**The University Center at Ponca City Professional Development**

**First Amendment, Expressive Speech, and 70 O.S. §2120**

**Part 1: State Law**

* Passed in the 2019 Oklahoma Legislature, signed by the Governor, effective August 30, 2019. Available online.
* In brief, the law requires that, on Oklahoma public colleges and universities campuses, the campus community and the public may use unrestricted accessible outdoor space for non-commercial expressive activities because this space is now designated by this statute a traditional public forum. As such, this space can be used unless it materially and substantially disrupts the functioning of the University subject to non-discriminatory time, place, and manner restrictions.
* This law is consistent with historical federal guidance regarding 1st Amendment protected events on this issue, but also requires:

o New University policy

o New training for faculty, staff, and students

o Annual report to the Governor and Legislature

* + - Posted on university webpage (<3 links)

o Notification of lawsuits

**Part 2: University Policy**

• In accordance with the state law, the University Center has developed a policy which addresses the bolded key terms above. The policy is available on the University Center website at [www.ucponcacity.com](http://www.ucponcacity.com).

• Take time to review the time, place, and manner restrictions.

**Part 3: Expectations**

• Guide outdoor visitors to the correct resources on the University Center website at [www.ucponcacity.com](http://www.ucponcacity.com).

**Part 4: Additional Helpful Information**

• The University Center designates the following indoor facilities as unavailable for Expressive Activity: administrative offices, laboratories, and (during instructional hours) classrooms.

• The public and University Center employees may reserve outdoor space by contacting the Chief Executive Officer at 580-718-5600 or by emailing [student.services@ucponcacity.com](mailto:student.services@ucponcacity.com)

• University Center students, employees, and guests may reserve both indoor space by completing the Application for Room Use Form online.

• The campus community and the public may use generally accessible outdoor areas for non-commercial expressive activities on a first come, first served basis without giving prior notice if the activity does not materially and substantially disrupt the function of the University, as defined by state law.

• Time, place, and manner restrictions are in effect. Please read the policy in its entirety. Examples include:

o No items may be attached in any manner to trees, bushes, benches, light poles, buildings, vehicles, or permanent signs.

o Non-commercial pamphlets, handbills, fliers, and other written materials may be distributed on a person-to-person basis in open areas outside of building if done in a way to avoid substantial littering on the campus.