07.03.01.L1 Political Campaign Events and Partisan Political Activities on TAMIU Property

Last Updated: New February 19, 2013

Supplements: 
- System Policy 07.03 Conflicts of Interest, Dual Office Holding and Political Activities
- System Regulation 07.03.01 Political Campaign Events on Property Under the Control of The Texas A&M University System

1. GENERAL

The purpose of this Rule is to provide direction and process insight on the University’s position on political campaign events and partisan political activities on Texas A&M International University (TAMIU) property. In accordance with University guidelines, the University will protect the freedoms of speech, expression, petition, and peaceful assembly, while maintaining its right to regulate reasonable time, place, and manner restrictions concerning acts of expression and dissent.

2. RESPONSIBILITIES/PROCESS

2.1 INSTITUTIONAL NEUTRALITY

The University cannot endorse, support, or promote any political candidate (either incumbents or new office seekers, members of their staffs, or their campaign representatives) or any partisan political activity. University employees may not represent their personal political viewpoints as official University endorsement, support, or promotion of political candidates or partisan political activities. Nothing in this rule should be construed as limiting the right or ability of any member of the University community to express personal opinions or to exercise his or her right to engage in political activities outside his or her official capacity or affiliation with the University, within the limits of System Policy 07.03 Conflicts of Interest, Dual Office Holding and Political Activities.

2.2 USE OF UNIVERSITY FUNDS, SERVICES, OR FACILITIES

In accordance with System Policy 07.03 Conflicts of Interest, Dual Office Holding and Political Activities, no TAMIU employee shall expend or authorize the expenditure of any University funds, services, or supplies for the purpose of influencing the outcome of any election or partisan political activity. Political candidates (either incumbents or new office seekers, members of their staffs, or their campaign representatives) are not permitted to reserve University facilities for political campaign events unless as permitted by Section 2.4.

2.3 USE OF LOGOS, SYMBOLS, INSIGNIA, OR MARKS

TAMIU prohibits the use of any of its logos, symbols, insignias, or other identifying marks in association with any activity that involves the endorsement, support, or promotion of political candidates or partisan
political activities. For purposes of this rule, the prohibition includes, but is not necessarily limited to, all registered marks and all official insignia, uniforms, landmarks, or licensed songs that may be reasonably identified with TAMIU. This prohibition also includes any University-affiliated organizations that officially represent the institution, such as the Alumni Association and athletic teams. University-affiliated organizations will be determined by the Vice President for Institutional Advancement.

2.4 RECOGNIZED STUDENT ORGANIZATION SPONSORSHIP OF CAMPAIGN EVENTS

Officially-recognized student organizations may sponsor partisan political activities or events on campus in accordance with all applicable University rules as set forth in the TAMIU Student Handbook, Freedom of Speech, Assembly, Expression, and Demonstration (Appendix I). In sponsoring a partisan political activity on campus, the recognized student organization(s) must be responsible for communicating and collaborating with appropriate University officials about the event and cannot delegate any responsibility for the event to a non-student organization(s) unless mutually agreed upon by the Director of Student Affairs, the Vice President for Institutional Advancement, the University President, and the sponsoring organization.

2.5 DISCLAIMER STATEMENT

TAMIU reserves the right to require that a statement be made prior to the presentation of any speaker that the views expressed are not necessarily those of the institution or the sponsoring group.

Office of Responsibility: Office of Public Relations, Marketing and Information Services