

POLICY ADOPTION TEMPLATE

Academic Freedom Policy

Number:
US13/14-29

Number is determined by the order by which motions are received

Date of Notice:

Wed, 02/19/2014

Legislation, Resolution, or Policy Adoption:

Policy Proposal

Current Status:

Approved on 04/09/2014

Motion:

Notice is given at least 21 days, generally one month, before consideration by the Senate

A Notice of Motion must contain the following:

Title of Motion

Type of Motion: Must indicate whether it is Legislation, Resolution or Policy Proposal

Sponsor of Motion

Basic Motion Text: Include at least general information about the purpose of the motion and what sort of senate action is being requested.

Academic Freedom Policy

Final motion text is due to Senate Exec Coordinator at least 8 business days prior to the meeting

Section I:

1.1 WHEREAS on November 13, 2013 the University Senate moved that

"... the Senate Academic Freedom Work Group will continue to work with the University President to draft a strong academic freedom policy." ii; and

1.2 WHEREAS the Senate Academic Freedom Work Group has worked with the University President and his staff, discussing important principles and presenting and discussing drafts in person and by email; and

1.3 WHEREAS the most recent draft of the Senate Academic Freedom Work Group has been presented to the President on March 3, 2014;

Section II:

2.1 BE IT HEREBY MOVED that the University Senate approves the Academic Freedom Policy proposal as stated below (and here attached):

Policy on Academic Freedom

Include policy text as a word or PDF document

The University of Oregon encourages and supports open, vigorous, and challenging debate across the full spectrum of human issues as they present themselves to the university community. The University of Oregon protects free speech through Policy No. 01.00.16. This policy on Academic Freedom builds on these existing commitments by recognizing the special contexts of scholarship, teaching, governance, and public service.

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SECTION 1

a. SCHOLARSHIP. The University's research mission requires that members of the UO community have autonomous freedom to conduct research and produce creative work, and to publish and disseminate that work, limited only by the standards and methods of accountability established by their profession and their individual disciplines.

b. TEACHING. The University's responsibility to help students to think critically and independently requires that members of the university community have the right to investigate and discuss matters, including those that are controversial, inside and outside of class, without fear of institutional restraint. Matters brought up in class should be related to the subject of courses or otherwise be educationally relevant, as determined primarily by the faculty member in charge of the class.

c. POLICY AND SHARED GOVERNANCE. Members of the university community have freedom to address, question, or criticize any matter of institutional policy or practice, whether acting as individuals or as members of an agency of institutional governance.

d. PUBLIC SERVICE. Public service requires that members of the university community have freedom to participate in public debate, both within and beyond their areas of expertise, and to address both the university community and the larger society with regard to any matter of social, political, economic, cultural, or other interest. In their exercise of this freedom, university community members have the right to identify their association or title, but should not claim to be acting or speaking on behalf of the University unless authorized to do so.

SECTION 2

These freedoms derive immediately from the university's basic commitment to advancing knowledge and understanding. The academic freedoms enumerated in this policy shall be exercised without fear of institutional reprisal. Only serious abuses of this policy – ones that rise to the level of professional misbehavior or professional incompetence – should lead to adverse consequences. Any such determinations shall be made in accordance with established, formal procedures involving judgment by relevant peers.

[i] <http://senate.uoregon.edu/content/rescind-academic-freedomfreedom-speech-policy-proposal>

[iii] <http://policies.uoregon.edu/policy/by/1/01-administration-and-governance/freedom-inquiry-and-free-speech>

Financial Impact:

Cost neutral.

Financial impact information must be included in final motion text

Please include all appropriate citations

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Sponsor:

Michael Dreiling (Sociology), Senator

Please include all appropriate related documents in word or PDF format with your final motion text

Related Documents:

[Current Freedom of Inquiry and Free Speech policy](#)

[Memo from Dave Hubin to Margie Paris, March 7, 2014](#)

[Senate Workgroup February 28th Draft Academic Freedom Policy with President's Office Edits](#)

[Article 5 Revised to Apply to All Faculty](#)

[Memo from Ad Hoc Committee to President Gottfredson, March 11, 2014](#)

[Senate Workgroup March 11th Draft Academic Freedom Policy redlined from President's Office edits](#)

[Senate Workgroup Academic Freedom Policy Final Draft, April 9, 2014](#)

[Memo from President Gottfredson to Robert Kyr re: policy signing, May 29th, 2014](#)

Legislative History:

On 04/17/2013, the University Senate passed a motion on the floor to create an [Ad Hoc Committee to Evaluate Academic Freedom & Freedom of Speech](#)

If relevant and available, legislative history must be included in your final motion text. You can research prior Senate actions on the Senate website

On 12/04/2013, the University Senate passed a motion on the floor to create an [Ad Hoc Committee to Evaluate Academic Freedom/Freedom of Speech Policy](#)

On the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Committee, on 11/13/2013 the University Senate repealed motion US12/13-34 with the passage of US13/14-07: [Rescind Academic Freedom/Freedom of Speech Policy Proposal](#)

[January 7, 2014 report from the Ad Hoc Committee to Evaluate Academic Freedom/Freedom of Speech Policy](#)

[February 12, 2014 report for Senator Michael Dreiling on Ad Hoc Committee to Evaluate Academic Freedom/Freedom of Speech Policy](#)

On April 9, 2014, this motion was amended on the floor of the University Senate prior to approval. **Attached is a redlined version of the original motion.**

President Gottfredson signed this [policy](#) on May 28th, 2014.

[Memo from President Gottfredson to Robert Kyr re: policy signing, May 29th, 2014](#)

All motions changing existing policy or legislation must include a word or PDF document noting the redlined changes on the original text.