

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER

POLICY

OPEN RESEARCH AND FREE DISSEMINATION OF IDEAS AND INFORMATION

The University is committed to maintaining a teaching and research environment that fosters open research and exchange of ideas, encourages the creation and dissemination of new knowledge and promotes academic freedom. It is the policy of the University that it cannot accept extramural research support that would impose a fundamental limitation on the freedom to publish or otherwise limit, restrict or censor the dissemination of research results. A fundamental limitation is defined as any publication restriction other than a temporary restriction only to ensure that there is no inadvertent disclosure of proprietary information and/or to ensure that any patent rights are protected.

While funding sponsors may limit their financial support to particular groups (such as U.S. citizens), they may not prohibit the participation of others in University research or education. It is the policy of the University that it will not undertake research that would prohibit students, scholars, staff and faculty, whether US or foreign citizens, from participating in intellectually significant portions of educational and research activities at the University.

Exceptions to this policy may be made only in the rare instances where the area of work is extremely important to the University's educational or research mission or necessary to serve the best interests of society, and these considerations outweigh the principles of the University set forth in its policies expressed above. Such an exception must be approved by the President. If an exception to this policy is approved, the President will decide whether it is appropriate to communicate the exception and the reasons therefore to the Faculty Senate and/or the Board of Trustees.

Policy adopted by the Faculty Senate on April 17, 2007

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