

SUBPART 3-6 ACADEMIC FREEDOM

Sec. 3-601. Statement of Principles. It is and shall be the policy of the University that academic freedom is granted to all full-time and part-time teachers as provided in this subpart. The policy on academic freedom shall be construed to mean that no limitations shall be placed upon the study, investigation, presentation and interpretation of facts and ideas concerning human society, the physical and biological world and other branches of learning, subject to accepted standards of professional responsibility. The right to academic freedom shall include the right to support or oppose political causes and issues outside normal instructional activities.

Sec. 3-602. Research. A teacher is entitled to full freedom in research and in the publication of the results, subject to the adequate performance of other academic duties; but research for pecuniary return using University facilities should be based upon an understanding with the authorities of the University.

Sec. 3-603. Classroom. Teachers are entitled to academic freedom in the classroom in discussing their assigned subjects and disciplines, and should alert their students to the various scholarly views related to those subjects, and avoid presenting totally unrelated material. This should not be interpreted to unreasonably restrict others from freedom of speech. As a component of academic freedom, teachers are responsible for decisions regarding the classroom instruction of students, in accordance with departmental procedures.

Sec. 3-604. Responsibility. The concept of freedom is accompanied by an equally demanding concept of responsibility. College and university teachers are citizen 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. As persons of learning and educational officers, they should remember that the public may judge their profession and their institution by their utterances. Hence, they should show respect for the opinions of others and should make every effort to indicate that they are not institutional spokespersons.

Prior Board Action:

Entire Subpart 3-6 included in October 19, 2001 Codification, Phase I.

Entire Subpart 3-6 included in October 22, 2004 Codification, Phase II.