

# **Statement of Student Rights and Responsibilities**

**Laurentian University**

**Approved at Senate on April 16, 1998**

## STATEMENT OF STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Consistent with the Statement of Commitment to Students in which Laurentian pledges “to uphold the basic rights of students”, the University acknowledges the following general student rights and responsibilities:

1. Upon becoming a member of the University, every student retains her or his rights and freedoms, and continues to benefit from the protections afforded by Federal, Provincial and Municipal laws as well as the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and the Ontario Human Rights Code. Moreover, the policies and regulations of the University are designed to maintain an environment conducive to teaching, learning and scholarly activity. In combination, these rights and freedoms include the right to think, speak, write, learn, study, associate with others and pursue cultural, social and other interests.

Students have the individual and collective responsibility to abide by the laws of the land and the University’s policies and regulations so that their rights and freedoms can be expressed in an orderly way which also allows for the rights and freedoms of others.

2. Every student has the right to fair and equitable treatment by the University with respect to teaching, evaluation and access to general services. This treatment is also to be free from harassment or discrimination as defined in the Ontario Human Rights Code and University policies including the Harassment Policy and Complaint Procedures.

In turn, students have the responsibility to treat others equitably and fairly and not to harass and discriminate against other individuals and groups.

3. In their status as members of the University community, students have the right to use facilities designated for their use or for the use of the University community generally.

They have the responsibility to abide by any regulations governing the use of such facilities.

4. Students have the right to have made available to them in writing, upon request, the policies and regulations of the University. Students may access these policies in campus offices designated by the Office of Student Affairs.

They have the responsibility to avail themselves of, and to become familiar with, the regulatory and policy information contained in official publications as released by the University, and to abide by them.

5. Students have the right to inquire into, and be informed about all University policies and regulations.

They have the responsibility to abide by reasonable instructions given orally or in writing by any official authorized by the University to secure compliance with policies and regulations, practices and procedures, when the official is acting in an official capacity.

6. Students have a right to participate fully in University governance where their participation is established in legislation and/or mandated by University policies.

Students have a responsibility to ensure that their positions in University governance have been obtained democratically and/or legally. They should also represent the views and uphold the interests of their student constituency within the particular governing body.

7. They have a right to make representations, such as complaints and petitions concerning behaviour of any member of the University community, to the appropriate student association or University authority without fear of reprisal.

They have the responsibility to make their representations in an orderly and appropriate manner and to notify University officials of any violation of their rights as students.

8. Students have a right to express their views and to press for improvements to the policies and regulations which affect them by means of peaceful assemblies, demonstrations and lawful picketing.

Students have a responsibility to ensure that their right to be heard, individually or collectively, does not substantially disrupt the legitimate activities of the University or nullify the rights of other members of the University community.

9. Students and other members of the University community have a right to a physical environment which is safe and secure.

Students have a responsibility to observe occupational health and safety guidelines, directions and policies, to abide by rules and regulations regarding entry to facilities and access to equipment, and to refrain from any conduct or activity which is a danger or a nuisance to others.

10. Students have a right to the security and confidentiality of all personal information they provide to the University for its academic, administrative, and financial purposes.

Students have a responsibility to ensure that the information they provide for the University's official use is true and correct.

11. Students have a right to a proper record of their academic, administrative and financial dealings with the University.

Students are responsible for the completion of the necessary applications and forms for the proper administration of their academic and other contractual relationships with the University. Students also have a responsibility to ensure that their financial obligations to the University are met and that any amounts outstanding are cleared within the prescribed periods; otherwise, academic or other University records shall be withheld.

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