



SAPIENT BEING
Executive Summary or Abstract

MAKE FREE SPEECH AGAIN ON CAMPUS PROJECT

The overall lack of freedom of speech and expression on today's college campuses (and high schools too) is a serious threat to First Amendment rights, civic engagement and future public policy leadership. It's essential to our ongoing democracy's success. Public policy is considered strong when it solves problems efficiently and effectively, serves and supports governmental institutions and policies, and encourages active citizenship. However, when campus free speech codes and zones are imposed on the student body in violation of First Amendment rights, student participation in active citizenship is restricted and the pipeline of present and future public policy activists and leaders is threatened.

The SAPIENT Being was founded by Corey Lee Wilson in 2019 with the primary goal to return freedom of speech and expression to college campuses (and high schools too) by creating SAPIENT Being Clubs, Chapters and Alliances on high school, 2-year community college and 4-year university campuses that promote opportunities and venues for open dialogue and ensure there is a decorum of civil discourse when this happens. We are a non-profit, non-partisan, non-religious, and non-sectarian organization that subscribes to only one ideology; which is human sapience (wisdom); and welcome with open minds, arms and hearts the diverse believers and practitioners from all ideologies, faiths and walks of life. Functions and product will feature new membership drives, campus petitions, and freedom of speech debates.

The Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE) surveyed the written policies of 466 colleges and universities, evaluating their compliance with First Amendment standards. Overall, 28.5% of surveyed colleges maintain at least one severely restrictive policy that earns FIRE's worst, "red light" rating, meaning that it both clearly and substantially restricts protected speech. The majority of institutions surveyed (61.2%) earn an overall "yellow light" rating, meaning they maintain at least one yellow light rated policy. Yellow light policies are either clear restrictions on a narrower area of expression, or policies that, by virtue of vague wording, could too easily be applied to restrict protected expression. FIRE's highest "green light" rating, meaning that none of their written policies seriously imperil protected expression, only 42 colleges and universities (9% of those surveyed) now earn an overall green light rating.

The Society Advancing Personal Intelligence & Enlightenment Now Together (SAPIENT) Being club, chapter and alliance campus organizations are a great venue for independent minded students who seek to rise above partisan politics and hear both sides of an issue, from any topic, without intimidation. It's also a perfect opportunity for liberal and conservative leaning students to come together and openly debate the

hottest and most contentious issues facing America and the world today. We accomplish this by following the highest standards of civil discourse and debating formats that respect each other's ideas, premises and principles without attacking one's character with malice and prejudice. We also promote consensus building with student leaders along with coalitions and alliances with other freedom of speech organizations who have the same goals.

The SAPEINT Being's primary goal per our vision statement is to return free speech, open dialogue and civil discourse to high school and college campuses without intimidation and threat of violence to those with differences in opinion, ideologies and practices. The SAPIENT Being's mission statement is to establish on-campus clubs, chapters and alliances with independent, liberal and conservative minded students so they can meet safely and freely together to learn the facts about important public policy issues facing us today and how best to debate and address them with sapience. The corollary benefits are civic involvement, free speech compliance and leadership development. When all three are unrestricted, the multiplying effect will strengthen the existing public policy research base, empower data and knowledge beyond what is known, and assist the public policy workforce to thrive and prosper.

Freedom of speech and expression is at the foundation of this process, and of all places, our high school and college campuses, it should never be threatened or at the very least restricted. As Ronald Reagan once said, "There's a flickering spark in us all which, if struck at just the right age, can light the rest of our lives." These student sparks are the future leaders and shining stars of America and public policy decision makers, and here more than anyplace else, they must learn how to reason, debate, and analyze alternate points of view and ideologies without bias, prejudice or emotion if they are to fulfill the public's trust in their policy making decisions and programs.

The performance measures for the 2019-20 fiscal year include starting and chartering a combined total of 25 high school club, 2-year community college chapter, and/or 4-year universities alliance organizations on public and private campuses. The projected budget for the 2019-20 project year which this \$25,000 grant LOI is intended for is \$79,250 and a breakdown of the revenue and expenses is enclosed. The SAPIENT Being was approved on 2-9-19 by the State of California as a non-profit LLC and approved by the IRS on 4-16-19 as a non-profit 501 c (3) charity with tax deductible donation status. To date, we have not received any public funds and are presently operating on a very modest budget. A copy of our 2019-20 budget that includes projected income and expenses can be provided upon request.

The project's plan covers the July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020 fiscal year of action is to: 1) initially reach out with a mass appeal to start SAPIENT Being campus organizations by contacting American student government associations, council members and educators, 2) target America's leading First Amendment and free speech organizations on college campuses for partnering, and 3) provide direct contact with the student activities department and/or the student government association leaders at 100 of the largest K12 school districts and at the 300 largest college/university American campuses to promote and start new SAPIENT Being organizations on their campuses. The majority of time, management and financial resources will be promoting the benefits of SAPIENT Being membership and starting, assisting and championing the various campus organizations for recognition, approval and success.