

335942-01 Student rights and responsibilities.

(A) Preamble.

- (1) The university of Akron exists for the discovery, preservation, transmission and enlargement of knowledge, the pursuit of truth, the development of the intellect, character and personality of students and the enhancement of the general well-being of society.
- (2) Freedom to teach and freedom to learn are inseparable facets of academic freedom. These freedoms depend upon appropriate opportunities and conditions in the classroom, on the campus and in the larger community. All members of the university community share the right and responsibility to secure and to respect general conditions conducive to enjoyment of these freedoms which are inalienable.
- (3) As members of the academic community, students in exercising their freedom have the responsibility of preserving the freedom of others and working for the good of the entire community. The following statement of student rights and responsibilities provides for standards of academic freedom which are tested in any community of scholars.

(B) Access to education. Within the limits of its facilities, the university of Akron shall be open to all applicants who meet its admission requirements. No applicant will be denied

The university of Akron and its colleges shall publish and make admission, enrollment, retention, transfer and degree requirements. By attending the university of Akron, the student signifies willingness to adhere to the rules and regulations pertinent to the student's status as a student at the university. However, the student shall be as free as possible from imposed limitations which are not relevant to the student's education. The university has an obligation to promote the welfare of each of its students and each student has an obligation to contribute to the welfare of the university.

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Students of Akron students have both the right and the responsibility to participate in free inquiry and expression when relevant to the subject under discussion. Students are responsible for learning the content of any course of study for which they are enrolled and they shall comport themselves in a responsible manner. Students are held responsible for maintaining established standards of academic integrity. Such standards include avoiding plagiarizing the words or ideas of others and avoiding aiding or abetting the commission of plagiarism by another student.

- (2) Students have the right to expect effective instruction and to have their performance evaluated solely on an academic basis. Students should be informed by each instructor at the beginning of each course of the procedures and standards, including class attendance requirements, etc., by which they will be graded. Any student who believes unfair treatment has been received in the classroom has the right to seek and receive from the instructor the reason for the instructor's action. If the student still questions the fairness of the instructor's action, the student has the right to appeal in turn to the head of the department or division, the dean of the college in which the course is given, and the senior vice president and provost and chief operating officer.
- (3) The faculty have a responsibility to students that transcends the classroom. Students have a right to expect reasonable access to members of the faculty. Faculty members shall maintain office hours and establish alternate means of communication which are reasonable and convenient both for themselves and for the students whom they teach. Students shall be informed of these arrangements at the beginning of each course of study.
- (4) All students are entitled to sound academic advisement and should be provided with competent academic counseling whenever the need arises.
- (5) Academic advisement and counseling for students shall be conducted by designated professionals. Referral will be made to a faculty member for advice in the area of the student's intended major when requested by the student or subject to the advisor.
- (6) Each student in an upper college or the graduate school or a professional school has the right to have an academic advisor who is a faculty member of the department or school in which the student is enrolled. The student may, upon request, be assigned another advisor by the head of the department or by the dean of the college or school.
- (7) The student shall periodically confer with the advisor to review academic progress and to be informed of those courses which the student must complete in order to fulfill the collegiate or school degree requirements. The college or school shall publish and make available its specific requirements.
- (8) The advisor or department shall provide information about requirements for graduation and shall advise the student with regard to electives and number of credit hours carried per semester. With regard to free electives, not stipulated in the degree program, the student shall have freedom of choice.

(D) Student records

- (1) The office of the university registrar maintains the official record of the student's

academic performance. To minimize the risk of improper disclosure, academic and disciplinary records should be separate, and the conditions of access to each should be set forth in explicit policy statement. Transcripts of academic records shall contain only information about courses, grades and notations of academic status. These statements shall reflect only the student's academic performance and academic action taken by the university. Only when required by law shall a notation of nonacademic disciplinary action appear on the academic record. These academic records may be examined by the student in the office of the university registrar in the presence of an authorized official of the university.

- (2) Copies of the official and unofficial academic records may not be released to persons or organizations outside the university except upon written request of the student. Under exceptional circumstances where the permission of the student cannot be secured, the appropriate university authorities may exercise their discretion in the release of this information.
- (3) Information from disciplinary records may be released only upon the written request of the student. Where there is clear and probable danger which might result in loss of life, personal injury or property damage, the appropriate university officers may release this information without the consent of the student. D of tpl discaen6(r)3(e)4(t) no

student or alumnus/a of an office, officer or another member of the university community as a reference is regarded as authorization to furnish a full and frank evaluation.

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causes of their choosing by lawful and orderly means, including peaceful assembly and advocacy. In their public expressions and demonstrations, the students or student organizations have a responsibility to make it known that they do not necessarily speak for or act on behalf of the university. The university has the inherent right and responsibility to protect individuals and property and to assure the continuity of the educational process.

- (f) All student organizations may invite and hear speakers of their choosing. Students are expe

"Radio, T.V. Code of Good Practices" National Association of Broadcasters;" and by the rules and regulations of the federal communications commission which proscribe libel, slander, obscenity, undocumented allegations and the techniques of harassment and innuendo. WZIP and the radio/television workshop are governed by regulations imposed by the federal communications commission. The radio/television workshop is also governed by the policies of WZIP when broadcasting over the station's facilities.

- (c) To ensure the editorial freedom of student publications and campus radio stations, the university to the extent that its legal obligations permit subscribes to the following safeguards:
- (i) The media should be free of censorship, advance approval of copy and/or programs to be published or aired. The media managers should be free to develop their editorial policy and news coverage.
  - (ii) Editors and managers of student news media shall not be subject to arbitrary suspension and removal because of student, faculty, administration or public disapproval of their editorial policies or content. Only for proper and stated causes shall editors and managers be subject to removal and then only by orderly and prescribed procedures. The procedures shall be carried out by the appointing authority and include the right of appeal.
- (d) All student news media must explicitly state that the opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the university or its student body.

(F) Off-campus rights and responsibilities.

- (1) University students are both citizens and members of the university community. As citizens they enjoy the same rights such as freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and right of petition, and the same obligations as other citizens; and as members of the university community they are entitled to the privileges and subject to the responsibilities which accrue to them by virtue of this membership. University authority shall not be employed to inhibit the exercise of rights of citizenship, either on or off campus, but neither do students have special rights when in violation of the law. Students shall recognize that away from campus while attending a university-associated event, their conduct may reflect upon the university as well as upon the individual.
- (2) Students who violate the law may incur penalties prescribed by civil authorities. While university authority should not be used merely to duplicate the function of general laws, the university may assert its disciplinary authority over students in situations where the students conduct off campus may be deemed by the university to affect the university or its students, faculty, academic officers, and staff. When

