

Office of Student Affairs (../index.html)

Statement on Academic Freedom

Wesle an Universit and the Wesle an communit are committed to the principles of libert and equalit . The Universit recogni

who have power over the individual they are affecting—whether that power comes from an administrative, academic, or another position on campus. On the other hand, the University does not believe the free expression of ideas can always take place without pain or discomfort either to those who speak, listen, read, or write. The intellectual process, by its very nature, can be distressing, but Wesleyan does not necessarily regard actions that are distressing as violations of its codes of conduct.

In accordance, then, with the ideals of academic freedom, every member of the Wesleyan community should feel that he or she can enter into controversies without fear of being silenced or constrained. This community's commitment to the free exchange of ideas and pursuit of knowledge requires a wide range of protections for speech and expression, even when noxious or offensive. Belonging to this community, however, carries with it the responsibility of extending respect and openness of mind to others.