

Institutional Statements Policy

Central to fulfilling the educational, research, and scholarly mission of Clark University is a campus environment that fosters the free pursuit of inquiry and the free exchange of ideas. To ensure as fully as possible an impartial forum for discourse and debate and that all members of the Clark community feel their views and voices are welcome, Clark University, through its representative leaders, shall as the default practice decline to make official statements on behalf of the institution or any unit (school, department, institute, center, program, or the like) within the institution – especially with regard to social and political issues whether they be local, regional, national, or global.

This policy is expressly intended to avoid inhibiting individual expression and inquiry by members of our campus community and should not be interpreted as indifference to important issues or lack of care for the wellbeing of our community on the part of the University as a corporate entity. Nor does it relate to or influence the way in which members of our faculty demonstrate and/or express their thought leadership and expertise. As a higher education institution, Clark University and its leaders may without restraint issue statements related to higher education policy, practice, or issues that have direct bearing on our institutional mission or purpose. Individuals at Clark, including those in leadership positions, are entitled to express their personal views on social and political issues provided they make clear that they are not speaking as employees of Clark University or by virtue of their positions at Clark, and that whatever views they express are not representative of their office, school, department, program (or the like), or of Clark University.

History/Revision Information

Responsible Office/Division: Office of the President

Effective Date: June 10, 2024

Next Review Date: June 10, 2025