Rancho Santiago Community College District BOARD POLICY Chapter 4

Academic Affairs

BP 4030 Academic Freedom

References:

Title 5, Section 51023

ACCJC Accreditation Eligibility Requirement 20 and AACJC Accreditation Standard I.C.7 (formerly II.A.7)

The teacher should be free to think and to express ideas, free to select and employ materials and methods of instruction, free from undue pressures of authority, and free to act within his/her professional group. Such freedom should be used judiciously and prudently to the end that it promotes the free exercise of intelligence and student learning. Academic freedom is not an absolute. It must be exercised within the law and the basic ethical responsibilities of the teaching profession. Those responsibilities include:

- 1. An understanding of our democratic tradition and its methods.
- 2. A concern for the welfare, growth, maturity, and development of students.
- 3. The method of scholarship.
- 4. Application of good taste and judgment in selecting and employing materials and methods of instruction.

Revised: July 21, 2014 (Previously BP4201) References Updated: May 18, 2015 Reviewed: May 7, 2018