May 13, 2024  

The Administrative Council approved the policy below via email, and it was signed by President Stacia Haynie on May 13, 2024. Notification of approval was received from the following members: Ms. Debbie Barrow, Dr. Marcy Brown Marsden, Ms. Zetta Cannedy, Mr. Paul Chappell, Ms. Dawn Fisher, Ms. Julie Gaynor, Ms. Ashley Hurst, Dr. Keith Lamb, Ms. Rhonda McClung, Mr. Kyle Owen, and Mr. Kyle Williams.

I. MSU OP 74.09: Freedom of Expression

Stacia Haynie, Chair

Betsy Tucker, Secretary
University Operating Policy/Procedure (OP)
OP 74.09: Freedom of Expression

DATE: May 13, 2024

PURPOSE:
Midwestern State University ("MSU"), a component institution of the Texas Tech University ("TTU") System, recognizes freedom of speech and expression as a fundamental right and seeks to ensure free, robust, and uninhibited debate and deliberations by students enrolled at MSU as well as other persons. The purpose of this Operating Policy/Procedure ("OP") is to ensure the fundamental right of freedom of speech and expression on the MSU campus.

REVIEW:
This OP will be reviewed in September of odd-numbered years, or as needed, in consultation with the MSU Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Affairs, and MSU General Counsel, with substantive revisions forwarded to the MSU President.

POLICY/PROCEDURE:
Expressive activities on the MSU campus are governed by Texas Tech University System Regulation 07.04, which can be found here.

RELATED CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS AND STATUTES:
First Amendment to the United States Constitution
Texas Constitution, Article I, Section 8
Texas Education Code, Chapter 51, Subchapter Z, Section 51.9315
Attachment: Joint Report Regarding Institutions' Implementation of the Requirements of Senate Bill 18

HISTORY:
11/10/1989: Adopted and approved by the MSU Board of Regents as MSU Policy/Procedure 4.148 - Off-Campus Speakers.
05/14/2020: MSU Policy/Procedure 4.148 revised to comply with SB 18 (effective 06/10/2019) and renumbered and renamed 4.148/UPP 3-160 (Expressive Activities on Campus), and adopted and approved by the MSU Board of Regents.

08/05/2021: Renumbered by the MSU Board of Regents, effective September 1, 2021 (when MSU becomes a component institution of the TTU System), as MSU Operating Policy/Procedure (“OP”) 74.09: Expressive Activities on Campus.

05/13/2024: Revised and renamed OP 74.09: Freedom of Expression, to align with Texas Tech University System Regulation 07.04 – Freedom of Expression. Adopted and approved by MSU President Stacia Haynie.