UNIVERSITY POLICY
GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

POLICY
The Public Affairs Office serves as the primary resource in representing Slippery Rock University to elected and appointed government officials and their staff. Public Affairs is also the primary contact for visits of elected and appointed government officials to campus.

RATIONALE
The purpose of this policy is to establish who can represent the University to any elected or appointed government official or governmental body.

PROCEDURE
University faculty, staff members and students are free to have open communication with elected and appointed government officials with the understanding that they are not representing Slippery Rock University. Only members of the Public Affairs Office, or persons approved by the president or his/her designee shall represent the University to any elected or appointed government official or governmental body. SRU faculty and staff are encouraged to visit elected and appointed government officials on the importance of the respective disciplinary or scholarly activities, but the Public Affairs Office is to be notified of planned visits in advance.

SRU faculty and staff who need to communicate with federal or state agency officials, such as grant program officers, about programs, projects or other activities or expected duties of a faculty or staff member need not involve the Public Affairs Office. Faculty inviting federal or state agency officials to speak as part of classroom activities should inform, but need not involve, the Public Affairs Office.

SCOPE
This policy applies to all students, faculty, staff and administrators of the University. Nothing in this policy should be construed to limit one's ability to express personal opinions or restrict one's right to engage in political activities. However, when an affiliate of the University participates in political activity it must be done outside of his or her affiliation with the University.

RESPONSIBILITY
The Public Affairs Office is responsible for the implementation of this policy.

Authority for creation and revision:
University Cabinet: 2008