

"The Liberty of a Nation":
The Promise and Paradox of Free Expression and Inclusion on Campus
AAC&U 2018 Annual Meeting

Practice Recommendations

- Provide opportunities on campus to talk about First Amendment law and the historical and contemporary stories that make up the cases.
- Provide opportunities on campus to talk about academic freedom and civil discourse, with the intent to test ideas, engage with other perspectives, and develop shared meaning as part of an educational process.
- Familiarize yourself with key legal concepts such as incitement to violence, fighting words, harassment, and hostile environment.
- Consider hosting the First Amendment Free Food Festival as an interactive way to teach about the rights of the First Amendment.
- Work with university counsel and other relevant offices (e.g., Student Affairs, Public Safety, University events, etc.) to review and revise policies, procedures, and protocols regarding free expression.
- Use Deliberative Dialogue as a way to talk about multiple perspectives on free expression and inclusion so that students and colleagues have a chance to hear from one another and understand the reasoning behind views they might not understand.
- Decide who will come together on your campus to address bias incidents, when and how you will respond to the community, and the way you will take into account inclusion and free expression in the analysis.
- Interdisciplinary institutional committees such as the threat assessment team and the crisis communications team should plan for scenarios involving controversial speakers and consequential protests.
- Work with your Student Government Association and student cultural groups to host an annual Town Hall Forum about free expression and inclusion on your campus.
- By talking with students, faculty/staff organization advisors, and Student Affairs colleagues, seek to understand why many college students believe that hate speech/speech offensive to underrepresented groups should not be

allowed on campus.

- Promote the ways in which inclusion and free speech and expression are mutually supportive values on your campus.

Presenters' Information

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