



University of Colorado

Boulder | Colorado Springs | Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus

BOARD OF REGENTS

1 **LAWS OF THE REGENTS**

2
3 **ARTICLE 5: FACULTY**

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5 **Part B: Academic Freedom**

6
7 5.B.1 Freedom of Inquiry and Discourse as a Core Principle of the University

8
9 (A) The University of Colorado was created and is maintained to afford individuals a
10 liberal education in the several branches of literature, arts, sciences, and the
11 professions and to create knowledge through the pursuit of research. These aims
12 can be achieved only in an atmosphere of free inquiry and discourse.

13
14 (B) The core principle of free inquiry and discourse is recognized by the Board of
15 Regents as academic freedom.

16
17 (C) All members of the university community have the right to free expression as stated
18 in article 1.E. of regent law and further elaborated in regent policy 1.D; however, this
19 right is distinct from academic freedom.

20
21 5.B.2 Principles of Academic Freedom

22
23 (A) Academic freedom is the freedom to inquire, discover, access, publish,
24 disseminate, and teach truth as the individual understands it, subject to no control
25 or authority save the control and authority of the rational methods by which
26 knowledge is established in the field.

27
28 (B) All university employees, whose duties include independent teaching, scholarly or
29 creative work are afforded the right of academic freedom relative to these duties
30 (see ~~the~~ corresponding [Administrative Policy Statement 1043: Independent](#)
31 [Teaching and Scholarly/Creative Work](#)) and have the right to grieve perceived
32 violations of academic freedom through the Faculty Senate grievance process.

33
34 (C) The rights and responsibilities associated with the principles of academic freedom
35 are elaborated in regent policy 5.B.

36
37 **History:**

- 38 • Adopted: September 14, 2018 (Moved from the old article 5.B, 5.C., 5.D, and 5.E); Became
39 effective July 1, 2020.
40 • Revised: N/A.
41 • Last Reviewed: September 14, 2018.
42 • Non-substantive Changes: January 2024.