Defending science in the era of Trump

US President Trump’s administration heralds a new anti-science era. There is considerable change based on his personal preference on what happens, what does it mean and what can we do? We will provide a detailed look at what is happening and discuss how we can be a constructive force in our society.

Trump’s denial of science

Trends have accelerated political climate changes that now threaten the future of science in the US, South Africa, and abroad. This includes the proposed removal of public health science from the health care system, the attack on the scientific community, and the erosion of the rule of law. Sanctions against science are commonplace. This presents a threat to the health and well-being of all humans.

Trump has taken steps to control science through the anti-science agenda. He has appointed Scott Pruitt, a climate change denier, to run the Environmental Protection Agency. Trump has also proposed a $2.6 billion cuts to the National Institutes of Health (NIH), which supports biomedical, behavioral and social science research.

The all-powerful winners of Trump’s agenda find the intellectual rigour and and moral authority of the scientific community a threat. The National Science, Technology, and Innovation Forum (NSTF) is dedicated to defending science in the area of Trump.

The NSTF is an independent, non-partisan, multi-sector organization established in 1995. It is a broadly representative platform for the science, technology, and innovation communities, including the private sector, civil society, and government. The NSTF is unique in its diversity, bringing together a wide range of stakeholders from across the scientific and technological communities.

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