July 17, 2023

To: UWM Research Community
From: Vice Provost for Research
Subject: Compliance with Export Laws and Regulations

Federal laws and regulations concerning export, import and financial transactions involving sanctioned or embargoed countries have existed for many years. Increasingly, national security and competitive trade concerns have been pushed to the forefront. The federal government has responded by tightening the export control regulations that govern the transfer of strategic technology for national security and foreign policy reasons.

Export control laws are intended to control the transfer of sensitive information or goods to individuals, entities, or countries of concern and, under certain conditions, to foreign persons. The regulations contain a fundamental research exclusion and specific university exemptions that allow most of the research activities being performed at UWM to be carried out without the need for government licenses or other restrictions.

There are certain activities and information that are not covered by the fundamental research exclusion, however, and remain subject to the export control laws and regulations. It is essential for all members of the UWM community to be aware of them, as failure to comply with export control laws can lead to severe criminal and/or civil sanctions for the individual who violates the law or the university.

Toward that end, UWM has adopted an Export Controls in Research Policy and the Office of Research has implemented a comprehensive Export Controls in Research Program.

The Export Controls in Research Program is fully supported by UWM leadership. However, it is important to note that export control compliance is a shared responsibility among all UWM faculty, staff, and students. Those involved in research have an obligation to be aware of how export control regulations might apply to their activities, and to work cooperatively under UWM’s export control policy and procedures as applicable. UWM asks each of you to take this matter seriously and to support us in this effort.

For questions regarding export control compliance, please contact the Office of Research at: or-exportcontrol@uwm.edu.

Thank you,

Mark Harris