

Present: Carol Rowland, Lisa Stewart, Carolyn Cox, Donna Rudy, Joan Bontempo, Michael Parsons

1. Clery Act Compliance – we are to report hate crimes on campus – beyond what we are working on in this meeting, but Henry Gautney tells that harassment has been added to the Clery Rules under “Hate Crimes”. Henry will be looking into definitions that will be added, and report to us.
2. Dr. Rudy attended an audio conference about Facebook, MySpace and online communities. The essence of the conference is about using the policies that we have, and extending those to these online communication resources.
  - a. Difficulties that come up with these is online harassment. **“Beyond the bounds of protected free speech”**.
  - b. Doesn’t have to be threatening, but leaves people the feeling of being harassed.
  - c. 50% of college age students are victims of online harassment
3. First amendment rights vs online media control – how far do we go to connect with our students before we do something overly intrusive and outside the concerns of the college

---

4. **RE: draft language “beyond the bounds of protected free speech” as defined by xxx**

Re: “All Hagerstown Community College students have the right to be free from unlawful intimidation or coercion, negative stereotyping, and racial, gender or cultural slurs. This includes harassment distributed via any verbal, visual, and electronic means.”

- a. Language to be included “ This will be dealt with as a violation of the student code of conduct”.
  - b. For our purpose of forming policy, **we may not have to define further the above language.**
5. Spring Ward: presenting the ideas she is finding with her online course concerning actual events of homogenous perspectives and lack of dialogue, and evidence of intolerance.
- a. Student posted as part of discussion board assignment culturally and racially limited points of view that necessitated intervention by instructor.
  - b. Question: is it not the expertise and the authority of the professor to be able to screen student dialogue and guide them away from that line?

**Original draft language:**

"Hagerstown Community College is committed to maintaining an atmosphere in which each voice has value, and champions open dialogue that furthers understanding of diverse philosophies, cultural perspectives and respect for individuals.

The college will not tolerate any language, actions or behavior that is hostile to others. All Hagerstown Community College students have the right to be free from unlawful intimidation or coercion, negative stereotyping, and racial, gender or cultural slurs. This includes harassment distributed via any verbal, visual, and electronic means."

**Revised Language:**

"Hagerstown Community College is committed to maintaining an atmosphere in which each voice has value, and champions open dialogue that furthers understanding of diverse philosophies, cultural perspectives and respect for individuals.

The college will not tolerate any language, actions or behavior that is hostile to others. All Hagerstown Community College students have the right to be free from unlawful intimidation or coercion, negative stereotyping, and racial, gender or cultural slurs. This includes harassment distributed via any verbal, visual, and electronic means.

Incidents and exchanges that negate the expressed intentions and policy of Hagerstown Community College **beyond the bounds of protected free speech, as defined by xxx**, will be dealt with as a violation of the student code of conduct.

This statement has been recommended to be used as an introductory notice to all online courses to establish course standards at the beginning of each term.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joan Bontempo