The Committee on Academic Freedom (ACFR) met seven times during the 2005-2006 academic year. The committee considered the following issues:

**APM 210-1(d)**
The committee addressed concerns regarding the revisions to the criteria for appointment and promotion found in APM 210-1(d). The committee believed that language in this policy that seemed to favor particular areas of research was in tension with the university’s chief mandate on academic freedom in APM 010. ACFR recommended that the policy be reworded. When it became apparent that this would not happen, ACFR recommended that a statement be sent to deans and chairs clarifying that research on diversity and inequality are not to be favored over other research areas.

**University Committee on Affirmative Action and Diversity (UCAAD) Proposed Diversity Statement**
The committee found no academic freedom concerns in this diversity statement.

**Budget Cuts for Labor and Employment Research and Education Programs**
Michael Reich, the Director of the Institute of Industrial Relations (IIR), requested that the committee investigate the governor’s recent budget cuts for labor and employment research and education programs. Director Reich is concerned that these programs are being singled out for cuts without academic review, which he believes may be in violation of academic freedom. The committee met with Robert Price, the Associate Vice Chancellor for Research, to learn more about the process for funding IIR. The committee agreed that the cuts were done through a political rather than academic process. However, since the funding for ILE was originally done through a political process, the committee does not view the budget cut as violating academic freedom.

**Berkeley on Pentagon List of Threats to National Security**
The committee was concerned over the lack of information on the government’s surveillance practices. It is unknown precisely what information the Pentagon gathers about its subjects or what they use this information for. ACFR requested that DIVCO ask the Chancellor to seek clarification of the Department of Defense’s monitoring policies and to take appropriate measures to ensure that campus political and academic freedoms are not infringed by governmental surveillance.

**Ford and Rockefeller Grant Language**
The committee discussed the anti-terrorism and anti-violence language in the Ford and Rockefeller grants. The grant language indicated that Ford and Rockefeller would withhold funds from organizations that promote terrorism and violence. It was confirmed by the systemwide Academic Freedom Committee that the grant language had already been addressed in a report titled “Problematic Restrictive Clauses in Contracts, Grants, and Gifts for Research” written by the University Committee on Research Policy. According to the systemwide Senate,
the university does not accept grants with these restrictions and the language can be negotiated out of the agreement.

**Task Force on UC Compensation, Accountability, and Transparency: Report**
The committee found no academic freedom concerns in this report.

**Renewal of the USA PATRIOT Act**
The committee met with two of the original signatories of the 2004 campus resolution on the USA PATRIOT Act. They discussed the possible academic freedom implications of the new provisions of the renewed Act. ACFR recommended that DIVCO urge the chancellor to protect the campus community against academic freedom infringement under the Act. The committee also recommended educating the campus on the proper protocols for responding to requests for information made under the Act.