

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

BOARD POLICY

7.30040 BP

FREEDOM IN STUDENT AFFAIRS

7.30040 BP

The board believes that in student affairs, certain standards must be maintained if the freedom of students is to be preserved. Therefore, the following concepts shall be adhered to:

I. Freedom of Association

Students bring to campus a variety of interests previously acquired and develop many new interests as members of the academic community. They shall be free to organize and join associations to promote their common interests.

- A. The memberships, policies, and actions of student organizations shall be determined by vote of only those who are bona fide student members of that campus organization.
- B. Affiliation with an off-campus organization shall not in itself be cause for the disqualification of a student organization from institutional recognition.
- C. Recognition of a student organization shall not be withheld or withdrawn solely because of the inability of that organization to secure an adviser. Advisers should advise the organization in the exercise of its responsibilities, but they shall not have authority over the policy of that organization. Furthermore, advisers shall be free to exercise independent judgment in their advisory capacities to the organization.
- D. Student organizations shall be required to submit a statement of purpose, criteria for membership, rules and procedures and a list of current officers. Membership lists will not be required as a condition of institutional recognition.
- E. Campus organizations, including those affiliated with off-campus organizations, shall not exclude students on the basis of race, creed, sex, national origin, age, or physical handicap.
- F. Student organizations shall not be held responsible for the actions of individual members when they act without the permission of an organization. No student organization shall be penalized for its philosophies or beliefs.

II. Freedom of Inquiry and Expression

- A. Students and student organizations shall be free to examine and to discuss all questions of interest to them and to express their opinions both publicly and privately. They shall be free to support legal causes by orderly means which do not disrupt the essential operation of the district.

- B. Student organizations have the right to invite and to hear any person of their own choosing. However, all board policies and college procedures shall be followed by student organizations when using outside speakers.

Adopted: Board of Trustees
May 19, 1975
(Editorial Correction: 12/19/05)