

Policy GA-PA-PO8

Public Assemblies Without Amplified Sound

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I. Section 11-901 General Rule on Public Assemblies

- A. "Publicly assemble" and "public assembly" include any gathering of persons, including discussions, rallies, and demonstrations. The rules of Subchapter 11-800 apply to any use of amplified sound at a public assembly.
- B. University persons and organizations may publicly assemble on campus in any place where, at the time of the assembly, the persons assembling are permitted to be. This right to assemble is subject to the rules in this subchapter, to the general rules in Subchapters 11-200 and 12-300, and to the rules on use of University Facilities in Chapter 12. No advance permission is required.

II. Section 11-902 Reservation of Space

- A. University persons or organizations who wish to publicly assemble in a particular room or space at a particular time may reserve the room or space under the provisions in Subchapter 12 of this Handbook.
- B. An organization with a reservation has the right to the reserved room or space for the time covered by the reservation. Any person or organization using or occupying the room or space without a reservation must yield control of the room or space in time to permit any organization with a reservation to begin using the room or space promptly at the beginning of its reserved time.
- C. Reservations are not required but are strongly encouraged. A person or organization planning to use a room or space without a reservation may find the facility locked or in use by another person or organization. The University Police rely on a list of scheduled events, and a large group without a reservation is likely to attract their courteous but inquiring attention.

III. Section 11-903 Notice and Consultation

Persons or organizations who are planning a public assembly with more than fifty participants are strongly encouraged to notify and consult with the O.S.G.O. as soon as practicable after the point at which the planners anticipate or plan for more than fifty participants. Persons or organizations planning smaller assemblies are encouraged to consult the Director if there is uncertainty about applicable University rules, the

appropriateness of the planned location or possible conflict with other events. The Director has much experience in helping student organizations structure events in ways that both comply with the University's rules and achieve the organization's goals for the event. The Director can help identify appropriate space and potentially conflicting events. The Director can help the planners avoid unintended disruption or other violations that may result in subsequent discipline or subsequent interference with the assembly by campus authorities.