

SUBJECT: Designated Public Forums	Effective Date: 10-30-09	Policy Number: 4.2.2	
	Supersedes: Presidential Memorandum #89	Page 1	Of 4
	Responsible Authority: Vice President, Facilities Senior Vice President, Student Affairs		

APPLICABILITY:

This policy is applicable to all members of the University community, including all students, faculty, staff and all visitors to the University or any of its campuses, facilities or events. Individual University campuses, facilities or organizations may establish more specific procedures consistent with the guidelines of this policy.

POLICY:

I. Introduction. University grounds may generally be used for demonstrations and other exercises of free speech and assembly by University organizations and persons. Such use must not interfere with class sessions or other activities of the University and must not infringe on the rights of others. All general requirements for use of University buildings and grounds, access to University property, and distributions of printed materials set forth in University policies and regulations apply to uses of University grounds under this policy.

II. General Use Guidelines: Any individual, group or organization desiring to exercise free speech and assembly on University grounds may do so under the following conditions:

- (a) No campus buildings, other indoor facilities, or athletic or recreational facilities may be used for demonstrations or assemblies unless specifically permitted in writing by the campus authority responsible for the building or facility.
- (b) University organizations and persons may organize, conduct, or participate in demonstrations and other exercises of free speech and assembly on University grounds, except:
 - a. Grounds immediately adjacent to residential facilities;
 - b. Grounds associated with the Baldwin House;
 - c. Athletic and recreational fields, including any facilities operated by Campus Recreation and Today and Beyond Wellness;

- d. Grounds immediately adjacent to University buildings where such use could impair entrance to or exit from the building or interfere with activities within the buildings;
 - e. Grounds within 200 feet of the University operated child care centers, elementary schools, middle schools, or high schools;
 - f. The Breezeway or Traditions Plaza; and
 - g. University streets and roadways.
- (c) Non-University organizations and persons may organize or conduct demonstrations and other exercises of free speech and assembly on University grounds, but are limited to the designated public forums identified in Section III below. Non-university organizations and persons may use other non-designated locations if specifically sponsored by a University organization. Such sponsorship requires the University organization serving as sponsor to be a participant in the activity of the non-University organization, including being physically present throughout the activity. Non-University organizations and persons may be required to provide picture identification and evidence of qualification to a University official upon request.
- (d) All organizations and persons organizing or conducting demonstrations and other exercises of free speech and assembly on University grounds, or otherwise conduct activities or events in University facilities, must abide by the general requirement that no such uses may interfere with, disrupt, or impede the normal operations of the University or otherwise interfere with or infringe on the rights of others. All organizations and persons organizing or conducting demonstrations and other exercises of free speech and assembly shall comply with the directions of a University official acting in the performance of his or her duty. In order that demonstrations and other exercises of free speech and assembly not interfere with the operation of the University or the rights of others, any person or organization organizing, conducting, leading, or participating in a demonstration, assembly, or activity using University grounds or other facilities shall not:
- a. Obstruct vehicular, bicycle, pedestrian traffic;
 - b. Obstruct entrances or exits to buildings or driveways or impede entry to or exit from any building or parking lot or vehicular path;
 - c. Interfere with educational, research or administrative activities inside or outside any building;
 - d. Violate a law, rule, regulation, ordinance, or University policy;
 - e. Engage in physically abusive or threatening conduct towards any person;
 - f. Obstruct, disrupt, or attempt or physically force the cancellation or continuance of a speaker;
 - g. Interfere with scheduled University ceremonies or events;
 - h. Interfere with or disrupt University operations;
 - i. Damage property;
 - j. Utilize sound amplification;
 - k. Occupy space overnight;
 - l. Occupy any gated or limited access areas after permitted access hours;
 - m. Erect permanent or semi-permanent structures; or
 - n. Create a safety hazard.

III. Designated Public Forums.

- A. Non-University organizations or persons may organize or conduct demonstrations and other exercises of free speech and assembly on University grounds but are limited to the following designated locations:
- (a) Boca Raton Campus: The plaza west of the Social Science Building
 - (b) Davie Campus: Central quadrangle area of the module buildings
 - (c) Ft. Lauderdale Campus: Askew Tower breezeway
 - (d) Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute: Open grassy area on the north side of Harbor Branch Road, west of Old Dixie Highway (facing the Ocean Discovery Center)
 - (e) MacArthur (Jupiter) Campus: Southeastern side of building 3
 - (f) SeaTech Institute: South parking lot
 - (g) Treasure Coast Campus: Open grass area on the north side of the SL building
- B. The designated public forums listed above may: (i) only be reserved from 9 AM until 5 PM Monday-Friday (excluding University holidays); (ii) only be reserved by a single organization or person (University or non-University related) at any one given time; and (iii) may not be reserved by a single organization or person for more than five consecutive days, for more than ten days in any one semester, or for more than five days in any two week period. The abbreviated summer terms (1, 2 and 3) will be treated as one semester.

IV. Disruptive Action. If a demonstration is disrupting normal University operations or infringing on the rights of other members of the University community contrary to the requirements of this policy and related regulations and policies, the Vice President, Facilities or the Vice President, Student Affairs, or their respective designees, may:

- (a) Request that the violation cease which may include relocation of the activity; and
- (b) Enlist the assistance of the University Police in restoring order and enforcing the law. As necessary, the University Police may:
 - i. Declare a demonstration or assembly to be disruptive, disorderly, or in violation of law and request all participants cease and desist and clear the area; and/or
 - ii. Direct persons to leave the campus immediately or be subject to a trespass order pursuant to Regulation 7.006 and/or arrest.

PROCEDURES:

All organizations and persons, whether University students or employees, University organizations or non-University persons or organizations, who intend to use the designated public forums identified in Section III above must register with the Student Affairs Office for the applicable campus or institute no more than 12 weeks in advance and no less than seven University business days in advance. Priority will be given on a first come, first served basis and should allow for fair and equal access. Registration must include: name of the organization or contact person, date and time of intended use of the designated assembly area, general nature of use, and expected attendance at the event.

INITIATING AUTHORITY: Senior Vice President, Student Affairs

POLICY APPROVAL
(For use by the Office of the President)

Policy Number: 4.2.2

Initiating Authority
Signature: _____ Date: _____
Name: Dr. Charles Brown

*Policies and Procedures
Review Committee Chair*
Signature: _____ Date: _____
Name: Elizabeth F. Rubin

President
Signature: _____ Date: _____
Name: John F. Pritchett

Executed signature pages are available in the Office of the General Counsel