
TITLE:	Student Publications
NUMBER:	525 (formerly 3270)
APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES:	3/17/08
AMENDED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES:	1/9/13

The exercise of free speech in an open public forum is fundamental to the democratic process. Whatcom Community College recognizes student publications as public forums and affirms the editorial independence of all student-edited campus publications.

As an open public forum, student publications are free from censorship and advance approval of content by college officials. Student editors have the authority to make all content decisions and consequently bear the legal responsibility for their own decisions. Student-edited publications are free to develop editorial policies, advertisement decisions, and news coverage consistent with the principles defined by the Code of Ethics of the Society of Professional Journalists.

Faculty advisors to student publications serve in an advisory capacity and are not responsible for content. The College is not responsible for constitutionally unprotected speech.

College officials and student government shall not consider the content of student publications when making decisions regarding funding. Student publications serve to represent the broad perspectives and interests of the students of Whatcom Community College.