

THE STUDENT BILL OF RIGHTS OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT  
ASSOCIATION OF APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY

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Previous Date of Ratification: *Year Nineteen and Eighty Four*

Historical records maintained and transitioned from the Howard Dawson Administration (50th Session) to the Clayton Lee Administration (51st Session) by Walt J. Grayson (50th & 51st Sessions Director of Legislative Operations) in accordance with the provisions set forth in Article V, Section 5, Subsection B, number 4 of the Constitution of the Student Government Association of Appalachian State University.

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**Article I:** Freedom of Expression

**Article II:** Academic Freedom and Policies Pertaining to Student Records

**Article III:** Rights of a Student in a Disciplinary

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**Article I: Freedom of Expression**

- a. Each student shall have the right to freely discuss, both on University grounds as well as in University Company, any and all subjects that may interest him/her. Each student shall also have the freedom to express his or her opinion(s), both publicly as well as privately, on such subjects additionally be guaranteed freedom from the imposition of the opinions or beliefs of others.
- b. Students shall have the right to peacefully demonstrate--by legal means and in non-restricted areas of the campus - as long as the Office of The Vice Chancellor of Student Development is informed of the demonstration thirty-six (36) hours prior to the event.
- c. Each student shall be secure that no University organizations or their facilities shall be used as a device of censorship.
- d. Student publications shall have the right to be free from censorship.
  - i. The responsibility of, and for, student publications shall lie in the hands of the respective publication's chief editor, and any other members of his or her staff to whom the chief editor might delegate authority.
- e. Students, while on University grounds, shall have the freedom of choice in dress and personal appearance.

- f. In the case that a student's rights, as outlined in this Bill of Rights, have been violated or misconstrued, the student in question shall have the right to use all legal means available for redress of grievances in all matters.

## Article II: Academic Freedom and Policies Pertaining to Student Records

- a. Each student shall have the right to inquire about University academic policies (or University Policies in general). Each student may additionally inquire as to the origin of these policies and how they might be changed.
- b. All students shall be afforded the freedom to express their views, beliefs, or political orientations, professors, members of the University staff, or administrative personnel possessing knowledge of such beliefs shall, if individual students so desire, be obligated to maintain these creeds and ideologies confidential. No records shall be kept as evidence of these creeds or ideologies, except at the expressed intent of the student in question.
- c. All students shall be evaluated on areas of academic progress, but not on unrelated opinions or conduct judged to be totally irrelevant to the class in question.
- d. All students shall have the right to be protected against improper disclosure or permanent educational records on file in any department, college, or administrative office of this University.
- e. Policies pertaining to format of, and access to, student records:
  - i. Academic and disciplinary record should be kept separate, and conditions and/or requirements of access to said records should be explicitly outlined in University policy.
  - ii. Transcripts of academic record should only contain information about academic status. Information from disciplinary or counseling files shall not be made available to unauthorized persons.

## Article III: Rights of a Student in a Disciplinary Hearing

- a. Rights of a Student charged with a violation of the Code of Student Conduct are the following:
  - i. The right to due process.

- ii. The right to a fair hearing.
  - iii. The right to be presumed innocent until proven otherwise.
  - iv. The right to know the evidence to be presented in any hearing.
  - v. The right to face witnesses testifying in a hearing and ask reasonable questions of them.
  - vi. The right to secure advice and assistance in preparing a defense of any alleged misconduct under this Code.
  - vii. The right to be given notice in writing of any charge(s) of misconduct.
  - viii. The right to appeal a decision by a judicial board or a judicial hearing officer within the limits of the time specified in this Code.
- b. Rights of a Person Bringing Charges Under the Code of Student Conduct are the following:
- i. The right to file criminal charges or seek civil action in a court in addition to any action taken under the Code.
  - ii. The right to be informed of any disciplinary decision in cases of sexual assault (4.01g) or rape (4.02 t).
  - iii. The right in cases of rape or sexual assault (Article 4.01g and 4.02 t) to file an appeal of any disciplinary decision with the Vice Chancellor for Student Development within four working days of the date notified of the decision.