

UC SANTA BARBARA Office of Research



Research Integrity Newsletter - Fall 2023

News & Announcements

Dear Faculty, Welcome to UCSB!

The Research Integrity office welcomes our new faculty and researchers to UCSB. We are excited to support you and your research activities. Our office oversees a variety of research integrity areas, such as human subjects research, animal welfare, export controls, and conflicts of interest. Please see this [reference sheet](#) for an overview of the areas we cover and the associated general email accounts. We look forward to working with you and don't hesitate to reach out if you have any research integrity questions.

Staffing Updates in Research Integrity

The Office of Research Integrity would like to introduce [Melissa Wroten](#) as our new IACUC coordinator. Melissa may be contacted at IACUC@lifesci.ucsb.edu.

Our Export Control Officer, Chyvonne Gibson, has decided to leave the university. We are happy to announce that [Monica Woltmon](#) has moved into that position, effective immediately, and will transition away from our Conflict of Interest program as soon as that vacancy is filled. Monica may be contacted at either exportcontrol@research.ucsb.edu or coi@research.ucsb.edu.

Researcher Training CITIProgram Single Sign On

UCSB has switched to a Single Sign-on (SSO) for the online training program, [CITIprogram](#). CITIprogram is used for basic training in animal subjects research, responsible conduct of research, and some human subjects research studies.

Effective immediately, researchers will need to use their UCSB Net ID and password to access the training. All users will need to select “Log in through my Organization” and type in “Santa Barbara” to affiliate with UC Santa Barbara.

Previously registered users should check their prior training completion reports to ensure their accounts were merged properly with their Net ID. Users who cannot locate previous completion reports can contact CITI support for assistance.



Custom Antibody Production

The generation of custom antibodies is an activity involving vertebrate animals and is covered by Public Health Service (PHS) Policy. Antibodies are considered customized if they are produced using antigens at the request of a researcher, or in other words are not being ordered “off-the-shelf” (e.g., with a catalog number). Any organization that produces custom antibodies must have a PHS Assurance on file with the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW).

Custom antibody orders are typically placed through UCSB Procurement Services via Gateway and must be reviewed by the IACUC to ensure that the vendor has a PHS Assurance and adheres to federal animal welfare regulations and standards.

It is important for Departments submitting requisitions through Gateway to select the correct routing mechanism to ensure that custom antibodies are sent to the IACUC for review.

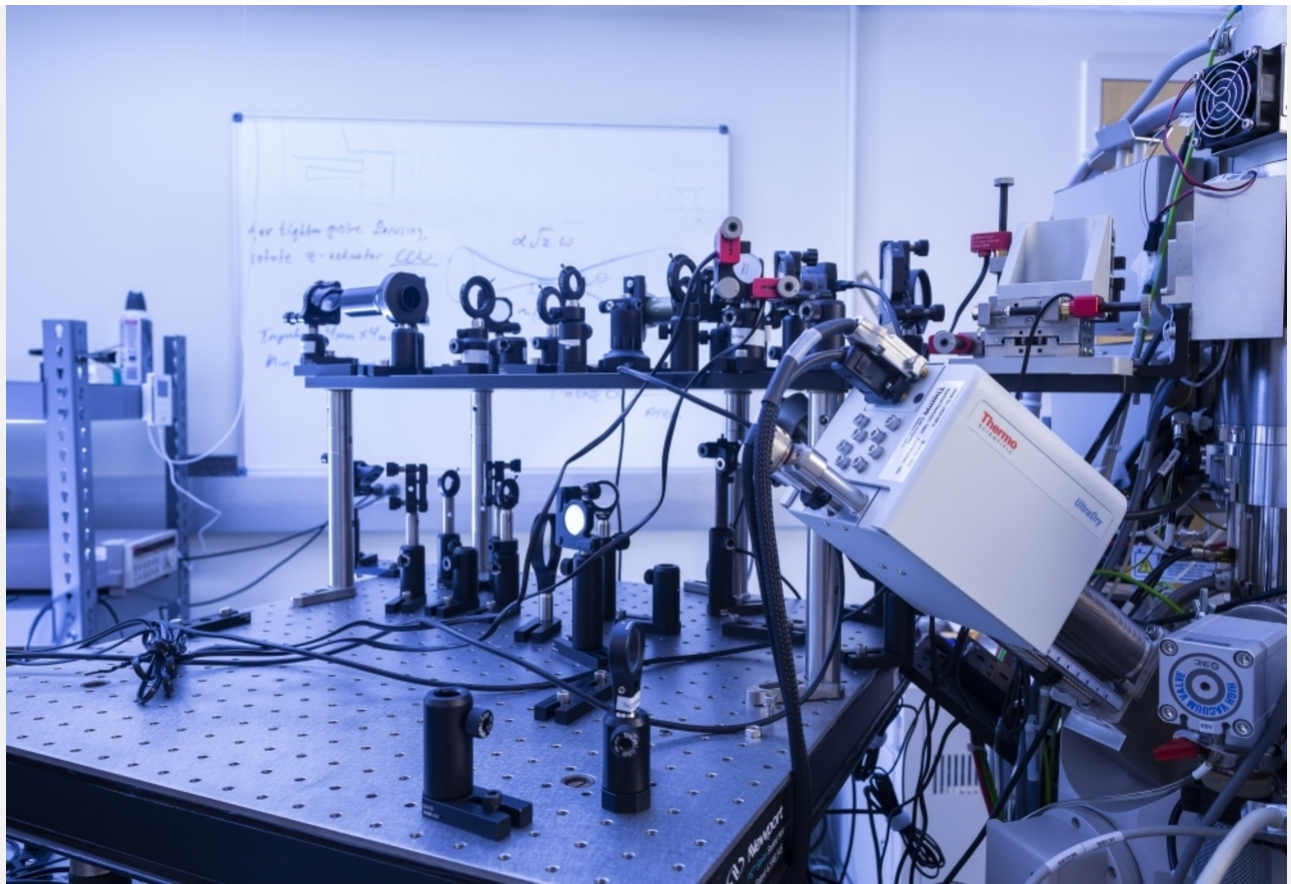
Researchers will be required to complete an Animal Tissue Form so the IACUC can verify that the organization/vendor has the appropriate approvals in place before the IACUC can approve the requisition.

If researchers are unsure whether their order constitutes a custom antibody request, they can contact the IACUC at IACUC@lifesci.ucsb.edu.

Office of Research Animal Management System (ORams) now online!

The online protocol application system for animal subjects, ORams has officially been launched. What this means for animals researchers is that in the coming months, the IACUC will be transitioning protocol submissions from paper-based Word documents to an electronic protocol application system.

We anticipate that all animal researchers will have access to ORams by the end of Fall Quarter 2023 and will be using the system to submit protocols shortly thereafter!



New NASA Conflict of Interest Policy

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) has released a new **Conflict of Interest (COI) Policy**, which goes into effect on December 1, 2023. This new policy is virtually identical to the existing National Science Foundation COI requirement. Because these policies are so similar, we are able to use our existing National Science Foundation COI disclosure form to satisfy NASA's policy. This means that researchers applying for or receiving funding from both NSF & NASA only need to complete one disclosure form. Impacted researchers will be notified by the COI office. More information may be found on our **dedicated NASA COI webpage**. Please contact coi@research.ucsb.edu if you have any questions.

International Shipping Responsibilities and Updates

International Shipping Responsibilities

The shipment of controlled physical items – Such as scientific equipment, shipment and utilization of equipment, technology, biological agents, Chemicals and toxins or other export-controlled items – from the United States to a foreign national or foreign country could possibly require an export license depending on the item, destination,

recipient, and end-use. The Research Integrity, Export Control Office can help you be certain your export is in compliance with export and sanction laws.

Everything that leaves the United States is an export...

... even if it is temporary

... even if it wasn't sold

... even if it is a repair

... even if it will be used for research

International Shipping Best Practices

- Review the **Office of Research International Shipping Website**
- Complete the International Shipment Questionnaire
- Email the questionnaire and any international shipping questions to research-exportcontrol@ucsb.edu
- When emailing the Export Control Office please include the PI/Staff Member and Department along with a detailed description of what is being shipped.
- International shipping is subject to export and import controls, duties, taxes and regulations of 196 different countries. Every export from the U.S. is an import somewhere else - all shipments go through customs in the destination country.
- Shipping to foreign countries incorrectly can result in fines, payment of unnecessary taxes, confiscation, or incarceration. Some items, as well as some software and information, are subject to US export controls. The impact of these controls on a particular shipment depends on the item, the country it's being shipped to, the entity or individual who will receive it, and the use to which it will be put.
- Please ensure all documents required for international shipments are 100% accurate. Even small discrepancies can lead to delays and potential fines.
- Some items are hazardous, and may need to be packaged and labelled appropriately:
 - Biologicals
 - Chemicals
 - Batteries and fuel cells
 - Radioactive material, etc.

If you are shipping any of the items listed directly above, please contact Environmental Health & Safety at (805) 893-3194

International Shipping Procedure Updates

We have made updates to our **International Shipping Questionnaire**. These questions help the Export Control Officer with shipment review and approval. You may find the updated international shipping questionnaire in the Resources section

of our **Export Control website**.

Commodity Classification Review

When completing question 15 “What is the ECCN for the item?” of the international shipping questionnaire, please review the **commodity classification review handout** and contact the Export Control Officer for help with determining the correct ECCN. Please send your request and any shipping questions you may have to **exportcontrol@research.ucsb.edu**.



Conducting Research with Your Own Students

Particular care must be taken when UCSB students are used as research subjects, as there is an inherent power differential between the students and the faculty members who serve as Principal Investigators or members of research teams. No matter how well intentioned the Principal Investigator, students may feel compelled to participate, believing that failure to do so will negatively affect their grades, standing within the lab or course, or impact their relationships within a department, as well the attitude of the Principal Investigator (and perhaps other students and/or

members of the research team) toward them. Students may also struggle with distinguishing between typical classroom activities and research-related activities. Ongoing voluntary participation is a potential issue if a student decides they want to discontinue their participation after initially consenting.

For this reason, the HSC must consider the potential risks of coercion and undue influence. The HSC will review for risks to autonomy and if appropriate safeguards, such as collection of data by a third party or a student's consent to use his/her own data be obtained after grades are entered, as possible ways to mitigate risks regarding this type of research. However, consent should be obtained before research data is used.

For students being recruited from one's own course, the Principal Investigator must ensure that procedures are not likely to adversely impact students' opportunity to learn required educational content. Researchers should make it clear that no consequences will follow if a student decides to withdraw from the study.

For participants (e.g., graduate, undergraduate students, etc.) who have a lower position of power or personal relationship with the research team, great care must be taken to ensure that a participant's autonomy is not unintentionally compromised. This includes privacy and confidentiality considerations as the participant's personal or private information may become readily known to members of the research team.

Although students often provide a ready source of potential participants, they are not always as representative or appropriate to the research as other subject pools. Attention should be given to whether they are being solicited solely for convenience.

For research proposals utilizing recruitment of students by the teacher/researcher, the HSC may require contacting the Department Chair for approval of the proposed subject population and recruitment method.

Upcoming Events

Interested in hosting a human subjects webinar for your department, class, or research team? We can present on a variety of topics from recruitment to informed consent. Contact us at hsc@research.ucsb.edu to schedule a webinar today!

Stay in Touch!

Questions? Contact us at:

Animal Subjects @ iacuc@lifesci.ucsb.edu

Human Subjects @ hsc@research.ucsb.edu

Conflict of Interest @ coi@research.ucsb.edu

Export Control @ exportcontrol@research.ucsb.edu

Stem Cell and Responsible Conduct of Research @ blakemore@research.ucsb.edu

If you have news or updates or feedback you'd like to share, please send to researchintegrity@research.ucsb.edu

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4121 Cheadle Hall UC Santa Barbara
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