



**SECRETARY FOR ACADEMIC GOVERNANCE  
AD HOC COMMITTEE ON FREE SPEECH AND HATE SPEECH  
SELF-NOMINEE FORM**

Name: Jef I. Richards  
Campus Address: 404 Wilson Road, Rm 309, Communication Arts & Sciences  
Email: jef@msu.edu  
Contact Phone: 512-567-2510  
Primary College: Communication Arts & Sciences  
Primary Department: Advertising & Public Relations  
Current Faculty Title: Professor  
Education (Degree, Year, and Institution): J.D. (1981), Ph.D (1988)  
Year of Initial Appointment: 2011

**If placed on the final election ballot and elected, I agree to serve:** Yes

Save this completed document with the following file name format: **your last name\_nomination\_form**.

**Email completed nomination form to the Secretary for Academic Governance at [acadgov@msu.edu](mailto:acadgov@msu.edu) by March 4, 2024 6 pm EST.**

**Instructions for Nominee:** In one page or less, describe your reasons for seeking a nomination for the position on the Ad Hoc Committee on Free Speech and Hate Speech. These might include prior personal or professional experiences, special discipline-specific expertise, and/or representation of a specific community. This statement will be used to aid the faculty members of the Steering Committee in determining the *ad hoc* committee's membership.

**Nominee's Statement:** My expertise is advertising law, which deals heavily with First Amendment issues. I believe that this committee must have more than one member with expertise in this area, so that the discussion regarding free speech will be grounded in an understanding of what that means, legally, and its limitations. Since I have that expertise, I feel obligated to volunteer. In addition, I am nearing retirement. While that does mean it will have little effect on me, it also means that I have no hidden agenda and would be an objective participant.