Dear Colleagues,

As the spring semester comes to an end and before summer research travel season arrives, we would like to remind everyone of our responsibilities in accordance with U.S. Export Control Laws and our own University of California Export Control Policy.

**International Exports:** All technology (computer equipment, laptops, high tech equipment, software, biologics, etc.) must be screened by the UC Merced Export Control Office prior to exporting (this includes shipping, and hand carry) overseas to ensure a license is not required to export the item to its destination or its receiver.

**Screening of Visitors:** In accordance with UC President Napolitano’s letter issued Feb 7th, 2019 on foreign influence, and the U.S. government requirement to not do business with any restricted persons, we have partnered with the UC Merced Office of International Affairs (OIA) and Academic Personnel Office to begin screening of our J-1 exchange visitors. Department/units sponsoring J-1 exchange visitors will have to provide information for screening to the UC Merced Export Control Office prior to submitting other required documentation to OIA. We do not anticipate this step will lengthen in any way the J-1 visa processing time. Please see: [https://rci.ucmerced.edu/export-controls/restricted-party-screening](https://rci.ucmerced.edu/export-controls/restricted-party-screening)

**Foreign Travel/Research:**

- **Iran:** Any foreign travel to Iran on University business (teaching, attending a conference, research activities) will likely require a license from the federal government (please note a license is not equivalent to a visa, which would have to be obtained separately). Additionally, any services (educational, research, etc.) provided to or in collaboration with, persons or entities in Iran may also require a license from the federal government, regardless of any travel plans. Please contact UC Merced Export Controls Office well in advance to embarking on any activities involving persons or entities in Iran. Failure to obtain a license when required will jeopardize reimbursement by the University for travel. Please see: [https://rci.ucmerced.edu/export-controls/international-travel/travel-iran](https://rci.ucmerced.edu/export-controls/international-travel/travel-iran).

- **Cuba:** Travel to Cuba on University business is handled through general license procedures. We strongly encourage all travelers to Cuba on University business carry a letter from our office outlining the research purpose of the travel and what license category they are traveling under with them when in Cuba. The U.S. Department of State still prohibits U.S. entities doing business with multiple Cuban organizations. Please check this list prior to engaging in any financial activity with Cuban organizations. Please see: [https://rci.ucmerced.edu/export-controls/international-travel/travel-cuba](https://rci.ucmerced.edu/export-controls/international-travel/travel-cuba).
General Travel Overseas on University Business: We strongly encourage the use of the OIT Loaner Device Program for International Travel, especially travel to countries/regions that are designated as high security risk areas. Please contact Risk Services to determine if your travel is to a high security risk area. Use of a loaner device protects both University and personal information when traveling overseas. We also strongly encourage registering your trip (even if you do not book through Connexxus) through WorldAware so you have access to business-related travel services (http://risk.ucmerced.edu/travel-safety/employee-business-travel-insurance).

Controlled Technology: Any use of or access to controlled technology by foreign nationals (including students) on the UC Merced Campus may require a license. If you know you are using controlled technology for research, and will have foreign nationals working with it, please contact our office prior to initiating any work. Access to this technology must be strictly controlled. Our office can also help you determine if the technology/software, etc. is controlled. Please contact exportcontrols@ucmerced.edu.

Foreign Influence: Finally, the scrutiny of foreign influence on academic research centers by the federal sponsors of research remains intense. Higher education institutions are anticipating more regulatory restrictions to come out of the administration that will restrict some activities around foreign collaborations and partnerships. Until then, we strongly encourage you to familiarize yourself with both the NSF and NIH requirement for disclosure of foreign activities as it pertains to current and pending support. This includes any foreign affiliations, both paid and unpaid, and honorary affiliations of the sort that are often listed on a PI biosketches. Failure to disclose this information may result in civil and criminal penalties imposed on individual researchers.

The UC Merced Export Control office serves as a resource to all UC Merced personnel on issues of export controls, so we encourage everyone to contact us with any questions or concerns that you may have about the above listed topics. We are committed to facilitating in every way the research mission of our University and making sure it is carried out in compliance with all U.S laws.

Please contact exportcontrols@ucmerced.edu for any questions.

Sincerely,

Sam Traina
Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development

Deborah Motton
Associate Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development
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