



March 6, 2014 DRAFT

Policy Title: Free Expression Policy	Effective Date: <u>TBD</u>
Policy Number: Coordinator will assign	Date of Last Revision: <u>New</u>
Oversight Department: Vice President for Student Affairs	Next Review Date: <u>TBD</u>

1. PURPOSE

The *Free Expression Policy* provides a framework for a safe and supportive environment to promote free expression.

2. APPLICABILITY

This policy applies to all individuals and/or groups desiring to invoke their rights to freedom of expression on the Radford University Campus.

3. AUTHORITY

University policies fall within a greater hierarchy of laws, statutes and regulations. The Board of Visitors has been authorized by the Commonwealth of Virginia to govern Radford University. (See Code of Virginia § 23-155.7; 23-9.2:3.)

The Board of Visitors, in the Board Bylaws, has delegated much of the authority to manage the University to the President, who serves as the agent of the Board and as the Chief Executive Officer of the University. As a part of that management, the President, in conjunction with the President's Cabinet, will direct the development and implementation of University Policies and Procedures.

4. DEFINITIONS

Individuals and Groups Not Affiliated with Radford University: Individuals and groups with no direct link to the University and that have not been officially recognized by the University.

Radford University Campus: Any property or facility owned, leased, or controlled by Radford University.

5. POLICY

- A.** Radford University celebrates the right to freedom of expression on our campus. Free inquiry and free expression are indispensable to the vibrancy and vitality of a campus community. At Radford University, we value and honor diverse perspectives and believe it essential that groups and individuals have the opportunity to engage in peaceful and orderly protests and demonstrations. This policy is structured to assure equal opportunity for all persons, to

preserve order within the University Community, to protect and preserve University property, and to provide a secure environment to individuals exercising freedom of expression.

- B.** Radford University does not permit expression that is not protected by law. Such expression includes, but is not limited to, defamation, incitement to unlawful conduct, imminent threats of actual violence or harm, obscenity, fighting words, copyright or trademark violation, criminal or civil harassment, sexual harassment, trespass, and false advertising.
- C.** In order that individuals and groups exercising freedom of expression not interfere with the operation of the University, state or federal law, or with the rights of others the following provisions apply:
1. Individuals and groups **not** affiliated with Radford University are *required* to provide 24 hour advance notification to the Radford University Information and Event Planning Office* prior to any demonstration or other expressive activity on the Radford University Campus.
 2. Radford University affiliated individuals and groups are **strongly encouraged** ~~required~~ to provide 24 hour advance notification to the Radford University Information and Event Planning Office* prior to any demonstration or other expressive activity on the Radford University Campus. Participants of any spontaneous demonstration or other expressive activity are strongly encouraged to notify the Radford University Information and Event Planning Office* immediately upon its commencement.
 3. Advance notification is intended solely to promote the safety of all individuals on the Radford University Campus. Advance notifications must include the day, time, and location where the demonstration or other expressive activity is expected to begin as well as the full name and detailed contact information for the primary organizer and/or person responsible for the demonstration.
 4. Demonstrations or other expressive activities must not obstruct, in any way, vehicular or pedestrian traffic, or block egress to facilities, whether outdoor or indoor. Obstruction of public sidewalks and streets is a violation of Virginia Criminal Law (§ 18.2-404). There may be no **unreasonable** interference with educational and administrative activities inside or outside of buildings.
 5. There may be no attempt to prevent scheduled University ceremonies or events.
 6. Local, state, and federal laws and regulations, as well as the Radford University Standards of Student Conduct, if applicable, must be observed and followed.
 7. Use of sound amplification on the campus must be registered with the Radford University Information and Event Planning Office* 72 hours in advance. If using sound amplification, it should not interfere with the educational and administrative activities of the University.

* The Information and Event Planning Office is located at the Hurlburt Student Center Information Desk (540-831-5420 or stuact@radford.edu).

6. PROCEDURES

See Corresponding PROCEDURE # Coordinator will assign #
(Include Appendices with Procedure)

7. RESPONSIBILITIES

See Corresponding PROCEDURE # Coordinator will assign #

8. INTERPRETATION

The authority to interpret this policy rests with the President of the University and is generally delegated to the Vice President for Student Affairs.

9. EXCLUSIONS

Click here to enter text.

10. REFERENCES

Click here to enter text on supporting documentation, code, regulations, etc.

11. APPROVAL AND REVISIONS

The President of the University and the President’s Cabinet have approval authority over this policy and all subsequent revisions.

This policy was reviewed and approved by the President’s Cabinet on March xx, 2014.

APPROVED BY: The President’s Cabinet

DATE: Enter date

DATE: _____

Penelope W. Kyle, President

For information, contact the Office of Policy Compliance – 540-831-6651