



[Close this window](#) | [Email this page](#)

To submit a case to FIRE, click [here](#).

To contact FIRE, click [here](#).

Donate
Now



News

[Click here for the latest articles](#)

(2002/03/22 - updated daily)

Send your article comments to
newsroom@dominionpost.com

Please visit our sponsor:



[Help
on Go
To
Buttons](#)

This article appeared in the Dominion Post Newspaper on March 22, 2002.

[Return to the listing of articles of March 22, 2002.](#)

Students, FIRE put heat on WVU free speech rules

Civil rights foundation joins campus protest

BY JAKE STUMP

The Dominion Post

WVU students have fueled the fire in their attempt to extinguish the university's free speech zone policy.

The Foundation for Individual Rights in Education, commonly known as FIRE, has joined outspoken students to drop WVU's policy that limits free speech and assembly to two classroom-sized areas at the downtown campus.

FIRE blasted WVU in a press release Thursday and called the policy a violation of the university's moral and constitutional obligations.

On Feb. 11, FIRE wrote a letter to President David C. Hardesty Jr. urging him "to tear down the barriers to speech and declare all of WVU a 'free speech zone.'"

Beverly D. Kerr, associate general counsel of WVU, responded to FIRE in a letter stating that she would share FIRE's letter with the Faculty Senate Committee in charge of reviewing the policy.

FIRE is a Philadelphia-based, nonprofit organization devoted to civil liberty rights on the nation's college campuses.

Campus protests continue

About a dozen students representing Students for Economic Justice, Young Democrats, College Republicans and the W.Va. Animal Rights Coalition led protests Thursday against WVU's free speech policy.

Students held signs and handed out hundreds of fliers at the Beechurst and Engineering PRT stations.

"The purpose was to get people involved and let them know that a Faculty Senate committee will be making a recommendation in early April," said Nathan Moore, an SEJ member. "More free speech zones are really not enough."

Moore said the SEJ will hold a press conference at noon April 1 in the Blackwater Room at the Mountainlair.

There the SEJ will present its own free speech policy and recommend it to WVU's administration.

To read FIRE's letter to Hardesty: www.thefire.org/issues/hard_031802.php3.

To read WVU's response to FIRE: www.thefire.org/issues/wvu_response.php3.

[Return to the listing of articles of March 22, 2002.](#)

Please visit our sponsor:



Send your article comments to newsroom@dominionpost.com

Place Your [Religion Notes or Briefs](#) in the
Dominion Post Saturday Newspaper!
See a Dominion Post Photo You Like? [Order It Here!](#)

[Click here for the latest articles](#) (2002/03/22 - updated daily)

Section

Date

To GO TO a specific page, select a section and date above then click GO TO!

[Help on Go To Buttons](#)

To go to a page relative to the current page, click one of the buttons below!

Please let us know of any problems or web site comments that you may have at info@dominionpost.com.

[Attention Users: Click here to read the legal restrictions and terms of use applicable to this site. Use of this site signifies your agreement to the terms of use.](#)

©1996-2002 The Dominion Post