

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AMENDMENT TO THE ACCEPTABLE USE
STANDARD OF THE ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY RELATED TO PARTISAN
POLITICAL PURPOSES BY EMPLOYEES**

WHEREAS, University Policy 7000 governs acceptable use of Information systems at Virginia Tech; and

WHEREAS, the University adopted standards implementing Policy 7000; and

WHEREAS, one standard prohibited use of the university computer systems or networks for “partisan political purposes”; and

WHEREAS, this standard has always been understood to apply only to employees; and

WHEREAS, it is proposed that the standard be amended to reflect how the standard has been understood and applied consistently since its creation in 1991;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the standard relating to partisan political purposes be amended to provide:

That in making use of resources must not, if you are an employee, use university systems for partisan political purposes, such as using electronic mail to circulate advertising for political candidates.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Visitors approve the Resolution to approve the Amendment to the Acceptable Use Standard of the Acceptable Use Policy related to partisan political purposes by employees.

June 8, 2021

ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY STANDARDS

The purpose of Virginia Tech's Policy No. 7000 provides as follows:

1.0 Purpose

This is a statement of policy regarding the use and administration of Virginia Tech computer and communication systems, network, services, and data. It relates to the use of any computing or communications device, regardless of ownership, while connected to the University network, and to the use of any information technology services provided by or through the University. Every individual using these systems and services is expected to know and follow this policy.

The policy was adopted by the university's Communications Resources Council in 1991, and has been amended several times since. All individuals using University computer and communication networks, including employees, students, and guests, are required to meet the elements of the policy.

As a companion to the policy, there have been standards developed which all users are expected to meet. One such standard concerned use of university systems for political purposes. When adopted, this standard was applicable only to employee use of the university systems. This standard has never been applied to students use of the system, and to insure that it only applies to employees, and to better reflect how it has always been understood, the standard has been amended to read as follows:

"In making acceptable use of resources you must NOT, if you are an employee, use University systems for partisan political purposes, such as using electronic mail to circulate advertising for political candidates."