Request for Clarification about The Role of The FBI
APA Justice Task Force
February 8, 2022

On February 1, 2022, a symposium on Academic Research Security was hosted by Columbia University in partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) New York Office. It was described as an update on how universities and **the U.S, government** [emphasis added] are working together to protect and secure the American research enterprise. Faculty members were excluded from the symposium.

On January 21, 2022, APA Justice sent a statement and requests to the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) after a community briefing on NSPM33 Implementation Guidance on January 18, 2022. We expressed our concern that law enforcement and national intelligence agencies that have caused fear and suspicion and inflicted pain and suffering under the "China Initiative" for the past three years were noticeably absent and raised questions about their roles and responsibilities moving forward.

With this message, we seek your clarification on the following questions:

- Is OSTP aware of this Columbia-FBI symposium?
- If so, was it coordinated with OSTP to ensure that it will not fuel xenophobia against Asian Americans?
- Is the statement accurate that this is an effort of the U.S. government which includes OSTP and other federal agencies? Or is it more accurate that this is an FBI effort?
- Will the record and content of the February 1 symposium be shared with the AANHPI and scientific communities under the coordination of OSTP?
- Will the AANHPI and scientific communities be engaged in future similar activities conducted by the FBI under the coordination of OSTP?

COLUMBIA | The Forum

Dear Guest,

Save the date, **February 1, 2022, 9 a.m.-12 noon**, for a **symposium on Academic Research Security** hosted by Columbia University in partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigations New York Office. Join this virtual event for updates on how universities and the U.S. federal government are working together to protect and secure the American research enterprise.

The federal government provides over $40 billion dollars annually for academic research, of which New York City academic institutions receive approximately $2.3 billion dollars. Invitations to this symposium are extended to NYC area presidents, chancellors, provosts, vice presidents of research, ethics and compliance officers, internal auditors, chief information officers, and campus security officers .

An outline of the symposium is below. Registration details, as well as further information on the panels and speakers, which include representatives from government offices as well as higher education, will be sent out in January. Participants will have the opportunity to engage with the panelists.

Academic Research Security Symposium
Tuesday, February 1, 2022 | 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. EST
- 9:00 a.m. -- Federal Efforts to Protect America's Research Integrity
- 10:00 a.m. -- A National Security Case Study: Overview, Impact and Recommendations
- 11:00 a.m. -- The Way Forward: University Perspectives on Current Solutions, Best Practices, and Future Actions

We look forward to having you join us for these important conversations.

Jeannette M. Wing
Executive Vice President for Research and Professor of Computer Science; Columbia University

James E. Dennehy
Special Agent in Charge, Cyber/Counterintelligence Division; FBI New York