Academic Freedom

Policy Statement:

Valencia College subscribes to the following statement regarding academic freedom:

I. Academic freedom and responsibility as they apply to teaching, research, and creativity are essential to Valencia College. In the development of knowledge, research endeavors, and creative activities, a college faculty and student body must be free to cultivate a spirit of inquiry and scholarly criticism and to examine ideas in an atmosphere of freedom and confidence. Consistent with the exercise of academic responsibility, a professor must have the opportunity to study a full spectrum of ideas, opinions, and beliefs in acquiring maturity for analysis and judgment; the professor must present such matters objectively and skillfully.

II. The faculty member must fulfill his or her responsibility to society and to his or her profession by manifesting academic competence, scholarly discretion, and good citizenship. The college professor is a citizen, a member of a learned profession, and an academic officer of an educational institution. He or she should be constantly mindful that these roles may be inseparable in the public view, and he or she should, therefore, at all times exercise appropriate restraint and good judgment.

Policy History:

Adopted 12-11-74; Amended 12-15-82; Amended 11-18-92; Formerly 6Hx28:5-02; Formerly 6Hx28:05-00