

Hello again,

I'm attaching two different versions of the respectful environment. One is from 2008, before UBC unprotected academic freedom from its student body. The second is from 2014, after UBC realized it had removed the freedom and mistakenly believed they had done it on purpose. For it to have been done on purpose, at least one of the stated reasons for revising Policy #3 in 2010 must have been "to remove students' academic freedom."

But despite having decided in 2014 the change was purposeful, UBC trainers failed to scour their policies to remove any reference to non-employees even having academic freedom protections at all. All institutional policies have a plain language expectation to only have one obvious meaning. Anywhere UBC discusses academic freedom should have been edited to read that only employees, including student employees have access to academic freedom. These include:

the statement itself

<https://academic.ubc.ca/academic-freedom>

the Discrimination policy:

https://universitycounsel.ubc.ca/files/2022/05/Discrimination-Policy_SC7.pdf

and the student handbook:

<https://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/index.cfm?tree=3,33,86,0>

Non-UBC employee students must have been warned that at UBC -- and despite language that suggests otherwise -- academic freedom is a privilege that can and will be removed for any reason including for no reason at all.

This is SOP 101. It's down to what words mean in a controlled policy. If a policy states students are both members of the UBC community and UBC Persons, UBC policies cannot be interpreted to mean non-employee students have less rights than "real" UBC persons or members of the UBC community.

Sincerely,

Barb