

Resolution in Support of Academic Freedom

WHEREAS, academic institutions provide a forum for the free and open exchange of ideas; and

WHEREAS, libraries in academic institutions guarantee that a wide array of ideas that promote academic discourse are available; and

WHEREAS, academic institutions have in place longstanding professional structures for review and redress of grievances; and

WHEREAS, most academic institutions have adopted a statement of principles of the University Professors (AAUP) "Statement of Principles on Academic Freedom and Tenure" and the American Library Association's "Code of Ethics for Librarianship" and the "Code of Ethics of Librarianship" that are consonant with the 1940 AAUP statement, and

WHEREAS, these statements are effective safeguards of the rights and responsibilities of the free expression rights and responsibilities laid out in the First Amendment of the

WHEREAS, an "Academic Bill of Rights" (ABOR) by the US Intercollegiate Society for Popular Culture, a self-described conservative organization, has been introduced in legislatures and academic institutions across

WHEREAS, this "Academic Bill of Rights" would impose a state or federal mandate on academic institutions, directly interfering in course content, the classroom, the research process, and hiring and tenure decisions, and

WHEREAS, this "Academic Bill of Rights" applies principles of academic freedom and scholarly standards, as interpreted and applied by the academic profession, now

RESOLVED, that the American Library Association reaffirm the principles of academic freedom embodied in the American Association of University Professors' "Statement of Principles on Academic Freedom and Tenure" (1940), and to further

RESOLVED, that the American Library Association support the codification of the principles of the "Academic Bill of Rights" which protect academic and intellectual freedom, and to support the academic community's well-established norms and values of scholarship and educational excellence.

Moved by: Mark Rosenzweig, Councilor-at-Large
Seconded: Al Kagan, SRRT Chairman

Endorsed: IFC, IEPF, CRPE, ALCTC
Endorsed in principle: ACFT, IFLA
Oregon Chapter

REVIEWED FOR CONFORMATION WITH
by Councilor-at-Large Committee

Supporting evidence:

- 1940 American Association of University Professors (AAUP) "Statement of Principles on Academic Freedom and Tenure" (1940)
<http://www.aaup.org/statements/tenure/1940-statement>
- Academic Bill of Rights analysis, AAUP
<http://www.aaup.org/statements/SpecStat/StatementsofAcademicBillofRights.htm>
- Academic Bill of Rights legislation, AAUP
<http://www.aaup.org/issue/ABOR>
- "Freedom to Read Statement" (ALA Policy Manual 53.1.17)
<http://www.ala.org/ala/oif/statementspols/statements/freedomtoread.htm>
- "Library Bill of Rights" (ALA Policy Manual 53.1.18)
- "Intellectual Freedom Principles for Academic Libraries" (ALA Policy Manual 53.1.18), <http://www.ala.org/ala/oif/statementspols/statements/intellectualfreedomprinciplesforacademiclibraries.htm>
- "The Code of Professional Ethics for Librarians" (ALA Policy Manual 40.2.1)
- "Core Values of Librarianship" (ALA Policy Manual 40.1)
- "Academic Bill of Rights"
<http://www.statelibrary.org/academicbillofrights>