Students’ Rights as Citizens

Policy/Procedure

College students are both members of the academic community and citizens. As citizens, students should enjoy the same freedom of speech, peaceable assembly, and right of petition that other citizens enjoy. The College shall not inhibit such intellectual and personal development of students as may be prompted by their exercise of these rights both on- and off-campus.

Students who violate the law may incur penalties prescribed by civil authorities. College authority shall never be used merely to duplicate the function of civil laws; only where the College community’s pursuit of its educational objectives is distinct, and clearly involved, shall its special authority be asserted. The student who, in the course of his or her off-campus activities, incidentally violates College regulations (such as those relating to course assignments) shall be subject to no greater penalty than would normally be imposed on-campus. College action shall be independent of community pressure.

The College shall clarify those general standards of behavior which it considers essential to its educational objective and its community life. These general behavioral expectations and the resultant specific regulations shall represent a reasonable regulation of student conduct in areas which have persuasive relevance to the educational aim of the College. Students detected or arrested in the course of violations of College regulations or infractions of ordinary law shall be informed of their rights. No form of harassment shall be used to coerce admissions of guilt or information about the conduct of other suspected persons. Unless convicted on charges brought against him or her, a student shall not have his or her status altered nor shall his or her right to be present on the campus and to attend classes be suspended, except for reasons of individual or community safety.

Related Information

History/Revision Information

Responsible Office/Division:

Effective Date:

Last Amended Date:

Next Review Date:

Also Found In: Student Handbook