Rule Statement

Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi is required to remain neutral in partisan political activities as a state-supported institution of higher education. The university recognizes the constitutional rights and privileges of individual faculty, staff and students concerning freedom of speech and participation in political events, subject to reasonable time, place and manner restrictions.

Reason for Rule

This rule implements state law and System policy governing political activities on property under the control of the University.

Procedures and Responsibilities

1. GENERAL

   1.1 Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi recognizes the rights of students to demonstrate and express their opinions.

   1.2 This rule should be read in conjunction with University Rule 33.04.99.C1 (Use of University Facilities), University Rule 11.99.99.C3 (Guest Speakers, Lecturers and Entertainers), University Rule 07.03.01.C2 (Political Campaign Events on Property under the Control of Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi), and University Procedure 07.03.01.C1.01 (Freedom of Speech, Assembly, and Demonstration).

2. EXPRESSIVE ACTIVITIES

   2.1 The university maintains its right to regulate reasonable time, place, and manner restrictions concerning organized expressive activities.

   2.2 Students and student organizations, as well as other members of the university community, may support causes by lawful means that do not disrupt the operations
of the university’s facilities.

3. **USE OF FACILITIES**

3.1 University facilities are available for the use by speakers and as forums for the expression of opinion.

3.2 In order to insure equitable access to its facilities for the entire university community, the university will maintain its obligation to place reasonable limits on the times during which its rooms and buildings may be used by any particular individual or group.

3.3 In the event of disruption of the normal academic or operational functions of the university, including interference with the free use of corridors and entrances to rooms and buildings, the University maintains its right to move with dispatch to restore order and open operation of the university. Every attempt will be made to discuss issues rationally and to avoid violence or the use of force.

3.4 In the event the processes of discussion fail, the issues are determined to be non-negotiable, and/or disruption continues, the responsible official will issue legal notice to the group to disperse.

3.5 If the members of the group refuse to comply, they may be subject to arrest and/or face student disciplinary action.

4. **PRINTED MATERIALS**

It is recognized by the university community—students, faculty, staff, and university organizations—that the free discussion and dissemination of ideas are essential in a university. Therefore, opportunity should be provided for distribution and sale of printed materials in areas of the University. The material distributed and the form of distribution may not violate state and federal law.

5. **APPEALS**

Appeals to any of the provisions of this rule are as follows:

5.1 In residence halls and apartments, initial appeals will be with the management of the property if not owned by the University. The appeal should be made in writing. If denied by the owner of the property, secondary appeals may be made to the Director of University Housing for Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.

5.2 In the case of all other University buildings, the initial appeal should be made to the Director of University Center and Student Activities.
5.3 Final appeal, in both instances, shall be to Vice President for Student Engagement and Success. The Vice President or designee will render final decision.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

Supplements System Regulation 07.03.01

Contact Office

Contact for Interpretation: Vice President for Student Engagement and Success at (361) 825-2612