

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

March 13, 2020

Iowa State University is very pleased to announce that a recent lawsuit against the university has been dropped by Speech First, Inc. The information submitted to the Court by Iowa State University showed that Iowa State's policy and practice does not unconstitutionally restrict speech based on the content of speech or the viewpoint of the speaker. Moreover, the allegations of suppression made by Speech First were simply not true.

After seeing Iowa State University's response and evidence, Speech First chose not to continue with the lawsuit. The University and Speech First entered into a settlement agreement confirming the dismissal of the lawsuit. No money was paid to Speech First by Iowa State University.

As a public institution, Iowa State University fully embraces its role as a First Amendment campus and is deeply committed to the constitutional protections of free expression. The protections afforded by the First Amendment and similar provisions in the Iowa Constitution are core values of Iowa State and are foundational to the university's mission to create, share, and apply knowledge to make Iowa and the world a better place.

Constitutional free speech provisions are designed to establish and protect the "free marketplace of ideas" that is a fundamental characteristic of university life. Iowa State University will continue to champion the First Amendment in our efforts to create a campus where all individuals and ideas are welcome.

Wendy Wintersteen
President