

**Academic Affairs**

**AP 4500 STUDENT NEWS MEDIA**

**Reference:**

Education Code Sections 66301

Student news media are any news/feature publications issued under the name of Chabot College or Las Positas College, funded by the District, and produced by students as an integral part of instruction in **mass communications studies**. It may include, but is not limited to, student newspaper reporting, broadcast news journalism and internet news journalism. The term "editorial" refers to all content other than advertising.

Student news media, as laboratory publications of **any mass communications studies** curriculum, shall provide vehicles to train students for careers in mass communication. Student news media shall also serve the entire college community by reporting the news, including college events and activities, providing a forum for comment and criticism, and encouraging free expression as guaranteed in the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

Student news media are valuable aids in establishing and maintaining an atmosphere of free and responsible discussion. Student news media shall exercise editorial freedom in order to maintain their integrity as vehicles for free inquiry and free expression in the college community. At the same time, the editorial freedom of the college news media shall entail corollary responsibilities.

Each student news medium is published as a learning experience offered in the colleges' Mass Communications Department programs. The editorial and advertising materials published in each news medium, including any opinions expressed, are the responsibility of the student staff. An editorial board should be formed for the news media involved. Under appropriate state and federal court decisions, these materials are free from prior restraint by virtue of the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. These procedures are adopted so as to encourage a responsible exercise of such freedom.

**Journalism Grievance Procedures**

A student journalistic grievance is a complaint that alleges facts which, if true, would demonstrate a violation of the grievant's right to free inquiry, free speech, or fair treatment; contains allegations that appear to be substantially credible; and is not frivolous.

The student grievance process is described in AP 5530 Student Rights and Grievances and allows for both informal and formal proceedings. These are described specifically in the administrative procedure and apply to any journalistic grievance.

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**Approved:** February 18, 2014

**Board Reviewed:** January 19, 2021