BURMAN UNIVERSITY

STUDENT RIGHTS

Effective Date: September 1, 2008 **Responsibility:** Vice President Student Services

Amends Policy dated: Handbooks, 2004 **Policy Number:** OAP 70

Scope: All employees in relationship with students

Burman University recognizes and upholds the following student rights while emphasizing that rights and freedoms come with commensurate responsibility:

Right of Admission

Student organizations, education programs and activities are open to all of its students regardless of ethnic origin, age, gender or religion.

Classroom Rights and Appeals

Students are evaluated academically on the basis of scholastic performance, not on opinions or conduct in matters unrelated to the academic standards of the course. If students feel that their academic rights have been violated, they should speak with the instructor. If the matter is not settled satisfactorily, they may then appeal to the department/school chair and the division dean. If resolution does not follow, students may appeal to the Vice President for Academic Administration.

Right of Association

Students are free to organize and join associations to promote their common interests, consistent with the purposes and policies of Burman. All organizations may submit to the Vice President for Student Services nominees for faculty advisors/sponsors of their own choosing.

Right of Discussion, Communication, Petition

As members of the University academic community, students are free, individually and collectively, to express their views on issues of policies and procedures and on matters of general interest to the students, both consistent with orderly proceedings and with the functions and objectives of the institution. Student organizations are free to examine and to discuss questions germane to the objectives of Burman and to express opinions in public sessions. Interchange of views is encouraged between students and faculty, person to person, in discussion groups or meetings, or by written documents. The conduct of such discussions is to be in accord with the Christian spirit espoused by the institution.

Right of Publication

The Aurora Chronicles newspaper and the *Aurora Borealis* yearbook are aids in establishing and maintaining an atmosphere of responsible discussion and intellectual exploration on the campus. They communicate the activities and interests of the students, as well as help form student opinion.

Right to Fair Play

The academic, administrative and disciplinary processes of Burman are meant to guarantee fundamental fair play. Students under discipline have the right to be clearly informed of the nature and the consequences of any alleged infractions and to review the facts of the problem with the faculty, staff, residence hall dean or administrator immediately involved.

Right to Appeal

Students have the right to appeal in writing to the Chairperson of the Discipline Appeal Committee the decision of any action, including suspension or dismissal, taken by the Discipline Committee. Students may also appeal other decisions, by following the criteria for appeals outlined in the handbook for non-academic issues and the academic calendar for academic issues.