

Mission

Bucknell is a unique national university where liberal arts and professional programs complement each other. Bucknell educates students for a lifetime of critical thinking and strong leadership characterized by continued intellectual exploration, creativity, and imagination. A Bucknell education enables students to interact daily with faculty who exemplify a passion for learning and a dedication to teaching and scholarship. Bucknell fosters a residential, co-curricular environment in which students develop intellectual maturity, personal conviction and strength of character, informed by a deep understanding of different cultures and diverse perspectives. Bucknell seeks to educate our students to serve the common good and to promote justice in ways sensitive to the moral and ethical dimensions of life.

PLEDGE OF UNIVERSITY RESPONSIBILITY

In order to foster and promote an environment in which students can develop intellectual maturity, personal conviction and strength of character, the University recognizes its responsibility to provide support without undue restraint, to provide mentors rather than mandates, to allow individual exploration without institutional confinement. The University also recognizes its role and responsibilities as an entity organized under and subject to regulations of the federal and state governments, and must measure its allowances and restraints in accord with those laws, regulations and institutional authority. This Pledge of University Responsibility is intended to be consistent with the AAUP Joint Statement on Rights and Freedoms of Students.

Within those limitations, as an institution committed to serve the common good and promote justice, the University recognizes its responsibilities:

- *To protect freedom of expression.* Students should be free to support causes by orderly means which do not disrupt the regular and essential operations of the institution. Students should be free to take reasoned exception to the data or views offered in courses of study and to reserve judgment about matters of opinion, but they are responsible for learning the content of any course of study for which they are enrolled. Students should be protected against academic evaluations based upon matters unrelated to academic standards. Student groups may select persons they wish to invite as guest speakers or performers, without restrictions on points of view expressed by speakers.
- *To protect students' confidential information.* The University has an obligation to protect students from improper disclosure of confidential information or records.
- *To protect freedom of student associations.* Students should be free to organize and join associations to promote their common interests.
- *To provide fair and impartial treatment.* In all instances of general discipline, academic discipline, and academic evaluation, the student has the right to fair and impartial treatment.
- *To prohibit harassment or discrimination.* The University has an obligation to prohibit harassment or discrimination based on sex, race, color, national origin, religion, ancestry, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability or veteran status.
- *To protect the privacy of students.* Students shall not be subjected to unreasonable searches or seizures of their personal property.
- *To involve students in policy decisions.* Students shall have the opportunity to participate in the formulation of policy directly affecting students through membership on appropriate committees or other recognized governance bodies within the University, and to assist in the recommendations and advice of those committees and governance bodies for the President's consideration.