



TUFTS UNIVERSITY

POLICY ON UNIVERSITY RELATIONSHIPS WITH RELIGIOUS AND PHILOSOPHICAL COMMUNITIES AND REPRESENTATIVES

The Tufts Office of Religious and Philosophical Life (RPL) coordinates the university's relationships with religious and philosophical communities and representatives on and off campus. This policy ensures the wellbeing, protection, and integrity of the university community by:

- ensuring the integration of religious and philosophical activities with the Tufts University and the Tufts RPL missions and with existing activities and relationships;
- ensuring compliance with and accountability to university policies and procedures;
- preventing the duplication of and competition for spiritual services;
- preventing high-pressure group activity on campus;
- ensuring proper vetting and background checking of communities and individuals seeking to engage with the campus;
- and ensuring equitable access to the university's limited resources.

For any religious or philosophical community or representative wishing to contact the university or engage with the campus, the first and main point of contact is the University Chaplain. The University Chaplain is the first university officer that they should consult regarding all matters, most importantly access to students, but also including access to university resources such as space and communications. The University Chaplain may then contact and involve other university offices as appropriate. Religious or philosophical communities or representatives contacting the university will seek clearance from the University Chaplain before contacting other university offices and will keep the University Chaplain informed of and involved in any interactions with the university.

Tufts University offices that are contacted by religious or philosophical communities or representatives should refer those contacting the university to the University Chaplain. If university offices need to contact or engage with religious or philosophical communities or representatives, they should consult with the University Chaplain in advance and keep the University Chaplain closely involved in interactions. This will ensure consistency in the university's relationships with all such communities and their representatives.

Any questions regarding this policy may be referred to the University Chaplain at 617.627.3427 or orpl@tufts.edu.