



Policy 14: Public Use of the Northern Virginia Center

The facilities of the Northern Virginia Center are intended for the use of its students, faculty, staff, and invited guests participating in university-approved programs or activities, sponsored by or under the direction of the university or one of its related agencies or approved organizations. Use of university facilities by the public is restricted to those activities in which the public interest is readily and safely accommodated and that do not conflict with university program needs and schedules.

University facilities are to be used in a manner consistent with their intended purpose. Priority of use must be given to those activities related to the academic, residential, cultural, and recreational programs of the university. The facilities must be used in a safe, professional manner so as not to endanger the university community or the general public. The university may restrict access to land and buildings to protect individuals, property and equipment.

Any person utilizing a university facility who engages in unlawful or disruptive conduct or violates university policies may be asked by a university official to leave the property. Failure to comply with such requests and failure to abide by regulations governing the use of university facilities constitute trespassing under Virginia state law and may lead to disciplinary action and/or arrest. The university is not obligated to tolerate events that interfere with any lawful mission, process, or function of the institution. Request for approval of events may be denied if they pose a clear and present danger to university students, employees and facility users. Refer to *College and University Law, 1972*

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It is the policy of the university to permit state employee associations and university faculty and staff associations to use university meeting rooms, where the time, place and nature of the use do not interfere with the conduct of university business, do not violate any laws, leases, or other contracts, and are compatible with the safety and security of the particular facility and mission of the university. The use of university-owned or leased meeting rooms must be related to the university and state employee association's role in providing programs and services of general benefit to employees within the context of their employment. All applicable fees for use will apply.

www.policies.vt.edu/5000.pdf

Resource Center/Library

The Resource Center is used by students working toward degrees and by Virginia Tech researchers. They have the priority for the use of library space, computers, and other equipment. The Library is open to the public at the discretion of the Northern Virginia Center Librarian. Individuals who are not faculty, staff, or students and/or who engage in disturbing or illegal behavior as defined below may be asked to leave.

Disturbing or Illegal Behavior

Appropriate authorities will be contacted, including but not limited to the Fairfax County Police, in the case of

- Verbal or written threats about the Northern Virginia Center and/or employees or students
- Verbal or written threats about government agencies or about specific government officials
- Theft or attempted theft of university or personal property
- Vandalism inside or outside the building
- Disruptive or disorderly behavior

An investigation will be made to reveal any possible connection between perpetrators of illegal acts and Virginia Tech or the University of Virginia, with whom the Northern Virginia Center is shared.

Disruptive or disorderly persons, or those that interfere with or prevent the use of Virginia Tech space or equipment by faculty, staff, or students, may be asked to leave the building, escorted from the building, or arrested and removed from the premises by law enforcement as appropriate. Such persons may be permanently banned from the building and grounds.

The Associate Dean/Director of the Northern Virginia Center and the University of Virginia's Northern Virginia Center Director will meet to decide on what course of action to follow and whether or not to send out any general communications regarding general or specific threats.

Security Level

A higher level of security awareness at the Northern Virginia Center can be raised through communication between the Associate Dean/Director of the Northern Virginia Center and the University of Virginia's Northern Virginia Center Director. This heightened level may not be obvious to those in the building or, if necessary, communicated to faculty, staff, and students.

Inquiries

Inquiries regarding the use of the Virginia Tech Northern Virginia Center can be directed to the Facilities Manager, 8-8316, or to the Associate Dean / Director of the Northern Virginia Center, 8-8310.

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