

FSU-3.003 Freedom of Expression Rights and Responsibilities, Open Platform Areas

- (1) The right of all students and individuals to seek knowledge, debate ideas, form opinions and freely express their views is recognized. This right must be exercised in a manner which will not interfere with the same rights and freedoms of others in their enjoyment of the benefits of the programs offered by this University, or their lawful use of University facilities, including ingress and egress. Such rights may be exercised subject to applicable laws, rules, regulations, policies and procedures.
- (2) The right or freedom of peaceful assembly is recognized and shall be protected. Only those gatherings that do not disrupt the orderly functioning of the University and related activities shall qualify as peaceful and therefore be protected. Meetings are included in the terms assemblies and gatherings.
- (3) The green area on the east side of Moore Auditorium, pavilion on the south side of Moore Auditorium and north of the Legacy Walk sidewalk, ~~and~~ the football stadium outside gate D in the grassy area and the grassy semicircle between the Tucker Center and Law School on Pensacola Street are designated “open platforms”. Any student or other individual who desires to be heard publicly on any issue of concern may use these areas subject to the provisions of this regulation at any time when previous scheduling does not preclude such use but only from 8a.m. to 10p.m. local time. Amplification equipment is not allowed except as otherwise specifically provided. The exact location boundaries and any temporary changes necessary because of current construction or other unavoidable circumstances or conditions may be found at www.openplatform.fsu.edu. Typically, the open platform areas are intended for individual expression made often on an unplanned basis. Planned use of other campus areas and facilities by groups and individuals is generally governed by FSU Regulation FSU-2.007, Use of Campus Facilities.
- (4) Organized or prearranged outdoor assemblies shall be registered at least twenty-four hours in advance in the Oglesby Union Guest Services Office located in the University Union. Exceptions to the twenty-four hour notice requirement may be granted by the Union Director.
- (5) Recognized student organizations or other students may hold meetings inside University buildings, provided prior approval is granted by the Guest Services Office.
- (6) The right to peacefully picket is recognized.
- (7) Public address systems and other electrical amplification equipment may be utilized by recognized-student organizations subject to venue availability and scheduling approval by the Guest Services Office, and subject to approval by the Oglesby Union’s Event Permitting Office. All such use of public address systems or other amplification equipment shall maintain a reasonable sound level which meets the communication needs of the event without excessive noise penetration to adjacent areas.
- (8) Students’ right to write and distribute literature and to express thoughts and beliefs is acknowledged. Individual students, non-recognized and recognized student organizations may circulate literature, provided it is identified by authorship and sponsorship, subject to applicable provisions of FSU Regulation FSU-2.0131 Posting, Chalking Advertising and Active Distribution of Materials on FSU Campuses.
- (9) Recognized student organizations and the Student Government Association may invite persons from outside the University to speak to their memberships and the public. If University facilities are to be used for holding the meeting prior scheduling and space reservations approval shall be obtained from the Guest Services Office.

(10) The Student Government Association and recognized student organizations may sponsor speeches by or for political candidates for federal, state or local office, subject to availability of suitable location based on size of crowd and time of speech.

Specific Authority BOG Regulations 1.001(3) (j), (7) (g). History–New 9-30-75, Formerly 6C2R-3.03, Amended 7-28-86, 6-17-2009, 3-8-2013, _____