TYPE: Business and Finance

POLICY TITLE: Public Assembly Policy

A. Statement of Policy

Northeast Wisconsin Technical College (NWTC) recognizes the rights set forth in the First Amendment. The property and facilities of NWTC are dedicated primarily to the academic, co-curricular and administrative functions necessarily involved with NWTC's stated mission. In order to accomplish this mission while also recognizing First Amendment rights, NWTC will place reasonable, content-neutral limitations on the time, place and manner in which individuals can express ideas and assemble on NWTC's owned or controlled property.

This policy applies to members of the public other than students or employees as defined in this policy. Student information may be found in the student handbook and student code of conduct. Employee information may be found in the employee code of conduct.

B. **Definitions.** For purposes of this Policy, the terms below are defined as follows:

- 1. "Assembly" a gathering of persons for the purpose of expressing, promoting, pursuing or defending ideas.
- 2. "Campus" all property and facilities owned or controlled by NWTC.
- 3. "Employees" all individuals currently employed by NWTC.
- 4. "Expressive Activity" demonstrations, picketing, vigils, rallies, or performances. For purposes of this policy, Expressive Activity does not include social, random, or other everyday communications.
- 5. "Fighting Words" Communication which, when addressed to an ordinary person, is inherently likely to provoke violent reaction.
- 6. "Public Assembly Area(s)" the specific indoor and outdoor portion(s) of Campus designated by NWTC for Assembly and Expressive Activity.
- 7. "Student" all persons currently enrolled in courses at NWTC, either full or part-time.
- 8. "True Threats" statements where the speaker communicates a serious expression of an intent to commit an act of unlawful violence to a particular individual or group of individuals, regardless of whether the speaker has the ability to carry out the threat. True Threats do not include political hyperbole, jest, innocuous talk, expressions of political views, or other similar expression.

C. Public Assembly Policy and Procedure

- 1. NWTC hereby designates as Public Assembly Areas the locations identified in Attachment A. These areas provide increased visibility to those using the Public Assembly Areas for Assembly and/or Expressive Activity without probable disruption of NWTC's academic, co-curricular and administrative responsibilities.
- 2. The Public Assembly Areas will be available for use between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. Persons may request other areas if the designated Public Assembly Areas are already occupied. NWTC will consider any such requests on a case-by-case basis to determine whether another area is available and appropriate in light of all relevant considerations, including safety and security, educational activities, etc.
- 3. Non-Students and non-Employees must reserve Public Assembly Areas 24 hours prior to anticipated use by visiting the Security Office, located in Room SC121 (Student Center) on the Green Bay campus, or by calling (920) 498-5699.

- 4. Priority for use of all Public Assembly Areas will be given to individuals or groups who reserved the Public Assembly Areas with NWTC.
- 5. The following restrictions apply to the manner of use of any Public Assembly Area:
 - a. Interference with the free flow of vehicular or pedestrian traffic within Campus or the entrances or exits of any buildings on Campus is not permitted.
 - b. Interference with the orderly conduct of classes or other NWTC-approved activities, including ceremonies or events, is not permitted.
 - c. Use of Fighting Words, True Threats, other unprotected expression or activity, discriminatory harassment, sexual harassment, or violation of state or federal law while using or occupying any Public Assembly Area is not permitted.
 - d. Use of amplified sound within any Public Assembly Area must be intended to be heard only in the immediate vicinity of the Public Assembly Area in order to minimize any disruption to the central academic mission of NWTC. Volume at lower levels may be restricted when necessary to prevent interference with any academic or other program taking place in Campus areas nearby the applicable Public Assembly Area.
 - e. Damage or destruction of property owned or operated by NWTC or property belonging to Students, Employees or Guests of NWTC is prohibited. Persons or organizations causing any such damage may be held financially and/or criminally responsible.
 - f. All Public Assembly Areas must be left clean and in good repair after use. Persons or organizations failing to comply may be held financially responsible for any resultant cleanup costs.

E. Enforcement

Non-compliance with this policy may result in denial of access to assemble on properties owned or controlled by NWTC.

ATTACHMENT A - Internal and External Public Assembly Areas

Campuses

Green Bay Campus

- Internal Spaces: Student Center Commons; Welcome Center Landing area inside Door 9: Trades and Engineering Technology Atrium
- External Spaces: See Attached Map

Marinette Campus

Sturgeon Bay Campus

Regional Learning Centers and Auxiliary Locations Internal and external spaces available unless specified

Artisan and Business Center (External Only)

Aurora Regional Learning Center

Crivitz Regional Learning Center

Luxemburg Regional Learning Center

North Coast Marine & Manufacturing Training Center

Oconto Falls Regional Learning Center

Shawano Regional Learning Center

Sister Bay Learning and Innovation Center

Universal Driving Facility (External Only)

