

Part B: Student Rights, Privileges, and Responsibilities

I. Principles Underlying Relations of Trustees, Faculty, and Students, From the Governance of Vassar College:

Article II. Authority of the Students

Section 1. GENERAL

The students shall have control over the undergraduate student government pursuant to a charter or constitution authorized by the president and faculty. The president shall reserve a power of veto over legislation which involves substantial change in the character of the residential or academic community or in the financial commitments of the college. Proposals substantially affecting student government shall be the subject of conferences between the parties involved.

Section 2. AMENDMENT

The provisions of this Article II may be amended or repealed by vote of the trustees after conference with the students and faculty as provided above, by a two-thirds majority vote of the faculty after conference with the students and subject to approval by the trustees, or by a majority vote of the undergraduate students in residence subject to a majority vote of the faculty and approval by the trustees.

Article III. Relations of Trustees and Students

Section 1. STUDENT RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES

The undergraduate student body is recognized as an integral part of the academic community. As members of such student body, students are entitled to freedom of discussion, inquiry and expression in and outside of classes, of association and of publication, to privacy of their personal lives, properties and records (subject to the provisions of law and to the duties of faculty members and academic and administrative officers of the college as defined by college policies) and to participation in the establishment of college policies directly affecting their interests through the means of student self-government and representation on appropriate college committees.

Section 2. STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

A Students in attending the college for the purpose of qualifying for academic credit shall pursue that purpose with sincerity, honesty and commitment. They shall bear in mind that, as undergraduates, their actions have a broad effect on the interests of the college, including its interests in attracting future students and members of the faculty; and accordingly that they have responsibility as members of an academic community.

B. Freedom of publication places on students a special responsibility under the canons of responsible journalism and applicable governmental regulations. Utterances and discussions in classrooms or in faculty or trustee committees may be published when authorized by the teacher concerned or by the committee chair, respectively.

C. Students are responsible for any actions in which they may be involved which are injurious to the welfare or property of the college or of other members of the college community. When a student is charged with violation of any law in a situation in which the college is not involved, the college will afford to the student such assistance as may be practicable in responding to the charge.

D. Students may not use the name of the college in such a way as to state or imply college approval for any policy or position, unless authorized by the president, or any person designated by her/him, in writing.