



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
**BOARD OF REGENTS POLICY**

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Academic

**ACADEMIC FREEDOM AND  
RESPONSIBILITY**

**Adopted:** September 8, 1995

**Amended:** June 12, 2009; May 13, 2011

**Supersedes:** (see end of policy)

**ACADEMIC FREEDOM AND RESPONSIBILITY**

**SECTION I. GUIDING PRINCIPLES.**

The Board of Regents (Board) of the University of Minnesota (University) reaffirms the principles of academic freedom and responsibility. These are rooted in the belief that the mind is ennobled by the pursuit of understanding and the search for truth, and the state well served when instruction is available to all at an institution dedicated to the advancement of learning. These principles are also refreshed by the recollection that there is *commune vinculum omnibus artibus*, a common bond through all the arts.

**SECTION II. ACADEMIC FREEDOM.**

Academic freedom is the freedom, without institutional discipline or restraint, to discuss all relevant matters in the classroom, to explore all avenues of scholarship, research, and creative expression, and to speak or write on matters of public concern as well as on matters related to professional duties and the functioning of the University.

**SECTION III. ACADEMIC RESPONSIBILITY.**

Academic responsibility implies the faithful performance of professional duties and obligations, the recognition of the demands of the scholarly enterprise, and the candor to make it clear that when one is speaking on matters of public interest, one is not speaking for the institution.

**Supersedes:** Academic Freedom and Responsibility dated January 28, 1938; Academic Freedom and Responsibility dated December 14, 1963; Academic Freedom and Responsibility dated January 8, 1971.