

Resolution for Adoption by the Adrian College Faculty¹

Because the Adrian College faculty is committed to free and open inquiry in all matters, we believe all members of the Adrian College community should have the broadest possible latitude to speak, write, listen, challenge, and learn. Except insofar as limitations on that freedom are necessary to the functioning of Adrian College, the Adrian College community is to discuss any problem that arises here:

Of the ideas of different members of the Adrian College community will often attempt to shield individuals from ideas and opinions they find unwelcome.

values civility, and although all members of the Adrian College community share in the responsibility for maintaining a climate of mutual respect, concerns about civility in the discussion of ideas and opinions of some members of our community.

The freedom to debate and discuss the merits of competing ideas does not, of course

individual that threatens a genuine need or interest, that that strictly abridges substantial privacy or confidentiality interests, or that is otherwise directly

reasonably regulate the time, place, and manner of expression to ensure that it does not disrupt the ordinary activities of the college. But these are narrow exceptions to the general principle of freedom of expression, and it is vitally important that these exceptions never be used in a manner that is inconsistent with Adrian College's commitment to a completely free and open discussion of ideas.

In a word, Adrian College's fundamental commitment is to the principle that debate or even by most members of the Adrian College community to be offensive, unwise, harmful, or wrong-headed. It is for the individual members of the Adrian College community, not for Adrian College as an institution, to make these judgments for themselves, and to act on those judgments not by seeking to suppress speech, but by openly and vigorously contesting the ideas that they oppose. Indeed, fostering the ability of members of the Adrian College community to engage in such debate and deliberation in an effective and responsible manner is an essential part of Adrian

As a corollary to Adrian College's commitment to protect and promote free expression, members of the Adrian College community must also act in conformity with the principle of free expression. Although members of the Adrian College community are free to criticize and contest the views expressed on campus, and to criticize and contest members who are invited to express their views on campus, they must not attempt to otherwise interfere with the freedom of others to express or listen to views they reject or even loathe. To this end, Adrian College has a solemn

This resolution is adapted and excerpted from the "Report of the Committee on Freedom of Expression" at the University of Chicago. The template for this

[resolution-based-on-university-of-chicago-statement/](#)

¹ Unanimously adopted by the Adrian College Faculty on September 23, 2019.