



MEDIA COMMUNICATIONS POLICY

Te Kupenga is a leading provider of Catholic thought leadership, knowledge and faith formation in NZ and is the home of three national agencies: the Catholic Theological College, responsible for providing approved tertiary qualifications; the National Centre for Religious Studies, responsible for supporting Religious Education in Catholic schools; and the Nathaniel Centre for Bioethics, responsible for research and advocacy on bioethical issues. Te Kupenga acknowledges and supports the Church's commitment to tangata whenua and to Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

University of Notre Dame Australia (UNDA) policies also apply. Where there is a conflict between this policy and the UNDA policies, the UNDA policies should be followed.

Purpose

Te Kupenga acknowledges the role of staff in enhancing our organisation's reputation through communication of achievements to the media and contributing to public discourse and debate. This policy gives guidelines for ensuring staff remain within the Staff Code of Conduct.

Principles

- Only the Chief Executive and Board Chair can provide an official comment to the media on Te Kupenga business or our position on any matter.
- On appropriate occasions, the Chief Executive may authorise others to make official comments on behalf of the organisation.
- Staff may comment to the media within their area of expertise. They should provide their opinion as an academic or professional expert.
- Staff should ensure that their personal opinions and media posts are not misrepresented as official communications from Te Kupenga.
- Staff should not publicly debate opinions on official Te Kupenga business or position.
- In relation to the media, Te Kupenga staff will act in the best interest of the organisation and exercise academic freedom subject to their obligations as an employee.
- Staff should not engage with the media in any activity or comment which is designed to bring Te Kupenga into disrepute.
- All requests for official comment should be referred to the Chief Executive.

Approval & Review

The Media Communications Policy is subject to the normal three-yearly review. Review is the responsibility of the Governance Board.

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