15.01 Research Agreements

Approved February 27, 1995 (MO 44-95)
Revised September 1, 1995 (MO 286-95)
Revised September 26, 1997 (MO 181-97)
Revised March 24, 2000 (MO 66-2000)
Revised January 22, 2009 (MO 027-2009)
Revised January 30, 2014 (MO 027-2014)
Next Scheduled Review: January 30, 2019

Policy Statement

This policy provides the vice chancellor for research (VCR) and the chief executive officers (CEOs) of The Texas A&M University System (system) and its respective members with a structure for conducting research.

Reason for Policy

This policy defines the VCR’s, CEOs’ and respective members’ research-related duties and administrative responsibilities.

Procedures and Responsibilities

1. RESEARCH POLICY

1.1 The VCR shall submit for chancellor approval the process for administering sponsored research projects funded by federal, state, commercial or non-profit funds in accordance with System Policy 15.04, Sponsored Research Services. The procedures required by this section will exclude the administration of research projects or research related activities not required to be administered by SRS under Section 4, System Policy 15.04 (collectively “Excepted Research Projects or Research-Related Activities”).

1.2 Each member CEO shall submit for chancellor approval guidelines for administering Excepted Research Projects or Research-Related Activities.

1.3 Each CEO shall assure that all research conducted is consistent with the mission of the member and the system.

1.4 Each CEO shall assure that all research conducted at the member complies with all applicable system, local, state and federal policies, regulations and guidelines.
1.5 Annually, the chancellor shall receive a report from the VCR detailing ongoing sponsored research projects and a report from each CEO detailing ongoing Excepted Research Projects or Research-Related Activities.

1.6 The VCR shall establish procedures to assure that sponsored projects are administered in compliance with the sponsor’s applicable policies and regulations. Noncompliance with the sponsor’s applicable policies and regulations shall be reported to and be resolved by the appropriate CEO or designee, in consultation with the VCR.

2. INITIATION OF AGREEMENTS

It shall be the policy of the system to cooperate whenever possible, within the limits of its means and responsibilities, with individuals, government agencies, corporations or other outside parties in the solution of problems of mutual interest. The initiative for effecting such cooperative arrangements, including the establishment of grants-in-aid for the support of research work, may be assumed either by a member or by an outside party.

3. CONTROL OF RESEARCH PRODUCTS

Except as otherwise described in System Policy 17.01, Intellectual Property Management and Commercialization, the results of investigations by, or under the direction of, the research or teaching staffs of the system during the course of their regularly assigned duties shall become the property of the system and shall be so used and controlled as to produce the greatest benefit to the public and to the system.

4. ADVERTISING POLICY

If the results expected from a cooperative undertaking are such that the outside party desires to use the name of the system or a member in its advertising, provisions for such use shall be included in a written agreement. Advertising referring to these results shall be so worded as not to imply the endorsement by any member or the system of a specific product or producer, and shall reflect credit upon the system, its personnel and its activities.

5. RELATIONSHIPS WITH DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATIONS

Relationships with development foundations and similar support organizations are described in System Policy 60.01, Relationships with Affiliated Organizations.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

System Regulation 15.01.01, Administration of Sponsored Agreements – Research and Other
System Regulation 15.01.04, Time and Effort Reporting
System Policy 15.04, Sponsored Research Services
System Regulation 15.99.01, Use of Human Subjects in Research

System Regulation 15.99.03, Ethics in Research, Scholarship and Creative Work

System Policy 17.01, Intellectual Property Management and Commercialization

System Regulation 21.05.01, Gifts, Donations, Grants and Endowments

System Policy 60.01, Relationships with Affiliated Organizations

Member Rule Requirements

A rule is not required to supplement this policy.

Contact Office

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