

Dear SU Faculty Colleagues,

The Faculty Senate held a special meeting yesterday, February 6, 2018, to address academic freedom at Salisbury University. After deliberation, the Faculty Senate is releasing the following statement to affirm academic freedom at Salisbury University.

Faculty Senate Academic Freedom Statement: “The Faculty Senate at SU supports faculty efforts to engage students with difficult and important topics. The notion of academic freedom, which is at the heart of our work, enables faculty to create learning experiences that press students towards critical thinking and intellectual curiosity. Faculty are experts in our fields specifically, so we can engage in those discussions and explorations with our students. Course content or presentation may challenge students’ established viewpoints and/or engage them in respectful mutual discussions with people who hold ideas divergent from their own; this is part of how students grow while at Salisbury University. We appreciate the statement of support shown by our Interim Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Karen Olmstead, whose statement to the campus community highlighted the value of these conversations in university classrooms. The Senate will review current and develop additional documents and policies that further explain the value of academic freedom in higher education to be included in the faculty handbook.”