

The First Amendment at Indiana University

UA-14

About This Policy

Effective Dates:

01-05-2020

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01-05-2020

Responsible University Administrator:

Executive Vice President for University Academic Affairs

Policy Contact:

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Chief Policy Officer

Office of the Executive Vice President for University Academic Affairs

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Scope

This policy applies to all invited guests and visitors to Indiana University and to the following [Indiana University Community Members](#) (“IU Community Members”):

1. Any employee of the university, including administrators, academic appointees, staff, temporary, and student employees;
2. All students and student organizations;
3. All university units;
4. Any individual using Indiana University resources or facilities or receiving funds administered by Indiana University; and
5. Volunteers and other representatives when speaking or acting on behalf of Indiana University.

Nothing in this policy shall affect the authority or ability of academic appointees to manage their regular teaching and research activities in accordance with their professional judgment and the principles of academic freedom and in accordance with their responsibilities under the [Code of Academic Ethics, ACA-33](#).

Policy Statement

The mission of Indiana University is the advancement of education and research and, in support of that mission, the university is committed to the free and civil exchange of ideas and the principles of academic freedom.

In accordance with its responsibilities under the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, Indiana University affords and is committed to protecting the rights of students, academic appointees, staff, and invited guests and visitors to free speech and expressive activity, such as assembling and speaking in public areas of campus, as well as writing, publishing, and inviting speakers on any subject.

As a public institution, Indiana University does not limit speakers or visitors to the university on the basis of their points of view or beliefs, nor will the university prohibit the expression of objections to speakers or their points of view. An invitation by an [internal sponsor](#) or a reservation of space by an [external sponsor](#) does not constitute the university’s or the internal sponsor’s endorsement of any or all the speaker’s views or opinions.

Indiana University reserves the right to regulate the time, place, and manner of free speech and expressive activities to protect public health, safety, and welfare, and to prevent the [substantial disruption](#) of its educational, research, outreach and business functions, and normal or scheduled uses of [university property](#) by the

campus community. Reasonable time, place, and manner regulation applies to speakers, demonstrators, counterdemonstrators, and onlookers, whether they be individuals, organized or loosely affiliated groups, or crowds. Priority for the use of [university property](#) will be given to academic and administrative departments of Indiana University.

Physical violence, specific or implied threats of physical violence, intimidation, and the destruction of property are strictly prohibited, and the university may exclude from its property and facilities any individual who violates this prohibition.

Reason For Policy

This policy embodies Indiana University's institutional values and reflect its commitment to free speech on campus articulated by the [Presidents and Chancellors of the Association of American Universities on April 18, 2018](#).

Procedure

1. Internal or external sponsors of an event that includes an invitation to a political candidate or candidates to speak at an event on university property, including classroom visits and debates, must contact the Office of the Vice President for Government Relations and Economic Engagement to ensure that the event is conducted in a manner consistent with Indiana University's status as both a public institution and as a 501(c) (3) organization. See [GR-01, Contact with State Officials, Federal Officials, and Political Campaigns, and Other Political Activities](#).
2. Events that may implicate the rights guaranteed under the First Amendment for speakers to speak, audiences to hear, and protesters to protest often require advance logistical planning and coordination with [authorized university officials](#) to provide for a safe and successful event. Internal and external sponsors of events should consult [UA-19, Event Management](#) to determine whether their event requires such logistical support.
3. Many events will require compliance with both [GR-01, Contact with State Officials, Federal Officials, and Political Campaigns, and Other Political Activities](#) and [UA-19, Event Management](#).

Definitions

Authorized University Officials: Depending on the parameters of the event, authorized university officials may include the police department at the campus at which the event will be held ("IUPD"), University Events Management, campus-specific Student Affairs professionals, Environmental Health & Safety, Public Safety & Institutional Assurance.

External Sponsor: Individuals and other entities not affiliated with Indiana University.

Indiana University Property: Buildings, grounds, and land that are owned by Indiana University or controlled by Indiana University via leases or other contractual arrangements.

Internal Sponsor: The university's academic schools and departments, administrative units, centers, museums and other cultural institutions, and institutes of Indiana University, including individual faculty or staff members, and IU registered student organizations and self-governing student organizations.

Indiana University Community Members: Any employee of the university, including administrators, academic appointees, staff, temporary, and student employees; all students and student organizations; all university units; any individual using Indiana University resources or facilities or receiving funds administered by Indiana University; and volunteers and other representatives when speaking or acting on behalf of Indiana University.

Substantial Disruption: Behavior by an individual or group that prevents the university from conducting its educational, research, outreach and business functions, and normal or scheduled uses of university property by the campus community or that prevents a speaker, performer or event from proceeding, or that prevents others from hearing, seeing, or engaging with an invited speaker, performer, or event (also known as the "heckler's veto").

Sanctions

Failure to engage with the Office of the Vice President for Government Relations and Economic Engagement with respect to events involving a political candidate(s) and/or failure to follow the Event Management procedures in [UA-19](#), if applicable, may result in denial of approval or cancellation of a proposed event or of an event already underway.

Any violations of this policy by [IU Community Members](#) (faculty, staff, academic staff, students, or volunteers) will be addressed with in accordance with applicable university policies and procedures, which may include disciplinary actions up to and including termination from the university.

Violations of this policy by anyone who is not an [IU Community Member](#) will result in removal from [Indiana University property](#). Legal prohibitions regarding physical presence on campus/trespassing may also be pursued.

Suspected violations of law will be referred to law enforcement and may result in criminal penalties.

Related Information

[GR-01, Contact with State Officials, Federal Officials, and Political Campaigns, and Other Political Activities](#)
[UA-19, Event Management](#)