

BCC Committee on Academic Freedom

Minutes of November 4, 2021

Time & Location: 2-3pm, Zoom

Chair: Farnaz Kaighobadi

Vice Chair: Kenneth Flowers

Secretary: John Ziegler

Present: Kenneth Flowers, Farnaz Kaighobadi, Shelley Liu, Seth Offenbach, Jazmin Ramirez, Freddy Sanchez, John Ziegler

Not Present: Angel Anazco, Irene Delgado, Charles Maliti, Devin Molina

Total Membership: 11 (quorum=6)

AGENDA

- 1) Meeting called to order
- 2) Approval of the Agenda
- 3) Approval of the Minutes of 10/7/21
- 4) Discussion of revision of CoAF manual/statement and distribution of information to campus community
- 5) Next meeting schedule and calendar
- 6) New Business
- 7) Adjournment

ACTIONS

- 1) Meeting called to order 2:03pm
- 2) The agenda was approved unanimously.
- 3) The minutes of 10/7/21 were approved unanimously.
- 4) F. Kaighobadi raised the suggestion of adding example scenarios to the manual and shared an article (<https://www.insidehighered.com/views/2010/12/21/defining-academic-freedom>) that might be useful in doing so, including the explanation of what academic freedom does not cover. J. Ziegler agreed with adding some short, specific examples of what academic freedom does and does not cover, documenting sources if necessary. S. Liu asked about variations in the wording of the committee's definition at different places in the manual. F. Kaighobadi will edit the document to make the phrasing uniform. S. Liu asked whether posts on personal social media fall under the purview of the committee. The committee agreed to work on a statement on the use of social media by instructional staff in relation to academic freedom. S. Liu asked about reporting on investigations to the College Senate. F. Kaighobadi replied that written summary reports are delivered to the Senate, and if the committee decided that a violation had occurred, a verbal report would be made. S. Liu suggested adding this information to the manual, and the committee agreed. F. Kaighobadi suggested removing the background and history section and

replacing it with the examples. The committee agreed. F. Kaighobadi will look for existing models for a statement on academic freedom and social media and requested suggestions for the content of the statement. F. Kaighobadi will include the current manual with a broadcast reminding the community about the committee, and the revised version will be circulated in the spring semester. F. Kaighobadi asked the student members the best way to share information on academic freedom with the student body. J. Ramirez suggested asking faculty to share with their classes, alongside communication from the SGA.

- 5) The next meeting will be December 2 at 2pm.
- 6) The meeting was adjourned at 2:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,



John Ziegler