



# University of Colorado

Boulder | Colorado Springs | Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus

## BOARD OF REGENTS

### 5. FACULTY

#### Policy 5.B: Academic Freedom

For the purposes of discussing academic freedom, “the faculty” as referred to in [regent](#) policy 5.B.1 and 5.B.2, shall mean all those afforded academic freedom under regent law 5.B.

##### 5.B.1 Associated Rights

- (A) All faculty members, within the scope of their faculty responsibilities, must have freedom to study, learn, and conduct scholarship and creative work within their discipline, and to communicate the results of these pursuits to others, bound only by the control and authority of the rational methods by which knowledge is established in the field. The best method for advancing the state of knowledge is engaging with the broadest range of theories, methodologies, data, and conflicting opinions.
- (B) Faculty members shall not be subjected to direct or indirect pressures in an attempt to influence their work in a manner that would conflict with professional standards of the field. The Board of Regents and administration shall not impose such pressures or influence and shall resist such pressures or interference when exerted from [inside or](#) outside the university.
- (C) [Faculty personnel actions](#) ~~The appointment, such as~~ reappointment, promotion, ~~and tenure, of all faculty, and award of tenure to tenure-track faculty,~~ shall not ~~consider any factors be awarded or denied based on extrinsic considerations such as a related to a~~ faculty member's [exercising their freedom of](#) expression of ~~political, social, or religious views under regent article 1.E and policy 1.D.~~
- (D) Subject to the responsibilities identified in section 5.B.2(C), faculty are afforded freedom in achieving the goals of their assigned courses.

**Commented [MD1]:** Addition of “inside or” is a revision from Regent Governance Committee (January 23, 2025)

##### 5.B.2 Associated Responsibilities

- (A) Faculty members have the responsibility to maintain [professional](#) competence; to devote themselves to developing and improving their teaching, scholarship, research, creative work, clinical activities, writing, and speaking; and to act with integrity, in accordance with the highest standards of their profession.
- (B) While academic freedom affords faculty members wide latitude in defining their scholarly activities, their teaching, scholarship, and creative work shall be assessed by reference to the criteria of the faculty member's primary unit(s).

#### FEEDBACK

- (C) Faculty members are responsible for requirements (e.g., course content, topic order, course schedule, assessment mechanisms) specified by responsible faculty bodies, such as curriculum committees.
- (D) Faculty members should be able to justify, in terms of curriculum and student learning, all materials introduced into the classroom.
- (E) All members of the university community shall comply with the standards of ethical conduct stated in [article regent law](#) 8, part B ~~and or~~ regent policy 8.A.
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#### **History:**

- Adopted: September 14, 2018 (Moved from the old article 7.C and 5.D); Became effective July 1, 2020.
- Revised: N/A.
- Last Reviewed: September 14, 2018.