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A. RESEARCH AS A UNIVERSITY FUNCTION

1. DEFINITION OF RESEARCH

The term research as here used means the search for new knowledge, the conscious effort to add directly to the store of knowledge, or to alter ways in which we see, appraise, or apply what is already known.

Research under this definition includes all individual and group activities concerned in the advancement of knowledge through scholarly, scientific and creative activity. It includes the work of the humanist and of the artist in their search to understand man and to interpret human experience, the work of the social scientist in seeking to understand people in society and the work of the natural scientist in the effort to understand the natural universe. It is this function of research, which serves to enrich the teaching function, that distinguishes universities from other teaching institutions.

In the scientific area, research includes activities often classified as pure, fundamental, basic and knowledge-oriented research, as well as activities often classified as applied, mission-oriented and developmental research. This encompasses the full spectrum of research from fundamental through developmental. All segments of the spectrum, in reasonable balance, are appropriate as university research and a full spectrum is desirable for the creation of an appropriate environment for student learning, both undergraduate and graduate.

In addition to its primary role in the enhancement of the educational function, university research plays an important role as a major component in the total research system in Canada: a partnership of university, government and industry. Faculty members and students working on carefully selected topics of their own choice provide the major thrust in the Canadian research effort aimed at the expansion of the frontiers of knowledge. Also, faculty members and students working on research mutually agreed upon between the researcher and the government or industrial sponsor, make a major contribution to the application and extension of existing knowledge in assisting society to reach its current goals. University research also has an international role. The university knowledge-oriented basic research is expected to contribute its share to the growth of the world knowledge base to advance the understanding of humanity and the natural universe. Important as well is mission-oriented research undertaken in collaboration with developing country universities and national or international research units to assist in meeting the needs of developing countries.

2. UNIVERSITY RESEARCH PROJECT

A University research project is any research project carried out or supervised by faculty members or visiting scholars except those research projects which fall under Section B2.3.01 of the Faculty Policies or Section 8.4 of the Terms and Conditions of Employment for Professional Librarians dealing with employment in remunerative external activities.

This definition shall apply to projects that are funded internally, externally, or not funded at all and to projects in their entirety for which the faculty member or visiting scholar is a co-investigator with another person,
3. GENERAL POLICY ON RESEARCH

3.1 It is the policy of the University:

a) that, subject to the performance of his/her prescribed academic responsibilities, to legislative restraints, and to specific university policies, a faculty member is free in the choice and pursuit of research, including applying for funds, and in the publication of results;

b) that, in general, a suitable environment will be provided for research;

c) that an appropriate balance between teaching and research will be maintained within the academic programs of the University;

d) that inventions and discoveries arising from university research will be made public under conditions that will allow their effective development and utilization;

e) that university research policies shall apply to all university research projects;

f) that research involving the use of university facilities conducted under Section B2.3.01 of the Faculty Policies or Section 8.4 of the Terms and Conditions of Employment for Professional Librarians dealing with employment in remunerative external activities and that research conducted by private organizations involving the use of university facilities under an agreement with the university shall conform with the university research policies on human subjects, animal care, radiation safety, biohazards safety and drug control.