

SPEAKER POLICY FOR LOYOLA UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

Last Updated: 9/1/2016

PREAMBLE:

A Loyola education aims to produce graduates who are ethical leaders in solidarity with the real world, well versed in their own tradition, aware of their beliefs and values, and tested in both critical thinking and interfaith and intergroup cooperation. Critical to achieving this goal is discourse, discussion, and debate done in a respectful way throughout a student's time at Loyola ([see Loyola's guidelines on how we, as a community, "Respect the Conversation"](#)).

PURPOSE OF THIS POLICY:

The purpose of this policy is to support Loyola's tenets promoting free speech and expression that foster an open exchange of ideas and opinions to expand knowledge in the service of humanity. This policy aims to protect opportunities for the free expression and exchange of ideas, while lessening conflict between the exercise of that right and the rights of others in the effective use of University facilities, the reduction of possible interference with the University's responsibilities as an educational institution, and the preservation of the University's status as a 501(c) (3) tax exempt organization.

Furthermore, the policy is designed to ensure adequate preparation for an event and to ensure that the event occurs in a manner appropriate to an academic community. The University will pay special attention in those occurrences where an individual, a speaker, or an event might create a safety concern or involve partisan political activity or where the University may be used as a platform to disparage the University's Jesuit, Catholic identity or mission. The University reserves the right to cancel, reschedule and relocate a speaker or event and to limit attendance to members of the campus community.

DISCLAIMERS AND RESTRICTIONS:

1. The views and opinions of speakers and event organizers and the use of the University's facilities in no way imply any endorsement by the University.
2. An invitation to speak at Loyola does not include any license for unlawful activity or activity that endangers or imminently threatens to endanger the safety of any member of the community, any of the community's physical facilities or any activity that disrupts or obstructs the functions of the University or imminently threatens such disruption or obstruction.
3. Expression that is indecent, grossly obscene or grossly offensive on matters such as race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or any other characteristic protected by applicable law is inappropriate in the University community, and the

University will act as it deems appropriate to educate members of the Loyola community violating this principle.

4. Failure to comply with a request by a presiding officer or any other official such as a campus safety officer may result either in expulsion from the event or the termination of the event itself. Disciplinary actions may also be warranted in such cases.
5. These guidelines do not apply to faculty members in the teaching of their classes or to speakers invited by faculty members to make a presentation that occurs in the closed forum of a scheduled course.

INVITING EXTERNAL SPEAKERS:

These guidelines pertain specifically to **non-University speakers**. Loyola faculty, staff, and students may express their ideas and opinions freely but are expected as members of the community to adhere to the highest standards of courtesy and respect. Faculty, staff and students who invite non-University speakers to campus are the hosts of such speakers and are therefore responsible for their conduct.

Student groups and faculty/staff wishing to invite or host a guest speaker or event on campus for the public are required to adhere to this policy, as well as the University's applicable campus reservation policies and procedures, which are available at:

http://www.luc.edu/campus_reservations/policiesandprocedures/

Students should be aware that the Community Standards lists the following relevant guidelines and stipulations:

1. Determine who would be an appropriate speaker given the organization's mission statement.
2. Consult with the Dean of Students, or designee, concerning the qualifications and appropriateness of the proposed speaker.
3. For procedures, please see the Student Activities & Greek Affairs website:
<http://www.luc.edu/saga/studentorganizations/infoforcurrentmembers/handbookpolicies/>

INTERNAL COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA:

Faculty, staff, and student organizations who have scheduled an event/speaker on campus must:

1. Submit the approved event/speaker to the University Calendar at LUC.edu/calendar.
2. Submit event/speaker information to University Marketing and Communication at umc@luc.edu for consideration in Loyola's internal communication channels, alumni magazine, and potential media coverage.

3. Notify the Director of Communication (in the Division of University Marketing and Communication), Office of the Dean of Students, Campus Safety, and Provost's Office if the event/speaker may be controversial and could draw interest from the media.

POLITICAL ACTIVITIES:

All groups wishing to invite political candidates, speakers representing political campaigns, and other speakers with political agendas need to consult the University's "Guidelines for Political Activities for Students, Faculty, and Staff."

<http://www.luc.edu/media/lucedu/policy/pdf/Guidelines-Political-Activity.pdf>