

INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES

BP 4030 ACADEMIC FREEDOM

References:

Education Code Section 7050 et seq.;
Title 5 Section 51023;
Accreditation Standard II.A.7

See BP/AP 7370 titled Use of District Resources for Political Activity, BP 2716 titled Political Activity, and Article 3 of the Agreement Between Palomar Faculty Federation, CFT/AFT and Palomar Community College District.

The District encourages freedom of expression and the free flow and exchange of information and ideas. The District seeks to protect academic freedom and supports free and unfettered scholarly inquiry.

Faculty members of Palomar College shall conduct the instructional program in accordance with principles of academic freedom of expression and inquiry within the framework of rights and responsibilities.

The District considers academic freedom, defined by its attendant rights and responsibilities, as a vital, primary force in the achievement of the aims and objectives of the institution. Academic freedom inherently involves the following rights and responsibilities:

- To research to the limit of competence and training, the assigned teaching area and its references
- To question and challenge, without fear of censorship or discipline, those actions originating from within the institution which seriously affect the total academic environment
- To introduce, within the assigned teaching area, controversial concepts, issues, and systems, subjecting these ideas to the test of reasoned inquiry
- To create free and clear intellectual atmosphere democratically maintained, encouraged, and supported by students, staff, administration, and members of the Governing Board
- To associate with those individuals or groups of one's choice without fear of censorship or discipline, unless such association is forbidden by law
- To speak or write publicly, free of prior censorship or subsequent discipline by the college or District, as a citizen on matters of public concern

Date Adopted: 6/10/2009; Revised 6/11/2013

(Replaces current Palomar College Policies 2.0, 4.1, and 300)

- To make reasonable efforts to be accurate in public statements about college and District matters, and to indicate that they write or speak as public citizens and not as spokespersons of the institution

At no time will the inherent right of faculty members to use any of the normal channels of campus communication be abridged, nor will individual faculty members be singled out for prior censorship of their use of such channels of communication. It is understood that faculty members exercising this right will accept responsibility for both the substance and the manner of their messages. In compliance with these principles, the District encourages faculty, staff, and student involvement with others in support of candidates for offices or in the furtherance of other political activities, as long as no District resources are used for these purposes.