University of Illinois Campus Senates  
via Dr. Jorge Villegas  
University Senates Conference  
377 Henry Administration Building  
MC-348

Dear University of Illinois CampusSenates,

As the University of Illinois considers consequences related to the uncertainty of external funding, which is necessary to support its mission, increasing and diversifying the number of funding sources is necessary to lower the risk to the enterprise. Because the three campuses are primarily funded by NIH and NSF, one way that the University can diversify its funding portfolio is to focus efforts and resources on attaining Department of Defense (DoD), Department of Energy (DoE), and related national security funding, and industrial partners who require additional security measures.

The University must begin to more aggressively compete with universities that are known entities and heavily funded by the national security community. To support this strategy, the University has already positioned itself by attaining a Facility Security Clearance (FCL) that can be utilized by all three campuses. An FCL is an administrative determination that, from a national security standpoint, the University is eligible for access to classified information at the same or lower classification category as the clearance being granted. This designation allows the University to target funding that was previously unattainable.

While the FCL designation allows the University to accept research and funding programs that involve the use of classified and/or restricted research, a new University-level policy is necessary to support this business practice. A University-level policy will
provide clarity to both internal and external constituents as to UI's position on this type of research as well as freedom to faculty and staff members interested in pursuing their research interests. It will also preserve the character of the University and the principle of campus governance. Therefore, the University Senates Conference, in coordination with the Security Management Office (SMO) a reporting unit of the Office of the Vice President for Research, recommends the following policy be adopted by the University to replace all/any campus policies on classified research:

The University of Illinois (Chicago, Springfield, and Urbana-Champaign) can accept a classified contract, after approval of the appropriate campus Vice Chancellor for Research and a review by the Security Management Office of the Vice President for Research, provided that the classified contract can be performed without compromising the University's pursuit of its educational mission.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Lawrence B. Schook
Vice President for Research
Edward William and Jane Marr Gutgsell Professor