

## **CSPU Academic Freedom Policy**

### **1. Purpose and Scope**

This Academic Freedom Policy establishes the principles that guarantee the right of all academic staff, researchers, and students of Chirchik State Pedagogical University (CSPU) to freely conduct research, teach, publish, and express scholarly opinions. The policy supports and follows the University Statute (<https://cspu.uz/tuzulma/otm-nizomi>) and applies to all faculties, departments, research centers, and academic programs.

### **2. Institutional Commitment**

CSPU affirms that academic freedom is essential to high-quality teaching, innovation, and scientific progress. The university guarantees that no academic staff member or student will face discrimination, sanctions, or administrative pressure for pursuing legitimate academic inquiry or expressing scholarly views related to their area of expertise.

### **3. Freedom of Research**

- Academic staff and researchers have the right to choose their research topics, methodologies, theoretical frameworks, and scientific approaches.
- Research decisions must be based on academic merit and social relevance, not political, ideological, or administrative influence.
- Researchers are free to publish findings in national and international venues without interference.

### **4. Freedom of Teaching**

- Faculty members may design syllabi, select teaching materials, and apply pedagogical methods that reflect current scientific knowledge and best educational practices.
- Academic content cannot be restricted on non-academic grounds.
- Teachers have the right to discuss and analyze topics within their discipline openly, respectfully, and ethically.

### **5. Freedom of Academic Expression**

- CSPU supports the right of academics to speak publicly, write, and present on issues related to their research.
- Staff may participate in conferences, professional associations, expert panels, and media engagements without institutional restriction, provided they represent their expertise responsibly.

### **6. Protection from Interference and Retaliation**

- No employee, researcher, or student shall be penalized for exercising academic freedom in teaching, research, or publication.
- The university prohibits administrative pressure, censorship, or retaliation related to academic work.
- Concerns about violations may be reported to the University Council, the Ethics Committee, or the Advisory Council on Equal Opportunities.

## **7. Responsibilities of Academic Staff**

Academic freedom is accompanied by professional responsibility. Faculty must:

- Follow ethical research standards;
- Ensure accuracy and integrity in teaching;
- Respect the rights and viewpoints of students and colleagues;
- Clearly distinguish personal opinions from official university positions.

## **8. Student Rights in Academic Freedom**

- Students have the right to explore academic subjects freely, express reasoned viewpoints, and participate in research.
- Students must not be penalized for holding views that differ from teachers, provided academic standards are met.

## **9. Institutional Governance and Transparency**

- Decisions affecting academic freedom shall be discussed openly in the University Council.
- Policy revisions must involve consultation with academic staff, student representatives, and faculty councils.

## **10. Review and Continuous Improvement**

This policy is reviewed every three years or when required by changes in national legislation, international standards, or university governance reforms.