



## **ACADEMIC FREEDOM**

### **POLICY**

Brunswick Community College preserves an environment for excellence in teaching, learning, and inquiry by sustaining freedom of expression, scholarly pursuit of knowledge, spirited and open debate, and intellectual exchange. A faculty member's basic objective should be the transmission of knowledge in their particular field or fields and students' acquisition of this knowledge. The faculty member is free to pursue such activity unhampered by arbitrary limitations on the right of free inquiry into, and discussion of, any and all ideas and concepts relevant to the faculty member's instructional and professional duties. An instructor may present facts about controversial issues related to course content to their students so long as both sides of the issue are considered. These same rights and privileges also extend to students. Responsibility must accompany the rights and privileges of academic freedom; throughout the educational process, faculty are encouraged to create an environment of academic excellence and to explore various academically appropriate points of view. Faculty are expected to be accurate, objective, and purposeful. Material presented or discussed should be related to the course's subject matter. Faculty are expected to present and discuss assignments and material relevant to the student learning outcomes presented in the course. Faculty are responsible to set reasonable rules for appropriate classroom discourse, including limits to speech that is unrelated to class material or substantially impairs the rights of others.

The Brunswick Community College Board of Trustees shall guarantee and protect academic freedom in the College.

A recognized consequence to this concept is the faculty member's obligation to support the mission and policies of the College and to refrain from activity which would violate such policies or hamper the achievement of the College's goals.

*Approved by the Brunswick Community College Board of Trustees*

August 20, 1997; October 25, 1997; June 28, 2013

*Revised by the Brunswick Community College Board of Trustees*

February 16, 2023