



AP 4500

STUDENT NEWS MEDIA

References:

First Amendment, U.S. Constitution;
California Constitution, Article 1, Section 2

Student news media are any news/feature publications issued under the name of the college, funded by the District, and produced by students as an integral part of instruction in journalism. They may include, but are not limited to, student newspaper reporting, broadcast news journalism, and internet news journalism. The term "editorial" refers to all content other than advertising.

Student news media, as laboratory publications of the journalism curriculum, provide students with opportunities to train for careers in journalism, mass communication, and related disciplines. Student news media shall also serve the entire college community by reporting the news, including college events and activities, providing a forum for comment and criticism, and encouraging free expression as guaranteed in the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

The college newspaper or other news medium is published as a learning experience, offered under the Journalism Department. Student news media are valuable aids in establishing and maintaining an atmosphere of free and responsible discussion. Student news media shall exercise editorial freedom in order to maintain their integrity as vehicles for free inquiry and free expression in the college community. The editorial and advertising materials published in each news medium, including any opinions expressed, are the responsibility of the student staff.

Editorial Board

A student editorial board should be formed for the news media involved. Under appropriate state and federal court decisions, the editorial board controls the editorial content of the student news media and will be free from prior restraint by virtue of the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. At the same time, the editorial freedom of the student news media shall entail corollary responsibilities. These procedures are adopted so as to encourage a responsible exercise of such freedom.



Grievance Process

A grievance is a complaint that alleges facts which, if true, would demonstrate a violation of the grievant's right to free inquiry, free speech, or fair treatment; contains allegations that appear to be substantially credible; and is not frivolous.

Persons wishing to file a grievance against the student news media regarding published content should contact the faculty adviser in writing within 60 calendar days of publication. The faculty advisor will refer the complaint to the student editorial board, who will respond in writing within seven working days of the date the complaint is received. The grievant may submit an appeal in writing within 10 working days to the Superintendent/President or designee.

Date Approved: March 7, 2016

Date Approved: February 14, 2019