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BULLETIN

Adm. Pub. CB

To the Faculty, Staff and Students of Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville

Vol. 24, No. 12
June 4, 1993

MEMO TO: The University Community

FROM: Earl Lazerson *E. L.*

SUBJECT: Policy and Procedure for Demonstration Activities

Attention has recently been focused upon the University's policy and procedure for demonstration activities. I believe clarification of the University's policy and procedure is in order based upon apparent misunderstandings which have been brought to my attention.

The University policy and procedure for demonstration activities has been in effect since 1984 and was adopted pursuant to Board of Trustees policy 6 Policies C.4. promulgated in 1982. The policy requires that the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs be notified in writing at least 48 hours in advance of an intended demonstration. This requirement serves the purpose of informing the University of a potential demonstration thus allowing the University to evaluate the impact of the activity upon the safety and security of the participants, employees, students, visitors, and property. Notification also allows coordination with other activities of the University community.

The policy provides that registration of demonstration activities shall not be deemed to imply approval or disapproval of the activity. Thus, the registration requirement is completely unrelated to the content or message to be expressed by any demonstration activity. This reinforces the University's support of free speech and meets constitutional requirements.

The policy endorses SIUE's commitment to free speech and at the same time recognizes the need to protect the safety and security of our community and its guests. The University will continue to honor the pledge expressed in the demonstration policy, that, "Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville is a community dedicated to intellectual development through the free expression of ideas."