

# A Student Perspective on Free Speech

Ben Childress, SGA President February 23, 2018



## Framing the Issue

- Current events
  - Political tension
- Conflicting values in higher education
- Time of societal change
- College campuses specifically targeted



#### **Student Attitudes**

- Students can mainly be divided into two groups on the issue
- Opinions vary because primary values vary
  - Some are focused on protecting vulnerable populations
  - Some are focused on maintaining constitutional rights



### **Free Speech**

- Examples of free speech restriction on campuses
  - Speech codes
  - Cancelled speakers
  - Student and professor punishment



## **Controversy on Campus**

- Controversial speakers
- National organizations
- Hate preachers
- Protestors
- Other groups