBC* was also intended to provide the opportunities for couples from many different local churches to fellowship together exchanging their thoughts, ideas, and experiences as Christian couples an parents.

## *How does ECBC work?*

Planning and preparation for each conference is done entirely by Christians from the various participating churches. To ensure the quality and consistency of the conferences, guidance and supervision is provided by experienced conferees and leaders. Conference committee work has provided significant opportunities to train and develop young people for leadership and ministry not only for ECBC, but more importantly for their local churches.

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### *The Frances Eng Scholarship Fund*

The Frances Eng Scholarship Fund was established in memory of one of the earliest participants and leaders of ECBC. Frances served as the General Chairman of ECBC's second Labor Day Conference in 1951 and this Fund was established in the 1970's to enable young people to attend both College & Career and Teen Conferences.

### *ECBC, Incorporated*

ECBC, Inc. incorporated in 1981 in the state of New York as a non-profit organization has a Board of Directors responsible for establishing and administering overall Conference policies. Elected for three year terms, Directors are typically lay or Pastoral leadership from participating churches.

### *Membership in ECBC, Inc.*

Application for Membership in ECBC is welcomed from all those who have a continuing interest in the ministry activities of ECBC. Those interested in joining ECBC, Inc. should review the ECBC, Inc. Constitution and Bylaws and then submit an Membership Application form to the following address.

### *For Further Information*

For additional information about the individual conferences, the Frances Eng Scholarship Fund, or applying for membership, please write to:

*Eastern Chinese Bible Conference  
P.O. Box 1038, Murray Hill Station  
New York, NY 10156*

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## *MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION*

## *CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS*

Greetings Brothers & Sisters!

Thank you for expressing interest and support of the ECBC Ministry. Enclosed is a copy of the Constitution and By-Laws for the organization and an application for Membership. As a member, your responsibilities and privileges will be focused on actively supporting the ECBC Conferences, electing Board members, and influencing the policies and directions of the ministry.

You will note that the qualifications for membership in ECBC, Inc. are as follows:

*"No person shall be made a member unless he/she:*

- A. Has attended at least one ECBC conference;*
- B. Professes Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior;*
- C. Accepts the Constitution and B-laws of ECBC, Inc.; and*
- D. Signs a statement attesting 10 A to C above."*

### Article IV, Section 2

Please complete the Application form and forward it to the indicated address along with any questions should you have any.

Yours in Christ,  
The Board of Directors,  
ECBC, Inc.

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## CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

### ARTICLE I - NAME

This organization shall be known as the Eastern Chinese Bible Conference, Incorporated (hereafter referred to as ECBC, Inc.).

### ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

The purposes of ECBC, Inc., are to present Jesus Christ as the King of Kings and Lord of Lords; to present Jesus Christ our Savior, in His redemptive work; to bring Chinese young people together in Christian fellowship through Christ centered social activities; to offer facilities for Christian growth and maturity; to extend evangelical work among the Chinese.

These purposes will be carried out primarily through the organization and sponsorship of annual conferences. In the future, however, the establishment and maintenance of Christian facilities may become necessary to further the work of the organization.

### ARTICLE III- ARTICLES OF FAITH

We stand for and emphasize the foundational truths held in common by evangelical Bible-believing Christians. Our basis of fellowship lies in a oneness of heart and mind in all things of the Lord and in adherence to the historic Christian faith. We believe in:

#### Section 1 - The Scriptures (II Timothy 3:16, 17)

- A. The Bible is inspired by the Holy Spirit
- B. It is inerrant in the original manuscripts.
- C. It is the infallible and authoritative Word of God.
- D. It constitutes the divine and only rule of Christian faith and practice.

#### Section 2 - The Trinity

The one true God eternally exists as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

#### Section 3 - Jesus Christ as Truly God and Truly Man

- A. He was miraculously conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.
- B. He died upon the cross as our substitutionary sacrifice and was bodily resurrected on the third day.
- C. He ascended into heaven and He is now at the right hand of God as our High Priest.
- D. He is bodily and visibly returning for His believers.

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## Section 4 - The Holy Spirit (John 16:8-11)

The Holy Spirit was sent to convict the world of sin, of righteousness and of judgment, and to indwell, guide, teach and empower the believer.

## Section 5-The Fall and Redemption of Man (Romans 3:23:11 Corinthians 5:18)

- A. We believe that all men are sinners and are therefore eternally separated from God.
- B. The shed blood of Christ is the only atonement for man's sin.
- C. Man can be reconciled to God only through individually accepting Jesus Christ as personal Lord and Savior.

## Section 6 - The Person of Satan

Satan, called the Devil, is present in the world and has control over unregenerate mankind.

## Section 7 - The Church

The Church consists of all those who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, are redeemed through His blood and are born again of the Holy Spirit. Christ is the Head of His Body, the Church, which has been commissioned by Him to go into all the world as a witness, preaching the Gospel to all nations.

## Section 8 - The Bodily Resurrection of the Believer and Non-Believer (I Thessalonians 4:16-18: Revelation 20:12-15)

- A. For the believer there will be a bodily resurrection unto eternal life.
- B. For the non-believer there will be a bodily resurrection unto judgment and eternal separation from God

## ARTICLE IV - MEMBERS

### Section 1 - Classes

- A. There shall be two classes of members, active members and supporting members. Supporting members shall have all privileges of membership except the right to vote at membership meetings and the right to call special meetings of the membership. The minimum age for active membership shall be eighteen (18) years.
- B. Active members who fail to vote in two consecutive membership meetings shall be made supporting members.
- C. Supporting members may apply for reinstatement to active membership status, and, upon acceptance of such application, shall regain the privileges of active membership.

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## Section 2 Qualifications

No person shall be made a member unless he/she:

- A. Has attended at least one ECBC conference;
- B. Professes Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior;
- C. Accepts the Constitution and By-laws of ECBC, Inc.; and
- D. Signs a statement attestation and By-laws of ECBC, Inc.; and
- E. Signs a statement attesting to A to C above.

## Section 3 - Privileges

Members shall have the following privileges, except that supporting members shall only be entitled to C and D:

- A. Vote at membership meetings;
- B. Call special meetings;
- C. Nominate candidates for the board of directors; and
- D. Raise issues and voice opinions at membership meetings.

## Section 4. Termination

- A. Member may terminate his membership voluntarily by submitting a signed request of termination to any member of the board of directors, which shall be effective upon receipt.
- B. Membership may be terminated involuntarily for cause and upon the affirmative vote of at least 75% of the full board of directors.

## Section 5 - Membership list

- A. The Secretary shall maintain a list of members, which shall effect and evidence membership.
- B. The membership list shall be reviewed, and if necessary, revised forty-five days prior to membership meetings.

## Section 6 - Meeting

- A. The annual membership meeting shall be held the first Sunday of March, or at such time during March as the board of directors deems appropriate, at a place to be determined by the board of directors.

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- B. Special membership meetings may be called by the board or by the members. Any active member may, in writing, request that the board call a special meeting, specifying the subject of that meeting. If, upon denial of the request, 10% or more of the active members endorse, in writing, the request, or in the first instance, the request was submitted by 10% or more of the active members, then the board shall convene the requested meeting in not less than 60 days and not more than 90 days from the receipt of said request. The secretary of the corporation shall promptly give notice of such meeting within 30 days after receipt of the written request.
- C. Thirty days written notice must be given to all members for any special meetings. Such notice shall state the date, time, place, purpose of the meeting and who called the meeting.

## Section 7 - Quorum

- A. For ordinary business, one-third of the members entitled to vote shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.
- B. For amendment of the Constitution and By-laws, transactions involving real property and removal of directors, two-thirds of the members entitled to vote shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

## Section 8 - Voting

- A. Except as provided in subsection B below, a majority of the votes cast shall constitute the action of the members.
- B. For amendment of the Constitution and By-laws, transactions involving real property and removal of directors 75% of the votes cast shall be required to constitute the action of the members.
- C. For the election of directors, members shall be entitled to cast as many votes as there are positions to be filled but no member may cast more than one vote per candidate. The directors shall be elected by a plurality of the votes cast.
- D. The record date for purposes of determining the votes entitled to be cast shall be forty-five days before the meeting at which the votes will be cast.
- E. Voting by proxy is permitted.

## ARTICLE V - DIRECTORS

### Section 1 - Number

- A. There shall be not less than 3 or more than 12 directors.
- B. No more than 50% of the Board of Directors shall be from one church.

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## Section 2 - Term of Service

- A. Each director shall be elected for a three year term.
- B. A director may serve a maximum of two consecutive terms after which a period of one year must elapse before he/she can be eligible again for election.
- C. A member elected to replace a director who resigns or is removed shall finish the term of his/her predecessor.

## Section 3 - Qualifications

- A. No person shall be elected director unless he/she:
- B. Has attended at least two ECBC conferences, with the last being no more than ten years prior to his/her election;
- C. Is at least twenty-one years or age;
- D. Is a member of ECBC, Inc.; and
- E. Desires to promote the goals and purposes of ECBC.

## Section 4- Duties

The duties of the directors shall include:

- A. Ensuring that the goals and purposes of ECBC are carried out;
- B. Providing spiritual guidance and material assistance to the operating conference committees; and
- C. Making available financial reports to the members.

## Section 5 - Resignation and Removal

- A. A director may resign by submitting his/her resignation, in writing, to the board, which shall be effective upon receipt.
- B. A director may be removed as provided in Article IV, sections 7(B) and 8(B) or by a unanimous vote of the remaining directors for the reasons stated in subsection C below.
- C. A director may be removed for:
  - 1. Denial of the Christian faith;
  - 2. Failure to adhere to the Articles of Faith contained in Article III of this constitution and these by-laws;
  - 3. Failure to attend at least one-half of the board meetings held in any fiscal year except for good cause.

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- D. The Board of Directors may replace a director who has resigned or has been removed. The newly appointed director will be subject to election during the next Annual Meeting.

## Section 6- Quorum

A majority of the directors shall constitute a quorum, except in actions involving real property, two-thirds of the directors shall constitute a quorum.

## Section 7 - Voting

A majority of the votes cast shall constitute the action of the board, except in actions involving real property, three quarters of the votes cast shall constitute the action of the board.

## Section 8 - Meeting

A. The directors shall meet at least twice a year.

B. Directors shall receive reasonable notice of meetings in writing or by telephone.

## Section 9 - Committees

The board may create committees, as it from time to time deems necessary, including a nomination committee, a publicity committee and a policy committee.

## Section 10 – Appointments

The Board of Directors may appoint additional Board of Directors according to the following conditions:

- A. All appointees must adhere to the qualifications designated by the Constitution (as per the conditions of Article V, Section 1 and 3).
- B. Appointments can only be made based on a the following criteria:
  - 1. If there are 7 or less elected Board Directors then only one appointment can be made before the next Annual Meeting.
  - 2. If there are between 8 and 11 elected Board Directors, the Board may appoint up to two additional Directors but not to exceed 12 directors
- C. Appointees will be subject to election at the subsequent Annual Meeting.

## ARTICLE VI- AMENDMENT OF CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

The Constitution and By-laws may be amended as provided in Article IV, sections 7(B) and 8(B).

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## ARTICLE VII- OPERATING CONFERENCE COMMITTEES

### Section 1 - Committees

- A. The planning and management of ECBC conferences shall be carried out by Operating Conference Committees (OCC's).
- B. There shall be an OCC for each of the ECBC conferences.

### Section 2 - Chairpersons and Advisors

The general chairpersons and advisors to the OCC's shall be members of ECBC, Inc. and be subject to the approval of the board.

### Section 3 - Duties

- A. The OCC's shall, within guidelines provided by the board, plan for and oversee the operations of the conferences.
- B. The OCC's shall present to the board for approval, a list of candidates for general chairpersons and advisors, prior to contacting the candidates. The board shall respond within two weeks of receipt of the list.
- C. The OCC's shall provide to the board minutes of all meetings.
- D. The OCC's shall provide to the board registrant information as contained in the registration forms.
- E. In the event of a conflict between the OCC and the board as to the planning or operation of a conference, the board's action shall prevail. In such event, the OCC may, upon the vote of 75% of its members, request a special meeting between the OCC and the board, which the board shall grant, at which the OCC may present its case for reconsideration by the board. Nothing in this subsection shall be deemed to limit the right to call special meetings pursuant to Article IV, Section 6.
- F. The selection of OCC members shall be determined by the preceding OCC.