

**POLICY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MAYLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**Title: ACADEMIC FREEDOM AND ACADEMIC RESPONSIBILITY      Type: ACADEMIC**

**POLICY NO: 1.001**

**Policy Adopted: March 14, 1988**

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**Charles Ronald Kates  
Chairman**

**AUTHORITY: SACS 3.7.4**

To ensure the excellence of its instructional programs and to support the principles of the Learning College, Mayland Community College supports the concept of academic freedom. In the development of knowledge, research endeavors, and creative activities, Mayland Community College students, faculty and staff must be free to cultivate a spirit of inquiry and scholarly criticism.

Faculty members are entitled to freedom in the classroom in discussing their subjects but should be careful not to introduce teaching matters unrelated to their course content. Faculty and students must be able to examine ideas in an atmosphere of freedom and confidence and to participate as responsible citizens in community affairs.

The College also recognizes that commitment to academic freedom carries with it attendant responsibilities. Faculty members must fulfill responsibility to their society and to their profession by manifesting academic competence, professional discretion, and good citizenship. When they speak or write as citizens, they will be free from institutional censorship or discipline, but their special position in the community imposes special obligations. As professional educators, they must remember that the public may judge their profession and Mayland Community College by their utterances. Hence, all employees should at all times be accurate, exercise appropriate restraint, show respect for the opinions of others, and make every effort to indicate that they are not spokespersons for Mayland Community College.