

Regulations for Public and Political Activity at Ben-Gurion University

As approved by the Executive Committee at Meeting No. 2013/3 of January 29, 2013

- A. Under its constitution, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (BGU) promises to respect the freedom of speech of its academic and administrative staff and of students on its campuses. Nevertheless, BGU will not permit activities on its campuses that it believes (according to the decision of the approving authority) constitutes incitement against the existence of the State, violence or a call to violence, and any activity that constitutes incitement to break the laws of the state.
- B. It is the duty of BGU to maintain the proper course of teaching, research and regular work within its perimeters, and it must therefore ensure that freedom of public debate will not upset the fulfillment of this duty.
- C. Public and political activity on campus (hereinafter: the "**Activity**") may take place in observing the following rules:
- 1) The Activity does not contradict BGU's objectives and principles.
 - 2) The Activity is not in violation of the laws of the State of Israel.
 - 3) The Activity does not interfere with BGU's regular activities.
 - 4) The organizers of the Activity belong to the BGU community.
 - 5) The Activity is intended for the student body and for other members of the BGU community.
 - 6) The Activity has been approved by the authorized officials at BGU.
- D. The officials authorized to approve public and political activity on campus are:
- 1) The Rector is the official who may approve requests from academic staff members.
 - 2) The Director-General of BGU is the official who may approve requests of administrative staff members.
 - 3) The Dean of Students is the official who may approve requests of the Student Union or students.
- E. An employee or student wishing to conduct political activity on campus shall submit a written request to the relevant approving official at least one week prior to scheduled date of the Activity.

The request to approve should indicate: the nature of the Activity and its contents, the anticipated number of participants, guests from outside BGU and names of the Activity organizers as well as aids to be used during the Activity.

In exceptional cases, if the approving official is satisfied, based on a well-reasoned request, that the demonstration or gathering are in response to a unique event that suddenly appeared on the public agenda, and that considering the request within the time frame stipulated in this clause will deplete the demonstration or the gathering of content, an urgent request may be submitted, provided that it is submitted by the end of the work day before the requested date and that none of the aforesaid contradicts the fulfillment of the conditions for granting a permit as stated in this clause.

- F. The approving official will receive an opinion from the Director of BGU's Security Department regarding the Activity, its date and location.
- G. The Director of the Security Department will give instructions to the Activity organizers and have them sign a personal undertaking to comply with them. The Director will also instruct them about having to obtain a lawful license or permit to conduct the Activity. Receipt of the permit or license is the responsibility of the Activity organizers, and they will bear any payment or expense involved in obtaining the permit or license and in fulfilling the terms thereof.

Instructions of the Director of the Security Department (except for instructions on obtaining a license or permit for conducting the Activity) may be appealed as set out in Section K of these Regulations.

- H. If BGU incurred expenses due to and/or in connection with conducting the Activity, it may, in exceptional cases, order the Activity organizers to pay these expenses. The decision to do so is vested with the approving official after having consulted with the Security Department and the Student Union - if the approving official is the Dean.
- I. The Activity will only be held in the area designated for this purpose by BGU.
- J. Petition signatures may only be collected at a special stand - following approval by the approving official. Leaflets may only be distributed from this stand. The stand will be placed in a specific location to be determined from time to time by BGU's authorities. The stand will not serve as a stage for speeches and a megaphone will not be used there. Those manning the stand will be responsible for ongoing cleaning around the stand and dismantling it. Only one stand may be placed at the defined location for no more than two consecutive days. This restriction does not prevent reapplying on the same subject.
- K. A person whose application is not approved may appeal the decision before the Appeals Committee.
 - 1) The composition of the committee shall be as follows:
 - 2) Chairman of the Student Affairs Committee of the Executive Committee or a person so appointed by him from among the committee members as Chairman of the Appeals Committee.

- 3) The Rector or any person acting on his behalf
- 4) A Public representative
- 5) Chairman of the Student Union or his deputy
- 6) The Director-General of BGU or anyone acting on his behalf.

The public representative will be jointly appointed by the President and the Rector, and he/she will be appointed a permanent substitute. The committee may deliberate and decide, in a composition of not less than three members, provided that one of them is the chairman of the committee. The committee will render its decision no later than two weeks from filing the appeal and in exceptional cases as stated in section E above within two days.

- L. It is incumbent upon the relevant approving official and the Appeals Committee to give reasons for each decision in accordance with these regulations.
- M. The relevant approving official may revoke the approval given - if the circumstances so require. This decision may also be appealed before the Appeals Committee.
- N. Organizers of any activity for which approval has been received will be responsible for maintaining order, cleanliness and observance of BGUs regulations and property.
- O. An activity in contravention of these regulations constitutes a disciplinary offense.
- P. Where a political activity is conducted without authorization or should it become violent, the President of BGU or anyone so authorized by him may take lawful action, including by calling the police to the campus, in order to establish order.