

Moorpark College Academic Senate Statement of Professional Ethics

Revisions Adopted by Academic Senate Council 2023-04-18

The Moorpark College faculty recognize our special responsibilities toward our profession, our students, our colleagues, and our community. We agree to abide by the following ethical guidelines.

1. As members of the college community, we accept responsibility for shaping our professional lives and the life of our college by sharing in the governance of the institution.
2. As faculty, we are guided by a deep conviction of the worth and dignity of the advancement of knowledge, recognize our responsibility to maintain high levels of scholarly excellence in our areas of expertise. We accept the obligation to exercise self-discipline, good judgment, and intellectual honesty in communicating our knowledge to students.
3. As teachers, we seek to encourage and inspire our students. We uphold high academic and ethical standards and foster academic honesty. We respect students' individuality while acknowledging differences in their abilities. We evaluate students fairly and impartially. We reject any exploitative, harassing, or discriminatory treatment of students.
4. As colleagues, we base our interaction with one another on the same standards as those we adhere to with students. We respect and defend the free inquiry of our associates, even when it leads to findings and conclusions that differ from our own. We acknowledge the academic work of others and strive to be objective in our professional judgment of colleagues. We respect and encourage our colleagues, and maintain the confidentiality of the collegial relationship.
5. As members of Academic Senate with the goal of ensuring the equal educational opportunity of all students, we embrace students, faculty, staff, and the communities we serve from all backgrounds, cultures, races, identities, life experiences, perspectives, beliefs, abilities, and values as an integral part of our history, a recognition of the complexity of our present state, and a call to action for a better future. Embracing inclusion, diversity, equity, anti-racism, and accessibility (IDEAA) means that we must intentionally practice acceptance and respect towards one another and understand that discrimination and prejudices create and sustain privileges for some while creating and sustaining disadvantages for others. In order to embrace IDEAA, we have acknowledged that institutional racism, implicit bias, and other forms of discrimination exist and that our goal is to eradicate those elements from our system. Our commitment to IDEAA requires that we strive to eliminate those barriers to equity and that we act deliberately to create a safe and inclusive environment where individual and group differences are valued and leveraged for our growth and understanding as an educational community. We acknowledge that the concept of IDEAA is ever evolving, and thus we create space to allow for our understanding to grow through the periodic review of this statement.
6. As members of the wider community, we recognize that we are both private citizens and also Moorpark College faculty. When we speak about our college or colleagues, in the

classroom or in the community, we influence the opinions of others. As citizens engaged in a profession that depends upon freedom for its integrity, faculty have a particular obligation to promote conditions of free inquiry and to further public understanding of academic freedom.