



Civil Discourse Recommendations

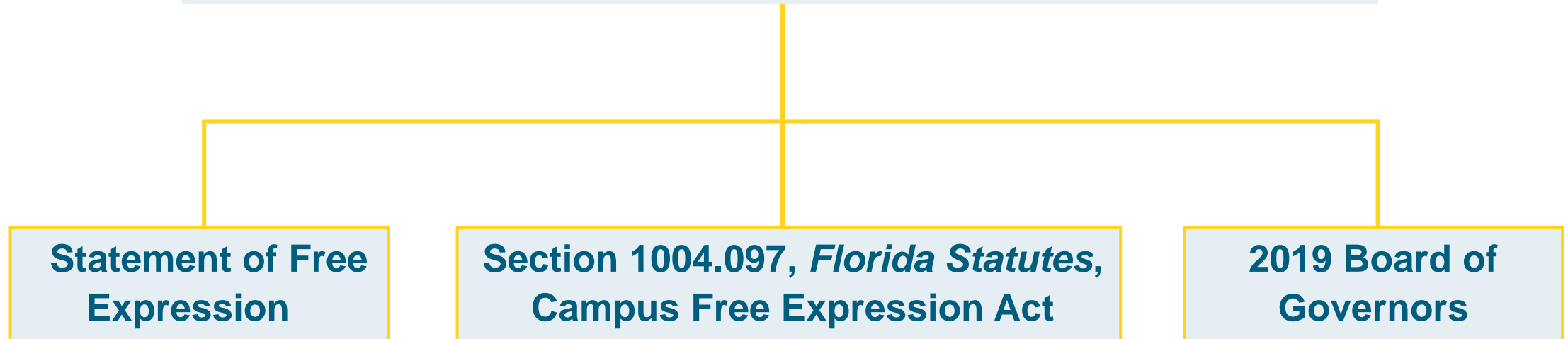
Governor Tim Cerio

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Framework for the Board's Initiative



Initiative Timeline





The Board of Governors as an Advocate



Leadership at each university will operationalize the Board's commitment to civil discourse by

- adhering to the principles set forth in the **Board's Statement of Free Expression**
- cultivating a **culture of civil discourse**



University Planning



Each university's **Accountability Plan & Strategic Plan** should include

- a specific **endorsement of the Board's Statement of Free Expression**
- **clear expectation** for open-minded & tolerant civil discourse throughout the campus community

The Board of Governors will include similar statements & principles in its **Strategic Plan** for the State University System



University Leadership



The leadership of each university board of trustees, faculty senate, & student government **annually review & endorse the Board's Statement of Free Expression** & commit to the principles of civil discourse



Each board of trustees should conduct a thorough **review of current student orientation programs, student codes of conduct, & employee policies & procedures** to ensure consistency with the Board's Statement of Free Expression, the principals of free speech & civil discourse, & section 1004.097, *Florida Statutes*



The University President



Beginning in 2022, **as a part of a president's evaluation**, the Chair of the Board of Governors will consult with the board of trustees chair to **review of the university's campus free speech climate**, including

- adherence to the principles set forth in the **Board's Statement of Free Expression**
- the occurrence & the resolution of any issues related to the university's compliance with substantiated violations of **section 1004.097, Florida Statutes**
- the implementation of **best practices** promoting civil discourse



Academic, Student, & Administrative Affairs



University academic, student affairs, & administrative leaders must **review the following** to ensure they adhere to the Board's Statement of Free Expression, principals of free speech & civil discourse, & **section 1004.097, *Florida Statutes***

- **student orientation programming**
- **student codes of conduct**
- **employee personnel policies & procedures**

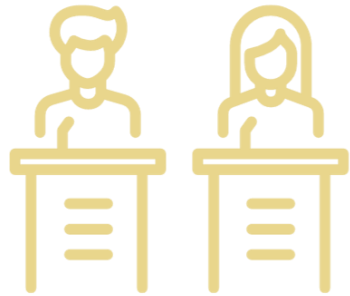


Best Practices for Civil Discourse

The Board of Governors recommends the implementation of the following best practices based on its review of university programs & initiatives that effectively promote & support civil discourse



Instill the importance of **civil discourse, academic freedom, & free speech** in student & employee orientation sessions, public assemblies, & official university documents & communications



Schedule & host **ongoing, campus-wide forums, dialogues, & debates** on a wide range of issues to promote open discussion, understanding, & learning opportunities



Foster intellectual diversity by encouraging university leadership to

- promote **viewpoint diversity & open-minded** discussion & debate
- highlight & enforce policies which prohibit programming that excludes participation based on race or ethnicity



Avoid disinvitations by developing clear, viewpoint-neutral policies & procedures governing the invitation & accommodation of campus speakers



Provide targeted **educational & professional development opportunities** for university administrative employees to reinforce free expression & open-minded debate norms



Encourage faculty to establish & maintain a **learning environment** in their classrooms & offices that supports **open dialogue** & the **free expression of all viewpoints** & create processes to **evaluate the strength of such environments**



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