

ROCKY MOUNTAIN COLLEGE

FACULTY POLICY

SECTION: Faculty
SUBJECT: Faculty Responsibilities

NUMBER: F-001-02-0005
DATE: 4/2009

I. POLICY

A. The AAUP "Statement on Professional Ethics," adopted by the body in 1966, and copied below from Policy Documents & Reports, AAUP, 2006 edition, has been adopted by the College as a statement of responsibilities of the faculty members at Rocky Mountain College:

Professors, guided by a deep conviction of the worth and dignity of the advancement of knowledge, recognize the special responsibilities placed upon them. Their primary responsibility to their subject is to seek and to state the truth as they see it. To this end, professors devote their energies to developing and improving their scholarly competence. They accept the obligation to exercise critical self-discipline and judgment in using, extending, and transmitting knowledge. They practice intellectual honesty. Although they may follow subsidiary interests, these interests must never seriously hamper or compromise their freedom of inquiry.

As teachers, professors encourage the free pursuit of learning in their students. They hold before them the best scholarly standards of their disciplines. Professors demonstrate respect for the students as individuals and adhere to their proper roles as intellectual guides and counselors. Professors make every reasonable effort to foster honest academic conduct and to ensure that their evaluations of students reflect each student's true merit. They respect the confidential nature of the relationship between professor and student. They avoid any exploitation, harassment, or discriminatory treatment of students. They acknowledge significant academic or scholarly assistance from them. They protect their academic freedom.

As colleagues, professors have obligations that derive from common membership in the community of scholars. Professors do not discriminate against or harass colleagues. They respect and defend the free inquiry of associates. In the exchange of criticism and ideas, they show due respect for the opinions of others. Professors acknowledge academic debts and strive to be objective in their professional judgments of colleagues. Professors accept their share of faculty responsibilities for the governance of their institution.

As members of their institution, professors seek above all to be effective teachers and scholars. Although they observe the stated regulations of the institution, provided the regulations do not contravene academic freedom, they maintain their right to criticize and seek revision. Professors give due regard to their paramount responsibilities within their institution in determining the amount and character of work done outside it. When considering the interruption or termination of their service, professors recognize the effect of their decisions upon the program of the institution and give due notice of their intentions.

As members of their community, professors have the rights and obligations of any citizen. Professors measure the urgency of these obligations in the light of their responsibilities to their subject, to their students, to their profession, and to their institution. When they speak or act as private persons, they avoid creating the impression of speaking or acting for their college or university. As citizens engaged in a profession that depends upon freedom for its health and

integrity, professors have a particular obligation to promote conditions of free inquiry and to further public understanding of academic freedom.

B. Further expectations of full-time faculty members include the following:

1. Announce and maintain office hours each semester; office hours should be varied to give all students an opportunity to meet with faculty members;
2. Serve as academic advisors to students;
3. Carry out committee assignments;
4. Attend faculty meetings regularly;
5. Attend College commencements in academic attire;
6. Carry out the supervision of student workers in accordance with the policies and procedures of the financial assistance office;
7. Fulfill contractual agreements with the institution;
8. Contact the academic vice president's office prior to missing class and;
9. Engage as appropriate in all assessment processes; construct syllabi in accordance with current assessment practices.

C. Part-time faculty will:

1. Give all students an opportunity to meet with them outside of scheduled class times;
2. Carry out the supervision of student workers in accordance with the policies and procedures of the financial assistance office;
3. Fulfill contractual agreements with the institution; and
4. Fulfill committee assignments if those assignments are part of contractual obligations (a part-time individual may choose to serve voluntarily on committees and, if so, should make his or her desire known to the personnel policies committee).

III. REVIEW AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Responsible Parties: Faculty

Review: Bi-annually on or before May 31st

IV. APPROVALS

Approved:

Faculty Chair _____

Date: _____

Approved:

Chair, Board of Trustees _____

Date: _____