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Subject Political campaign activities

To: Campus

In the midst of this season's political campaigns I am reminded of the need to notify the campus of the policy regarding employees' participation in such campaigns.

While employees are encouraged to participate in the political campaign process, there must be a clear separation between their campaign activities in their personal capacity and the proper discharge of their duties as State or Research or Stony Brook Foundation employees. For the purposes of these guidelines, "political campaign activities" include any activity or event designed to urge voters to vote for a particular candidate or to support a political party, or to raise funds for such candidate or party.

Political campaign activities...such as campaigning, coordinating volunteers, and soliciting or receiving campaign contributions...are not within the scope of the official duties and may not be conducted on paid State time. Performing political campaign activities on State time may subject State employees to criminal prosecution and the loss of employment.

In addition, all State vehicles, equipment and resources (including telephones, fax machines, office supplies, postage, photocopying, e-mail and support staff assistance) are the property of the State, and as a general rule may not be used for nongovernmental purposes.