

POLICY

The philosophy of Ocean County College is to encourage freedom in the expression of ideas presented in a scholarly and law abiding manner. The college shall develop rules and regulations which guarantee this freedom of expression and at the same time insure that demonstrations which threaten to interfere with the daily operations of Ocean County College or cause personal injury to individuals or damage to property will not be tolerated on campus.

ADOPTED: February 23, 1970

REVIEWED: February 19, 1991

PROCEDURE

The philosophy of Ocean County College is to encourage freedom in expression of ideas presented in a scholarly and law abiding manner.

Demonstrations that interfere with the daily operations of Ocean County College or cause personal injury to individuals or damage to property will not be tolerated on campus. The normal penalty for students involved in the planning or implementation of such a demonstration will be suspension from Ocean County College and prosecution to the fullest extent of the Civil Law.

It is important to note here that three New Jersey laws were passed on January 2, 1969, to deal with student disruptions. They are as follows:

- 2A.149A-1: Entry into educational premises to commit indictable offense is prohibited.
- 2A.149A-2: Entry into educational premises to disrupt classes is prohibited.
- 2A.149A-3: Interference with students, teachers and others is prohibited.

The College permits rallies or demonstrations when conducted in accordance with the following conditions:

1. That they are not designed to and do not interfere with the daily operations of Ocean County College.
2. That they are not designed to and do not cause personal injury to individuals or damage to property.
3. That they are limited to exterior areas (sidewalks, lawns); no activity will be permitted inside college buildings or in doorways leading to buildings. There shall be no interference with buildings ingress and egress. Speaking to other persons shall be conducted so as not to interfere with their easy passage.
4. That the intention to hold a demonstration and all its particulars must be filed in the Vice President of Student Affairs office at least forty-eight hours in advance of the event. The statement of intention must include date, time and location of demonstration, purpose of said demonstration, approximate number of participants, type of activity involved (i.e., picketing, distributing of leaflets, chanting, etc.) and names of three individual responsible for maintaining reasonable order.
5. Literature may be posted on authorized bulletin boards only; nothing may be posted on the exterior of college buildings or elsewhere on the college campus.
6. Student "coordinators" will be present to assure proper compliance with all rules and regulations.
7. Any student using physical force on another individual will be immediately suspended.
8. Off-campus picketing is subject to local laws and municipal regulation.

As we have put forth the provisions for acceptable rallies and demonstrations at Ocean County College campus, we want to make it very clear to all students that the right to free expression does not in itself provide unlimited freedom in choosing the form and manner of expression. It is completely unacceptable when the form of manner of expression actually disrupts the normal operation of the college, causes property damage, or bodily harm or threatens to do so. Therefore, the following procedures will normally take place when an unacceptable demonstration occurs.

1. Those engaged in an unacceptable demonstration will be directly notified by the Vice President of Student Affairs as soon as possible after the incident occurs that this activity is out of order and against the policies and regulations of the college and that they must cease such illegal activity immediately.
2. If those so ordered refuse to comply, the local police will be requested to take such action as necessary to enforce compliance.
3. When local police are requested to come to the campus to enforce compliance with a lawful order, the college may be closed and the students required to leave the campus. The college shall be reopened for normal operation at a convenient time after order has been restored.
4. Those students identified as participants in an unacceptable demonstration against whom it is necessary to direct forcible compliance will be immediately suspended from the college and subject to such police prosecution as their actions may warrant under the law.
5. Nothing in the above policy shall restrict the President from directing such other action as he may deem necessary to meet with a specific situation or circumstance.

ADOPTED: February 23, 1970
Revised: April 30, 1996
Revised: April 25, 2000
Revised: November 21, 2000

REVIEWED: February 19, 1991