



TITLE SOLICITATION POLICY

Policy Procedure Rule Regulation Form

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P. Williams

A college campus should be a marketplace of ideas and a forum for free and open expression.

The First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States guarantees the right of all citizens to use public forums for exercising rights of free speech. Historically, streets, sidewalks and parks have been held to be public forums. Other public facilities have also achieved such status because authorities designated them as places for the exchange of views among members of the public.

State colleges and universities are considered semi-public places which may employ reasonable time, place and manner restrictions on the freedom of expression.

The primary mission of Lyndon State College is to foster education and study. Accordingly, it must provide an environment which is conducive to both the formal education/study process and the informal interchange of thoughts and ideas. Additionally, as a residential institution, Lyndon State College has responsibilities regarding the privacy of community members, quality of residential life, personal safety and property use.

This policy seeks to balance the rights of the institution, the college community and members of the public regarding access to the campus for public speaking and/or solicitation.

The college has designated the following places as "public areas" available for use by any person or organization for public speaking and/or solicitation:

1. the picnic area by Dragon Pond,
2. the parking lots,
3. the amphitheater, and
4. the grassy area near the Activities Building (by the Etruscan Sculpture).

These areas may be used between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. Those wishing to use public areas may do so as long as such use does not conflict with prior planned events, does not pose an imminent and serious threat to college property and/or individual safety, is not illegal or fraudulent, or is not highly likely to substantially disrupt the normal operations of the college and/or violate the civil rights of others.

Use of sound amplification devices is prohibited without the prior written consent of the Dean of Students or designee.

Individuals or organizations wishing to use the physical facilities of the college may do so only under the terms and conditions of Vermont State Colleges policy #402, "Use of College Facilities by Non-College Organizations," and Lyndon State College policy #455, "Campus Facilities Use." Further information may be obtained from the office of the Dean of Students.

Individuals or organizations wishing to speak or solicit in the college residence halls may do so only in individual residence hall rooms and only after receiving permission of a legal inhabitant of the room.

Posting or placement of signs or notices inside campus buildings is permitted only on unrestricted bulletin boards or at other designated areas traditionally used for such purposes.

College community members who violate this policy shall be subject to discipline in accordance with college disciplinary codes and usual college procedures. Noncollege community members who violate this policy shall be subject to civil and criminal penalties as may be provided by law.