

Draft CUNY Policy on Faculty Assigning for purchase their own works in classrooms

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The Faculty of CUNY affirm Academic Freedom in the responsibility and rights of faculty to choose materials to assign to their students and to require for purchase by the students in their courses. As professional educators, faculty should avoid the appearance and the reality of any conflict of interest in making such determinations. When faculty create materials and derive revenue from their sale and, either as individuals or as members of a group, make the determination to use materials that they have created in their own classes, then that portion of the revenue they derive from the sale of books to their own students should be directed to a program for the use or support of students over which the authors have no control or influence. Such programs may include but are not to be limited to student scholarships and emergency funds at the college at which they teach.

Whenever materials that are created by a faculty member are to be used in multiple sections of a course only some of which are taught by that faculty member, then the decision concerning which work is to be used must be made by an official group of faculty of the department and not by any single faculty member, not even the department chairperson. Even in these cases, the portion of the revenue they derive from the sale of their own materials to their own students should be directed to a program for the use or support of students over which the creator has no control or influence.