



MEMORANDUM

TO: Daniel Seel and Gregory Bartell

FROM: Cary Dresher
Acting Dean of Students

DATE: March 24, 2016

RE: Policies Relating to Peaceful Assembly

I am writing in response to your request to hold a peaceful demonstration on the topics of "student autonomy and Institute financial mismanagement" on behalf of the RPI student body, proposed for Wednesday, March 30, 2016, 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM, in front of EMPAC. Your request for a peaceful demonstration on the proposed date, time and location is not approved.

I am disapproving your request based on the fact that your proposed demonstration is scheduled for the same time and at the same location as the 2016 Spring Town Hall Meeting.

As we discussed, your proposed demonstration would be in conflict with the Rensselaer Handbook of Student Rights and Responsibilities Article V: Freedom in Student Life, Section-B (page 5 and 6), which specifies that peaceful student assembly are allowed as long as they do not "disrupt the normal operation of the Institute." As the President's Town Hall Meetings are held twice a year in order to provide members of the Rensselaer community the opportunity to learn about initiatives affecting the community, the expected number of participants and requested length of the peaceful demonstration may be construed as disruptive to classes and operation of the educational enterprise.

If you have any questions or need clarification, please schedule a meeting to discuss this matter further.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Cary Dresher
Acting Dean of Students