Dear Colleagues and Professors,

We welcome you back to the 2019 Fall Semester at UC Merced. We would like to take this opportunity to inform you of several developments that have taken place over the past months regarding the issue of foreign influence. The federal government’s scrutiny of foreign influence on academic research centers remains intense, and over the summer the UC has taken action on specific interactions with the restricted entity Huawei.

In July of 2019, the University of California placed an indefinite moratorium on any interactions with Huawei and its U.S. affiliate Huawei Devices USA. This means no UC location may undertake any new engagements with Huawei or its affiliates until further notice. Prohibited engagements include purchasing equipment or devices, receiving research grants or contracts, accepting gifts, entering into MOUs, memberships or consortium agreements, technology transfers or licensing of UC IP, or exchanging any technical information with Huawei.

We also would like to remind researchers of their obligations to disclose to federal sponsors all foreign activities. This includes any foreign support, research sites, components, and affiliations, both paid and unpaid, and honorary affiliations of the sort that are often listed on a PI biosketches. It is extremely important that researchers strive for utmost transparency when disclosing their international research activities to federal funding agencies.

It is now required that UC personnel must follow a formal Escalation Protocol when federal funding agencies formally inquire about foreign activities that are taking place on UC campuses. To report any knowledge of any violation of federal policy or law, please go https://rci.ucmerced.edu/international-activities/federal-agency-inquiries-escalation-protocol.

Lastly, the UC Merced Research Compliance and Integrity office has developed a webpage that addresses the Huawei moratorium, provides detailed information on federal sponsor disclosure requirements and how to disclose, and provides other important information and resources on the issue of foreign influence in general. Please visit: https://rci.ucmerced.edu/international-activities

The UC Merced Research Compliance and Integrity Office serves as a resource to all UC Merced personnel on issues of research compliance, export controls, and international research, 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 or rci@ucmerced.edu for any questions on the issues above or other research compliance concerns.

Sincerely,

Sam Traina
Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development
Deborah Motton
Associate Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development

DEBORAH MOTTON PH.D.
ASSOCIATE VICE CHANCELLOR FOR RESEARCH
OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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BUILDING THE FUTURE IN THE HEART OF CALIFORNIA
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