

BMCC Academic Senate Resolution
May 13, 2020

Academic Freedom Committee

The issue of students recording classes came before the Academic Freedom Committee of the Academic Senate when a professor objected to their student recording a class because of the sensitive nature of some students' contributions. The student who wanted to record the class wanted to do so because of an accessibility issue. The rule and the law are clear that if a student needs a recording of a class because of an accessibility issue, they must be allowed to record the class.

Nevertheless, the faculty member had a valid concern about the other students revealing sensitive information which would then be recorded. The Academic Freedom Committee researched this issue, read legal rulings, statements from the AAUP, wider academic discussions, policies from other Universities and consulted with BMCC's legal department.

The Academic Freedom Committee of the Academic Senate is advising the BMCC faculty that:

Other than necessary accommodations required for accessibility, faculty have the legal right to set policy on students recording of the classroom. This policy should be in the syllabus.