

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN
STATE UNIVERSITY

Office of the General Counsel

POLICY SUMMARY FORM

Policy Name: Campus Facilities for Political Purposes

Policy Number: 16.8

Is this policy new, being reviewed/revised, or deleted? Review/Revise

Date of last revision, if applicable: 11/2/2015

Unit(s) Responsible for Policy Implementation: President

Purpose of Policy (what does it do): This policy mirrors the Board Rules and Regulations prescribing when the university may suspend faculty and staff.

Reason for the addition, revision, or deletion (check all that apply):

☒ Scheduled Review ☐ Change in law ☐ Response to audit finding

☐ Internal Review ☐ Other, please explain:

Please complete the appropriate section:

Specific rationale for new policy:

Specific rationale for each substantive revision: None

Specific rationale for deletion of policy:

Additional Comments:

Reviewers:

Damon Derrick, General Counsel

Campus Facilities for Political Purposes

Original Implementation: April 27, 1970

Last Revision: ~~November 2, 2015~~ *October 29, 2018*

While the use of the facilities of the university for partisan political assemblies and meetings is not normally encouraged, the faculty and administration, as members of a learned and honorable profession, may properly exercise their acknowledged individual rights and obligations of citizenship free of university discipline or censorship.

Individual political candidates and their election organizations are not permitted to reserve a university facility for campaign activities. However, if a candidate is invited by a university group, then he/she may appear in the facility, provided that the group extending the invitation is responsible for reserving the facility and meeting the costs related to the event.

No member of the Board of Regents shall undertake to influence the political opinions of personnel subject to the board's jurisdiction, but such personnel are requested to exercise their individual rights or citizenship or academic freedom in a responsible manner reasonably calculated not to identify or associate with the university.

A university employee may not use his/her official authority or influence to coerce the political action of a person or body.

Cross Reference: Board of Regents Rules and Regulations; Tex. Gov't Code § 556.004

Responsible for Implementation: President

Contact for Revision: President

Forms: None

Board Committee Assignment: Building and Grounds