

STUDENT AFFAIRS OP 91.310: Outdoor Amplified Sound

Date: September 19, 2012

Purpose

To provide uniform guidelines to ensure appropriate times and noise levels are recognized and observed for outdoor events.

Policy

The university realizes the privilege to enjoy outdoor entertainment and programs must be weighed against the basic need of students and other residents of the university community to enjoy an atmosphere free from excessive noise. The university allows outdoor amplified sound on campus under the following conditions designed to minimize distractions from the educational purpose of the university and unwarranted disturbance of residents of the university community.

Procedure

1. Weekends

On-campus, outdoor events with amplified sound will typically be the weekends of home football games during the fall semester and typically six weekends during the spring semester. The spring weekends, one of which will be Super Bulldog Weekend, will be set no later than the end of the first week of class of spring semester by a committee comprised of the Dean of Students, the Colvard Student Union, representative of the student body, a faculty representative, and others as deemed necessary.

2. Weekdays

Outdoor amplified sound during the week will typically be on Thursday evening from 8 p.m. until 11 p.m. Exceptions for special campus-wide events may be made by the above committee. Specially approved weekday outdoor concerts, or other amplified sound events must typically end by 10 p.m. Weekday events with outdoor amplified sound that are held adjacent to classroom buildings may be held to different time constraints and sound levels.

3. Times

The times during which outdoor amplified sound will typically be allowed on approved dates are as follows:

- a. Thursday: 8 p.m. until 11 p.m.
- b. Friday: 8 p.m. until 1 a.m. Saturday

- c. Saturday: 10 a.m. until 1 a.m. Sunday
- d. Sunday: 1 p.m. until 6 p.m.

4. Sound Levels and Location

The following guidelines regarding sound levels and locations must be adhered to at all times and may be adjusted by the Dean of Students Office as deemed necessary to preserve the ability for the university to conduct normal business or a special event:

- a. The standard approved sound level permitted for outdoor amplified sound is typically 100 decibels.
- b. Different locations, such as those adjacent to academic buildings and residence halls, may determine the volume, speaker placement, and any other component of the event.
- c. Events planned during normal classroom hours may be considered on a case by case basis.
- d. The Dean of Students Office reserves the right to lower the volume to a more appropriate level at their discretion.
- e. Athletic games (sounds originating from the stadium) and MSU band practices are excluded from this policy.

5. Organizational Responsibility

It is the responsibility of the sponsoring organization or individual to monitor the sound level of the event. Complaints received by University Police Department will be relayed to the individual in charge or the organization sponsor. If the sound level is not managed properly, after one warning the event may be stopped by university officials.

Review

The Vice President for Student Affairs is responsible for the review of this operating policy every four years or as needed.

OP 91.310
8/2/94; 9/12/06; 9/18/12

**DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS
OPERATING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

STUDENT AFFAIRS OP 91.310: Outdoor Amplified Sound

REVIEWED BY:

/s/ William Kibler
Vice President for Student Affairs

11/30/12
Date

/s/ Lesia Ervin
Internal Auditor

12/04/12
Date

/s/ Joan L. Lucas
General Counsel

01/14/13
Date

APPROVED BY:

/s/ Mark Keenum
President

01/29/13
Date