



Academic Senate

COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC FREEDOM

November 25, 2025

To: Ken Barish, Chair
Riverside Division Academic Senate

From: Quinn McFrederick, Chair
Committee on Academic Freedom

Re: **Proposed Revisions to Time, Place, and Manner Regulations (Policy 700-70: Expressive Activities)**

The Committee on Academic Freedom discussed the Proposed revisions to Time, Place, and Manner Regulations (Policy 700-70: Expressive Activities). In general, there was consensus that the document codifies curtailment of expressive activities. While the Committee agreed that university functions must be maintained, the revised regulations could lead to administrative overstep in controlling free expression.

For example, regulations that could be used to negate or control expressive activities at the whim of administrators includes: "UCR reserves the right at any time to restrict noise or ask organizers to adjust the volume if the sound is disrupting the function of the university."; "Amplified sound for approved events will be allowed from 12pm-1pm and 5pm to 8pm. Requests for amplified sound outside of these hours must have prior approval from the appropriate Building Coordinator and/or department of affected area."; "...Whether the conduct stopped if and when a request to stop was addressed to the individual or group engaging in the conduct."

Multiple Senate Committees commented on the text about face masks in a prior review, but these comments were not addressed in this draft.

The new prohibition on climbing any tree, building, or structure is antithetical to academic freedom. There are many valid research activities that require tree climbing - there are even classes in tree-climbing for research offered at other universities.

In summary, the Committee on Academic Freedom finds the proposed revisions to Time, Place, and Manner Regulations to be problematic for academic freedom and free expression. We strongly urge the Senate to reject these revisions.