

Campus Guidance: Flags of Nations

Approved by SUNY Oswego President Council, 2-7-22

Section 1. Rationale:

This guidance has been written to provide clarity and define a process for displaying flags which represent countries and other sovereign nations. The purpose of such a display is to intentionally represent the global, international, and Indigenous connections of the SUNY Oswego community. History has taught us the importance of solidarity, community, and representation. We will display national flags to acknowledge and honor the history, places, and experiences of our diverse community. In doing this SUNY Oswego is taking a step in appreciating the many heritages that lie within our community.

Section 2. Flags to be Displayed:

Flags representing students who first enrolled in 2017 and moving forward including:

1. Flags of countries representing students who required a visa to enroll.
2. Flags of countries representing students from US territories and protectorates (e.g. Puerto Rico, US Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, etc.).
3. Flags representing students of sovereign territories located within North America (i.e. First Nations, Native American, American Indian, or Indigenous Nations).
4. Flags will not be displayed representing regional or sub-national territories, or that represent a student's individual heritage. Priority for space allotment will be given to current students.
5. Flags approved through a special request process defined in Section 3.
6. International Education and Programs will provide the Campus Flag Committee with a list of new flags to be displayed based on newly matriculated students, at the start of each semester.
7. Additional flag installations will occur twice annually.

Section 3. Additional Flag Requests:

Other requests will be considered from students, current faculty and staff members:

1. Submissions via google form, to be reviewed by the Campus Flag Committee, will need to include name, email address, campus affiliation, flag requested, and rationale for the request.
2. Requests will be reviewed by the Committee and flags will be added to the display twice annually.

Section 4. Removal of Flags:

1. Flags will remain on display as long as they are in good repair. If a flag must be removed for cleaning or repair, best efforts will be made to replace the flag in a timely fashion.
2. While there are few reasons that a flag would be permanently removed, if a SUNY Oswego Community member feels that a displayed flag should be removed, they may contact the Vice President for Student Affairs who will consider the request and consult with appropriate leadership.

Section 5. Campus Flag Committee:

A Campus Flag Committee should be convened annually to review requests for additional flags and to ensure flags of newly matriculated students are added to the existing display. The recommended change

of this standing committee is as follows:

1. To ensure that newly matriculated SUNY Oswego students are represented in the campus flag display by facilitating the additional hanging of flags.
2. To review submitted requests for additional displaying of flags.
3. To plan and coordinate educational activities related to history, cultures, identity, representation, and heritage.
4. Flag Committee Membership: Chair, Vice President for Student Affairs; members: 2-4 currently enrolled undergraduate/graduate students; representative from International Education and Programs; 2 faculty members.