

## GATHERINGS, DEMONSTRATIONS, AND DISTURBANCES

Tufts believes free inquiry and expression are indispensable in attaining the goals of the university. Toward this end, Tufts encourages members of the university community to develop the ability to exercise critical judgment, and supports the rights of individuals to express their views and opinions. The university respects the rights of members of the Tufts community to peaceful and unobstructive demonstration for the purpose of expressing and discussing ideas and opinions, and seeks to ensure reasonable time, place, and manner for such expression.

### PROHIBITED BEHAVIOR

The university has a concurrent obligation to develop policies and procedures that safeguard this freedom of expression while maintaining an atmosphere conducive to the functioning of the university. The university expects its members to be respectful of the corollary rights of fellow students, faculty, staff, and others to perform their duties and participate in the life of the community, free from disruption, interference, or harassment. Examples of behavior that violates university rules include the following:

- > **Interference** with students, faculty, staff, or visitors to the campus who are seeking to perform their various duties. Blocking, directly or by crowding, an entry to a university building and/or creating excessive noise that interferes with sanctioned activities, constitutes disruption.
- > **Intimidation** of students, faculty, staff, or visitors to the campus. Examples of intimidation include but are not limited to: causing or attempting to cause physical injury; physically preventing or attempting to prevent use of a university facility; or threatening, by words or actions, either of the above. **Picketing outdoors that allows free access to the facility is permitted.**
- > **Destruction** of, damage to, or unauthorized access to property, records, documents, files, etc., of the university or of members of the university community.
- > **Unauthorized entry** to a nonpublic area, a private office, or a university facility declared closed by the university and/or refusal to leave when asked. Such behavior constitutes trespassing.
- > **Interruption or disturbance** of, or unwelcome participation (including symbolic, verbal, or other activity) at religious services being conducted inside Goddard Chapel or at other facilities.
- > **Failure to identify oneself** when asked by a university official or Tufts University Police officer or refusing to present proper ID when asked.
- > **Disregarding requests by a university official to disperse** or preventing an official from carrying out his/her responsibilities to enforce university rules.
- > **Aiding and abetting** others in violating any of these rules.

Being considered in violation of this policy is not contingent upon notification by a university official. Any individual who engages in the conduct described above, fails to obey reasonable orders, or otherwise interferes with and disrupts the orderly conduct of university affairs will be subject to the normal university disciplinary procedures, which may include suspension or expulsion and, when civil or criminal statutes are violated, even civil or criminal prosecution, depending on the circumstances, such as the nature of the activity and the location where the activity or behavior took place. The activity or behavior described above may also be the basis of disciplinary action when it occurs off campus.

### SPEAKERS AND PROGRAMS

Tufts is an open campus committed to the free exchange of ideas. It is inevitable that some programs and speakers will be offensive to some members of the community. That offensiveness will not be seen as a reason to prevent the program. In fact, the university will strive to uphold the right of a campus organization to invite speakers or hold programs, even controversial ones, and to hold them without interruption.

When planning a program, sponsors should consider whether the nature of the event suggests that disruption is likely, and should discuss the likelihood of this possibility with the director of the Office of Student Activities. A decision about whether special security measures are necessary will be made by the Director of Student Activities and the Director of Public Safety.

Where the event should be held, how widely the event should be advertised, and what other arrangements are necessary will depend upon the nature of the program. For more information, please refer to the section concerning special security needs in "Policies for Events" found at <http://ase.tufts.edu/osa/documents>; click on "Roadmap."

### POLICY ON THE USE OF METAL DETECTORS AT CAMPUS FUNCTIONS

As is the case on most college campuses today, Tufts requires the use of metal detecting equipment at the entrance to certain campus functions. This requirement will generally apply to all types of events hosted by any campus organization or department where:

- > advertising and admission is open to non-Tufts attendees,\*\* and
- > the event is not primarily a performance with a seated audience, or
- > the nature of the event requires special security arrangements.

**\*\*Note:** For events to be considered open to the Tufts community only (and thus generally not require metal detecting equipment), the number of outside invited guests may not exceed twenty-five.