

Academic freedom at the University of Utah

Mission:

The mission of the University of Utah is to educate the individual and to discover, refine, and disseminate knowledge. The U supports the intellectual, personal, social, and ethical development of members of its community. These goals can best be achieved in an open and supportive environment that encourages reasoned discourse, honesty, and respect for the rights of all individuals.

Intellectual freedom:

Because the University of Utah is a place where thought, truth, and understanding should flourish, it is a place where the broadest possible latitude is accorded to innovative ideas and experiments — a place where independence of thought and expression are actively encouraged.

Rights of faculty and students:

Faculty and students are entitled to academic freedom and autonomy in their intellectual pursuits and development and have the right to examine and communicate ideas by any lawful means. In fact, they are constitutionally protected to exercise freedom of association, assembly, and expression.

Responsibilities of faculty:

Faculty members should seek knowledge and value the pursuit of truth. They should strive to contribute to their discipline and should support and encourage the efforts of others. They must not require students to accept their personal beliefs or opinions and should maintain a climate conducive to thinking and learning in the classroom.

Commitment to academic freedom

All those involved in establishing the Marriner S. Eccles Institute for Economics and Quantitative Analysis at the University of Utah agree to promote academic freedom. The gift agreements acknowledge these principles:

Consistent with the donors' principles of supporting open inquiry and a diversity of ideas in higher education, the donors' grants are intended to help promote an environment at the university, where ideas can be exchanged freely and useful knowledge will benefit the well-being of individuals and society. Thus, the parties agree that the academic freedom of the university, the institute, and their faculty, students, and staff is critical to the success of the institute's research, scholarship, teaching, and service.

More information is available in the University of Utah Code of Faculty Rights and Responsibilities (<http://regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-316.php>) and in the Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities (<http://regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-400.php>).