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OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

June 5, 2006

Dr. Frederick F. Fagal, Jr. Social Sciences Department Liberal Arts Center

Dear Dr. Fagal,

I am in receipt of your request for me to clarify Marywood's official policy on academic freedom, particularly free speech. I do not feel a need to do so. Our policy is clearly stated in the Faculty Manual, Chap. 2.8. For one, the academic year is over and few people are on campus. Additionally, no one else has asked for a clarification, so it seems unnecessary to offer one.

Thank you for sharing the outcome of your survey with me. Unfortunately, I do not find it to be very helpful on the matter, given the low response and the rather generic level of the questions. In my opinion, you reduced a very complex and difficult issue into a very simplistic for or against response. I believe that in an academic community, putting all facts and informed opinion on issues before the students is an important role for faculty. There is an abundance of information/scholarly articles on the topic, worthy of consideration in order that students can come to their own decisions of such complex issues. Perhaps the community would benefit from informed discussion/presentations of the many perspectives on this important topic.

Sincerely,

Sister Mary Reap, I.H.M.

President

c: file