

RESPONSE TO ANTI-SCIENCE INCIDENTS

Policy Number: 132GS

Effective Date: 6/1/16

Revised Date: 6/21/17; 11/09/2020

Scope

This Policy on Response to Anti-Science Incidents applies to faculty, staff, predoctoral researchers, summer scholars and applicants ("Covered Individuals") of The Graduate School of the Stowers Institute for Medical Research ("The School").

Purpose

The Stowers Group of Companies ("SGC") Organizations are private and restrict public access to its campus and facilities. This includes restricting access to individuals and groups advocating anti-science or animal liberationist views as well as representatives of the media. Covered Individuals who identify demonstrators or representatives of the media on the campus should immediately report them to the Security Department.

The School is included in the Stowers Group of Companies ("SGC") Organizations and has adopted the following policy as its own.

Policy

Covered Individuals' Interactions with Protesters or Demonstrators and Accompanying Media Representatives

Covered Individuals are prohibited from engaging in conversation with or participating in demonstrations or other disruptive activities on SGC premises. Covered Individuals are not to engage in any dialogue with any media during a protest or demonstration, as any statement made to a news media representative may be construed to represent the viewpoint and position of the SGC.

Covered Individuals' Interaction with Representatives of the Media Under Other Circumstances

Covered Individuals are not to engage in interviews with representatives of the news media if they identify themselves as associated with or employed by GSSIMR or the SGC without prior clearance from the GSSIMR President's Office.

Access to the Laboratory Animal Services Facilities

For the safety and security of its Covered Individuals and animals, the SGC restrict access to the Laboratory Animal Services Facilities. Beneficial, quality research is dependent upon secure facilities that provide stable, hygienic, comfortable, disease-free conditions for the animals. To protect Covered Individuals, research animals, and the integrity of its research, GSSIMR relies on the SGC to maintain security and surveillance systems.

Animal Issues Response Team (AIRT)

Incidents involving animal-related issues are handled on a case-by-case basis by the Animal Issues Response Team (AIRT) composed of the SIMR President, the Scientific Director, the Director of Public Affairs, the Senior Director of Research Operations, and the Director of Security in consultation with the SGC's legal counsel. An incident involving animal-related issues can be defined as any person or group engaging in verbal or physical expression of their views against animal research on campus. For example, carrying anti-animal research signage, distributing anti-animal research materials, or expressing anti-animal research opinions by letter, fax, e-mail, or telephone conversation are all animal-related issues. Report any such incident immediately to Security at x4144. Security will notify the AIRT, and the AIRT will respond to the incident.

Covered Individuals who violate this policy will be removed from the premises and their association with the SGC may be terminated.

This policy was approved by the GSSIMR Board of Directors on September 5, 2018.

This policy was last updated by the GSSIMR Board of Directors on November 09, 2020.

This policy will be reviewed by the GSSIMR Board of Directors in 2022.