



**TITLE:** Academic Freedom and Responsibility

**PROCEDURE NUMBER:** 3-1-1000.1

**RELATED POLICY AND PROCEDURES:** 3.-1-1000 Academic Freedom and Responsibility

**DIVISION OF RESPONSIBILITY:** Academic Affairs

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May 17, 2013  
Approved by President

June 3, 2019  
Date of Last Review

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Date of Last Revised

**DISCLAIMER**

**PURSUANT TO SECTION 41-1-110 OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF SC, AS AMENDED, THE LANGUAGE USED IN THIS SECTION DOES NOT CREATE AN EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT BETWEEN THE EMPLOYEE AND THE COLLEGE. THE COLLEGE RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REVISE THE CONTENT OR THIS DOCUMENT, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, NOPROMISES OR ASSURANCES, WHETHER WRITTEN OR ORAL, WHICH ARE CONT5ARY TO OR INCONSISTENT WITH THE TERMS OF THIS PARAGRAPH CREATE ANY CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT.**

### **Administrative Responsibilities**

It is the responsibility of the Vice President for Academic Affairs to review and revise this procedure.

## **Procedure**

### **A. General Concepts**

In the development of knowledge, research endeavors, and creative activities, faculty and students must be free to cultivate a spirit of inquiry and scholarly criticism. The faculty members are entitled to freedom in the classroom in discussing their subject, but they should be careful not to introduce teaching matters which have no relation to the field. Faculty and students must be able to examine ideas in a safe environment in order to participate as responsible citizens in community affairs.

### **B. Responsibilities**

The College recognizes that commitment to every freedom carries with it attendant responsibilities. The faculty members must fulfill their responsibilities to society and to their profession by manifesting competence, professional discretion, and good citizenship. When they speak or write as a citizen, they will be free from institutional censorship or discipline, but their special position in the community imposes special obligations. As professional educators, they must remember that the public may judge their profession and their college by their utterances. Hence, they should at all times be accurate, exercise appropriate restraint, show respect for the opinions of others, and make every effort to indicate they are not speaking for the College. Where there are conflicts or inconsistencies between this policy and the Ethics Act of 1991, the provisions of the Ethics Act will take precedence.