RADFORD UNIVERSITY

STUDENT MEDIA COMMITTEE

BYLAWS

Revised December 2, 2016

I. AUTHORITY AND PURPOSE

A. The Student Media Committee (hereafter referred to as the Committee or the

SMC) has been established by Radford University to formulate, implement and supervise general management of Student Media.

B. The Purposes of Student Media are

1. To provide a valuable educational experience in media production and

business to students

2. To disseminate news, information, arts, literature and/or entertainment

to the University community

3. To serve as forums for public debate, dialogue, ideas and/or opinions

4. To record a lasting chronicle of events at Radford University

5. To review and provide recommendations for endorsements for all

policy approved by the Steering Committee (i.e. student leader

compensation, business polices and procedure)

II. STATEMENT OF POLICY

Freedom of expression and press freedom are fundamental values in a democratic

society. The mission of any institution committed to preparing productive citizens must

include teaching student these values, both by lesson and by example.

As determined by the courts, student exercise of freedom of expression and press

freedom is protected by both state and federal law, especially by the First Amendment to

the United States Constitution. Accordingly, school officials are responsible for

encouraging and ensuring freedom of expression and press freedom for all students.

It is the policy of Radford University and the RU Student Media Committee that the

official, school - sponsored student media of RU have been established as forums for

student expression and as voices in the uninhibited, robust, free and open discussion of

issues. Each medium should provide a full opportunity for students to inquire, question

and exchange ideas. Content should reflect all areas of student interest, including topics

about which there may be dissent or controversy.

III. RESPONSIBLITIES OF THE SMC

A. To ensure that students have the editorial freedom necessary to exercise their

craft under First Amendment guarantees with no restraints beyond the

limitations of ethical and legal responsibilities in matters of libel, obscenity

and invasion of privacy. The responsible exercise of the editorial freedom will

be the obligation of the Student Media staffs.

B. To assist in the appointment and removal of the Student Media Leaders and

Faculty Advisors of each medium and any other offices deemed necessary to

conduct Student Media operations in accordance with established criteria and

due process.

C. To outline the need for contracts or agreements for business services, review

existing contracts and recommend renewal in accordance with Radford

University Material Management policy and procedure, and authorize the

Assistant Director for Student Media to act as the Contract Administrator as

needed.

D. To ensure Student Media are conforming to responsible and ethical business

operations.

E. Recommend expenditures from media reserve to the steering Committee.

F. To make recommendations to appropriate parties regarding the overall facility

and space needs of Student Media.

G. To recognize new student media members and to withdraw recognition of

Student Media members in accordance with established criteria and due

process.

IV. MEMBERSHIP AND PROCEDURES

A. COMPOSITION

The composition of the SMC is determined by its membership.

Membership currently consists of the following:

1. Student: Editor in Chief or Executive Producer to represent

each medium

2. Faculty: One Faculty Advisor from each medium

3. Administrative: Assistant Director for Student Media

B. CHAIR

The chair will be elected the first meeting of each fiscal year. The Chair

will vote only in case of a tie. In the event the Chair is unable to meet the

obligations of office during an academic year, a special election will be

held to fill the position for the remainder of that term. The duties of the

Chair shall be to:

1. Convene all regularly scheduled and special meetings

of the SMC

2. Collect agenda items from all members in accordance

with Meeting Procedures.

3. Provide copies of all pertinent information for SMC

meetings and ensure that all Committee materials are

distributed with Meeting Procedures.

4. Monitor and track reports on progress regarding SMC

activities, including subcommittees.

5. Schedule and facilitate a planning retreat once during

each academic year.

6. Oversee the meeting accordance with the current

edition of Robert's Rules of order.

7. Act as a mediator to resolve committee conflicts and

take additional steps to resolve them, should it be

warranted.

8. Perform other duties as called for either in the SMC

Bylaws or as dictated in SMC business.

C. VICE CHAIR

The Vice Chair will be elected the first meeting of each fiscal year. The Vice

Chair will be responsible for running meetings when the Chair is absent.

E. SECRETARY

The duties of the Secretary shall be to:

1. Keep minutes of each SMC meeting, and distribute those minutes prior to each subsequent meeting.

2. Prepare all materials and notes, such as agendas, prior to each meeting.

D. MEETING PROCEDURES

1. Meeting Schedule

a. The committee Shall meet at least four times per semester

b. A meeting schedule will be established at the first board

meeting of each semester

2. Agenda and Materials Distribution

Agenda items will be provided to the Chair at least one week in advance.

At the Chair's direction, the Secretary will provide a meeting agenda,

unapproved minutes from previous meetings as needed to all members if

feasible.

3. Quorum

A simple majority of the board shall constitute a quorum for the

transaction of business.

4. Meeting Participation

a. Student, faculty, and administrative members have full member

standing and are recognized for making motions, amendments,

discussion, and voting, consistent with the current edition of

Robert's Rules of Order. In the absence of a member, a proxy

may serve as a representative provided the member notifies the

Committee Chair as much in advance as possible. Ex Officio

members may provide information and participate in

Committee discussions, but will not vote.

b. All meetings of the Committee are open to the campus

community and to the general public. The Committee has the

right to move into executive sessions to discuss personal and/or

legal matters as provided by state law, but all formal votes

must be made in open sessions.

5. Vacancies

a. Members who miss more than two meeting each semester

without notifying the Chair shall be notified in writing by the

Chair that a third unexplained absence will result in dismissal

from the committee.

b. Vacancies on the Committee, as well as other mid-term

vacancies, shall be filled by the appointee of the original

designating authority to fulfill the duration of the original

term.

6. New Members

New members to the SMC will be provided an orientation by the Assistant

Director for Student Media and/or the Committee Chairperson, at the

beginning of each academic year regarding the purpose, policies, and

procedures of the Committee.

V. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF STUDENT MEDIA STAFF

A. FACULTY/STAFF ADVISORS

1. Appointment

Faculty Advisors are nominated at the first meeting each fall by the

student leaders who represent each medium. Nominations are then voted

on by the SMC committee. If the student manager responsible for each medium (hereafter referred to as a Student Media leader) decides upon more than one Faculty Advisor for his or her medium, he or she must designate one to serve as the voting representative

on the committee. Other Faculty Advisors will serve on the committee as

Ex Officio members.

2. Role of Faculty/Staff Advisors

a. The Faculty/Staff Advisor serves as teacher, guide and

counselor, whose chief responsibility is to be a resource available

to students.

b. Faculty/Staff Advisors help Student Media Leaders set up and

maintain a coherent and consistent editorial and/or business

policy that conforms to professional and ethical principles.

c. The Faculty/Staff Advisor participates in all SMC business,

representing the best interests of the medium he/she advises.

d. Faculty/Staff Advisors serve in various roles designated by the

medium's student director (e.g. perform workshops, attend staff

meetings, help faculty and professional contacts for recruiting

purposes, etc.)

e. The Faculty/Staff Advisor does not serve as editorial contributor, editor or censor. He/she does not review copy, practice prior restraint, perform production work or assume a controlling role in the decision-making process of the medium. The Faculty/Staff Advisor assumes no legal liability for the content of operation of the medium advised. Student Media Leaders are responsible for their individual medium's content.

f. The Faculty/Staff Advisor shall encourage fair comment and

criticism of the medium post publication and may serve as a

bridge between the student staff and the rest of the community.

g. The Faculty/Staff Advisor is encouraged to provide a written/verbal critique of each finished production.

3. Removal of Faculty Advisors

The SMC reserves the right to withdraw recognition of a Faculty Advisor at any time in accordance with established criteria and due process.

B. ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR STUDENT MEDIA

1. The Assistant Director for Student Media reports to the Director of

Student Activities under the Division of Student Affairs.

2. Role of the Assistant Director for Student Media

a. Advises, on a daily basis, all student staff members and oversees all operations of Student Media.

b. Helps the Student Media Leaders set up and maintain a coherent and consistent editorial and/or business policy that conforms to

professional and ethical principles.

c. Makes recommendations to the Student Media Leaders to improve the quality of their medium.

d. Follow through on SMC approvals to initiate contracts for services required for Student Media operations.

e. Serves as the administrative officer for Student Media.

f. Helps Student Media Leaders recruit student staff.

g. Represents Student Media interests when needed on and off campus.

h. Makes arrangements for SMC-approved student compensation.

i. Strives to adhere to the College Media Advisors Code of Professional Standards for Media Advisors. For a copy of the complete Code of Professional Standards for media advisors, see the Assistant Director for Student Media in Calhoun Hall 102.

j. Serves as the Student Media professional representative on SMC.

C. STUDENT MEDIA LEADERS

1. Selection of Student Media Leaders

a. Each medium's leader interviews with the SMC, which will

select all Student Media Leaders.

b. Advertisement of Open Positions - Open positions for

Student Media Leaders will be advertised for a minimum of

two weeks.

c. Qualifications - All Student Media leadership candidates

must have completed at least 30 credits and carry a minimum

2.25 grade point average and 2.5 grade point average in their

major. The candidates must be in good standing with the

university.

(i) The SMC reserves the right to waive the above qualifications for hiring Student Media Leaders. The candidate must pass with a 2/3 majority vote of the SMC, and have two evaluations with the Assistant Director within the first 90 days.

2. Role of Student Media Leaders

Detailed job descriptions apply to each position and will be reviewed by

the SMC before each position is filled.

Generally, Student Media leaders serve to do the following:

a. To operate as Chief Operating Officer of the medium,

assuming management of the medium's day to day operations.

b. To assume all responsibility for the final decision on all content

for that medium.

c. To strive to adhere to the guidelines set down by the Sigma

Delta Chi Code of Ethics (Appendix 2) and to obey all

applicable local, state and federal laws.

d. To appoint, supervise and remove members of the editorial and

business staff.

e. To operate within expense levels indicated in the current

Committee-approved budget and to carry out business plans in

order to meet expected revenue levels.

f. To create or update a policy and procedures manual specific to

the medium's general operations within thirty days after

beginning term of service as a Student Media Leader. This

manual will be approved by the SMC before it is distributed to

new staff members.

g. To perform other duties assigned by the Assistant Director for

Student Media and the SMC, including reporting to SMC

meetings.

3. Responsibilities of Student Media Leaders

a. Students who work on official, school sponsored student

media determine to content of their respective media and are

responsible for that content. Students should:

(i) Determine the content of student media

(ii) Strive to produce media based upon professional

standards of accuracy, objectivity and fairness.

(iii) Review material to improve quality and to improve

sentence structure, grammar, spelling and

punctuation.

(iv) Check and verify all facts and verify the accuracy of

all quotations.

(v) In the case of editorials or letters to the editor

concerning controversial issues, determine the need

for rebuttal comments and opinions and provide

space therefore if appropriate.

b. Unprotected Expression- The following types of student

expression will not be protected and it is the Student Media

Leader's responsibility to insure that such material is not

published or broadcast:

(i) Material that is "obscene as to minors." Obscene as

to minors is defined as material that meets all three

of the following requirements:

1) The average person, applying contemporary

community standards, would find that the work,

taken as a whole, appeals to a minor's prurient

interest in sex;

2) the work depicts or describes, in a patently

offensive way, sexual conduct as the ultimate

sexual acts (normal or perverted, masturbation

and lewd exhibition of the genitals; and;

3) the work, taken as a whole, lacks serious

literary, artistic, political or scientific value.

(ii) Libelous material. Libelous statements are provably

false and unprivileged statements of fact that do

demonstrated injury to an individual's or business's

reputation in the community. If the allegedly

libeled party is a "public figure" or "public official"

as defined below, then school officials must show

that the false statement was published "with actual

malice" i.e., that the student journalists knew that

the statement was false or that they published it

with reckless disregard for the truth without

trying to verify the truthfulness of the statement.

1) A public official is a person who holds an

elected or appointed public office and exercises

a significant amount of governmental authority.

2) A public figure is a person who either has

sought the public's attention or is welJ known

because of personal achievements or actions.

3) School employees wilJ be considered public

officials or public figures in relationship to

articles concerning their school-related

activities.

4) When an allegedly libelous statement concerns

an individual who is not a public official or a

public figure, school officials must show that

the false statement was published willfully or

negligently, i.e., the student journalist who

wrote or published willfully or negligently, i.e.,

the student journalist who wrote or published

the statement has failed to exercise reasonably

prudent care.

5) Students are free to express opinions.

Specifically, a student may criticize school

policy or the performance of teachers,

administrators, school officials and other school

employees.

(iii) Material that will cause "a material and substantial

disruption of school activities."

1) Disruption is defined as student rioting,

unlawful seizures of property, destruction of

property, or substantial student participation in a

school boycott, sit-in, walk-out or other related

form of activity. Material such as racial,

religious or ethnic slurs, however distasteful, is

not in and of itself disruptive under these

guidelines. Threats of violence are not

materially disruptive without some act in

furtherance of that threat or a reasonable belief

and expectation that the author of the threat has

the capability and intent of carrying through on

that threat in a manner that does not allow acts

other than suppression of speech to mitigate the

threat in a timely manner. Material that

stimulates heated discussion or debate does not

constitute the type of disruption prohibited.

2) For student media to be considered disruptive,

specific facts must exist upon which one could

reasonably forecast that a likelihood of

immediate, substantial material disruption to

normal school activity would occur if the

material were further distributed or has occurred

as a result of the material 's distribution of

dissemination. Mere undifferentiated fear or

apprehension of disturbance is not enough;

school administrators must be able affirmatively

to show substantial facts that reasonably support

a forecast of likely disruption.

3) In determining whether student media is

disruptive, consideration must be given to the

context of the distribution as well as the content

of the material. In this regard, consideration

should be given to past experience in the school

with similar material, past experience in the

school in dealing with and supervising the

students in the school, current events

influencing student attitudes and behavior and

whether there have been any instances of actual

or threatened disruption prior to or

contemporaneously with the dissemination of

the student publication in question.

4) School officials must protect advocates of

unpopular viewpoints.

5) "School activity" means educational student

activity sponsored by the school and includes,

by way of example and not by way of limitation,

classroom work, official assemblies and other

similar gatherings, school athletic contests, band

concerts, school plays and scheduled in-school

lunch periods.

c. Legal Advice

(i) If, in the opinion of a student editor, student

editorial staff or faculty adviser, material proposed

for publication may be "obscene," "libelous" or

would cause an "immediate, material and

substantial disruption of school activities," the legal

opinion of a practicing attorney should be sought.

The services of the attorney for the local newspaper

or the free legal services of the Student Press Law

Center (703 -807-1904) are recommended.

(ii) The final decision of whether the material is to be

published will be left to the student editor or student

editorial staff.

4. Removal of Student Media Leaders - Student Media Leaders are

supervised by both the assistant Director for Student Media and the

SMC. Student Media Leaders' job performances may be reviewed and

discussed at any time by the SMC. The SMC reserves the right to

terminate employment it offers to students. Such action can take place

only when adequate cause exists and only after due process. Adequate

cause shall be understood to mean malfeasance, misfeasance or

nonfeasance, and under no circumstances because of student, faculty,

administrative or public disapproval of editorial or programming

content.

VI. GRANTING AND REVOKING STUDENT MEDIA STATUS

Believing that the best interest of Radford University and its students can best be served

by making certain that there are ample opportunities for free and open speech about

issues of interest to students, the Student Media Committee hereby goes on record as

encouraging the development and/or evolution of new outlets for such expression.

A. SMC OBLIGATIONS

The SMC stands ready to assist all such outlets with the following:

1. Technical advice

2. Editorial advice

3. Financial access to equipment as available without interference with

the schedules of use by existing Student Media.

4. Possible financial support for one year, with the possibility of a one year extension based upon the approval of the board in its annual

budget considerations.

B. NEW MEDIA EXPECTATION

To qualify for SMC recognition and assistance, any prospective student

medium must submit the following to SMC:

1. A petition for temporary recognition

2. A prospectus including, at minimum, the following;

a. Statement of purpose

b. Schedule of release (daily, weekly, semesterly, etc.)

c. Detailed organization chart

d. Statement of future plans addressing

(i) The envisioned continued relationship with the

SMC and with Student Media.

(ii) The actual or envisioned relationship with any other

university entity

(iii) Whether the editor or other manager will be

volunteer or paid

(iv) Where the organization will be housed

e. Business plan including

(i) short-range and long-range budget

(ii) detailed statement of equipment cost if such is

anticipated

(iii) any agreements about use of existing Radford University

equipment

(iv) any plans for self-generated financial support (rate cards,

etc.)

f. Letter of support from the intended Faculty Advisor

3. An agreement to include in copy and/or programming a disclaimer such

as:

"All content is student speech, protected under the First Amendment as

such. It does not necessarily represent the opinion of the University, its

officials, or its faculty. Nor does the content necessarily express the

opinion of all members of the student body."

4. Evidence of fulfillment of all applicable Hurlburt Student Center,

Leadership Program and COCO requirements for becoming a recognized

student organization.

C. CRITERIA FOR RECOGNITION

The SMC will consider the following criteria when it examines requests for

Student Media membership:

I. How does the new medium propose to serve students? What impact could it

have on students?

2. How would the new medium benefit the university community in general?

3. How large is its budget in relation to this potential impact on both students and

on the university community?

4. Would the medium be self-sustaining long term in terms of its staff and

budget?

D. REVIEWS

The Committee shall review any newly recognized student or any reorganized

medium on a regular basis. At least one such review must be held prior to the

beginning of the second year of existence. Subsequent reviews shall be held prior to:

1. The implementation of any change in information provided to the SMC

2. The granting of any loans from the SMC

3. Entering into financial obligation with any other University or non-university

individual, group, entity.

E. RECOGNITION

Immediately upon recognition, the new or newly reorganized student medium

shall enjoy SMC representation and shall be considered an official Radford University organization under Student Media. Such initial recognition shall be probationary for no more than four years. At any such time during that period the SMC may grant permanent recognition. However at least every five years all Student Media (new and existing) shall be reviewed by the SMC. The editor in chief or other manager leading the medium will be notified of the planned review at least 10 days before the SMC begins conducting the

review.

F. REVOKING RECOGNITION

The Committee may revoke a medium's status as a member of Student Media

after a review has been conducted. Along with loss of Student Media Status, the medium will lose its listing, and thus all privileges, as one of RU's clubs and organizations.

It is the policy of Radford University that student journalists and media producers shall have the right to determine the content of student media. Accordingly, the following guidelines relate only to establishing grounds for disciplinary actions subsequent to publication.

VII. FINANCIAL MATTERS

A. STAFF COMPENSATION

The Student Media Committee must approve all requests to financially

compensate Student Media staff. There are a variety of ways to fund financial

compensation. These include, but are not limited to, leadership scholarships, per-hour wage compensation, and stipends for work performed. To initiate a request for compensation, board members should submit proposals for compensation to the SMC Chairperson.

B. MEDIA BUDGETS

Annually, in accordance with SABC scheduling, all eligible media will be

required to apply for SMC financial support and submit a budget of anticipated needs.

The SMC decides on allocations by a simple majority vote after all media budgets have been presented. All requests which involve SABC funds are subject to that committee's approval.

C. EXPENDITURES

All handling of Student Media accounts will be performed in accordance with

applicable SMC, Student Activities Budget Committee and University policy guidelines.

VIII. AMENDMENTS

Amendments to these bylaws may be made with a two-thirds majority vote of the SMC

in accordance with university guidelines.

APPENDIX I

1. Responsibilities of the Advisor

To the student

As a supervisor, the advisor must guide rather than censor. Availability of the

advisor is of utmost importance. The advisor should let it be known that he or she is

willing to give guidance, provide counseling and be there when needed. This individual

shares his or her knowledge of journalism with the staff. As a supervisor, the advisor

helps students understand that the medium must maintain a regular schedule, that

deadlines must be met and that professional standards and ethics should be followed at all

times. The advisor uses this supervisory position to instruct, knowing that he or she is in a position to teach more and do a better job than when in a classroom in a formal classroom setting.

It is important that the advisor be knowledgeable in the technology of the

medium advised. This role involves primary concern with the total quality of the medium

rather than the day-to-day operation which is properly handled by student staff members.

As a counselor, the advisor has the responsibility to guide students to an understanding of the nature, the functions and the ethics of student media. As a natural corollary, it is this individual's job to have firm, professional contacts in the community so he or she can serve as an effective liaison between the professional media and the students, both in making available the best possible models and in providing career information.

As a teacher, and this is perhaps the most important job of an advisor, the advisor should provide instruction that will result in a better publication or broadcast outlet. The effective advisor tries to emphasize individualized instruction and allows for individual differences in staff members' abilities to learn. He or she points out each areas and works with students to strengthen their abilities in these areas. The advisor makes students confident of what they can do and attempts to shape their minds in the direction of a realistic career. Most important, the advisor must make sure that all staff members have an opportunity to develop as fully as possible their potential within the framework of the medium.

To the Administration

The advisor functions as a liaison with the administration for an understanding

of the ethics and responsibilities of a free press and of student media. In this role, the

advisor must ensure full communication of administrative policy to student editors and

managers as well as communication to administrators of the First Amendment right of

students to print or broadcast without censorship or prior restraint and the duty of the

institution to therefore allow full and vigorous freedom of expression.

The advisor must ensure an honest understanding of each side and its objectives

by the other and a belief in the principles of full exchange of information in all cases.

If the advisor acts as business manager, he or she should help assure and

maintain the fiscal stability of the medium and should ensure that the medium reaches its

long-range financial goals.

The editorial advisor must encourage the students to be accurate, fair, complete,

intelligent and reasonable in carrying out their individual functions.

As a production manager, the advisor should provide both technical and fiscal

advice so that the product is a quality one.

To colleagues

The advisor is a member of the staff or the college or university with obligations

to the profession, both as a teacher and as an advisor. He or she must function as an

advisor to other faculty and staff members about the nature and functions of college

student media.

The advisor should, at all times, remain a respected professional educator since in

that role he or she can best provide, through example and through dialogue, an effective

basis for the successful functioning of ethical student media.

APPENDIX 2

Society of Professional Journalists Code of Ethics

The Society of Professional Journalists believes the duty of journalists is to serve the

truth.

We believe the agencies of mass communications are carriers of public discussion and

information, acting on their Constitutional mandate and freedom to learn and report the

facts.

We believe in public enlightenment as the forerunner of justice, and in our Constitutional

role to seek the truth as part of the public's right to know the truth.

We believe those responsibilities carry obligations that require journalists to perform with

intelligence, objectivity, accuracy and fairness.

To these ends, we declare acceptance of the standards of the practice here set forth:

Responsibility: The public's right to know of events of public importance and interest is

the overriding mission of the mass media. The purpose of distributing news and

enlightened opinion is to serve the general welfare. Journalists who use their professional

status as representatives of the public for selfish or other unworthy motives violate a high

trust.

Freedom of the Press: Freedom of the press is to be guarded as an inalienable right of

people in a free society. It carries with it the freedom and the responsibility to discuss,

question and challenge actions and utterances of our government and of our public and

private institutions. Journalists uphold the right to speak unpopular opinions and the

privilege to agree with the majority.

Ethics: Journalists must be free of obligation to any interest other than the public's right

to know the truth.

1. Gifts, favors, free travel, special treatment or privileges can compromise the integrity

of journalists and their employers. Nothing of value should be accepted.

2. Secondary employment, political involvement, holding public office and service in

community organizations should be avoided if it compromises the integrity of journalists

and their employers. Journalists and their employers should conduct their personal lives

in a manner which protects them from conflict of interest, real or apparent. Their

responsibilities to the public are paramount. That is the nature of their profession.

3. So-called news communications from private sources should not be published or

broadcast without substantiation of their claims to news value.

4. Journalists will seek news that serves the public interest, despite the obstacles. They

will make constant efforts to assure that the public's business is conducted in public and

that public records are open to public inspection.

5. Journalists acknowledge the newsman's ethic of protecting sources of information.

6. Plagiarism is dishonest and unacceptable.

Accuracy and Objectivity: Good faith with the public is the foundation of all worthy

journalism.

1. Truth is our ultimate goal.

2. Objectivity in reporting the news is another goal, which serves as the mark of an

experienced professional. It is a standard of performance toward which we strive. We

honor those who achieve it.

3. There is no excuse for inaccuracies or lack of thoroughness.

4. Newspaper headlines should be fully warranted by the contents of the articles they

accompany. Photographs and telecasts should give an accurate picture of an event and

not highlight a minor incident out of context.

5. Sound practice makes clear distinction between news reports and expression of

opinion. News reports should be free of opinion or bias and represent all sides of an

Issue.

6. Partisanship in editorial comment which knowingly departs from the truth violates the

spirit of American journalism.

7. Journalists recognize their responsibilities for offering informed analysis, comment

and editorial opinion on public events and issues. They accept the obligation to present

such material by individuals whose competence, experience and judgment qualify them

for it.

8. Special articles or presentations devoted to advocacy or the writer's own conclusions

and interpretations should be labeled as such.

Fair play: Journalists at all times will show respect for the dignity, privacy rights and

well-being of people encountered in the course of gathering and presenting the news.

1. The news media should not communicate unofficial charges affecting reputation or

moral character without giving the accused a chance to reply.

2. The news media must guard against invading a person's right to privacy.

3. The media should not pander to morbid curiosity about details of vice and crime.

4. It is the duty of news media to make prompt and complete correction of their errors.

5. Journalists should be accountable to the public for their reports and the public should

be encouraged to voice its grievances against the media. Open dialogue with our reader,

viewers and listeners should be fostered.

Mutual Trust: Adherence to this code of ethics is intended to preserve the bond of mutual

trust and respect between American journalists and the American people.

The Society shall- by programs and education and other means - encourage individual

journalists to adhere to these tenets, and shall encourage journalistic publications and

broadcasters to recognize their responsibility to frame codes of ethics in concert with

their employers to serve as guidelines in furthering these goals.