



[HOME \(/INDEX.HTML\)](#)

[ABOUT REGENTS ▼](#)

[UPCOMING MEETINGS \(/MEETINGS/INDEX.HTML\)](#)

[MINUTES \(/MINUTES/INDEX.HTML\)](#)

[POLICY MANUAL \(/POLICY-MANUAL/INDEX.HTML\)](#)

[STAFF ▼](#)

[CONTACT US \(/CONTACT-US.HTML\)](#)

3.13



#### 1. Philosophy and Scope

##### A. Philosophy

- i. A goal of the faculty, students, administration, staff and Board is for the institutions governed by the Board to be superior educational centers for the preservation, transmission and discovery of knowledge. The wide variety of Extracurricular activities at the institutions governed by the Board represent one way this goal is achieved. Therefore, these activities are an integral part of the total educational mission of the Board's institutions.
- ii. The Board and its institutions recognize and protect free inquiry and free Expression as indispensable components of the critical examination of philosophies and ideas. Given the unique mission of public educational institutions in a democratic society, this inquiry should be open and vigorous, and should consequently have greater protection than in society at large, provided that such inquiry does not infringe upon the rights of others. Commitment to free inquiry and Expression creates a strong presumption against prohibition of



expression, whether expressed, transmitted, presented or sponsored individually or by a group.

- D. Extracurricular. All activities outside the institution's instruction, research, extension and related academic functions.
- E. Harassment. Expression that is unwelcome, so severe, pervasive and subjectively and objectively offensive that a student is effectively denied equal access to educational opportunities or benefits provided by the institution.
- F. Materially and Substantially Disrupts. When a person, with the intent to or with knowledge of doing so, significantly hinders another person's or group's expressive activity, prevents the communication of the message or prevents the transaction of the business of a lawful meeting, gather or procession by:
- i. Engaging in fighting, violent or other unlawful behavior, or
  - ii. Physically blocking or using threats of violence to prevent any person from attending, listening to, viewing or otherwise participating in an expressive activity.

Conduct that "materially disrupts" shall not include conduct protected under the Oklahoma Constitution or the United States Constitution.

Protected conduct includes, but is not limited to, lawful protests in the outdoor areas of campus generally accessible to the members of the public, except during times when those areas have been reserved in advance for other events, or minor, brief or fleeting nonviolent disruptions of events that are isolated and short in duration.

- G. Outdoor Areas of Campus. The generally accessible outside areas of campus where members of the campus community are commonly allowed, such as grassy areas, walkways or other similar common areas. Outdoor Areas of Campus does not include outdoor areas where access is restricted from a majority of the campus community.

### 3. Public Forum

All Outdoor Areas of Campuses as defined herein are deemed public forums for the Campus Community. Institutions may maintain and enforce reasonable time, place, and manner restrictions narrowly tailored in service of a significant institutional interest only when such restrictions employ clear, published, content- and viewpoint-neutral criteria and provide for ample alternative means of expression.

### 4. Time, Place or Manner Considerations

A. Expression may be limited or restricted with respect to time, place or manner only as provided for in this Policy and other related statements of policy, such as the Student Code of Conduct: Student Rights and Responsibilities Governing Student Behavior. For Outdoor Areas of Campus, such limitations shall be narrowly tailored to serve a significant interest (such as avoiding disruption of regular classes, prohibiting conduct that Materially and Substantially Disrupts another person's or group's expressive activity, prohibiting Harassment, avoiding the scheduling of two events at the same time in the same facility and the protection of the public order) and to assure compliance with applicable local, state and federal laws. Any limitations must be both reasonable and content-neutral, the latter term meaning that they shall be applied without regard to the content of the Expression or the purpose of the assembly.

B. Limitations may include requiring scheduling and planning with the appropriate Authorized Designee, restricting or prohibiting the use of certain areas (i.e., ingress and egress areas, instructional classrooms, laboratories, etc.), limiting amplification within a certain distance of academic buildings when classes are in session, and reimbursing the institution for any costs and damages associated with the use of a facility, area or medium.

### 5. Content Considerations

The First Amendment of the Constitution protects and guarantees freedom of speech by prohibiting any law that would serve to deny or limit Expression. Through the Fourteenth Amendment, this prohibition is extended to all actions of state government, including those of publicly-

supported institutions. Expression may not be denied or limited, based upon content, unless it has been determined in state or federal court precedent that such speech or Expression is not protected by the Constitution.

## 6. Disclaimer Regarding Expression

A. Given the we

administrative supervisor(s). When a requ

