

## University Policy

<b>Policy Name:</b> Campus Demonstrations	<b>Effective Date of Last Revision</b> July 1, 2013
<b>Custodian of Policy:</b> Vice President for Academic Affairs	<b>Date of Last Review</b> September 2012
<b>Date of Policy Adoption:</b> August 21, 2006	<b>Date of Next Review</b> September 2019

### Policy:

Minnesota State University, Mankato is a free speech campus. Members of the Minnesota State University, Mankato community may exercise their First Amendment rights on the campus. Additionally, there are designated areas that may be reserved in advance.

### Procedures:

As noted in the policy statement, Minnesota State University, Mankato is a free speech campus. Suggested areas that may be reserved:

Inside buildings:

- Centennial Student Union – all public areas
- Wigley Administration – 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floor common areas
- Lounge adjacent to Highland Center 2002 & 2004

Note: These spaces are available only during normal building hours.

Outdoor spaces:

- Lawn of Performing Arts Center
- Arboretum area by Belltower
- Amphitheatre area west of tunnel
- Mall (north area)
- Mall (south area)
- Mall (west area—including Amphitheatre area)
- Main Entrance of Taylor Center (off the walkway, on lawn)

Spaces may be reserved and support services requested in the University Scheduling and Conference Services Office or on the university website. Space reservation decisions will be made on a content-neutral basis. The general "Special Events Checklist" serves as the basis for the proposed process. Campus Security reviews the list of all scheduled events for planning purposes.

A separate information sheet will be provided to all individuals reserving space for any reason. The form will contain the following information:

In accordance with Minnesota State law, participants in a demonstration must not obstruct the free movement of persons about the campus or block access to and from other university buildings. Group size must not exceed fire codes for the space capacity.

Speakers must abide by all University policies and procedures.

Amplified sound is only allowed from 11 AM to 1PM weekdays in outdoor common areas. Participants are prohibited from using hand-held megaphones or other electronically amplified devices during the 11 AM to 1 PM time frame without prior written approval from the University Conference and Scheduling Services Office. Hand-held megaphones or other electronically amplified devices may not be used outside the 11 AM to 1 PM timeframe. Decisions concerning the use of hand-held megaphones or other electronically amplified devices will be made on a content-neutral basis.

In situations where the expression of action impedes or disrupts the operation of the University or the rights of the University Community, the speaker(s) may be asked to vacate the premises at the discretion of the Campus Security, law enforcement authority, authorized personnel, or risk management staff. Campus Security, law enforcement authority, authorized personnel or risk management staff will also have the authority to make decisions related to the safety of the participants, observers, or University property. These decisions will be made on a content-neutral basis.

## **Rationale and Guiding Principles:**

Content must never be censored or regulated.

The exercise of free speech should not be disruptive to classes or administrative offices.

The exercise of free speech must never endanger the safety of those on our campus.