

Date: Fri, 11 Jul 2008 09:53:00 -0400  
From: "Brian White" <bwhite@aaas.org>  
To: <jenstrom@ucla.edu>  
Subject: Decision on your E-Letter to Science

Dear Dr. Enstrom,

Thank you for submitting an E-letter to Science commenting on the News of the Week article, titled "Philip Morris Pulls the Plug on Controversial Research Program." We have forwarded your comments to our Editor-in-Chief, Bruce Alberts and read over your contribution, but will not be able to publish it. We are currently only posting those letters most likely to promote positive and stimulating discussion online. We are letting you know as a courtesy in case you wanted to seek another outlet for your letter.

Please do not reply to this email, as it will not be read by Science. Unfortunately the volume of submissions precludes specific discussions about individual submitted E-letters.

Sincerely,

The Editors  
Science Magazine



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June 7, 2008

## Thank you for your E-Letter

We value your contribution. The Science letters editor will review your response, which if accepted, should be viewable within a few days.

If you have a problem with this process or other comments that do not pertain to the submission of electronic responses, then please use our [feedback form](#).

Here is what your E-Letter will look like online:

## Clarifying Tobacco Industry Funding of Research at the University of California

James E Enstrom, Research Professor of University of California, Los Angeles Respond to this E-Letter: [Re: Clarifying Tobacco Industry Funding of Research at the University of California](#)

Grimm seriously misrepresents tobacco industry funding of research at the University of California (1). The Philip Morris External Research Program (PMERP) has funded high quality, peer-reviewed tobacco-related research, not “bogus” research (2). The PMERP has been made “controversial” primarily through the unethical tactics of Stanton A. Glantz, who hypocritically holds the “American Legacy Foundation Distinguished Professorship in Tobacco Control” at UCSF (3). The American Legacy Foundation (ALF) receives all of its funding from the tobacco industry (including Philip Morris), through the Master Settlement Agreement (4). However, while PMERP funding has been permitted at UC since its inception, ALF funding has been prohibited since 2003 because it violates the academic freedom of UC faculty members who wish to use direct tobacco industry funding (5). In spite of this clear UC policy, UCSF has allowed Glantz to receive ALF funding and to engage in ad hominem attacks on me and Edythe London as part of a so-called “Campaign to Defend Academic Integrity” (6). Fortunately, the UC Academic Senate, UC Office of the President, and UC Regents continue to strongly support academic freedom at UC (7). Consequently, I have been able to successfully conduct and publish important epidemiologic research on the health effects of active and passive smoking (8).

The real tragedy is that the Lysenko-like environment created by Glantz and other anti-tobacco activists has made it increasingly difficult to conduct the additional new research that is needed to fully understand and reduce major tobacco-related diseases like lung cancer (8). Ironically, the ALF vice chair and president recently editorialized about the current underfunding of research and stigmatization associated with lung cancer, without realizing that the ALF itself has helped create this very situation (9). Hopefully, attacks on honest scientists will end and sufficient funding will be devoted to understanding and reducing tobacco-related diseases.

James E. Enstrom, Ph.D, M.P.H. University of California, Los Angeles [jenstrom@ucla.edu](mailto:jenstrom@ucla.edu)

Note: My financial and professional affiliations that could be perceived as a conflict of interest are thoroughly discussed in the E- letter itself and in references 1, 2, and 8. This E-letter was originally submitted as a regular letter on March 11, 2008 (<http://www.scientificintegrityinstitute.org/ScienceLetterEmail043008.pdf>).

### References

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