

## Leadership election policy

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This document outlines the principles and procedures ES currently adopts with regard to the election of our exec in the annual general meeting (AGM). We hope this answers some of the common questions people have and clears up any confusion by making the process appropriately transparent.

### Why do we have an AGM?

Each year ES is required to hold an AGM and elect new office bearers, who, as a group, are known as the “Adelaide ES exec”. These are key positions of leadership and it’s obviously important that they are held by suitable students. Exec members have a high level of responsibility and the ability to steer and shape the culture of ES. They also need to attend faithfully to many of the day-to-day tasks that enable ES to proclaim Christ on campus.

In addition to electing the next generation of exec members, the AGM is an opportunity to reflect on the year that has been, to be encouraged, and to give thanks to God. Different exec members will give their reports, including the president’s and treasurer’s report.

### How do exec members get chosen?

The apostle Paul’s command to Timothy as he plants churches is “...entrust [the gospel] to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others” (2 Tim 2:2).

Our situation is different, in that Timothy is appointing teachers to churches, but the underlying principle is relevant to our situation - passing the baton to the next generation who will be able to do likewise is essential for the ongoing success of a ministry.

From year to year therefore, we look to God to provide leaders who will have good character and who hold firm to the Biblical good news. We choose some of them to form our exec.

It is also important to note that Paul expects the currently recognised leadership (Timothy) to be primarily involved in the selection of new suitable leaders. Current student exec members therefore take the initiative in seeking suitable replacements for nomination where they are not continuing on for another year. This happens in partnership with ES staff.

In addition to character and commitment to the gospel, the things we aim for in assembling our exec are:

- People who are deeply committed to our objectives, our doctrinal basis and set an excellent example to others<sup>1</sup>
- Gender balance
- People from a range of churches
- People from different social circles
- A good balance of different personalities
- Capacity to perform the role
- A good balance of skills and gifts in members
- Generally having occupied a leadership position in ES previously

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<sup>1</sup> For our objectives and doctrinal basis, see <http://northterrace.es.org.au/about/aims-and-beliefs>

## Why do we aim to nominate one person per position?

We recognise that it is generally unwise to choose leaders based on popularity (c.f. 1 Sam 9). Our practice is therefore to nominate as many candidates as are required to fill the available positions on exec. This avoids the situation of having a vote between more than one candidate for a single position. When a vote is taken at the AGM, this effectively allows ES members to confirm (or indicate disagreement over) the suitability of those people who have been recommended by the exec in partnership with staff.

Where possible, exec members will indicate the people they are nominating when notice is given of the AGM. This allows you the opportunity to pray for these people and to raise any concerns you might have with the exec.

## What about other leaders (Bible Study Groups, Teams)?

These leaders are not elected positions. The exec works in partnership with staff to invite suitable leaders to serve in these positions. The qualities that we look for in BSG and Team leaders are summarised by this diagram:



← **Head:** eager to *learn* from God's Word  
2 Tim 3:16-17 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

← **Heart:** ready to *serve* in any way possible  
Mk 10:43 Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, 44 and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. 45 For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

← **Feet:** lead by *example*  
1 Cor 11:1 Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ.

You are always welcome to address questions or concerns about leaders and leadership to the exec.

## Encouraging an attitude of service

The Exec and Bible Study Leader positions mentioned above are just a few of the many ways in which you can serve at ES. There are both formal/structured opportunities as well as needs that arise more spontaneously.

We want to encourage all ESers to have an attitude of service, and to contribute as you are able. Don't think that you need to wait until you're asked before serving!

We'd love to hear from you if you'd like to get more involved in ES. Just talk to an exec member or email the exec at [Adelaide.exec@nt.es.org.au](mailto:Adelaide.exec@nt.es.org.au)