

Polk State College Procedure

Subject	Reference	Date	Number
Student Media		10/1/2019	5021

I. Purpose

The purpose of this document is to establish a procedure regarding the rights and responsibilities attached to the production and distribution of publications and other student media productions.

II. Procedure

A. Role of Student Media

Student media provides an important means of encouraging an atmosphere of responsible discussion and intellectual exploration, while also providing students who are directly involved with its creation an opportunity to gain practical experience in all aspects of production.

B. Editorial and Content Policies

1. To foster an atmosphere of open inquiry and discussion, and to provide practical experience, the College ensures responsible freedom in editorial policies that are consistent with the aforementioned educational aims. Insofar as these productions are dedicated to responsible inquiry, are an outlet for responsible opinion or expression, and are a forum for responsible discussion, student media is entitled to the freedoms guaranteed by the *Constitution of the United States of America*, neither interfered with nor impeded by the College or any of its agencies, staff, faculty, or administration. Opportunity for expression that invites or stimulates heated discussion or debate, or which criticizes actions of school officials or policies is provided.
2. This freedom entails corollary responsibilities that are governed by the general canons of the professional media. Among these are accurate, fair, and equitable reporting of the news, and avoidance of libel, indecency, undocumented allegations, attacks on personal integrity, and the techniques of harassment and innuendo.
3. All College-produced media must state explicitly that the opinions expressed are not those of the faculty, staff, administration, or students of Polk State College.
4. All individuals associated with productions are expected not only to observe professional standards, but also those regulations and standards established by government agencies.

C. Budget and Expenditure Policies

Publications and other student media productions that are sponsored and/or funded by the College (i.e., via Student Activity Fees) must first be recognized and approved by the Student Government Association (SGA) before receiving funding, and they must be the joint effort of student activities and the appropriate academic division. All matters of budget and expenditure, including budget requests and purchase orders, require the approval of the Vice President for Student Services and/or the Director of the Student Activities and Leadership Office (SALO).

D. Oversight and Membership

All student media productions must be overseen by a faculty or staff advisor. In order to participate, a student must be currently enrolled at Polk State College and be in good academic standing.

History:

Adopted: July 13, 1993

Revised: April 10, 2001; January 2, 2007; April 26, 2012; and October 1, 2019

<i>Reginal T. Wehl</i>	<i>1/24/20</i>	<i>Reginal T. Wehl</i>	<i>1/24/20</i>
Executive Responsible for Procedure	Date	President's Staff Member's Approval	Date
<i>Cheryl L. Falconetti</i>			<i>1/24/2020</i>
President's Approval			Date