

POLICY: DEMONSTRATION, OUTSIDE SPEAKERS, AND POLITICAL CAMPAIGN POLICIES
SOURCE: STUDENT RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES HANDBOOK

As one of the most diverse campus communities in the nation, the University of Miami is committed to a Culture of Belonging where all members of the community have a sense of connection to their University, feel valued, and have opportunities to make valuable contributions. As such, the University supports the free exchange of diverse and competing ideas and opinions in many formats and media. In support of diversity of thought and the free, respectful exchange of ideas, the University campuses welcome the sharing of ideas and opinions, and the protest and challenge of ideas and opinions. However, the University of Miami reserves the right to use its sole discretion to refuse any request for the use of University space or facilities deemed inconsistent with the values and mission of the University including those events that may cause a disruption or cause danger to the health and safety of others or cause violence.

Demonstration Policy. All students and student organizations must comply with the requirements and policies governing demonstrations including all campus space reservation policies. Failure to abide by the policies and directives will result in disciplinary action for the organizations and/or individuals involved.

A demonstration is defined as any public display of support for, or in opposition to, any person, group, organization, cause, institution, idea, or policy. A demonstration shall not include mere attendance at any scheduled University-sponsored activity, even if badges, armbands, distinctive clothing, or similar symbols of opposition are displayed. Peaceful and orderly demonstration is considered to be one of the many legitimate avenues for the free expression of ideas. Accordingly, the University supports and protects the rights of students, and recognized student organizations, to demonstrate and publicly proclaim their views, however unpopular. This policy is intended to uphold the right of free speech of both demonstrators and speakers, while also safeguarding the right of others to see and to listen.

The University of Miami supports the rights of individual students and student organizations to demonstrate, provided such activities do not disrupt normal academic or administrative activities, or infringe upon the rights of others. The right to express ideas freely carries with it certain responsibilities, among which is the obligation to refrain from interfering with the rights of other members of the academic community to pursue legitimate educational objectives. Persons cannot engage in behavior in violation of the University's harassment or bias policy or any other policy. Persons engaging in activities on University property are subject to, and expected to, comply with all applicable University policies and procedures and all applicable laws, including any State Statutes and relevant County and Municipal ordinances. The safety and well-being of members of the campus community collectively and individually, must be protected at all times; thus the University maintains the right to regulate and monitor

the time, place, and manner in which activities occur on campus, and to evaluate and assess related security costs for any demonstration.

Procedure for Gaining Approval for a Demonstration Recognized University organizations and full or part-time students who wish to schedule a demonstration, rally, protest or equivalent activity, must request the space through the Dean of Students Office on their respective campus and the appropriate venue manager. Any such request must be made no less than four business days in advance of the activity. The required Demonstration Registration Form can be obtained from the Dean of Students Office.

On campus demonstrations can only take place after the approval of the Dean of Students Office on the respective campus, on a first-come, first-served basis and based on availability of the proposed on campus location. Such approval may be granted only after an assessment that the proposed demonstration will not otherwise interfere with scheduled University use or fail to comply with all policies applicable to demonstrations. The appropriate security required for the event will be determined by the University of Miami Police Department (UMPD), the Public Safety office at UHealth, or the Security Office at RSMAS. The costs of security measures are the responsibility of the sponsoring organization. Students and student organizations are not allowed to act as security for a demonstration or event or provide their own security for a demonstration or event. A demonstration will not be permitted to last longer than 2 hours. Accordingly, once the required form is completed and submitted in a timely manner, it will be reviewed by the Dean of Students Office and appropriate representatives of the proposed venue, UMPD, and the Senior Vice President for Student Affairs office. No demonstration can take place without final approval from the Dean of Students Office. No planned demonstration or event should be advertised by any means without the event being fully approved following these policies prior to the demonstration or event.

Though formal registration is not required to host an off-campus event, student organizations and students attending, hosting, sponsoring, and/or organizing a demonstration and/or an outside speaker at an off-campus venue must abide by all other requirements and expectations of the Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook.

Demonstration Guidelines and Responsibilities Persons must not:

- display, threaten to use, or attempt to use firearms, flammable liquids, torches or other open flames, explosives, or other weapons or dangerous items on University property.
- engage in threatening or physically abusive behavior, or cause or threaten to cause physical injury to another person.
- have signs or flags exceeding the size restriction of 24" by 36". Only signs constructed of foam, cardboard, or paper shall be permitted to be carried. Signs may be mounted on sticks or posts provided that the sticks or posts are constructed of wood, foam, or plastic and their

dimensions do not exceed one-half inch in diameter (if round in shape) or one-fourth inch thick by two inches wide (if rectangular in shape).

- set fire to, or damage by any other means (e.g., including by use of any hazardous or noxious substance), any University building, or any property (e.g., books, papers, records, electronic medium) of the University, or of others.
- block or otherwise interfere with the free flow of vehicular, bicycle, or pedestrian traffic. The right of way on streets and sidewalks must be maintained, unless the closure is authorized in writing by the Dean of Students Office of the respective campus involved.
- block or otherwise interfere with ingress or egress of campus buildings, exterior patios, plazas or gathering places, or adversely occupy or take over any building or part thereof.
- obstruct, disrupt, or attempt to obstruct or disrupt any event including classes or any other activity sponsored by the University or by any users authorized to use University facilities. Use of indoor or outdoor public address systems and amplified sound, or the use of signage within buildings requires prior approval from the Dean of Students Office on the respective campus involved.
- harass or otherwise engage in conduct that constitutes a violation of the University's harassment or bias policies.
- set up or utilize encampment like materials including but not limited to tents, cooking devices, sleeping bags, blankets, and pillows.
- utilize structural materials such as timber, wood, pallets, fences, gates, racks, or any other materials that could be used for structural purposes.
- carry, possess, or use face shields or masks or other masks or disguises that are worn with the intent of threatening the safety of others or evading or escaping discovery, recognition, or identification in the commission of University regulations or policies, or other applicable laws or ordinances.
- carry, possess, or use wagons, carts, ladders, or other items that could be used to barricade or to push or manipulate crowds.

Demonstrations are also subject to Florida Statute 877.13 and the City of Coral Gables Code, which can be found in the Appendix of this manual.

Permitted Demonstrations and Sanctions Members of the University of Miami community generally may articulate their dissent or disagreement with a particular speaker through symbolic protests, including but not limited to distributing literature outside the meeting, holding signs, wearing clothing or buttons, standing in the back of the room, so long as they do not interrupt the speaker's ability to communicate or the audience's ability to view or hear the speaker.

Demonstrations cannot disrupt the normal operations of the University, infringe on the rights of other members of the University community, or fail to adhere with all applicable University policies and procedures. No demonstrations, including signage or anything else used for demonstration purposes, are permitted inside University buildings. All demonstrations must comply with the applicable rules and policies for the use of the particular location, including reservations requirements.

Members of the University community must recognize that the University of Miami Health System provides care for individuals needing uninterrupted medical services in tranquil surroundings. Accordingly, demonstrations are strictly prohibited in or around any building or property that is owned, leased, operated, or administered by the University of Miami Health System and/or the Miller School of Medicine.

In the event of a demonstration that violates this policy or any other applicable University policy, University employees and students involved in the demonstration may be asked to identify themselves by presenting their CaneID when requested to do so by a University representative and such a representative will identify him/herself when making this request. Demonstrators not officially related to the University of Miami may be directed to leave the campus immediately or be subject to arrest.

Students and student organizations participating in any demonstration, whether sponsored or not, are accountable for compliance with this policy. Sponsoring organizations and other related entities are also responsible for compliance with this policy. Upon a violation of these guidelines, University officials may direct demonstrators (a) to comply with these guidelines, (b) to cease and desist their activities, and/or

(c) to leave the premises or campus. In the event of continued non-compliance, UMPD, the Coral Gables Police Department (CGPD) or any other law enforcement agency may be enlisted to assist.

UMPD, CGPD and other law enforcement agencies that are enlisted to assist, are fully authorized to protect persons and property and may disperse persons at any event that is in violation of this policy or any other University policy and/or if they determine is violent or has the potential to escalate to violence of persons or property.

Students who knowingly violate this policy governing Demonstrations on campus are subject to conduct action, arrest, and/or other action by appropriate authorities. Student organizations charged with violating this policy will be referred to the appropriate Dean of Students Office. Sanctions for failing to abide with policy guidelines may include termination of the demonstration and prohibition of future demonstration activities, and may include University conduct action for groups and/or individuals.

Outside Speakers Policy

The University of Miami is committed to providing a forum for free and open expression of divergent points of view by campus speakers. Use of University facilities by outside speakers is not an endorsement by the University of any speakers' views. In keeping with University policy, all undergraduate, law, graduate and medical school student organizations must observe all policies and registration requirements related to hosting an outside speaker. While the University is committed to providing a forum for freedom to express divergent points of view by campus speakers, in those circumstances where the University believes the event may cause a disruption or cause danger or violence, the University may deny or withdraw an invitation to speak.

Procedure for Gaining Approval to Host an Outside Speaker

Registered student organizations, after consultation with their advisor(s), may invite speakers of their choice to University campuses. Student organizations seeking to sponsor programs and events involving outside speakers must indicate the presence of the speaker via their event reservation form at least 10 business days prior to the program or event. If a group would like to bring an outside speaker to an event that already has a confirmed reservation (including regular weekly meetings), it is the responsibility of the student organization to update the reservation to include the presence of the outside speaker by notifying the venue in writing. Student organizations are encouraged to complete the reservation form early in the planning stages as the University must approve the time, place, and manner of each outside speaker. The form will be reviewed for approval by the appropriate University administration. As a condition of final approval, the University may require that the sponsoring organization make certain changes involving the event, including, but not limited to a change in venue, scheduled time, or security arrangements, as deemed necessary by the University. The Department of Student Activities & Student Organizations or the responsible office for each campus – in consultation with the Dean of Students Office and UMPD, the Public Safety Office at UHealth, and/or the Security Office at RSMAS, – may require that additional security be present to ensure the safety of the speaker and program participants. The costs of security measures are the responsibility of the sponsoring organization.

Outside Speaker Guidelines and Responsibilities

1. Admission - In addition to the student members of the sponsoring student organization, outside speaker events are generally only open to University students, faculty, staff, and trustees. Exceptions to this policy must be approved by the Senior Vice President for Student Affairs, or, if applicable, by the appropriate academic Dean (Law, Marine Science, Graduate, Medicine) in consultation with the Senior Vice President for Student Affairs. Admission charges, if any, or suggested donations which are used as a condition of admission, must be included in all publicity for the event.
2. Advertising/Publicity - All student organizations seeking to sponsor an outside speaker must include in any advertising promotional materials, and other literature distributed, the name of the sponsoring organization(s), sufficient information about the speaker(s), and the nature of the presentation. Deceptive advertising, soliciting, recruiting practices, or the use of third party promoters are prohibited. No publicity for an outside speaker or program can be released prior to approval of the Registration Form. Unauthorized use of the University's name is strictly prohibited.
3. Advisors - The student organization Advisor(s) or designee (designee must be a full-time faculty or staff member) of the sponsoring organization must be present for the duration of the event.
4. Contracts - All contracts for speakers must be submitted to the Department of Student Activities & Student Organizations for undergraduate and graduate students and student organizations, or the responsible office for students at the Law School or Miller School of Medicine, for processing and execution. Execution of a contract does not signify endorsement by the University of any speakers' views. Unauthorized persons are prohibited from entering

into any contract on behalf of the University. Any contract entered into on behalf of the University without proper authorization shall be deemed void. Any student or student organization that enters into, or attempts to enter into, a contract on behalf of the University, may be referred to the Dean of Students Office.

5. Security - The Department of Student Activities & Student Organizations for all undergraduate and graduate students and student organizations, or the responsible office for students at the Law School or Miller School of Medicine – in consultation with the University of Miami Police Department – may require that additional security be present to ensure the safety of the speaker and program participants. Such factors including, but not limited to, expected attendance, location and nature of the presentation will be considered. The costs of security measures are the responsibility of the sponsoring organization.

6. Venue - The venue manager for the location where the event is to occur must indicate their approval for the use of the location prior to the submission of the registration form. The sponsoring student organization is responsible for informing the venue manager if they would like to make any changes to their space reservation and related details before the event occurs.

Failure to Comply with Outside Speakers Policy

Students who knowingly violate this policy governing outside speakers, or fail to cease and desist after being warned to do so, are subject to conduct action and/or other action by appropriate authorities. Student organizations charged with violating this policy will be referred to the appropriate Dean of Students Office. Sanctions for failing to abide with policy guidelines may include termination of the event, and prohibition of future outside speaker activities, and may include University conduct action for groups and/or individuals.

Political Campaigning Policy

Officially registered student organizations may table on behalf of one or more political candidates. The activity must be overseen by current university students at all times, and groups must remain within their assigned spaces. Solicitation at unauthorized locations around campus - including in residence halls, classroom buildings, and other public areas - is a violation of the University solicitation policy and is prohibited. The decision to support one or more candidates lies entirely with the student organizations. Student groups are not obligated to provide equal access to all candidates if they do not wish to do so.

Campaign staff that wish to reserve tables without the support of a registered student organization may do so, but will be required to pay reservation fees as outlined at www.miami.edu/scc.

Voter registration of University of Miami undergraduate students may only be conducted by officially registered University political organizations and the "Get Out the Vote" initiative coordinated by the Butler Center for Service & Leadership. Groups registering students to vote must follow specific guidelines related to the distribution and collection of voter registration forms. Undergraduate students and undergraduate student organizations must meet with a representative from the Butler Center for Service & Leadership to review and accept these policies prior to beginning any voter registration efforts.