LDS BUSINESS COLLEGE
STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC FREEDOM

FACULTY, ADMINISTRATORS, AND STAFF: LDS Business College supports appropriate freedom in study, inquiry, and exchange of ideas. Individual and institutional academic freedom are balanced against and may be constrained by the standards, objectives, values, and Honor Code of the College thus upholding its distinctly religious mission and that of its sponsor, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

It is the experience of the LDS Business College and other institutions of the Church Education System that the discovery and distribution of knowledge, facts, and functional processes are enhanced in a distinctly religious atmosphere that is characterized by clearly defined ethical principles and boundaries.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints espouses the doctrine of moral agency. This doctrine grants broad freedom of choice to all, but encourages all to voluntarily limit choices to acts that reverence and respect the character building values of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Based on this spiritual teaching, the College encourages its faculty, administrators, and staff to seek to understand and apply new technologies, theories, and philosophies that affect the business world and society in general. However, the College places reasonable limits on its faculty, administrators, and staff to conform their conduct to the gospel as taught by the Church. Accordingly, all are encouraged to seek and debate facts and philosophies, and discussions are expected to expand knowledge and understanding, but those acts and discussions may not undermine the mission or standards of the LDS Business College or the doctrine or values of its sponsoring Church or be critical of Church leaders. Because the gospel includes all truth, the breadth of investigation at the College can be as broad as truth itself. Jesus Christ’s teachings enhance freedom. He said “ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free” as recorded in John 8:32. LDS Business College is dedicated to this principle.

All persons who work at the LDS Business College voluntarily agree to maintain the standards of behavior outlined in the Honor Code which is based on the doctrines of its sponsoring Church. As interpreted by LDS Business College in application to academic freedom, adherence to the Honor Code prohibits the following behavior:

- Deriding the leaders of the Church or its doctrines,
- Contradicting or opposing Church doctrine or policies,
- Attempting to undermine faith in the gospel of Jesus Christ or confuse students regarding Church doctrine or practice, or
- Engaging in dishonest, malicious, inappropriate, illegal, unchaste, profane, or unduly disrespectful behavior.

Grievance policies are in place that provide faculty, administrators, and staff the opportunity to have a fair hearing concerning alleged violations of the Honor Code or infringements on academic freedom.
STUDENTS: The same academic freedom and responsibilities that apply to faculty, administrators, and staff also apply to students. All students at LDS Business College voluntarily agree to maintain the standards of behavior outlined in the same Honor Code. It is the position of the LDS Business College that this Honor Code fosters intellectual growth by providing an atmosphere conducive to teaching and learning.

Students who believe their academic freedom has been unfairly infringed upon may have recourse through the student grievance procedure as stated in the College General Catalog.

CONCLUSION: The mission of LDS Business College is defined by the Gospel of Jesus Christ which advocates acting with trustworthiness in a charitable community. Faculty, staff, administrators, and students agree to exchange ideas in an atmosphere of faith, love, and goodwill that demonstrates loyalty and commitment to the gospel. This atmosphere encourages a reasonable relationship between the mission of the College and those who work and study here. The common belief that exists at the College enhances the ability of the students to learn and the faculty, administrators, and staff to serve. The College intends to nourish this atmosphere to fulfill its mission and to provide the best educational experience for those who work and study here.