

**WILKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
POLICY**

**POLICY NUMBER: 4.22**  
**DATE ADOPTED: October 21, 1999**

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**REVISIONS:**

**TITLE: ACADEMIC FREEDOM**

**POLICY:** All faculty and students are free to examine all pertinent data and be guided by the evidence of scholarly research, in the teaching and studying of the various disciplines; however, faculty must carry out their duties in a professional, ethical and collegial manner that enhances the purpose of the college. Faculty members have the responsibility to maintain professional competence, show respect for the opinion of others, exercise appropriate restraint, strive to be accurate, confine discussions and assignments to those which relate to the material designated by the course outline, and present material properly.

Given the purpose of the college, neither specified faculty research nor faculty publication is a requirement of the teaching personnel. Investigative research relating to the courses taught, however, can be beneficial to the enhancement of the instructional program of the college and is therefore encouraged. While faculty or staff publication is not required, a faculty or staff member may desire to publish and may do so at will so long as the publication makes no unapproved reference to the college, constitutes no cost to the college, and does not impose upon the job performance of the employee. Faculty or staff who intend to publish under any other circumstances must receive prior approval in writing from the senior instructional administrator and the president of the college. Approved publications developed and/or printed on work time and/or utilizing college resources become the property of Wilkes Community College with all rights and privileges. All textbooks and manuals written by a faculty member and/or used to "test run" the textbook or manual must be approved. If the textbook or manual has received such approval, its use by the college in no way jeopardizes its ownership by the faculty member.

As a citizen of the community, faculty and staff are free from institutional censorship and discipline in the exercise of freedom to speak and write as a private citizen; however, as members of an educational institution, they should at all times speak and write with accuracy, exercise appropriate restraint and respect for the opinions of others, and make every effort to indicate that they are not speaking for the institution.

**SGA ELECTIONS**  
**MARCH 28 & 29**  
**Student Center Lobby**

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this is your chance to make a difference