



Academic Senate

TO: ALL FACULTY MEMBERS

FR: COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC FREEDOM

The University of California, Riverside Committee on Academic Freedom informs the Campus academic community of the existence and functions of the Committee. Its bylaws state in part:

The committee shall be alert to any conditions within or without the University that, in the judgment of the committee, may adversely affect the freedom of the academic community at large. The committee shall report any such conditions to the Division. It is understood that academic freedom includes, but is not necessarily limited to, free inquiry and exchange of ideas, the rights to present controversial material relevant to a course of instruction, to publish or disseminate controversial material or information, and to perform research in controversial areas. It is also understood that academic freedom is to be conjoined with academic responsibility: it is to be exercised in accordance with standards appropriate to the relevant scholarly disciplines.

Specific duties of the Committee include:

- A. Considering issues of academic freedom brought before the committee by individuals or other UC Committees and to report findings and recommendations to the Division or to other committees for further action.
- B. Assisting in the education of the academic community regarding the rights and responsibilities relating to academic freedom. To this end, the committee is communicating this statement of its duties and mission to the general UCR academic community.

The Committee's authority is advisory and educational, rather than judicial. We encourage individuals or other Senate Committees to bring to our attention any activities, decisions, or policies that might raise issues of academic freedom.

Please feel free to contact any member of the committee or the Senate committee analyst. Contact and additional information can be found on the committee's web site at

<https://senate.ucr.edu/committees/3>