



320 STEPHENS HALL
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

May 15, 2017

JAMES CHALFANT
Chair, Academic Council

Subject: Proposed presidential policy on export controls

Dear Jim,

On May 8, 2017, the Divisional Council (DIVCO) of the Berkeley Division considered the proposed policy cited in the subject line, informed by the commentary of our divisional Committee on Faculty Welfare. DIVCO declined to endorse the proposal.

Our discussion highlighted the following concerns. We found the proposed policy to be poorly written and difficult to understand. In addition, there is no discernable justification or rationale provided.

We are concerned that the proposed policy will serve to impede faculty research and could lead researchers to violate the policy without being aware of doing so. Further, we believe the policy will fuel the need for more compliance-related administrative positions and processes, without any material benefit to researchers. Any new policy should serve to facilitate faculty compliance with federal regulations and not impose new administrative burdens.

In sum, we do not support the proposed policy. Any subsequent proposal should be clearly written, supported by a cogent justification, and take the needs of UC researchers into consideration. Toward that end, we recommend that the Office of the President solicit input from researchers likely to be affected by the policy, in order to formulate a new proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Powell'.

Robert Powell
Chair, Berkeley Division of the Academic Senate
Professor of Political Science

Cc: Terrence Hendershott and Caroline Kane, Co-chairs, Committee on Faculty Welfare
Anita Ross, Senate Analyst, Committee on Faculty Welfare