

Board Policy: 602 – Academic Freedom

Subject: Educational Program and Instruction
Series 602: Academic Freedom

Faculty are entitled to full freedom in research and in the publication of the results, subject to the adequate performance of their other academic duties. Research for monetary payment must be approved in advance by the Vice President/President.

Faculty are entitled to academic freedom in the classroom in terms of discussing their discipline; however, faculty should avoid introducing controversial issues that have no relation to their curriculum content.

College faculty are citizens, members of a learned profession, and officers of an educational institution. When they speak or write as citizens, they should be free from institutional censorship or discipline, but their special position in the community imposes special obligations. As people of learning and educational officers, they should remember that the public may judge their profession and their institution by their utterances. Hence, they should at all times be accurate, should exercise appropriate restraint, should show respect for the opinions of others, and should make every effort to indicate that they are not institutional spokespersons.

(This statement is based upon, and a modification of, the statement on academic freedom by the American Association of University Professors)

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