

TTU Proposed Senate Resolution: Freedom of Speech & Backdoor Playhouse
Passed 09/12/2023

Whereas Policy 007: *Free Speech on Campus* states: “Tennessee Tech affirms that Students have a fundamental right to Free Speech.” (IV. Policy A. <https://tntech.policytech.com/dotNet/documents/?docid=904&public=true>); and,

Whereas Policy 007: *Free Speech on Campus* states: “It is not Tennessee Tech’s role to attempt to shield individuals from Free Speech, including ideas and opinions they find offensive, unwise, immoral, indecent, disagreeable, conservative, liberal, traditional, radical, or wrong-headed. (IV. Policy E. <https://tntech.policytech.com/dotNet/documents/?docid=904&public=true>) ; and,

Whereas Policy 007: *Free Speech on Campus* states “Tennessee Tech will allow all Students and all Faculty to invite guest speakers to campus to engage in Free Speech regardless of the views of guest speakers.” (IV. P <https://tntech.policytech.com/dotNet/documents/?docid=904&public=true>) ;and,

Whereas Policy 007: *Free Speech on Campus* states Tennessee Tech will not disinvite a speaker invited by a Student, student organization, or Faculty Member because the speaker’s anticipated speech may be considered offensive, unwise, immoral, indecent, disagreeable, conservative, liberal, traditional, radical, or wrong-headed by Students, Faculty, administrators, government officials, or members of the public. “ (IV. Q. <https://tntech.policytech.com/dotNet/documents/?docid=904&public=true>) ;and,

Whereas Tennessee Tech is a public not private institution.

Be it resolved that all tuition-paying Students comprising Tech Student Groups retain Policy 007 rights to invite Guest Artists to the Backdoor Playhouse; and,

Be it further resolved that the Tennessee Tech Faculty Senate calls upon President Oldham to restore said Policy 007 rights to all Tech Student Groups in an equitable and expedient manner; and,

Be it further resolved that the Tennessee Tech Faculty Senate calls upon President Oldham to publicly affirm the freedom of speech protections of all students at Tennessee Tech.