

## Administrative Regulation 9:9

### Regulation Governing Speakers from Off Campus

(Approved by Board of Trustees)

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#### I. Introduction

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The University promotes the open exchange of ideas and values divergent points of- view. This *Administrative Regulation* establishes the policies and expectations applicable to speakers visiting the University. The University does not place any restrictions on the contents of any opinions expressed by those speakers.

#### II. Entities Affected

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This regulation applies to all units of the University.

#### III. Policy

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In ~~its~~the historical role ~~as of an -democratic-~~institution of higher learning devoted to the search for truth, the University of Kentucky is dedicated to maintaining on its campus a spirit of free intellectual inquiry and an open exchange of ideas. ~~The University#~~ promotes vigorous, uninhibited debate and discussion, as well as critical and objective evaluation of divergent points of view.

The University expects that ~~various-~~speakers who come to the campus will represent different shades of opinion and that some will express controversial ~~and-unpopular~~ views. It is essential to free inquiry and the ultimate discovery of truth that all ideas be freely expressed and freely subjected to critical analysis in the University setting. ~~To this end the University has reexamined and reaffirms and makes explicit its traditions in this area.~~

It is the policy of the University to encourage its administration, faculty, and [registered student organizations](#) to invite outside speakers to its campus. The ~~presence~~[appearance](#) of such speakers does not imply [the University's](#) approval or disapproval of them or of their views. ~~These outsiders~~[Off campus speakers](#) are brought to the campus because it is believed that their discussions will further the educational goals of the University.

~~The University will act responsibly in inviting speakers and expects its guests to act responsibly. Its policies require that no law or governing regulation of the University be violated by the speech or program. The University also requires that meetings on its campus at which off campus speakers appear do not be peaceful and orderly and in no way interfere with the normal operations proper functioning of the University. Further, the University, through the Office of the President, may prescribe reasonable content neutral time, place, and manner conditions which are content-neutral for the conduct of programs at which off-campus speakers appear. These conditions may include requiring a University official or a senior faculty member to chair the program, requiring opportunity for comments and questions from the floor, or such other practices as may be necessary to preserve order and to insure an atmosphere of open exchange of ideas. In addition, the President may take appropriate action to insure that the University community is provided with a balanced exposure to divergent opinions on controversial issues.~~

The protection of ~~student~~ freedom of discussion on the campus is ~~a necessary facet of~~[essential to](#) the preservation of the spirit of free inquiry to which the University is dedicated. ~~The faculty must bear the major responsibility for carrying out the University's mission of producing and disseminating knowledge.~~ The conduct of this mission requires an atmosphere of freedom to examine and discuss all ideas, ~~including the novel and sometimes unpopular. The University expects the examination and discussion of ideas to be conducted in a fashion appropriate to the educational function and dignity of the University in accordance with its policies.~~ Subject to this expectation, ~~and their own exercise of responsibility and discretion,~~ faculty members, administrators, and registered student organizations are free to bring speakers to the campus of the University, providing that proper arrangements for the use of University facilities have been made.

## References and Related Materials

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[AR 9:1 – Regulations Governing Time, Place, and Manner of Meetings, Demonstrations, and Other Assemblies](#)

AR 9:~~29~~ – Regulations Governing the Use of University Facilities by Registered Student Organizations

## Revision History

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~~AR II-1.0-2:~~ 12/9/1969

For questions, contact: [Office of Legal Counsel](#)