



POLICY: ACADEMIC FREEDOM

POLICY NUMBER:	AC002	VERSION:	7.1
DATE ADOPTED:	1 January 2017	DATE LAST REVIEWED:	20 March 2021
DATE OF NEXT REVIEW:	20 March 2023	REVIEW FREQUENCY:	Two years
AUTHORISED BY:	Principal Executive Officer	REVIEWED BY:	Academic Dean/Deputy Principal
RESPONSIBLE FOR REVIEW:	Academic Dean/Deputy Principal		
APPROVED BY:	Academic Board		
DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT:	<u>U:\POLICY AND PROCEDURES</u>		
AIM:	The aim of this policy is to ensure that the exercise of Academic Freedom for all IIBT staff and students is given significant importance by IIBT's governing body across all programs and campuses.		

1. REGULATIONS:

HESF 2015: 3.2, 4.1, 6.1.4

2. POLICY INFORMATION:

2.1 Introduction:

IIBT is committed to establishing an environment in which academic freedom is upheld, defended, and preserved. Academic freedom refers to the right of staff and students at the Institute to interpret, apply and express ideas and concepts without being disadvantaged or subject to less favourable treatment by IIBT. It also includes respect for the opinions and ideas of others.

Specifically, IIBT will achieve this by ensuring that:

- a. Debate and expression of diverse opinions are promoted within an open and supportive academic culture.
- b. Staff and students have the right to academic freedom in their teaching and learning activities that do not include the propagation of doctrines or causes inconsistent with the educational purposes of the Institute.

2.2 Policy Scope:

This policy applies to all general and academic staff, contractors and IIBT management.



3. PROCEDURES:

IIBT will achieve this policy by:

- a. Ensuring that the governing body develops and maintains an institutional environment where intellectual inquiry is upheld and protected.
- b. Re-affirming the central role of academic freedom as a key principle guiding the performance of academic staff in their teaching and research pursuits.
- c. Ensuring that academic staff adhere to the highest professional standards in accordance with their disciplines.
- d. Ensuring that academic staff act ethically and professionally within the context of their roles.
- e. Demanding and demonstrating respect for staff members and students as individuals of diverse backgrounds
- f. Fostering ethical academic conduct
- g. Evaluating student work with integrity and fairness
- h. Respecting the confidentiality of staff members and students
- i. Encouraging open communication and expression of ideas and opinions free of the threat of censure or discrimination

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