

Academic Freedom

The ACFS urges the Board Governors to add to the list of Duties and Responsibilities in section I, "Board of Governors Powers and Duties" the following item: *Protect Academic Freedom*.

Academic Freedom is to be understood as defined by the AAUP in its 1949 formulation:

ACADEMIC FREEDOM

a. Teachers are entitled to full freedom in research and in the publication of the results, subject to the adequate performance of their other academic duties; but research for pecuniary return should be based upon an understanding with the authorities of the institution.

b. Teachers are entitled to freedom in the classroom in discussing their subject, but they should be careful not to introduce into their teaching controversial matter which has no relation to their subject. Limitations of academic freedom because of religious or other aims of the institution should be clearly stated in writing at the time of the appointment.

c. College and university teachers are citizens, members of a learned profession, and officers of an 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 special obligations. As scholars and educational officers, they should remember that the public may judge their profession and their institution by their utterances. Hence they should at all times be accurate, should exercise appropriate restraint, should show respect for the opinions of others, and should make every effort to indicate that they are not speaking for the institution

<http://www.aaup.org/statements/Redbook/1940stat.htm>

The University of Florida statement on Academic Freedom, also of interest, can be reviewed at the following website:

<http://www.generalcounsel.ufl.edu/Rules/Chapter%207/7018.pdf>