

 Prescott College	Policy Number: 925	
	Policy Category: <i>Other Policies</i>	
	<i>Guest Speakers</i>	
	Policy Summary: <i>This policy outlines guidelines related to guest speakers.</i>	
	Approval Date: <i>09/27/17</i>	Effective Date: <i>09/27/17</i>
Policy Owner: <i>President</i>	Scheduled for Review: <i>Fall 2025</i>	

Policy Statement

Prescott College values the opportunities presented by external, guest speakers for students to experience diverse opinions and to enter into debate.

- The College values the tradition of academic freedom and holds that no subject or belief should be excluded from reasonable, respectful, rational and constructive discussion and debate. The College values freedom of opinion and speech.
- The College values strong connections with the surrounding community and endeavors to maintain a campus that is open to the public whenever appropriate.
- The College further recognizes the importance of carefully balancing the importance of providing diverse speech and opinions with the equally important need of providing a safe, supportive, and productive learning environment to all of its students and faculty of all backgrounds.

Therefore, the College recognizes that, in the interests of assuring that the whole learning community, as well as specific learning environments are safe and supportive of the educational success of all learners, these values and practices must be constrained by guidelines.

The College will not accept the use of language by external speakers or other guests that attacks or demeans systematically disadvantaged communities. Specifically, the College prohibits misogynistic, misanthropic, xenophobic, homophobic, sexist or racist language by external speakers and other guests. The College will not tolerate any persons who intentionally attack or demean individuals or groups based on their citizenship, immigration status, national origin, ethnicity, race, religion, sexuality, gender, disability, age, veteran status, or any other category protected by federal, state, or local law.

The College will not tolerate and retains the right to prohibit guest speakers whose speech or other actions give rise to an environment in which people will experience – or could reasonably fear – harassment, intimidation or violence.

This policy is applicable to external speakers who are invited to address students and other members of the College community, and also to other guests to College properties or events. This policy does not apply to guest speakers invited by faculty members to address students in a class setting that does not include other members of the College community and/or other visitors to the College. Nevertheless, faculty members are expected to facilitate interactions with guest speakers to their

classes and are responsible for maintaining inclusive, non-discriminatory learning environments consistent with the values set forth herein.

The College retains the right to deny access to College property or other learning environments, or to cancel an event, involving any guest speaker it believes is acting or will act contrary to the intent of this policy.

Definitions

Reason for Policy

To ensure that the whole learning community, as well as specific learning environments are safe and supportive of the educational success of all learners.

Responsibilities

For following policy:	External speakers invited to address the campus community
For enforcement of policy:	Dean, Student Affairs
For oversight of policy:	Dean, Student Affairs
For procedures implementing the policy:	Dean, Student Affairs
For notification:	Policy Librarian

Procedures

Students, staff and/or faculty who are considering inviting a guest speaker to College property or other learning environment should conduct a basic online background search. If any information is found that suggests the individual may not be appropriate, the appropriate supervisor or Dean of Student Affairs must be notified as far in advance of the event as possible.

Cross Referenced Policies

Revision History