

## **ACADEMIC FREEDOM**

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### PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to promote understanding and support of academic freedom and professional responsibility to the students, to the community, and to Tillamook Bay Community College (TBCC).

Academic freedom is applied to teaching and other college-related activities. It is fundamental for the protection of the rights of the faculty in teaching and of the student to freedom in learning.

This institution is being operated for the common good and not to further the interest of either the individual faculty or the institution. The common good depends upon the free search for truth and its free exposition.

- A. Faculty are entitled to freedom in their presentation and discussion of the subject matter, as outlined in the Course Content Outcome Guide (CCOG).
- B. Faculty are entitled to freedom in professional development activities, if such activities further their skills and knowledge as determined by their self-evaluation and/or professional improvement plan.
- C. Faculty are citizens, members of a learned profession, and members of the 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 responsibilities. Thus, a faculty should clearly state to a public audience that they are communicating as private citizens and not as a representative of the College. All employees should consider that the public may judge Tillamook Bay Community College by their communications.
- D. As members of the Institution, faculty seek above all to be effective teachers. Although they observe the stated regulations of the institution, they maintain their right to disagree and seek possible revisions.
- E. Faculty are encouraged to be involved in their community and, as members of the community, have the rights and obligations of any citizen. They determine the amount and character of their civic and community involvement outside the institution with due regard to their responsibilities within it. As citizens engaged in a profession that depends upon freedom for its health and integrity, faculty have particular obligations to promote conditions of free inquiry and to further public understanding of academic freedom.