Freedom of Speech Policy

Freedom of speech, expression and assembly is vital to the intellectual, social and personal development that Rhodes Scholars undergo while at Oxford.

The Rhodes Trust recognizes, and celebrates, that Scholars come from a host of different backgrounds and hold a range of experiences, perspectives and positions. To the extent that we embrace difference as an opportunity for learning, and engage in disagreement and debate that is not dismissive of each other's points of view, we are closer to fulfilling our mandate of preparing the next generation of future leaders.

The Rhodes Trust appreciates that some of the dialogue that takes place at Rhodes House and amongst Rhodes Scholars may be unsettling, challenging and even offensive to some. It is critical that we all, individually and as a community, seek in our dialogue to:

(i) engender mutual honesty, trust and respect;
(ii) exercise disclosure of interests and tolerance towards lesser expressed views;
(iii) conduct ourselves in a manner such that intimidation and censorship find no reasonable grounds.

The freedoms and entitlements of one are predicated upon those of another.

The tenure of the Scholarship is subject always to satisfactory personal conduct. This policy has bearing on the determination of satisfactory.

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