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## Spinal Cord Injury Research Techniques Course: PCRM Campaign Timeline

- Summer 2003** The first OSU Spinal Cord Injury (SCI) Research Techniques Course takes place.
- May 2004** PCRM learns about the SCI course from local Columbus activist group Protect Our Earth's Treasures (POET).
- Summer 2004 to Present** Thousands of PCRM members, physicians, scientists, persons with spinal cord injury, and OSU alumni write letters of protest to OSU administrators.
- June 23, 2004** PCRM submits a Public Records Act request to the Office of Responsible Research Practices at Ohio State University for documents, videos, photographs, or audiotapes detailing the nature of the course and its procedures.
- July 7, 2004** PCRM President Dr. Neal Barnard writes to OSU President Ms. Karen Holbrook detailing PCRM's concerns about the course.
- July 2004** Year two of the course takes place. PCRM and POET hold protests and demonstrations in local venues and in front of OSU's Wiseman Hall, where the course is being held. Local news outlets cover the demonstrations.
- September 17, 2004** PCRM receives a stock response to Dr. Barnard's letter from OSU that leaves several concerns unanswered.
- September 2004** PCRM learns that the number of animals approved to be used and killed for the course has increased for the remaining three years that the course is expected to be offered.
- October 20, 2004** Dr. Barnard writes to Ms. Holbrook again, restating PCRM's continued concerns with the course and requesting a meeting to discuss these concerns. PCRM never receives a response to this letter. Dr. Barnard also writes to Ohio's Board of Regents Chairman Thomas Noe highlighting the cruelty involved in the course and requesting the intervention of the board.
- November 22, 2004** PCRM writes to OSU's Institutional Laboratory Animal Care and Use Committee (ILACUC) detailing specific animal welfare concerns and citing violations of animal care guidelines. PCRM never receives a response.
- December 22, 2004** PCRM receives a response to its Ohio Public Records request. The response contains animal care and use records and associated protocols. The response does not include any photos, videos, or audiotapes. The letter included with the response states that some material requested is exempt as intellectual property, but does not specifically reference audio-visual materials as exempt.

- January 3, 2005** PCRM writes to the National Institutes of Health's Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW), the office responsible for oversight and assurance of compliance with Public Health Service regulations on the part of NIH grantee institutions.
- January 11, 2005** PCRM receives a reply from OLAW acknowledging receipt of PCRM's complaint and stating that the office has opened an investigation.
- February 11, 2005** PCRM sends a letter to OSU requesting clarification of the existence of videos, photographs, or audiotapes related to the course protocols.
- March 2, 2005** PCRM receives a letter from an Associate General Counsel for OSU, stating that the university would not provide PCRM with any photos, videos, or audiotapes associated with the course protocols, citing exemption from the Ohio Public Records Law.
- March 2005** PCRM releases white paper "Priorities for Research in Spinal Cord Injury."
- April 7, 2005** PCRM sues in Ohio State Supreme Court under Ohio's Public Records Act for access to any videos, photos, or audiotapes associated with the course protocols.
- May 23, 2005** PCRM physicians, along with POET, hold a press event to highlight the cruelty and ineffectiveness of the course, and to request that OSU instead focus on research efforts designed to truly elucidate the pathophysiology and treatment of human spinal cord injury.
- July 10-30, 2005** The course is held in Columbus. Students are greeted by local citizens protesting the course.

Please note: All PCRM-generated documents referenced here are available at [www.pcrm.org/osu](http://www.pcrm.org/osu).