To: Brenda Hosley  
President, University Senate &  
Chair, University Academic Council

From: Robert E. Page, Jr.  
University Provost

Date: May 12, 2015


I have reviewed Senate Motion 2015-43, “Moving Proprietary and Classified Research Policy from RSP 404 into the ACD Manual”, following review by the Office of Knowledge Enterprise Development (OKED) and the Office of the General Counsel. This motion is not approved.

The decision some years ago to relocate the classified and proprietary research policy presently within the RSP manual in part reflected the need to have policies involving research of any kind assembled in a single place. However, recognizing that such a placement outside the ACD manual demands an additional mechanism for providing faculty input, the Senate’s Research and Creative Activities Committee (RCAC) was established to provide faculty counsel to the Vice President for Knowledge Enterprise Development on matters related to proprietary and classified research matters. The RCAC also was accepted as an advisory committee for Senate.

With that background, OKED Associate Vice President Petuskey reviewed the Senate motion 2015-43 and noted the following:

“At the outset, let me mention that OKED does not approve such a change to the RSP manual, nor are we advocating such a change to the ACD manual. We feel that this material is properly located in the RSP manual, insofar as it outlines policies and procedures related to research and creative activities involved with sponsored projects.

“The motion as introduced to the Senate was presented by Professor Joseph Comfort, chairman of the Research and Creative Activities Committee (RCA) for the 2015 academic year. This matter has not been presented to the Senior Vice President of OKED for his consideration and approval. (We note here that the principal, and critically important function, of the RCA committee is to consider and advise the OKED SVP. Ultimately, OKED actions and recommendations should be routed through the Associate Vice President to the SVP’s for his consideration.)

“As for the motion presented to the Senate, it is our opinion that this is a proposal made by ASU as a faculty member and Senator.”

Since this motion apparently was not developed by the RCAC as such motions should be, and since the guidance from OKED indicates their belief that the motion should not be approved, Senate Motion 2015-43 is not approved.