



Initial Report to the Governor and Legislature on the Implementation of Campus Free Expression Policies

January 1, 2019

Pursuant to Act 666 of the 2018 Regular Session §3399.36. Reports

Each public postsecondary education institution shall submit a report to the governor and the legislature by January 1, 2019, on the implementation of the provisions of this Part.

Policy Development and Implementation

The Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS) fully committed to meeting the requirements outlined in Act 666 by developing a comprehensive System-wide policy on campus free expression, and coordinating the development of college policies on campus free expression. Collectively, these policies will serve to protect the non-commercial expressive activities on all LCTCS campuses.

The LCTCS Board of Supervisors approved LCTCS Policy #2.018, "Campus Free Expression," at the November 2018 Board meeting (Attached as Appendix A). All twelve LCTCS colleges have submitted to Board staff their college-level free expression policies, which have been reviewed by Board staff and General Counsel to ensure compliance with Act 666 and LCTCS Policy #2.018. Colleges are currently disseminating these new policies via college websites and student/employee handbooks.

Future Plans for Training

LCTCS Board staff are currently planning training on LCTCS Policy #2.018 for college staff, to take place March 1, 2019. The training will be a one-day, in-person workshop. Each college will be asked to send 4 attendees to the workshop (an employee within the Student Affairs Division, the Academic Affairs Division, Human Resources, and Campus Security/Facilities). Following the in-person training, the training will be converted into an online, self-paced course and made available through LCTCS' online learning platform. Those who attend the in-person workshop will provide to System staff the names of those college staff who should be enrolled in the online course. Certificates of completion will be provided to those who complete the online course. The workshop and online courses will cover the following topics: a general overview of the First Amendment of the United States Constitution and the types of expression covered and not covered; Act 666 of the 2018 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature; LCTCS Policy #2.018; free expression in higher education case studies; best practices in college process and procedure; and a quiz.

An online course will also be built and made available to Student Government Association (SGA) representatives. Providing this information to student leaders will empower them to educate their fellow students about the rights afforded to them and the necessity of time, place, and manner limitations.

Reporting of Barriers and Incidents against Free Expression

Each LCTCS college shall submit a report on an annual basis by August 1 to the LCTCS System Office. Annual reports will include any barriers to or incidents against free expression that occurred at the institution during the previous year. The report shall detail the barrier or incident as well as actions taken in response to the barrier or incident. If an institution is sued for an alleged violation of a right guaranteed by the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States of America, the institution shall submit to the LCTCS a supplementary report with a copy of the complaint within thirty days of receipt of the complaint. The System Office will submit all reports related to campus free expression to the Governor and the Legislature on behalf of its member institutions by January 1 of each year, beginning January 1, 2020.