



FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION POLICY

Policy Type:	Board of Governors	Initially Approved:	October 30, 2019
Policy Sponsor:	President and CEO	Last Revised:	April 25, 2023
Primary Contact:	University Secretary	Review Scheduled:	April 2028
Approver:	Chair, Board of Governors		

A. INTENT

This policy intends to satisfy the directives of the Minister of Advanced Education.

B. SCOPE

This Policy applies to all employees, students, and contractors.

C. POLICY STATEMENT

1. Principles

- 1.1 We believe in free and open enquiry in all matters.
- 1.2 We believe individuals have the broadest latitude to speak, write, listen, challenge ideas and learn.
- 1.3 We believe individuals have the right to challenge, debate, and criticize the views of others but not obstruct the right of others to freely express their views.
- 1.4 We believe the offensiveness of ideas should not be a barrier to individuals having the freedom to express their ideas or points of view.
- 1.5 We believe it is up to individuals not the institution to make judgements about the ideas put forward.
- 1.6 We believe institutions should not attempt to shield students from ideas or opinions they disagree with or find offensive. Mutual respect and civility are valued, but do not constitute sufficient justification to limit free speech.

2. Guidelines

- 2.1 AUArts may restrict expression that violates the law, falsely defames an individual, or constitutes a genuine threat or harassment that unjustifiably invades substantial privacy or confidentiality of interests.
- 2.2 AUArts will reasonably regulate time, place and manner of expression to ensure events do not disrupt the ordinary activities of the institution.

D. RELATED LEGISLATION

- Post-Secondary Learning Act

E. RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Board of Governors: Code of Conduct
- [Freedom of Expression Concern Form](#)

F. REVISION HISTORY

Date (mm/dd/yyyy)	Description of Change	Sections	Person who Entered Revision (Position Title)	Person who Authorized Revision (Position Title)
04/25/2023	Review with no Revisions		University Secretary	Chair, Board of Governors