

ROCKY MOUNTAIN COLLEGE

FACULTY POLICY

SECTION: Faculty

NUMBER: F-001-01-0015

SUBJECT: Participation in Public Office

DATE: 4/2009

I. POLICY

- A. The College seeks to accord faculty members the maximum freedom to choose to run for public office. It does not, of course, urge faculty members to run, but it recognizes that they may run for office while taking teaching responsibilities seriously. So far as it can, without harm to its teaching function, the College seeks to facilitate the faculty member's efforts to plan for relief from college duties if elected. It is understood that the College is not asked in any way to subsidize such candidates. The exception is that such participation might be considered a legitimate use of sabbatical leave.
- B. Faculty members seeking public office must recognize their responsibilities to the College and not seek special arrangements which would seriously hinder their carrying out these responsibilities. They must make plain that they speak publicly for themselves and not the College. They must seek to speak and act with those restraints befitting a scholar.
- C. Faculty members considering running for public office will follow this procedure:
 1. Whether or not the office contemplated would take faculty members away from assigned duties for an extended time, they must inform the academic vice president of the College of plans to seek office.
 2. Faculty members who, if elected, would be away from assigned College duties for an extended time will as soon as possible formulate in writing a plan by which, to their own satisfaction, their academic responsibilities can be adequately discharged.
 - a. The plan will be presented to the academic vice president. If the academic vice president approves the plan, the faculty member may proceed.
 - b. If the academic vice president disapproves the plan, that individual may present a compromise plan meeting the objections raised. If the new plan is approved, the candidate may proceed.
 - c. If agreement has still not been achieved, the matter is referred to the personnel policies committee, which makes a recommendation to the president. The final decision will be made by the board of trustees. However, the board of trustees, before taking action contrary to the recommendation of the personnel policies committee, should inform the committee of its intended action and invite critical response to the proposal from the committee.
 3. A faculty member who files for office before the procedure in section 2 is completed and who does not subsequently complete the procedure satisfactorily will forfeit candidacy or resign.

II. REVIEW AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Responsible Parties: Faculty

Review: Bi-annually on or before May 31st

III. APPROVALS

Approved:

Faculty Chair _____

Date: _____

Approved:

Chair, Board of Trustees _____

Date: _____