Title: Public Demonstrations

**SOP #: GA.021.01**

**Effective Date:** 10.30.23

**Last Revision/Review:** 7.24.24

**1. Purpose**

Burrell College is committed to freedom of expression and the exchange of views and ideas in a manner that promotes collective engagement, mutual understanding, and learning from one another. A public demonstration is allowable so long as it is peaceful, non-obstructive, and respectful of the College’s mission and the rights of other students, faculty, staff, and guests. The College community shares a responsibility to maintain an atmosphere conducive to scholarly, creative, and educational pursuits and to respect the safety and rights of all individuals. Accordingly, no actions may endanger the safety and security of the College community nor infringe on the rights of members of the College community.

In order to maintain safety on campus and to allow for necessary planning and preparation, a student planning a public demonstration on Burrell property must contact the Office of Student Affairs Department Head for information, guidance, and permission. The College reserves the right to designate time, manner and appropriate areas. No public demonstration can occur on the College campus without proper authorization from the Office of Student Affairs Department Head.

**2. Related Policy/Authority**

B2012 Academic Freedom Policy

**3. Faculty/Staff Responsibilities**

Office of Student Affairs Department Head: In collaboration with the President, the Dean, Chief Diversity Officer, and other offices as needed, provides information, guidance, and permission for student public demonstrations.

**4. Definitions/Abbreviations**

Demonstration: for purposes of this procedure, any public display of individual or group speech or other expression occurring on Burrell’s campus or at College-sponsored events off campus. Examples include but are not limited to any public meeting/gathering/activity to express views, disagreements, or support regarding a given subject such as a march, parade, assemblies, picketing, or protests.

**5. Procedural Steps**

1. Prior notice is required at least four (4) business days prior to the start of an intended event to the Office of Student Affairs Department Head. Prior notice helps to ensure the safety and security of campus and compliance with policies. The information provided must include the proposed locale and the object of the intended demonstration.
   a. Demonstrations at the Melbourne (FL) Campus require additional approvals from Florida Tech as directed through the Office of Student Affairs Department Head.

2. No person or persons shall, without proper authorization, occupy any college buildings or premises.
   a. Demonstrations at the Melbourne (FL) Campus may only occur in the Panther Plaza per Florida Tech policy.
3. Acts of public expression may not violate or conflict with local, state, or federal laws. Public expression may not violate College policy and may not jeopardize public or individual safety.

4. A public expression of views may not prevent, obstruct, or interfere with the normal operations of the College which include but are not limited to:
   a. Academic activities
   b. Business activities of the College
   c. Normal operations of the College
   d. Events or speakers hosted by the College
   e. Pedestrian and vehicular traffic flow
   f. Access to any College property or facilities

5. During public expression, participants must respect the rights of others, including those with whom they disagree. Any student engaging in disruptive or disorderly conduct or otherwise violating College policy is subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the Code of Professional Conduct policy. Disruptive conduct includes but is not limited to:
   a. Interfering with College operations, activities, events, including the rights and activities of other students, faculty, staff and guests.
      i. No person or persons shall disrupt or interfere with classes, education activities or any events sponsored by the College nor shall any person or demonstration interfere with the right of primary audience to hear and be heard.
   b. Impeding on a person’s speech or presentation by heckling or inappropriate outbursts.
   c. Blocking the ability of an audience member to see or hear a speaker.
   d. Preventing or interfering with access to or egress from College property including offices, meeting rooms, etc.
   e. Threaten physical force, physical harassment or physical obstruction.
   f. Failing to comply with a Burrell official and/or local/state officials, including directions to leave a facility or space.
   g. Creating threats of physical harm to persons and/or invading the person space of others.
   h. Damaging Burrell or Florida Tech’s property.
      i. Exceeding noise levels and/or interfering with College operations and/or activities including the rights of other students, faculty, staff, and guests. Amplification during public demonstration is not permitted.
   j. Use of language or gestures that are unreasonably abusive or obscene or likely to provoke or encourage physical violence.
   k. Preventing the public expression of others.

6. If the Student Affairs Department Head, or designee at the scene of a demonstration determines that disruptive conduct is taking place, the participants will be asked to modify their conduct to comply with the regulations. All participants and spectators must comply immediately, fully and cooperatively. Should any participant or spectator fail to comply with the request of the Student Affairs Department Head, or designee, the participant or spectator shall be subject to removal from the campus and subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the College’s Code of Professional Conduct Policy.

6. Reports/Charts/Forms/Attachments/Cross References

B1040 Non-Discrimination Policy
7. Maintenance
Annual Review

8. Signature

Approved by | 7.24.24
---|---
President | Date

9. Distribution List
Internal/External

10. Revision History

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<tr>
<th>Revision Date</th>
<th>Subsection #</th>
<th>Summary of Changes</th>
<th>New/Cancellation/ Replacement Procedure? (if applicable)</th>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Added information about demonstrations at Florida Tech.</td>
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