

March 1, 1995

ADMINISTRATIVE MEMORANDUM NO. 56

To: Vice Presidents, Deans, Directors, Department Chairs, and Other
Administrative Officials

From: Gordon H. Lamb, President

Subject: Demonstrations on Campus

a. Statement of Purpose

The right of free speech and expression is basic to our system of law and fundamental to the purpose of a University. Included in this right, is the privilege to present peacefully, views and positions and to attempt without coercion, to convince others of the correctness of those views. The exercise of these rights will be protected by the full authority of this institution.

Rights do not, however, exist in a vacuum, and those of different persons and groups often come into conflict. To assure the continued exercise of these rights, to preserve the opportunity for free and open discourse within our campus community, and to protect persons and property; rules and regulations have been established governing conduct within the confines of the campus. These principles are consistent with State of Illinois Statute (Ch. 38 Sec. 21.2-2) and with Board of Governors policies (Sec.VI. E). Accordingly, activities which disrupt the proper functioning of the campus, or which threaten the rights, persons, or property of others will not be permitted. Interference with the conduct or performance of a scheduled campus event or regular instructional activities will be considered disruptive.

These regulations are essential to the protection of the rights of each student, faculty, and staff member. Violations will be dealt with in an appropriate manner, which may include criminal prosecution, disciplinary proceedings, or both.

b. Location of Demonstrations

Demonstrations on property owned or operated by Northeastern Illinois University may take place only at the following locations:

1. Village Square, Main Campus.
2. Outside buildings on campus property.
3. Northernmost section of parking lot, CICS.
4. El Centro (outside of the building).

Demonstrations in other locations are strictly prohibited. Activities which restrict access to, egress from, or passage through public areas of the campus, or which threaten a breach of the peace in such public areas are not permitted. Orders to disperse, issued by authorized University personnel, shall be obeyed.

c. Specific activities which are prohibited

- 1) Harassing or otherwise interfering with orderly conduct of classes or other University activities.
- 2) Harassing or otherwise interfering with activities of University employees or visitors.
- 3) Noise-making activity or congestion that disturbs classes or any other scheduled event or University activity.
- 4) Damage to property or littering of University premises.
- 5) Obstruction of automobile and pedestrian traffic.
- 6) Blocking of entrances to buildings and driveways.
- 7) Blocking of passageways and/or stairwells.

d. Enforcement

1) Violations

Alleged violations of this policy by students should be reported to the Office of Student Affairs. In cases where faculty and/or other employees are involved, the Provost and Vice-President for Administrative Affairs (or their designees) should be informed. Non-University constituents will be dealt with in accordance with Board of Governors policies and/or State of Illinois Revised Statutes. The aid of the Public Safety Department may be requested to ensure compliance with this policy.

2) Penalties

Failure to comply with a cease and desist directive may lead to arrest and prosecution and/or result in enforcement of sanctions through the Student Conduct Code, or in the case of employees, other disciplinary actions as provided for in employee rules or bargaining unit agreements. Non-University constituents will be dealt with in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 38 of the Illinois Revised Statutes.