



Academic Freedom

Policy Title:	Academic Freedom
Policy Number:	1037
Date Adopted:	05/09/2014
Review Cycle:	Biennial
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Office Responsible:	Academic Deans
Related Policies:	

Policy Summary: It is the policy of Jackson College (JC) that scholarly inquiry, discussion, and publication may be freely pursued. Academic freedom is essential to teaching, research and artistic creation. This freedom is fundamental to the pursuit, communication, and advancement of knowledge and the arts.

Scope: This policy applies to the college, courses, faculty and students.

Policy Statement: Institutions of higher education are conducted for the common good and not to further the interest of either the individual instructor or the institution as a whole. The common good depends upon the free search for truth and its free expression.

Academic freedom is essential to these purposes and applies to both teaching and research. Freedom in research is fundamental to the advancement of truth. Academic freedom in its teaching aspect is fundamental for the protection of the rights of the instructor in teaching and of the student to freedom in learning. It carries with it duties correlative with rights.

Instructors are to be entitled to full freedom in research and in the publication of the results, subject to the adequate performance of their other academic duties; but research conducted in the course of an instructor's duties for financial gain should be based upon an understanding with the authorities of the institution.

Instructors are to be entitled to freedom in the classroom in discussing their subject, but they should be careful not to introduce into their teaching controversial matter which has no relation to their subject. This consideration is not intended to discourage what is "controversial," but rather to underscore the need for instructors to avoid persistently introducing such material if it has no relation to their subject.

Instructors are citizens, members of a learned profession, and representatives 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 scholars 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 speaking for the institution.



Change Log:

<u>Date Of Change</u>	<u>Description of Change</u>	<u>Responsible Party</u>
10/4/13	Initial Release	C. DeGroot
05/07/13	Approved by Academic Council	Woods/J. Frew
05/09/2014	Annual Review and updates	R. Woods
10/4/16	Regular review and update	R. Woods
10/10/16	Reviewed by Academic Council	R. Woods