



PROGRESS REPORT – MSU UNIVERSITY RESEARCH ORGANIZATION

Dr. Paul M. Hunt – Senior Associate Vice President for Research & Graduate Studies
November 13, 2012

MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

Prof. David Carter – Criminal Justice

Univ. Dist. Prof. Lawrence Drzal – Chemical

Engineering & Materials Science

Associate Dean Leo Kempel – College of Engineering,
Electrical & Computer Engineering (*Chair*)

Prof. Debra Nails – Philosophy (*Vice Chair*)

Univ. Dist. Prof. James Tiedje – Crop & Soil Science;
Microbiology

Dean Karin Wurst – College of Arts & Letters;
Linguistics & Languages

FACULTY EXPLORATORY COMMITTEE – MEMBERSHIP

1. General Funds should not be used.
2. Classified research should not be conducted.
3. Maintain openness in regular campus settings.
4. Research may not be undertaken in the URO if it can be conducted in a regular academic unit.
5. Current policy requiring open publication of research should be preserved and strengthened.
6. Undergrads, graduate students, and junior faculty will be formally advised on career implications of URO participation prior to deciding to participate.

See: <https://uro.egr.msu.edu> for the full report of the FEC.

FACULTY EXPLORATORY COMMITTEE – SIX CAVEATS

2011-12 – Pre-Approval

Faculty Exploratory Committee

University Committee on Faculty Affairs

University Committee on Faculty Tenure

University Committee on Undergraduate Studies

University Committee on Graduate Studies

Faculty Senate -- *endorsed*

University Council -- *endorsed*

2012-13 – Post-Approval

Faculty Exploratory Committee

College of Engineering Faculty, via Dean's Office

University Committee on Faculty Affairs

EXTENSIVE INVOLVEMENT BY ACADEMIC GOVERNANCE

BE IT RESOLVED that the Trustee Policy Committee recommends to the Board of Trustees that:

(a) the Administration be authorized to create a new unit of the University (the “University Research Organization” or “URO”) for the specific purpose of hosting projects that are envisioned as unclassified research but will be subject in their funded conduct to external publication approval, participant citizenship restrictions, or other forms of significant government control on project access or the dissemination of results. The URO is to be created within the explicitly reaffirmed MSU policy context that such research is unacceptable in all other units of the University absent an exception based upon an exigency of national defense;

URO CREATED BY MSU BOARD OF TRUSTEES – JUNE 22, 2012

Existence

- ✓ EBS “Organization of Interest” & Accounts

Space

- ✓ Leases at MBI International & 2727 Alliance Dr.

Policies to Define Scope at Launch

- Memorandum #1 – Eligible Projects -- **Interim**
- Memorandum #2 – Eligible Participants -- **Interim**

KEY POINTS OF PROGRESS

Metamaterial-based MEMS Phase Shifters for Phased Arrays

A. Brown Design / Air Force

Design & Engineering of Non-Plastic Waste Bags Based on Biofiber

NTIC / Navy

Coating Electrical Property Characterization and CEM Development

GE Aviation

URO PROJECTS ACCEPTED UNDER INTERIM GUIDELINES

**Harnessing Evolutionary Computation to Support
Software Composition with Code-Level Adapters**
BAE Systems

**Ferromagnetic Josephson Junctions for Cryogenic
Random Access Memory**

IARPA via Navy

**An Experimental Examination of the Effects of
Expert Interrogation**

DoJ / FBI

URO AVOIDED – BECAUSE NEGOTIATIONS REMOVED RESTRICTIONS

- 1. Challenge: Faculty want not only to take projects with publication or citizenship restrictions (which the URO supports), but also to ensure they have financial support for members of their research groups who are not “U.S. persons” (with which a URO project does not help them).**
- 2. Challenge: Uncertain funding due to possible sequestration.**
- 3. Challenge: Uncertain Federal contracting restrictions.**
 - **DFAR 252.204-7000 draft revision is nine months late.**
 - **Last public comment opportunity was in Fall 2011.**
- 4. Challenge: Non-contiguous space.**
- 5. Opportunity: Coordination of the CVRC with the URO.**
- 6. Opportunity: Name change.**

URO CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES, AT THE MOMENT