

BOARD POLICY SERIES NUMBER: 4050

TITLE: ACADEMIC FREEDOM AND RESPONSIBILITY

Linn-Benton Community College faculty members are entitled the freedom of discussing their subject in the classroom, but not of introducing into their teaching controversial matters having no relationship to their subject and the approved course outline (see Board Policy 4045 Study of Controversial Issues).

This college policy is based on certain assumptions, which include but are not limited to the following:

- A. Institutions of higher education are conducted for the common good and not to further the interest of either the individual faculty member or the institution as a whole.
- B. The common good depends upon the free search for truth and its free exposition.
- C. College faculty members are citizens, members of a learned profession, and members of a particular institution. When speaking as citizens, faculty members should be free from institutional censorship or discipline; but the faculty member's special position in the community imposes special obligations. Hence the expectation is that faculty members should be accurate, exercise appropriate restraint, show respect for the opinions of others, and make every effort to indicate that they are not speaking for the institution.¹

DATE OF ADOPTION: 03/14/83

DATE(S) OF REVISION(S): 12/16/92

¹ This information is adapted from the 1940 Statement of Principles on Academic Freedom and Tenure of the American Society of University Professors, contained in the AAUP Bulletin, June, 1963, pp.192-193.