

# Marquette University Law School (MULS) Registered Student Organization (RSO) Speakers Policy

*Amended November 2016*

Registered student organizations (RSOs) are encouraged to invite non-Marquette University (University) speakers to MULS to address the RSOs' membership or other interested members of the MULS community. Speakers may validly contribute to MULS's fulfillment of the University's mission, even if their positions are unpopular or troubling. The presence of a visiting speaker at MULS does not imply approval or endorsement by MULS or the University of the views expressed by the visiting speaker or by anyone else present at the event.

## **All events with speakers are subject to the following policies:**

1. Prior to extending a formal invitation to **ANY** speaker, RSOs must secure the approval of the Director of Student Affairs at least one (1) month in advance of the event.
2. All RSO events with speakers must:
  - a) Be scheduled, with an appropriate room secured, no less than one (1) month in advance,
  - b) Be attentive to the speakers' needs,
  - c) Be well-planned, and
  - d) Be well-attended (at least a 15:1 audience to speaker ratio).
3. MULS retains plenary authority over events associated with it and may rescind any invitation, require that the invitation be withdrawn, prohibit the use of the MULS name in relation to an event, or impose conditions such as the following:
  - a) That the meeting or event be chaired by a person specifically approved by MULS;
  - b) That the visiting speaker's message be delivered in the context of a debate or panel presentation so as to ensure fair expression of alternate or opposing views.

## **SPEAKERS ON PROFESSIONAL TOPICS**

### **All events with speakers discussing their profession are subject to the following policies:**

1. Before coordinating with any speaker who will be discussing his or her current career or career path, an RSO must contact the Director of Student Affairs at least one (1) month in advance of the planned event.
2. Before coordinating with any speaker that is discussing the job-search process, an RSO must contact the Career Planning Center (CPC) for approval.
3. Any event being held in conjunction with any Bar Association must be coordinated with the Director of Student Affairs.
4. The Director of Student Affairs and/or the CPC may rescind any invitation, require that the invitation be withdrawn, or prohibit the use of the MULS name in relation to an event.

## **POLITICAL EVENTS AND SPEAKERS**

In compliance with all University and MULS policies, RSOs may sponsor on-campus, campaign-related events, such as speeches, forums, debates, and other activities at which political candidates for public office may offer insights on issues that affect the electorate and society. The University as an institution is not permitted to sponsor campaign events for candidates for public office.

### **All events with political speakers are subject to the following policies:**

1. The candidate (or designee) must be escorted by a member of the RSO at all times.
2. There must be a public statement at any event or meeting at which candidates appear or at which statements are made in support of or against a candidate indicating that, "The views expressed here today are those solely of the individual speaker and not of Marquette University. The use of Marquette's facilities does not constitute an endorsement of any political candidate or of the views expressed."
3. No political fundraising is permitted at RSO-sponsored events.
4. RSOs are under no obligation to offer "equal time" to opposing candidates; the University, however, is obligated to offer comparable opportunities to opposing candidates to express their views.