

UNIVERSITY OF  |
POLICY MANUAL

the University and open to the public. In addition to public lectures, conferences, expositions, fairs, festivals, entertainment, and cause-related fundraising are examples of a public event. *The activity of guest speakers at public events falls under the purview of this policy.*

C. RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Nothing in this speaker and public events policy

If a request to use campus facilities has been forwarded to the University Committee on Freedom of Expression, the committee will review the request to determine:

1. If the purpose of the speaker and the plans for the event are consistent with all federal and state laws and regulations.
2. If the purpose of the speaker and plans for the event are consistent with the *University of Denver Statement of Policy and Principles on Freedom of Expression*.
3. If the plans for the event sufficiently ensure the safety and well-being of all attendees.
4. If the time, place and manner of the event can be designed so as to ensure freedom of expression while creating and maintaining an inclusive and welcoming environment for all members of the campus community, as well for those members of the public who may attend the event.

Upon completing its review, the Committee will make a recommendation to the Chancellor and the Chancellor's designee concerning the request. The Chancellor retains sole discretion for approving the request.

University organizations may reserve University facilities to conduct meetings or to host public events. Fostering critical discussion and meaningful dialogue regarding important and controversial issues is central to the University's mission.

B. PROTECTING FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

The *University of Denver Statement of Policy and Principles on Freedom of Expression* states: “An inevitable but necessary cost of protecting free speech is that speech that is hurtful, offensive, provocative, and even hateful sometimes must be permitted... The fact that speech may sometimes be offensive or even emotionally hurtful is not sufficient, alone, to justify interfering with the speaker’s right to engage in such expression (p. 4)...fully consistent with freedom of speech, the University may and should protect community members from physically harmful conduct, harassment, true threats, intimidation, incitement of others to imminent lawless conduct, or assault (words that place a reasonable person in imminent fear of immediate harm). These categories of conduct and speech have long been recognized to be outside First Amendment protection and need not be tolerated by the University. Thus, the University may prohibit these narrowly defined categories of expression without violating basic free speech principles. It is also permissible to place reasonable restrictions on the time, place, and manner of speech while not regulating its content. (p. 5).”

C. LIMITS ON FREE EXPRESSION

Limits on free expression are those dictated by law, those necessary to protect the safety and rights of others, and those that allow the normal functioning of the University.

Freedom of expression at the University, in any form, regardless of medium, may not:

1. Threaten or endanger the health or safety of any person;
2. Deny or infringe on the rights of students, faculty, staff, and guests of the University;
3. Obstruct or interfere with the normal use of offices, classrooms, and other University facilities;
4. Obstruct the orderly operations of the University;
5. Damage University property, or contribute to property damage;
6. Restrict the free movement of persons in any part of property owned or leased by the University;
7. Obstruct pedestrian or vehicular traffic on campus;
8. Create a volume of sound that prevents members of the University community from conducting their normal activities; or
9. Violate University policies.

D. DISRUPTION

The expression of diverse viewpoints is of the highest importance, not only for those who espouse and defend a cause or position, but also for those who listen to and assess the speaker’s views. The belief that a viewpoint is false,

pernicious,

2. Shortened Version for Event Ticket:

The University of Denver is committed to a culture of robust debate, open dialogue, and facilitation of free expression on its campus. For more

Speaker/Public Events, please see <https://www.du.edu/media/documents/statement-policy-principles-foe-4-27-rev1on4TB/me>

IV. DEFINITIONS