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## **Section X. Outdoor Assemblies and Distribution/Petitioning Policy**

The University of North Carolina at Greensboro values freedom of speech as one of the fundamental rights guaranteed by the U. S. Constitution and as the best means for arriving at truth and mutual understanding. Peaceable assembly and the right to petition the government for a redress of grievances are also rights guaranteed by the First Amendment and are concomitant to the right of free speech. Therefore, UNCG is committed to making the majority of its outdoor spaces available to members of the University community and invited guests for purposes of speech, assembly, and petitioning activities, except as may be necessary to protect its property and to avoid interference with scheduled activities of students, University personnel, and invited guests.

**Outdoor Assemblies and Distribution/Petitioning on University property at The University of North Carolina at Greensboro are limited to the following:**

**(1) University departments, affiliated student organizations, students, faculty and staff, (“affiliated persons or groups”)and (2) those unaffiliated persons or groups invited in writing by affiliated student organizations or University units<sup>1</sup>.**

One of the fundamental responsibilities of the University is to protect the rights and freedoms of all members of the University community and of duly invited speakers and guests. To that end, and as provided by law, reasonable time, place, and manner requirements are included in this policy. Participants in outdoor assemblies and those distributing/petitioning must abide by the following requirements.

1. Assembly and petitioning activities may not interfere with University operations.
2. Persons may not block or otherwise interfere with the free flow of vehicular, bicycle or pedestrian traffic. The right of way of streets and sidewalks must be maintained.
3. Persons may not obstruct, disrupt, interrupt or attempt to physically force the cancellation of any event or activity sponsored by the University or by any users authorized to use University property.
4. Persons shall not engage in unlawfully harassing, physically abusive, threatening, or intimidating conduct toward any person.
5. Persons shall comply with the directions of a University official acting in the performance of his or her duty.
6. Use of public address systems and amplified sound will not be permitted.
7. Persons on University property may be required to provide picture identification and evidence of qualification to a University official upon request. Evidence of qualification means (1) currently issued University identification card or (2) written documentation of an invitation to assemble on University property by an affiliated student organization or University unit and accompaniment by a University community member that is a representative of the group that issued the invitation.
8. No outdoor assembly may be conducted within 200 feet of a childcare playground or facility, or within 30 feet of any building. In addition, assemblies may not take place within the confines of any Campus Recreation facility or Athletic facility. No outdoor assemblies may take place in residential areas (those areas immediately adjacent to residence halls) between the hours of 9:00 p.m. to 9:00 a.m.
9. Notification of University Police

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## a. Affiliated persons or groups

Prior to any outdoor assembly of an affiliated person or group, notification of the event must be provided to University Police at (336) 334-5963 at least 12 hours before the event so that the Police may institute any necessary safety measures for both the speaker and those who attend. Notification must include the name of the student organization, unit or individual sponsoring the event, the date, time and location of the event, the nature of the event, and an estimated number of persons expected to attend.

## b. Unaffiliated persons or groups with an invitation.

Prior to any outdoor assembly involving invited persons or organizations not affiliated with the University, the student organization or University unit that issued the invitation must notify the University Police at (336) 334-5963 and deliver a copy of the written invitation to the University Police at least 48 hours before the event so that the Police may institute any necessary safety measures for both the speaker and those who attend. Notification must include the name of the student organization, or University unit sponsoring the event, name of the invitee(s), the date, time and location of the event, the nature of the event, and an estimated number of persons expected to attend. A copy of the written invitation must also be delivered to the University Police prior to the event.

10. When using spaces that can be reserved (see section V-A above), the group who has reserved the space has priority over any other group. When using space that cannot be reserved, the first group to provide notification to University Police as required above has priority to use it.
11. Those who participate in an outdoor assembly are responsible for any clean-up and/or damages associated with the event.

### **Petitioning and Distribution**

1. Any member of the University community, and any affiliated student organization or group affiliated with the University, and any person or group invited to the campus by an affiliated student organization, or University unit may petition and/or distribute in any exterior campus space that is permissible for outdoor assembly as noted above, pamphlets, booklets, brochures, and other forms of written material on the condition that such pamphlets and materials are designed for informational (not commercial) purposes.
2. All provisions of this policy related to outdoor assemblies also apply to petitioning and distribution activities.
3. The University does not assume any obligation or responsibility for the content of the materials.

### **Public Forums**

It should be noted that city streets and sidewalks are public forums; and they are available for assembly to all members of the public, as long as the assembly is in keeping with federal and

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state laws, and city ordinances. The following streets and sidewalks adjacent to or running through the campus are examples of such public forums:

- a. Forest Street between Oakland Avenue and Spring Garden Street
- b. Highland Avenue between Oakland Avenue and Spring Garden Street
- c. Jefferson Street between Spring Garden Street and the Walker/Aycock parking lot
- d. Kenilworth Street between Oakland Avenue and Walker Avenue
- e. McIver Street between North Drive and West Market Street
- f. Stirling Street between Oakland Avenue and Walker Avenue
- g. Theta Street between Kenilworth Street and Stirling Street
- h. Walker Avenue between Aycock Street and Jackson Library and between Tate Street and McIver Street
- i. Aycock Avenue
- j. Oakland Avenue
- k. Tate Street
- l. West Market Street
- m. Spring Garden Street

<sup>1</sup>University affiliated units defined under item II Definitions section the *Facilities Use Policy*.

\*Special thanks to the University of Maryland for specific phrasing used in this Policy.