

**Academic Freedom  
Policy**

**BOT Approved: Old Policy**-Approved 3/20/1979  
**New Policy Update**-Approved by  
Board July 16, 2019.

**PURPOSE:**

To establish guidelines for academic freedom and faculty conduct.

**POLICY:**

It is the policy of the Board of Trustees of Garrett College to endorse the following, taken in large part from the “Statement of Principles on Academic Freedom and Tenure” as published by the American Association of University Professors:

Academic freedom is essential and applies to both teaching and research. Freedom in research is fundamental to the advancement of truth. Academic freedom in its teaching aspect is fundamental for the protection of the rights of the teacher in teaching and of the student to freedom in learning.

The teacher is entitled to full freedom in research and in the publication of the results, subject to the adequate performance of his/her other academic duties. **A contract must be made with Garrett College when conducting research.**

The teacher is entitled to freedom in the classroom in discussing his/her subject, but should be careful not to introduce into the teaching material which has no relation to the subject. The college or university teacher is a citizen, a member of a learned profession, and an officer of an educational institution. When the teacher speaks or writes as a citizen, s/he should be free from institutional censorship or discipline, but his/her special position in the community imposes special obligations. As a person of learning and an educational officer, the teacher should remember that the public may judge the profession and his/her institution by personal utterances. Hence, the teacher should at all times be accurate, should exercise appropriate restraint, should show respect for the opinions of others, and should make every effort to indicate that s/he is not an institutional spokesperson.