

RE 07**Academic Freedom Rights and Responsibilities**

Classification:	Research
Responsible Authority:	Director, Applied Research and Innovation
Executive Sponsor:	Vice President, Academic
Approval Authority:	President's Council
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PURPOSE

To define academic freedom in scholarly activities, and the associated rights and responsibilities.

SCOPE

This policy applies to Algonquin College faculty, staff and students who are authorized in writing by the College to engage in scholarly activities.

DEFINITIONS

Word/Term	Definition
Academic Freedom	Faculty, staff and students have the right to enquire about and investigate without restriction, scholarly activities, some of which could be perceived as controversial, without fear of impairment to position or other reprisal.
Scholarly Activities	Research endeavours in the pursuit, creation and dissemination of knowledge, applied and otherwise.

POLICY

1. Algonquin College is committed within its means, to provide the opportunities, infrastructure, facilities and academic freedom necessary to support a high level of scholarly activities.
2. All scholarly activities must be conducted ethically and in ways that fully respect human rights as defined in law. Faculty, staff and students are expected to use their right of academic freedom responsibly, with respect for the rights of others and in a manner that is appropriate to, and consistent with, their College appointment or role, and in adherence with College policies.
3. College faculty, staff and students are members of an educational institution whose special position in the community imposes unique obligations, and as such, as a group must be cognizant of their position as institutional representatives. Hence, faculty, staff and students shall be accurate; shall exercise appropriate respect for the opinions of others; and shall clearly indicate whether they are

presenting personal rather than institutional views, as the former opinions clearly fall outside the purview of rights associated with academic freedom.

4. Academic freedom does not confer legal immunity from either criminal prosecution or from a civil action, whether from a claim in damages by a third party or seeking of indemnification and recovery by the College, nor does it prevent peer review as conducted or approved by the College or by other academic, research or professional bodies in the field, whether within or outside the College.
5. All faculty, staff and students who are authorized in writing by the College for purposes of engaging in scholarly activities as governed by this policy are individually accountable to comply with this policy. Breaches of College policies, including the Academic Freedom Policy, may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination.

RELATED POLICIES

AA 34 Copyright

AD 02 Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy

HR 12 Conflict of Interest

HR 22 Harassment and Discrimination

RE 01 Research Administration

RE 02 Integrity in Research and Scholarly Activities

RE 03 Research Involving Human Subjects

RE 04 Use of Animals in Research, Teaching and Other Activities

RE 05 Intellectual Property

RE 06 Use of Biohazardous and Radioactive Materials in Research and Education

SA 07 Student Conduct

RELATED MATERIALS

Ontario Human Rights Code, R.S.O. 1990, c.H.19, as amended

http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/statutes/english/elaws_statutes_90h19_e.htm

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/statutes/english/elaws_statutes_90f31_e.htm