

Section: General Administration

Section Number: 1.15

Subject: Campus Right to Assemble/Demonstration Policy

Date of Present Issue: 06/01/05

Date of Previous Issues:

POLICY:

Lake Superior State University seeks to create, maintain and support an environment that promotes the free expression and exchange of ideas and viewpoints. While the issues and topics may be controversial, it is an expectation that the University community (students, faculty, staff, and guests) respect the right of others to express their opinions, beliefs and views.

The University recognizes the importance of the right to assemble, march, and other rights related to the expression of thoughts and ideas. The University also recognizes the importance of organizing events so that they can be carried out in a positive and safe way.

The following guidelines will help ensure that the free exchange of ideas can take place in a productive and non-threatening manner.

Prior to sponsoring a rally, demonstration, march or other event, a group or organization representative must complete and submit an event application (see below) at least 72 hours in advance of any activity to the Public Safety Office. This information will serve and protect all parties.

A member of University staff will review the notification within one working day of its submission. The appropriate University official(s) may elect to meet with the individual(s) requesting the permit prior to its approval. The meeting will cover logistics including safety and security issues, use of amplified sound, and the potential for disruption of the mission of the institution. Failure to file this notification will result in appropriate sanctions according to contracts in force, University code of conduct or appropriate policies and procedures, and/or the Student Code of Conduct.

Sponsoring organizations and their representatives are responsible for ensuring that there will be no disruption of University activities, conduct of business or events, programs or services.

This includes, but is not limited to:

- The free passage of pedestrian and roadway traffic into or around campus at all points
- Use of amplified sound will not disrupt the conduct of University business
- Activities that might disrupt the campus environment will not be allowed or encouraged
- Respect of and adherence to all policies and procedures regulating on-campus event

Compliance with University Officials

Everyone is expected to comply with the directions of University officials who are acting in accordance with the performance of their duties. Failure to do so is a serious violation of campus conduct codes, and is subject to sanctions as outlined in the appropriate University guidelines. If a demonstration or activity interferes with normal University activities and/or functions, participants will be asked to disperse.

Failure to disperse may be treated as trespassing and referred to the appropriate law enforcement agencies. This type of infraction is subject to appropriate sanctions according to University contracts, policy and procedure.

