

Huron University College Academic Freedom Policy

ISSUED: October 12, 1996

REVISED: March 26, 2010

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Huron University College serves the common good of society, through the pursuit of knowledge and understanding, the dissemination of research findings, and by fostering independent thinking and expression among students and faculty. These ends cannot be achieved without academic freedom. All faculty members have the right to academic freedom.

2

Academic freedom includes the right, without restriction by prescribed doctrine, to freedom of teaching and discussion; freedom in carrying out research and disseminating and publishing the results thereof with the understanding that such freedom shall be exercised in accordance with the Tri-Council Policy on Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans; freedom in producing and performing creative works; freedom to engage in service to the institution and the community; freedom to express freely one's opinion about the institution, its administration, or the system in which one works; freedom from institutional censorship; freedom to acquire, preserve, and provide access to documentary material in all formats; and freedom to participate in professional and representative academic bodies.

3

Academic freedom does not require neutrality on the part of the individual. Academic freedom makes intellectual discourse, critique, and commitment possible. All faculty members have the right to fulfill their functions without reprisal or repression by the employer, the state, or any other source.

4

All faculty members have the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion, expression, assembly, and association and the right to liberty and security of the person and freedom of movement. Faculty members must not be hindered or impeded in exercising their civil rights as citizens, including the right to contribute to social change through the free expression of opinion on matters of public interest. Faculty members must not suffer any institutional penalties because of the exercise of such rights. Such rights do not, however, include the right of the individual faculty member to speak on behalf of Huron University College unless authorized in accordance with the College's Media Relations Policy.

5

The principle and practice of collegial governance is essential for the exercise of academic freedom within Huron University College. Faculty members are entitled to have representatives on and to participate in college governing bodies in accordance with their role in the fulfillment of the Huron's academic and educational mission. Academic freedom means that on academic matters, including curriculum, assessment procedures and standards, appointment, tenure and promotion, and other matters relating to teaching and research, elected faculty members shall constitute at least a majority on committees or college governing bodies responsible for academic policies.

6

The College's institutional right to be self-determining and self-governing shall not take precedence over an individual's academic freedom. Any claim by the Administration at Huron University College that this institutional right takes priority over the academic freedom of individuals represents a form of institutional censorship.