

1 UNITED ACADEMICS PROPOSAL

2 9-18-13

3
4 ARTICLE 7

5 ACADEMIC FREEDOM, FREE SPEECH AND RESPONSIBILITY

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7 **Preamble.** As stated in the Mission Statement, the University of Oregon "strives to enrich the
8 public that sustains it through the conviction that freedom of thought and expression is the
9 bedrock principle on which university activity is based." Academic freedom and freedom of
10 speech are necessary conditions to teaching and research. This policy establishes a robust view
11 of academic freedom and freedom of speech in order to ensure that faculty ~~can participate in~~
12 ~~shared governance and in order to facilitate excellence in teaching and research~~ have the freedom
13 to conduct research, to teach, to engage in internal criticism, and to participate in public debate.
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15 **Section 1.** The University Administration protects academic freedom and bargaining unit faculty
16 members shall enjoy ~~all of its benefits and responsibilities. These are defined as:~~

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18 a. The freedom to conduct research and creative work and to publish or otherwise
19 disseminate the results of that work. Within the broad standards of accountability
20 established by their profession and their individual disciplines, faculty members must
21 enjoy the fullest possible freedom in their research and in circulating and publishing their
22 results. This freedom follows immediately from the University's basic commitment to
23 advancing knowledge and understanding.
24
25 b. The freedom to teach, both in and outside of the classroom. Faculty members must be
26 able not only to disseminate to their students the results of research by themselves and
27 others in their profession, but also to train students to think about these results for
28 themselves, often in an atmosphere of controversy that, so long as it remains in a broad
29 sense educationally relevant, actively assists students in mastering the subject and
30 appreciating its significance.

31 **Section 2.** Academic responsibility implies the competent and full performance of duties and
32 obligations and the commitment to support the responsible exercise of academic freedom by
33 one's self and others. Each bargaining unit faculty member has the responsibility to:

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35 a. Observe and uphold the ethical standards of his or her discipline in the pursuit and
36 communication of scientific and scholarly knowledge;
37 b. Treat students, staff, colleagues, and the public fairly in discharging his or her duties and
38 in accordance with this Agreement.
39 c. Respect the integrity of the evaluation process, evaluating students, staff, and colleagues
40 fairly according to the criteria and procedures specified in the evaluation process;

- 1 d. Represent one's self as speaking for the university only when authorized to do so as part
2 of one's position or professional responsibilities;
3 e. Participate, as appropriate, in the system of shared academic governance, especially at the
4 department or unit level, and seek to contribute to the academic functioning of the
5 bargaining unit faculty member's academic unit (program, department, school or college)
6 and the university.
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8 **Section 3.** All bargaining unit faculty members are also guaranteed the protections of freedom of
9 speech, as derived from the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States of America
10 and Section 8 of the Article I of the Constitution of the State of Oregon. When faculty members
11 speak or write as members of the public, they should make every effort to indicate that they are
12 not speaking for the university. They may identify their university affiliation so long as no
13 university sponsorship or endorsement is stated or implied.
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15 The University Administration encourages and supports open, vigorous, and challenging debate
16 across the full spectrum of human issues as they present themselves to the university community.
17 The University Administration protects free speech through Policy Number 01.00.16 (see
18 Appendix X) and all bargaining unit faculty have the protections derived from that policy.