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**407 MTSU Research Security**

**Approved by President**

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**Sidney A. McPhee, President**

**Effective Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
Responsible Division: Academic Affairs  
Responsible Office:  Vice Provost for Research  
Responsible Officer:  Vice Provost for Research**

1. **Purpose**

To safeguard academic research from foreign adversaries by promoting a security culture that furthers national security interests and mitigates threats to the integrity and conduct of Middle Tennessee State University’s (MTSU or University) research against foreign influence.

1. **Policy Development and Maintenance**

This policy was drafted by the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (ORSP) and shall be reviewed by the Research Compliance Officers in consultation with the Director of the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs every three years. Revisions shall be forwarded to the Vice Provost for Research and Dean of the Graduate College for further review.

1. **Requirement**

All research at MTSU must comply with all applicable legal, regulatory, and contractual standards and requirements for securing and protecting the University's academic research enterprise, including, as applicable, any research involving the institution, its campuses, and its applicable internal components.

1. **Implementation**

The ORSP will promote University’s research security policy consistent with federal regulations to ensure that the institution maintains eligibility for federal funding, including, as applicable, federal risk mitigation requirements pertaining to standardized disclosures, cybersecurity, foreign travel security, insider threats, and export controls.

The ORSP website will include a section for research security. This website will house the contact information for research compliance, cybersecurity, and the Institutional Official for research security, links to the export control policy, and details on how to report security issues or noncompliance to the Research Compliance Team. The website will be updated with applicable communications regarding state and federal research security matters concerning MTSU’s academic research enterprise, including, as applicable, any research involving the University, its campuses, institutes, and its applicable internal components.

Any issues reported to the Research Compliance Team will immediately be reported to the Institutional Official for review. Upon review of the reported incident, the Institutional Official may choose to appoint an investigative committee comprised of three (3) faculty and/or staff from outside the department of the reported incident and the Research Compliance Team to investigate and address the issue consistent with all applicable federal and state laws, as well as seek the assistance of the University Counsel, the State of Tennessee, and the Department of Homeland Security as appropriate.

**V.** **Applicable University Policies**

Affected employees and students must be familiar with the following policies and must comply with all requirements specified in these policies.

[910 Information Technology Resources](https://www.mtsu.edu/policies/p910/)

[920 Information Security](https://www.mtsu.edu/policies/p920/)

[80 Export Control](https://www.mtsu.edu/policies/p080/)

[Export Compliance Guidelines](https://w1.mtsu.edu/research/docs/Export-Compliance-Guidelines.pdf)

Forms: none

Revisions: none.

Last Reviewed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

References: T.C.A. § 49-7-188; MTSU Policies 80 Export Control; 910 Information Technology Resources; 920 Information Security; and Export Compliance Guidelines.