

Adoption of Chicago Statement of Freedom of Expression

The University of Arizona has a long-standing commitment to free speech. The purpose of this letter is to affirm UA's endorsement of the "Report of the Committee on Freedom of Expression" at the University of Chicago (the Chicago Statement). The Statement is fully consistent with UA's existing policies.

The University of Arizona is a public institution that is committed to free, robust and uninhibited sharing of ideas among all members of the University community.

As a corollary to the University's commitment to protect and promote free expression, members of the University community must also act in conformity with the principle of free expression. Although members of the University community are free to criticize and contest the views expressed on campus, and to criticize and contest speakers who are invited to express their views on campus, they may not obstruct or otherwise interfere with the freedom of others to express views they reject or even loathe. To this end, the University has a solemn responsibility not only to promote a lively and fearless freedom of debate and deliberation, but also to protect that freedom when others attempt to restrict it.

Without a vibrant commitment to free and open inquiry, a university ceases to be a university.