



NOORDA COLLEGE
of OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

Faculty Statement of Academic Freedom

Noorda College of Osteopathic Medicine is committed to the academic discovery and transparency. Integrity of this process requires proper academic freedom of the faculty, which entails freedom to express their views on academic matters in teaching and research. This freedom is the freedom to examine data, to question assumptions, to be guided by evidence, to be a learner, and to be a scholar. Such freedom implies that any faculty member whose teaching is questioned should be subject to the judgment of one's peers only in accordance with the accepted rules of academic due process. It also implies the active, defined, and recognized role of the faculty in those policy-making decisions, which affect the educational program.

- a. Academic freedom in teaching means that the faculty are entitled to freedom to discuss their discipline, including subject matter and delivery. Such freedom also implies that any faculty member whose teaching is questioned should be subject to the judgment of one's peer only in accordance with the accepted rules of academic due process.
- b. The responsibility of the faculty is to distinguish in their teaching between personal/partisan opinion and convictions grounded in sources and methods appropriate to their respective disciplines. The faculty member should, to the best of his/her ability, present material in a manner that respects the cultures and sensitivities of the students.
- c. Academic freedom in research means that the faculty are entitled to the full freedom to conduct research and to publish the results of such research. Such Academic freedom is subject to the adequate performance of their other academic duties; but research for pecuniary return should be based upon an understanding with the authorities of the institution.
- d. The responsibility of the faculty member is to conduct his/her research activities in accordance with the ethical standards of Noorda College of Osteopathic Medicine and the scientific community in general. The faculty member also should coordinate these activities with adequate performance in his/her other academic duties and with the understanding of the authorities of Noorda College of Osteopathic Medicine.
- e. Academic freedom in participating in decision making at Noorda College of Osteopathic Medicine means that the faculty must have proper autonomy for self-governance and adequate representation in shared governance in order to express their views on matters related to the functions of the College which affect the educational programs.
- f. Faculty members of Noorda College of Osteopathic Medicine are citizens, with the right to speak or write without College discipline or restraint on matters of public concern. When doing so, it is the faculty members responsibility to make it clear that when he/she is speaking/writing on matters of public interest, he/she is not speaking/writing for the College.
- g. Each faculty member is expected to uphold the goals, aims and mission of Noorda College of Osteopathic Medicine.

This Academic Freedom/Responsibility section of the Faculty Handbook is based on the *1940 Statement of Principles on Academic Freedom and Tenure* and the *1994 Statement on the Relationship of Faculty Governance to Academic Freedom* by the American Association of College Professors. Noorda College of Osteopathic Medicine endorses these statements.