Reference Number: F73-R-11  
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PROHIBITION OF DESTRUCTION OF HUMAN LIFE RESEARCH

AND CLASSIFIED RESEARCH

ACADEMIC SENATE POLICY F73-R-11

1. BASIC PRINCIPLES

San Francisco State University is dedicated to the following primary and essential objectives:

1. The maintenance of a free and open academy.
2. The education of undergraduate and graduate students.
3. The advancement of knowledge through research, scholarship, and creative endeavors.
4. The preservation and dissemination of knowledge.
5. The improvement of community and society.

All research contracts or grants accepted by this University shall fit within the framework of these primary and essential objectives.

2. POLICY STATEMENT: PROHIBITION OF DESTRUCTION OF HUMAN LIFE RESEARCH

Whereas, the University is dedicated to the preservation and enrichment of human life - not its destruction - the University will not accept any contract or grant for research which has as its purpose the discovery and refinement of means to destroy human life or incapacitate human beings.

3. POLICY STATEMENT: PROHIBITION OF CLASSIFIED RESEARCH

The University will not accept classified research of any kind which would limit its freedom to disclose the purpose and scope of the proposed activity or the publication and dissemination of the knowledge gained.

Students may not undertake a thesis if it is probable that secrecy of project description, and/or limitation of the publication of results will result.

(The term "classified" refers to research whose sponsor requires secrecy of project description, and/or limitation of the publication of results.)

4. ENFORCEMENT AND REVIEW PROCEDURES
Responsibility for enforcing the above policies will rest with the Director of the Office of Research and Project Development, the Vice President for Academic Affairs, and the Faculty Research Committee.

The primary responsibility for determining whether a research proposal conforms with the University’s policy rests with the individual faculty member. When a student thesis or project is involved the responsibility rests with the student’s faculty thesis advisor or project advisor. Formal and/or informal consultation with the FRC or individual members must be readily available. Should any doubt exist as to conformity with University regulations, the individual faculty members shall consult with the FRC or its authorized representative(s).

Should the review of a proposal require technical experts outside of the fields of the members of the committee, other faculty, staff, and/or outside experts shall be consulted.

Should the Committee find the proposed research does not conform with the University’s policy, the Committee shall forward it to the Director of Research and Project Development, together with a statement setting forth in detail the reasons for non-conformity and recommendations of the Committee for modification so that the research proposal will conform with the University’s policy. Final approval of the revised project rests with the FRC.

The Director of the Office of Research and Project Development will return the proposal to the initiator for revision if the applicant believes that his proposal has been incorrectly evaluated by the Committee. He may appeal to the Director of OR & PD who shall hold a hearing on request of the investigator. Appeal from the decision of the Director of OR & PD shall be to the Vice President of Academic Affairs.

Appeal process for student thesis and/or project: the same enforcement and review procedures shall be utilized where a student thesis and/or project may be in conflict with University policy.

5. DISTINCTION FROM HUMAN SUBJECTS RESEARCH POLICY

The policies on Prohibition of Destruction of Human Life Research and Classified Research are separate and distinct from the University Policy on Human Subjects Research (see University Policy on Human Subjects Research, as revised, April 15, 1972).

**APPROVED BY PRESIDENT ROMBERG, FEBRUARY 26, 1974**