

Allegany College of Maryland

**1<sup>ST</sup> AMENDMENT POLICY**

APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES JUNE 18, 2007

**REVISION PENDING - ANTICIPATED IN FY18**

Allegany College of Maryland honors the United States Constitution and recognizes its responsibility as a public institution to promote freedom of speech, religion, and association within the context of its educational mission and without preferential treatment. In addition to its rental facilities available for large group meetings and theatrical productions, the College has designated locations and procedures for any person/organization permissibly and lawfully on our campuses\* to distribute pamphlets or other literature, campaign for public office, picket/protest, demonstrate, or engage in similar activity free of charge. The College is not required to provide any equipment, materials, or personnel in support of these activities and assumes no liability for the actions of any person participating in or responding to the activities. Person(s)/ organization(s) shall submit a written request at least one business day in advance to the Vice President of Student & Legal Affairs or to the President (or his/her designee).

\*This policy does not apply to property owned and/or managed by any non-ACM entity.

Such requests shall be granted with the following exceptions:

- **No such activity is permitted in academic buildings, classrooms, and/or libraries.** (On campuses where all indoor common areas are located within academic buildings, the activity will be permitted in a designated location which minimizes instructional interference.)
- **Activity participants may not disrupt educational and/or administrative operations. Excessive noise is not permitted; noise will be considered excessive if it interferes with the ability of students, faculty, or staff to listen, learn, or conduct business.**
- **The activity may not endanger the safety or health of participants, other visitors, students, faculty, or staff.**
- **No other person may be compelled to participate.**
- **The activity may not interfere with the free flow of pedestrian or vehicular traffic.**
- **College property may not be defaced or damaged; banners, signs, and the like may not be affixed or attached to any College property including buildings, utility poles, existing signs, landscape walls, etc..**
- **All materials used must be removed at the conclusion of the activity.**
- **No commercial (or for-profit) sales may be conducted during the activity.**
- **Participants' conduct shall be consistent with the standards expected of students as outlined in the Code of Student Conduct.**
- **Any person/organization who engages in such activity without obtaining the College's consent may be required to cease the activity and/or exit the campus.**
- **No such activity shall be identified as representing an official position of the College without approval by the President and/or the Board of Trustees.** (Official College entities such as clubs and committees, however, may identify themselves as being affiliated with the College.)
- **Violations of these exceptions, behavioral standards, and/or laws will result in the College's revocation of its consent, and the person/organization will be required to cease its activity. Students who violate the Code of Student Conduct will be subject to disciplinary action.**

Nothing in this policy shall be construed to limit or infringe on academic freedom as defined by the College. Likewise, nothing in this policy shall be construed to limit or silence the expression of an individual's personal opinion/beliefs in casual conversation, in the classroom, in assignments, in chartered student organizations, in College committees, in private actions that are not intended for public viewing/consumption, in attire, with jewelry, or other symbolic means so long as the expression does not otherwise violate the Code of Student Conduct, laws, and/or course syllabi.