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Student Rights and Responsibilities

The purpose of this statement is to inform students of their rights and responsibilities at Monterey Peninsula College. The policies and procedures as set forth in this statement are for institutional and student use, but cannot be separated from public laws and regulations; therefore, everything stated herein must be considered within the limits of the law.

- [In the Classroom](#)
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1. Students and student organizations are free to examine and to discuss all questions of interest to them, to express opinions publicly and privately, and to support causes by orderly means which do not disrupt the regular and essential operation of the institution. At the same time, students shall make it clear to the academic and the larger community that in their public expressions or demonstrations students or student organizations speak only for themselves.
2. Students are allowed to invite and to hear any person of their own choosing. Routine procedures are required by the College before a guest speaker is invited to appear on campus to insure that there is orderly scheduling of facilities and adequate preparation for the event, and that the occasion is conducted in a manner appropriate to an academic community. The institutional control of campus facilities is not used as a device of censorship. Those in charge of a program shall make it clear to the academic and larger community that sponsorship of guest speakers does not necessarily imply approval or endorsement of the views expressed, either by the sponsoring group or the institution.

C. Student Participation in Institutional Governance

As constituents of the academic community, students are free, individually and collectively, to express their views on issues of institutional policy and on matters of general interest to the student body. The student body may participate in the formulation and applications of institutional policy affecting academic and student affairs through student government. The Associated Students of Monterey Peninsula College (ASMPC) is the institutionally recognized system of student government which has express responsibility for a student acti

B. Institutional Authority and Civil Penalties

Activities of students may, upon occasion, result in violation of law. In such cases, Monterey Peninsula College officials may apprise students of sources of legal counsel and may offer other assistance. Students who violate the law may incur penalties prescribed by civil authorities. Only where the institution's interests as an academic community are clearly involved will the special authority of Monterey Peninsula College be asserted.

The student who incidentally violates institutional regulations in the course of his/her off-campus activity, such as those relating to class attendance, is subject to no greater penalty than would normally be imposed. Institutional action is independent of community pressure.