DEMONSTRATION (ON CAMPUS)

A demonstration is defined as any public display of support for or in opposition to any person, group, organization, cause, institution, idea, or policy. A demonstration shall not include mere attendance at any scheduled university-sponsored activity, even if badges, armbands, distinctive clothing, or similar symbols or opposition are displayed.

Peaceful and orderly demonstration is considered to be one of the many legitimate avenues for the free expression of ideas. Accordingly, the University will assure the right of students and approved student organizations to demonstrate and publicly proclaim any view, however unpopular. This policy is intended to uphold the right of free speech of both demonstrators and speakers while also safeguarding the right of others to see and to listen.

The University of Miami supports the rights of individual students and student organizations to demonstrate, provided such activities do not disrupt normal activities or infringe upon the rights of others. The right to express ideas freely carries with it certain responsibilities, among which is the obligation to refrain from interfering with the rights of other members of the academic community to pursue legitimate educational objectives.

Persons engaging in activities on University property are subject to and expected to comply with all applicable University policies and procedures and all applicable laws, including any state statutes and relevant county and municipal ordinances.

The safety and well-being of members of the campus community collectively and individually must be protected at all times; thus the University maintains the right to regulate and monitor the time, place, and manner in which activities occur on campus.

A. Demonstration Guidelines
   1. Persons may not display, threaten to use, or attempt to use firearms, explosives, or other weapons on University property.
   2. Persons may not engage in or threatening or physically abusive behavior or cause or threaten to cause physical injury to another person.
   3. Persons may not set fire to, or damage by any other means (e.g., including by use of any hazardous or noxious substance), any University building or any property (e.g., books, papers, records, electronic medium), of the University or of others.
   4. Persons may not block or otherwise interfere with the free flow of vehicular, bicycle, or pedestrian traffic. The right of way on streets and sidewalks must be maintained, unless the closure is authorized in writing by the Dean of Students Office.
   5. Persons may not block or otherwise interfere with ingress or egress of campus buildings, exterior patios, plazas, or gathering places or adversely occupy or take over any building or part thereof.
   6. Persons may not obstruct, disrupt, or attempt to force the cancellation of any event or activity sponsored by the University or by any users authorized to use University facilities, including classes and other scheduled activities.
   7. Use of indoor or outdoor public address systems and amplified sound, or the use of signage within buildings requires prior approval from the Dean of Students Office.
   8. The Dean of Students Office must be notified of any planned demonstration two business days prior to the event.
   9. Spontaneous (non-planned) demonstrations are restricted to designated University of Miami free speech zones.
   10. Demonstrations are also subject to Florida Statute 877.13 and the City of Coral Gables Code which can be found in the Appendix of this manual.

B. Failure to Comply with Demonstration Guidelines
   Individuals participating in any demonstration, as defined by this policy, whether sponsored or not, are accountable for compliance with this policy. Sponsoring organizations, agencies, and other entities are also responsible for compliance with this policy.

   In the event of the violation of these guidelines, University officials may direct demonstrators (a) to comply with these guidelines, (b) to cease and desist their activities, and/or (c) to leave the premises or campus. Demonstrators or spectators who are alleged to be in violation of these guidelines should, if at all possible, first be warned by University
officials and given the opportunity to cease and desist. If they fully comply with such request and no crime or violation of University of Miami policies, procedures, or Students Rights and Responsibilities has been committed, no adverse actions will be taken.

Students who knowingly violate this policy governing demonstrations on campus or fail to cease and desist after being warned to do so are subject to disciplinary action, arrest, and/or other action by appropriate authorities. Student organizations charged with violating this policy will be referred to the Committee on Student Organizations and the Dean of Students Office. Sanctions for failing to abide with policy guidelines may include termination of the demonstration and prohibition of future demonstration activities.

C. Procedure for Gaining Approval for a Demonstration
1. Recognized University organizations and full or part-time students who wish to schedule a demonstration, rally, or equivalent activity, may request the space through the Dean of Students Office. Any such request must be made no less than two business days in advance of the activity.
2. Demonstrations may be held at locations on campus with the approval of the Dean of Students Office on a first-come, first-served basis after an assessment that such demonstrations will not otherwise interfere with scheduled University use or fail to comply with the guidelines applicable to all demonstrations.
3. The required registration form can be obtained by calling (305) 284-5353. The following information is required from each individual or organization submitting a form: name of UM sponsoring organization; date, time, length of demonstration; location, issue/topic/reason for demonstration; estimated number of participants; person(s) in charge (names, addresses, phone numbers); and names of known non-University participants (addresses, phone numbers). Any and all co-sponsoring organizations, companies, agencies, or other entities must be identified (contact names, addresses, phone numbers) at the time of submission of the registration form. Co-sponsorship shall be defined as, but not be limited to, providing staff, money, or publicity for the event. The form requires a signature assuring that copies of the University of Miami’s Policies and Procedures, Section B.16, governing demonstrations, will be distributed to all participants by the applicant.

EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT AND PROCEDURES

Designated fire escapes, ground level fire doors, fire hoses and extinguishers, and alarm equipment are to be used only in emergencies. The blocking of, tampering with, damage caused to, the destruction of, or the misuse of these emergency devices is prohibited and may result in criminal prosecution and/or University disciplinary action.

Directions for evacuation of University buildings, including all residential areas, in cases of emergency are posted throughout each building. All students are required to participate in building evacuations. During building evacuations, students may not return to buildings until the police, fire department, or appropriate University staff member gives authorization.

HAZING

The University of Miami has an absolute prohibition on hazing. Hazing is defined as an action or situation created on or off campus which recklessly or intentionally harms, damages, or endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student for the purposes, including, but not limited to, initiation or admission into or affiliation with any organization operating within the University of Miami. Hazing includes, but is not limited to:

A. pressuring or coercing a student into violating University rules or local, state or federal law, any brutality of a physical nature, such as whipping, beating, branding, forced calisthenics, exposure to the elements, forced/encouraged consumption of any food, liquor, drug, or other substance, or other forced/encouraged physical activity that could adversely affect the physical or mental health or safety of the student, any activity that would subject the student to extreme mental stress, such as sleep deprivation, forced/encouraged exclusion from social contact, forced/encouraged conduct that could result in extreme embarrassment, or forced/encouraged activity that could adversely affect the mental health or dignity of the student, or any other activity which is inconsistent with the regulations and policies of the University of Miami. (continued)