
University Policy on Public Statements

Establishment:	Council, 24 July 1987
Last Amended:	18 September 2023
Nature of Amendment:	Minor repairs to ensure document is up to date.
Date Last Reviewed:	2023
Responsible Officer:	Director, Media and Communications

Staff are encouraged to have contact with the media within their areas of academic expertise as this enhances the research and teaching profile of the University and provides a valuable community service. However, official statements in the name of the University must be authorised by the Council, the Chancellor, the Vice-Chancellor (or any member of the University acting under the authority of those named officers).

Where a media statement or letter relates directly to the academic subject area of a staff member's appointment, the member may, in order to establish his or her credentials, use the University's address and give the title of his or her University appointment.

All staff have the right to express their views publicly on any matter of public interest as private citizens. Statements made or letters written in this context should not include the name and address or the University (or any part of it e.g. University Hall), or the member's University title.

If there is doubt about whether a proposed statement or letter falls within the ambit of this guideline, the member should discuss the matter with the Vice-Chancellor or the Director, Media and Communications.