

**San Diego Miramar College Academic Senate
Resolution to Support Faculty Rights of Academic Freedom**

Approved May 7, 2024 by the SDMC A.S.

Whereas, local, state and national attention has been galvanized by free speech concerns regarding the Israel-Gaza/Palestine war;

Whereas, the Academic Senate of California Community Colleges, has stated that the definition of academic freedom should be based on the American Association of University Professors' (AAUP) definition¹ which advocates against "institutional censorship or discipline when speaking or writing as participants in the governance of an educational institution;" and

Whereas, the AAUP further states that Academic Freedom consists of the "freedom to discuss all relevant matters in the classroom" as well as the "freedom from institutional censorship or discipline when speaking or writing as citizens;" and

Whereas, the AAUP defines academic freedom as "the indispensable condition for unfettered teaching and research in institutions of higher education. It is also a requisite for the success of an institution in fulfilling its obligations to its students and to society;" and

Whereas, faculty reserve the right to teach material critical of settler colonialist policies and any governments that engage in human rights violations;

Be it resolved that the San Diego Community College District reaffirm their commitment to the protection of academic freedom and freedom of speech as stated in BP 3900² despite calls to censor discussions about Israel, Palestine and other difficult topics on college campuses around the world.

Be it resolved there will be no silencing, censoring, intimidation and/or retaliation for speaking out against or critiquing apartheid and/or genocide.

Be it resolved that we, the Academic Senate of Miramar College, call on College and District administration to support and advocate for faculty rights of Academic Freedom.

¹ AAUP Position Paper on Academic Freedom:
https://www.aaup.org/sites/default/files/AAUP_academic_freedom.pdf

² BP 3900 – Posting and Distribution of Literature, Political Activities, Free Speech and Freedom of Expression on Campus and District Sites:
[https://go.boarddocs.com/ca/sdccd/Board.nsf/files/CUHUTP7B89D9/\\$file/BP%203900.pdf](https://go.boarddocs.com/ca/sdccd/Board.nsf/files/CUHUTP7B89D9/$file/BP%203900.pdf)