

STUDENT BILL OF RIGHTS

I. STUDENT RIGHTS

Ideally, each member of the University community assumes individual responsibility for his personal freedom and obligations. The university discipline themselves, individually and collectively, and it requires adherence to the Standards of Conduct appropriate for an academic community. It must and will take appropriate action when a member's conduct places the best interests of the community in jeopardy. Each student, as a member of this community, is responsible for being familiar with the policies of Boise State University.

Students are both (1) citizens and (2) members of the academic community. As (1) citizens, they enjoy the same freedoms of speech, peaceful assembly, and right of petition that other citizens enjoy. As (2) members of the academic community, they assume the obligations inherent in that membership and as representatives of the university. These obligations include a creditable demeanor for themselves first and the institution second, reflecting intelligence, maturity, concern for the rights of others, and regard for the education mission of the university.

For the purposes of applying this statement, a "student" is defined as any person who is regularly enrolled in the university as an undergraduate student, graduate student, or who is admitted as a non matriculated student, or who is pursuing extension studies, and who is not a member of the faculty.

A. FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION

Students are free to organize and to participate in voluntary associations of their own choosing subject only to reasonable university regulations insuring that such associations are neither discriminatory in their treat-

ment of other members of the university not operated in a manner which substantially interferes with the rights of others. Freedom of association may not be forbidden because of the general political or philosophical objectives of any particular group. However, campus organizations are under a strong obligation to avoid any representation that their actions reflect the views of the university.

University approval shall not be required for the organizations of any student association. The cooperation of such an association is subject to regulations necessary for the orderly scheduling of events, but in no case shall the views or objectives of the association be a basis for exercising these or other regulatory powers. In the event that university regulations are violated, disciplinary action will be taken only against individual students and not against the association.

The membership, policies and actions of a student organization usually will be determined by vote of only those persons who are students in the university. Such organizations, in order to receive recognition within the academic community, must adhere to the organization criteria.

Affiliation with an extramural organization shall not of itself disqualify a student organization from institutional recognition nor from the use of university facilities, although reasonable provisions may be made to safeguard the autonomy of a campus organization from domination by outside groups.

Student associations may be required by the university to submit a current list of officers and objectives, but they shall not be required to otherwise disclose their membership.

B. RECOGNIZED CAMPUS ORGANIZATIONS

A recognized organization is a group of BSU students organized for a

stated purpose which has received official recognition from the ASBSU. The Assistant Director of Student Activities may authorize a group to meet in the SUB free of charge before it is recognized in order to organize and to draft a constitution. P. 16 Handbook.

C. FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND ASSEMBLY

No rule shall restrict any student expression solely on the basis of disapproval or fear of his ideas or motives. Students and student organizations shall be free to examine and discuss all questions of interest to them, and to express opinions publicly and privately. Modes of expression or assembly that are manifestly unreasonable in terms of time, place or manner may be forbidden. THIS DOES NOT HOWEVER, ABROGATE THE STUDENT'S ACCOUNTABILITY AS CITIZENS TO THE LAWS OF THE LARGER SOCIETY.

1. The institution will not request or agree to any special consideration for students apprehended and/or charged for a violation of laws of the larger community because of their status as students, but will cooperate with law enforcement agencies in any program for rehabilitation of students.

2. Students involved in civil offenses will not ordinarily have further sanctions imposed by the University unless the ASBSU Judiciary and/or Student Policy Board determines that the offense interferes with the best interests and educational responsibilities of the university. This policy does not, in any way, constitute double jeopardy.

3. Students and student associations shall always be free to support causes by orderly and peaceful assembly which do not infringe upon the rights of others. Such expressions are to be made clear to the academic and larger community that they represent views of the students or student association and NOT THE UNIVERSITY.

4. Student groups are allowed to invite and to hear any person of their own choosing. Routine procedures required by an institution before a guest speaker is invited to appear on campus shall be designed so as to insure that there is orderly scheduling of facilities and adequate preparation for the event. Institutional control of campus facilities shall not be used as a device of censorship. IT SHALL BE MADE CLEAR TO THE ACADEMIC AND LARGER COMMUNITY THAT SPONSORSHIP OF GUEST SPEAKERS DOES NOT NECESSARILY IMPLY APPROVAL OR ENDORSEMENT OF THE VIEWS EXPRESSED, EITHER BY THE SPONSORING GROUP OR THE INSTITUTION. (See BSU Student Handbook p. 50, Speaker's Policy).

D. FREEDOM OF THE PRESS

There shall be no ideological censorship in the determination of printed matter available on campus: access to publications is not to be denied because of disapproval of their content. Any Student publication supported by compulsory student fees or by substantial institutional subsidy shall, however, be subject to the rules and regulations of the State Board of Education acting as trustees of Boise State University or their designees. Regulation of student publications that operate on the same basis as other private enterprises shall be subject only to the same control as those respecting and reasonableness of time, place, and manner of distribution and those rules and regulations as found in the Policy Directive of the Communications Board.

E. FREEDOM IN THE CLASSROOM

The classroom is not an unstructured political forum, it is the center for study and understanding of described subject matter for which the instructor has professional responsibility and institutional accountability. He should respect the confidential nature of the relationship between instructor and student. He should avoid exploitation of students for private advantage and should acknow-

ledge significant assistance from them. He should protect students' rights as defined herein. Control of the order and direction of class, as well as control of the scope and treatment of the subject matter, must therefore immediately rest with the individual instructor, free from distraction or disruption by students or others who may be in disagreement with the manner in which he discharges his responsibilities. Thus, disruption of the classroom insubordinate of the instructor's immediate authority may properly reflect the obligation of each student to respect the rights of others in the maintenance of classroom order and in the observance of that standard of elementary courtesy common to every intellectual discipline. (See disruptive student policy, p. ??, Student Handbook).

1. A student has the right to be informed in reasonable detail at the beginning of each term of the nature of the course, the course expectations, the evaluative standards and the grading system that will be used.

2. A student has the right to take reasoned exception to the data or views offered in the classroom and to reserve judgement about matters of opinion, without fear of penalty.

3. A student has the right of protection against improper disclosure of information concerning his grades, views, beliefs, political associations, or character which an instructor acquires in the course of his professional relationship with the student.

4. Students shall have protection through orderly procedures against prejudiced or capricious academic evaluation. At the same time, they are responsible for maintaining standards of academic performance established for each course in which they are enrolled. (See Academic Grievance Board, p. ??, student handbook)

To safeguard student privacy, student records are not to be available to unauthorized on-campus and off-campus personnel without the expressed consent of the student. The student shall have the right to inspect the official trans-

cript of his own academic record. He shall also have the right to inspect reports and evaluations of his conduct, except letters of recommendation and similar evaluations which are necessarily prepared on a confidential basis.

EQUAL PROTECTION

The university has an obligation to and shall apply its rules equally to all students who are similarly situated. This does not mean, however, that the university is required to refrain from prosecuting some offenders because there are other offenders who cannot be identified or who are not presently being tried for some other valid reason. In the absence of evidence of discriminatory charges have been brought although it is clear that there are other offenders who are not before the Judicial Board.