I. PURPOSE & INTENT

The University of South Florida System (“University”) affirms the Principles of Academic Freedom and Responsibility. These principles are rooted in a conception of the University as a community of scholars united in the pursuit of truth and wisdom in an atmosphere of tolerance and freedom.

II. STATEMENT OF POLICY

Academic Freedom is the freedom to discuss all relevant matters in the classroom, to explore all avenues of scholarship, research, and creative expression, to speak freely on all matters of university governance, and to speak, write, or act as a public citizen without institutional discipline or restraint.

A. On the part of the faculty, Academic Responsibility implies the honest performance of academic duties and obligations, the commitment to support the responsible exercise of freedom by others, and the candor to make it clear that the individual, while he or she may be freely identified as a member of the University faculty, is not speaking as a representative of the University in matters of public interest.

B. On the part of the Administration, Academic Responsibility implies a commitment to actively foster within the University a climate favorable to responsible exercise of freedom by developing and maintaining academic policies and processes in which the professional judgments of faculty members are of primary importance.

*Current Responsible Office: Academic Affairs

*Refer to the appropriate Responsible Office website for a current name of the Vice President or other Responsible Officer.

History: New 10-13-03.