

POLICY TITLE: Intellectual and Academic Freedom

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure freedom of creative expression and intellectual inquiry are treated as paramount values by PSC. This policy also aims to give guidance to academic staff as to their rights and responsibilities in order to pursue critical and open inquiries.

Photography Studies College (Melbourne) wishes to develop itself, within the resources available, as a centre of innovation and scholarship in photography and related practices. Its model of teaching will emphasise reflective practice and intellectual inquiry, focused on the practice of professional photography.

Policy

Academic staff members, as employees of Photography Studies College (Melbourne) have the right to:

- Pursue critical and open inquiry within an environment of artistic and academic freedom and to publish their results without undue restriction, but subject to scholarly standards and legal requirement
- Participate in public debates and express opinions about issues and ideas related to their academic and professional areas, about higher education issues as they affect this institution and about higher education issues more generally
- Participate in decision making structures and processes within Photography Studies College (Melbourne)
- Participate in professional and representative bodies without fear of harassment or intimidation
- Teach, promote learning, assess and develop curricula
- Engage in community service without fear of harassment, intimidation or unfair treatment

Academic staff members have the right to express unpopular or controversial views, but this does not mean that they have a right to harass, vilify or intimidate.

These rights are linked to the responsibilities of staff to support the role of Photography Studies College (Melbourne) as a place of academic freedom, independent learning and thought, where ideas may be put forward and opinion expressed freely and as an institution which must be accountable for its expenditure of public and private money.

Any alleged limitation of these rights can be raised, in the first instance, through the Photography Studies College (Melbourne) Grievance Procedure.

Definitions

Intellectual and academic freedom refers to the rights of academic staff to freedom of creative expression and their and responsibilities as staff to support the role of Photography Studies College (Melbourne) as a place of independent learning, practice and thought; particularly in the fields of producing and presenting imagery and its critical appraisal.

Related Documentation

Policies

Academic Integrity
Plagiarism
Intellectual Property
Staff Code of Conduct

Procedures, Forms & Documents

Nil

Publishing Details

Policy number: HED_AC001_v5

Status: Final

Approved: 2 October 2019

Review Date: October 2022

Julie Moss - Managing Director

Published: October 2019

