

# Statement on Academic Freedom

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# 1. Introduction

- 1.1 This policy provides a clear statement of the ICMT's approach to Academic Freedom.
- 1.2 In line with Section 202 (2) (a) of the Education Reform Act 1988, the ICMT is committed to ensuring that academic staff have freedom within the law to question and test received wisdom and to put forward new ideas and controversial or unpopular opinions, without placing themselves in jeopardy of losing their jobs or privileges that they may have.

## 2. Fundamental Elements of Academic Freedom

- 2.1 At the ICMT, some fundamental contextual themes frame the operational interpretation of Academic Freedom.
- i. The ICMT is a place where free debate and learning are encouraged and nurtured.
  - ii. Notwithstanding the commitment to Academic Freedom, there are quality management arrangements within which learning and teaching activities are conducted.
  - iii. For accreditation and endorsement from professional bodies, specific requirements need to be met.
  - iv. Work conducted on behalf of the ICMT should fit within the parameters of institutional strategic priorities.

## 3. Operational Interpretation of Academic Freedom

- 3.1 Freedom to teach, and the freedom to determine:
- i. What shall be taught.
  - ii. How it shall be taught.
  - iii. Who shall teach.
  - iv. Who shall be taught.
  - v. How students' progress shall be evaluated.
  - vi. Whether students shall progress.
- 3.2 Freedom to undertake research, and the freedom to determine:
- i. What shall be researched.
  - ii. The method(s) of research.

- iii. The purpose of research.
- iv. The avenues and modes of disseminating research findings.

## Document control

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