Short Briefing for Academic and Research Personnel of Summary Steps to Stay Out of Jail

Export Compliance in a Nutshell

PROPERTY/TANGIBLE ITEMS

• Do Not Ship or Transport Any Equipment Out of the U.S. without first conferring with your campus export office to determine if a license is required.

Export regulations govern any transfer of physical objects (be it equipment, compounds, materials, prototypes, specimens, or components) outside the United States. Taking equipment on a ship to use in an experiment is considered an export, even though the equipment is never transferred to a foreign party. There are many exports that do not require a license (depending on what and where the item is being sent), as well as many exceptions. When a license is required, UC has always been able to obtain one. Simply check first with your campus office and they’ll do what is needed to assure that you do not violate the export laws.

• Taking your laptop or camera with you while at an academic conference out of the country is considered an export. There are a few simple rules to follow in these cases, so get a copy of the latest guidance on “temporary exports” from your campus export office and follow the guidance.

WRITTEN MATERIALS

• Publish regularly and share openly all technical data (blue prints, designs, drawings, scientific results).

Export regulations control transfers to foreign persons inside the U.S., in addition to sending the technical data overseas via email or oral disclosure. However, there is an exception for educational activities and any results of research that is intended to be broadly shared in the scientific community. Maintaining open sharing of research with your foreign students and colleagues, both within the U.S. and abroad is an essential ingredient to avoid violating the export regulations.

• Do not enter into secrecy agreements or otherwise agree to withhold or delay publication and dissemination of research results. Do not accept proprietary data that is marked “export controlled”. Contact your campus research office if any program officer asks that you limit or restrict disclosure of results or participation of foreign persons.

RESEARCH IN CERTAIN COUNTRIES

• Contact your campus export office if research is to be conducted in Cuba, Iran, North Korea, Sudan and Syria for a license from the Office of Foreign Assets Control.