

From the Desk of Denise Spiller, Director

Office of Research Security

Academic Solicitation

Defense Counterintelligence Security Agency (DCSA) defines academic solicitation as the **use of students, professors, scientists, or researchers as collections improperly attempting to obtain sensitive or classified information.**

What to Report

Any contact (i.e., emails, telephone, personal contact) that is suspicious because of the manner or subject matter of the request. This may include requests from U.S. persons or from foreign nationals located in the United States or abroad, and may consist of:

- Unsolicited applications or requests for undergraduate, graduate, postgraduate, or other research positions
- Unsolicited requests for access to research papers or other research-related publications or documents
- Unsolicited request for assistance with or review of thesis papers, draft publications, or other research related documents
- Unsolicited invitations to attend and/or present at international conferences
- Unsolicited grants or gifting of funds/equipment to conduct joint research projects from foreign academia institutions or foreign governments

Don't forget your personal social media accounts. I encourage you to use multi-factor authentication for social media accounts and review their privacy settings to make sure they know what information about them is visible online.

Also, please practice smart email hygiene and be on alert for phishing emails. I advise against clicking on suspicious links and/or forwarding questionable information.

Minimising the Risks of Foreign Influence in Research and Academic Context

Vitālijs Rakstiņš, Karina Palkova, Andris Sprūds and Olena Agapova | Springer Link | May 24, 2024

This study addresses the pressing issue of foreign influence risks in academic and research institutions, crucial hubs for innovation and technological progress. In navigating the delicate balance between openness and national interests, the research focuses on dependencies on foreign resources, technologies, and intellectual property. Employing a comprehensive methodology, including qualitative and quantitative approaches, the study conducts a systematic literature review and comparative analysis across countries and regions.

The findings, validated through qualitative content analysis and triangulation, offer practical insights to enhance internal due diligence processes and establish screening measures. The aim is to protect research autonomy amidst financial dilemmas, technological dependencies, and intelligence vulnerabilities. In a rapidly evolving global landscape, these recommendations contribute to safeguarding national security and maintaining a competitive edge.

To read the full article, use the link below: https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-031-60549-9_8





IN PERSON 2024 Annual Security Refresher Trainings

ORS will offer Annual Security Refresher and Export Briefings in person this year. They will be on UAH campus and at the Bob Jones Auditorium. All trainings will be in person for 2024.

June 18, 2024, Location: UAH Olin King Technology Hall, S105, 11:00am – 12:30pm

June 25, 2024, Location: UAH Olin King Technology Hall, S105, 11:00am – 12:30pm

July 15, 2024, Location: UAH Olin King Technology Hall, S105, 11:00am – 12:30pm

July 25, 2024, Location: UAH Olin King Technology Hall, S105, 11:00am – 12:30pm

Email to RSVP: april.mcmeans@uah.edu

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