


[Student Affairs Home](#) | [Emergencies](#)


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: 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 non-public 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 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, where civil or criminal statutes are violated, even civil or criminal prosecution, depending

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.



[Back to Pachyderm Index](#)

Dean of Student Affairs, Dowling Hall 7th Floor, Tufts University, Medford, MA, 02155 | Tel: (617) 627-3158 | [Email](#)

[Tufts University](#) | [School of Arts & Sciences](#) | [School of Engineering](#) | [Directions & Parking](#) | [Find People](#)

© 2013 Division of Student Affairs, Tufts University. All rights reserved.