**Evergreen’s Social Contract Highlights**

“The Social Contract is an agreement; a guide for civility and tolerance toward others; a reminder that respecting others and remaining open to others and their ideas provides a powerful framework for teaching and learning.”

**Freedom and Civility--A central focus of those values is freedom. Freedom to explore ideas and to discuss those ideas in both speech and print; freedom from reprisal for voicing concerns and beliefs, no matter how unpopular. It's this freedom that is so necessary in a vibrant, dynamic learning community.** Civility is not just a word; it must be present in all our interactions.

**Individual and Institutional Rights--Each member of the community must protect: the fundamental rights of others in the community as citizens; the rights of each member of the community to pursue different learning objectives within the limits defined by Evergreen's curriculum or resources of people, materials, equipment and money; the rights and obligations of Evergreen as an institution established by the state of Washington; and individual rights to fair and equitable procedures when the institution acts to protect the safety of its members.**

**Society and the College--**Evergreen community recognize that the college is part of the larger society as represented by the state of Washington, which funds it, and by the community of greater Olympia.

Evergreen has the right to prohibit individuals and groups from using its name, its financial or other resources, and its facilities for commercial or political activities.

**Prohibition against Discrimination--**There may be no discrimination at Evergreen with respect to race, sex, age, handicap, sexual orientation, religious or political belief, or national origin in considering individuals' admission, employment, or promotion. To this end the college has adopted an affirmative action policy approved by the state Human Rights Commission and the Higher Education Personnel Board.\* Affirmative action complaints shall be handled in accordance with state law, as amended (e.g., Chapter 49.74 RCW; RCW 28B.6.100; Chapter 251-23 WAC).

**Right to Privacy--**All members of the college community have the right to organize their personal lives and conduct according to their own values and preferences, with an appropriate respect for the rights of others to organize their lives differently. All members of the Evergreen community are entitled to privacy in the college's offices, facilities devoted to educational programs and housing. The same right of privacy extends to personal papers, confidential records and personal effects, whether maintained by the individual or by the institution. Evergreen does not stand in loco parentis for its members.

**Intellectual Freedom and Honesty—**Evergreen’s members…enjoy the freedom to explore ideas and to discuss their explorations in both speech and print. Honesty is an essential condition of learning, teaching or working. It includes the presentation of one's own work in one's own name, the necessity to claim only those honors earned, and the recognition of one's own biases and prejudices.

**Open Forum and Access to Information—**In the Evergreen community, individuals should not feel intimidated or be subject to reprisal for voicing their concerns or for participating in governance or policy making…However, college policies and rules shall not conflict with state law or statutory, regulator and/or contractual commitments to college employees.

**Political Activities—**The College is obligated not to take a position, as an institution, in electoral politics or on public issues except for those matters which directly affect its integrity, the freedom of the members of its community, its financial support and its educational programs. At the same time, Evergreen has the obligation to recognize and support its community members' rights to engage, as citizens of the larger society, in political affairs, in any way that they may elect within the provision of the general law.

**Student Conduct Code/Grievance and Appeals—**Complementing Evergreen’s Social Contract is the Student Conduct Code/Grievance and Appeals Process…The code also defines the role of the grievance officer and describes the processes for informal conflict resolution, grievances and appeals procedures.

If you would like more information on Evergreen’s Social Contract here is the link with more info.: <http://www.evergreen.edu/about/social.htm>