



OFFICE OF RESEARCH & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
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Dear Colleagues and Professors,

Oct 15th, 2020

We welcome you back to the 2020 Fall Semester at UC Merced. This year's Fall Semester looks very different from previous years at UC Merced. However, export control regulations are still in place and are even more important with the COVID-19 pandemic upon us.

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 the federal government has implemented regulations that directly impact Universities.

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. That moratorium is still in place.

Last year Congress passed the [FY19 National Defense Authorization Act \(NDAA\)](#). Effective Aug 13th, 2020, Section 889 Part B of the FY19 NDAA prohibits government contractors (including Universities) from using any telecommunications equipment from the following entities and their subsidiaries and affiliates:

- Huawei Technologies Companies
- ZTE Corporation
- Hytera
- Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company
- Dahua Technology Company

Please do not purchase any technology equipment from these companies for use on the UC Merced networks. And be aware that if equipment from these companies are listed in grant budgets, they may not be allowed to be purchased should the award be made. Additional regulations in the [FY 20 NDAA](#) that will directly impact academic research are being considered by Congress and will be forthcoming. UCOP will provide additional guidance as needed.

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 PI biosketches. **It is extremely important that researchers strive for utmost transparency when disclosing their international research activities to federal funding agencies.** We strongly encourage faculty to visit our [International Activities](#) webpage to find more detailed information on faculty disclosure obligations with regard to any foreign or international research.

Still in place, any interaction (payments, travel, etc) to U.S. comprehensively sanctioned countries (Iran, Cuba, Syria, North Korea, Crimea), will require a license from the U.S. government prior to the activity. *In the time of COVID-19 this may include any virtual interactions as well (e.g. giving a lecture*

virtually at an Iranian institution). Please contact the UC Merced Export Controls office prior to participating in any activities with comprehensively sanctioned countries.

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,

Marjorie S. Zatz
Interim Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development

Deborah Motton
Associate Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development